Enrollment up nearly 6 percent; hits all-time high at 8,478

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

Enrollment at Jacksonville State University has hit an all time high. At 8,478, fall 2001 enrollment jumped 5.9 percent from last year.

A statement released by the University recently reported that “this year’s enrollment consequently surpasses the record of 8,448 students that was set in 1990.”

Enrollment decreased after the record-setting year of 1990. According to the Jacksonville State University Fact Book of 2000-2001, however, enrollment has been growing throughout the past five years. The book reported that fall enrollment for 1996 was 7,688. The Alabama Commission on Higher Education reported that enrollment at JSU was 7,619 in 1997.

Then in 1998, enrollment reached 7,738 and in 1999, 8,048 was the reported count for the fall semester. Finally, in 2000 student enrollment at JSU reached 8,002 for the fall.

Dr. William Meehan, president of JSU, said increased enrollment was a result of “the hard work of our faculty and staff specifically the enrollment management committee.” Meehan also attributed the rising rates “to the students who are saying the good news about things that are happening here at Jacksonville State University.”

Even after a record year, Meehan hopes to continue the increase of enrollment at JSU. The president’s goal is to have 10,000 students enrolled. “We grew by almost six percent, if we can continue to grow like that we’ll be there in a short time,” said Meehan.

The president believes an array of diversifying aspects draw prospective students to JSU. “The University is broad enough to offer a variety of academic programs and activities to appeal to a broad number of students,” said Meehan. “You look at our demographics, we’ve increased significantly in new students and freshmen and transfer, but graduate students as well.”

Meehan said Jacksonville State has something to offer both graduate and undergraduate students. JSU’s programs serve traditional and non-traditional students and that will help the University to grow.

As enrollment continues to grow, JSU will become better known. Students from all over the nation attend the University already, and with the growing rates, more and more students from different backgrounds should learn of and begin attending JSU.

SGA’s H.O.N.O.R. drive raises $3,200 for American Red Cross

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

The SGA’s H.O.N.O.R. campaign collected $3,200 for the American Red Cross. That money will go to aid the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

“The word ‘honor’ is an acronym for the phrase Helping Our Nation Observe and Remember,” said SGA President Miranda Killingsworth. “We are accepting monetary donations to send to the American Red Cross to support their efforts in this state of emergency.”

A statement from Killingsworth on the JSU web site said, “As students, as well as Americans, we have never undergone an event as tragic as this. Therefore, it is very important that we join together to do our part in doing whatever possible to ease the pain and suffering of our fellow Americans. Let this time remind us that no matter where we stand, in New York City, Washington D.C., or on the campus of Jacksonville State University, our lives will be forever changed by these events.”

Robert Hayes, director of publicity for the SGA, said the campaign raised $3,200 and the University’s collection was sent in Sept. 25. Hayes was happy with the contribution JSU was able to collect. “We thought it was really successful,” said Hayes. “It shows the strength of character in JSU students. We were proud.”

JSU President Dr. William Meehan was also happy with the actions the SGA took. “I think it’s a great response to the tragedy that occurred on September 11,” he said. “I appreciate the way the SGA came up with the H.O.N.O.R. campaign so quickly. It’s just something that is meaningful and a great way for people to participate in helping out the Red Cross.”

According to the American Red Cross’ web site, the gifts received will help the relatives of the victims in many ways. “The immediate financial gifts will help the families of victims with near-term financial needs such as mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, funeral and related expenses as well as for transportation, food clothing and other time-sensitive and uncovered expenses.”

The site also said, “The gifts are being provided in the form of a tax-free grant. It is difficult for families to focus on emotional healing when they are faced with sudden financial uncertainty.”

Finally, the Red Cross’ site said, “Following the September 11 terrorist attacks, the American public responded with an outpouring of generosity, turning to the American Red Cross with donations of blood, sweat and money. The American Red Cross has now launched in an unprecedented relief effort that includes an initial $100 million gift program to provide near-term financial assistance to families of people lost in the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, including first responders. These gifts are being provided on behalf of the American Red Cross and the generous people of the United States, in support of the families and in remembrance of the thousands of people who were so tragically affected.”
SGA senate makes appointments; Students still upset over parking

By Laura Blesingame

The SGA senate voted Monday night on various bills of appointment. Corrie Heard was voted as committee head of the Student Activities Bohman was confirmed as the new Casino Night committee head, and Tom King was appointed senator.

Several senators expressed their frustrations about not being visible to students. Senator efforts to have T-shirts printed promoting their causes have not panned out. JSU senators are willing to spend their own money to purchase the shirts, but interested sponsors wouldn’t be appreciated. The idea behind the senator T-shirts is to increase awareness and visibility of the senate so that students are able to identify their representatives more easily.

Senate relations with the housing department have generated future proposals such as converting the back side of Sparkman Hall into the building’s entrance. This would divert parking concentrations in that area of the campus and diffuse it a bit. Also, because lighting is scant in the parking lots behind Sparkman, more lights may be installed to increase student safety.

A plan to include a 30-channel cable service in the price of dorms is being considered by Marie Humphrey, JSU’s housing director. The senate applauded this notion; however, the specifics are still being worked out. Humphrey is also expected to be touring Fitzpatrick Hall to consider solutions to the waterline problems affecting washing machines in the building.

Campus parking issues also generated a stir. The 90 residents of Daugette Hall are frustrated with the current parking situation. The residents say there are not enough spaces for residents to park as they have to compete with motorists at Hammond Hall, Bibb Graves and the TMB. The SGA says it is actively searching for a solution to the issue of resident parking at Daugette.

Student participation at SGA meetings is scant at best. JSU’s SGA has several committees that could benefit from the addition of a few extra hands. Affiliations include the senate, academic affairs, constitution and code of laws, campus safety, blood drive, homecoming, elections, athletic support and spirit, appropriations, publicity, recycling, residence life and facilities committees, the organizations and student judicial councils and the traffic appeals court.

Students are members of the SGA upon payment of tuition and are urged to participate. Students interested in participating in SGA affairs are urged to sign up in the Office of Student Activities located on the fourth floor of the TMB.
By Laura Biasingame

The Technology/Business Career Fair is a forum where company recruiters gather and mingle with JSU students. Seniors have the opportunity to get their resumes out and acquaint themselves with the local business community. Sophomores and juniors can pick up the ins and outs of job-hunting.

The companies attending are seeking students majoring in accounting, business administration, finance, public administration, technology, computer science, economics, and management.

Students who are interested in attending the Technology/Business Career Fair should dress professionally, have resume in hand, and even consider printing a few business cards for the occasion.

Business cards are relatively easy to print these days with the help of laser printers and would provide a great way to get your name out along with your own brand of innovation.

Other equally important and often overlooked necessities are letters of recommendation. Students seeking to make a stellar impression should seek their instructors and employers for help in this matter. Letters of recommendation are a helpful way to substantiate your character.

Having trouble putting everything together? Mrs. Janet Williams of the Career Placement Office in Bibb Graves is a great way to begin. According to Deborah Carmack, JSU business advisor, “It is very important for students to begin a career placement file. They need letters of recommendation from two faculty members to go along in that file and they should really start working on that during their junior year so that it will be in place when they become a senior.”

So you are not a writer and composing that resume seems to be a daunting task? A course in business communications will help students develop their resume skills along with other means of communication in the business environment such as memos.

All business majors should consider taking JSU’s course in business communications rather than the English department’s Technical Writing class, recommended Carmack.

However, if you need help with your resume now, see Mrs. White in the Career Placement Office, ask an instructor for advice, or consult the Career Placement Office on the JSU web page for help.

The Technology/Business Career Fair will be held Oct. 10 in the main lobby of the Merrill Building from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.
University spends $39,000 to renovate donated Jax Apartments

By Laura Blasingame
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

JSU’s newly acquired Jax Apartments are located behind the University Police Department and have been buzzing with maintenance workers since their acquisition on May 1 of this year. Old and new residents alike approve of the new facelift.

Long-time resident Sergio Guerra said that the “outside is looking better than before and everyone can notice that JSU is doing a lot of work around here.”

His feelings were shared among new residents like Celesta Poole who said “the rent is real reasonable, and it looks like JSU is working hard to make it a better place for students to live.”

Marie Humphrey, JSU’s housing director, also shared the resident’s approval. “We have spent some money,” she said, “and we will continue to do so because it is important for our students to be safe.”

When JSU absorbed the Jax complex, the apartments needed repairs. According to Chuck and David Herman, brothers employed by Alford’s Welding, they built and installed handrails to replace the existing ones.

Before JSU received Jax, the hand rails on the upstairs passageways were 30 inches high, one foot shy of the code requiring them to be 42 inches high. Handrails may seem like a minor issue; however, many families living in Jax have small children. And according to Humphrey, “Safety is first.”

Current repairs being done on the Jax complex include the installation of handrails, the replacement of the sheet metal ceiling lining the underside of the upstairs passageways, the construction of new columns, the patching of stairway landings, the installation of fire extinguishers in each apartment, the installation of a new sewage line, the re-painting of the building’s exterior and the placement of two new and accommodating dumpsters to replace the previous tiny one.

Repairs, not including the changes made to the sewer system, dumpsters and fire extinguishers, according to the Herman brothers, have cost around $39,000. When asked where the funds came from to make this all happen, Humphrey said “the University paid for the repairs.”

However, she also noted that the housing department generates its own revenues and with that she said, “Housing doesn’t make money, it generates funds and we try to be the steward of those funds and put that money back into the building.” Humphrey’s goal is “to provide the best housing available to our students that we can.”

Although she is happy with the level of achievement concerning the renovation of Jax, she mentioned, “I have three maintenance workers; that is it for all of housing.” Because she is understaffed, complaints concerning maintenance issues are not always responded to in the most hurried manner.

Residents like Guerra have felt the pinch of housing’s scant maintenance staff. He and other Jax residents say they have been unable to use their air conditioners and heaters without tripping the fuses in their apartments.

When Guerra asked his apartment manager when his fuses would be repaired, the manager also told him that he had contacted the housing office regarding the matter at least three times by phone. Mr. Burke, one of housing’s three maintenance workers, said that he was unaware that two different kinds of breakers were needed to operate both the heater and air conditioner until he removed the facing covering them. He also stated he should have the problem fixed “by the end of the week.”

Despite the many goings-on concerning the renovation of the Jax complex, Humphrey insisted that students interested in living there should fill out an application in the housing office. She also noted that the criteria regarding applicants for apartments are no different than those maintained by other apartment complexes.

The Jax complex has both one and two bedroom apartments. The two bedroom apartments are those near the stairways. The one-bedroom apartments are found between them.

Rental rates for the apartments vary. According to Celesta Poole, her rent for a two-bedroom unit has been $215 a month. Thapa Shrestha reported that he paid $200 a month for his two-bedroom apartment. Another resident reported paying $250 for his one-bedroom.

As with any University housing unit, there are rules that students must abide by. Those rules are stated in the lease agreements that every student must sign before they may occupy an apartment in the Jax complex.
Cracks in U.S.'s anti-terrorism coalition pause military strikes

By Martin Merzer, Warren P. Strobel and Tom Infield
Knight-Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

WASHINGTON — The United States and Britain were close to launching military strikes against terrorism suspect Osama bin Laden and his protectors in Afghanistan until three key allies suddenly expressed reservations, senior U.S. officials said Tuesday.

In the last two days, the officials said, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan and Oman have either limited their support for military action or told U.S. officials they cannot back an American-led military campaign.

In an effort to repair the cracks in his anti-terrorism coalition, President Bush dispatched Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on an emergency mission Tuesday night to those three countries and Egypt, two senior officials involved in planning the campaign said, speaking on condition of anonymity. It was unclear whether Egypt also had objections. Rumsfeld said he hoped to observe a U.S. military exercise currently under way in Egypt.

The Pentagon also took the unusual step of offering the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk to join the operation this week from its home port in Japan without its usual complement of jet fighters and attack planes. Defense officials said that if Oman and Uzbekistan refuse to let the United States and Britain use bases on their territory, the Kitty Hawk could steam into the Arabian Sea and serve as a floating base for U.S. assault helicopters.

The developments came as the United States and its allies amplified warnings to bin Laden, his accomplices and the rigid Taliban regime that serves as his host in Afghanistan.

Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair each spoke of the "consequences" of Taliban intransigence amid international demands that the militia evict bin Laden and destroy all elements of his al-Qaida terrorist network.

The apparently coordinated escalation of psychological warfare also included a broad effort to share evidence with U.S. allies and an unprecedented display of support from NATO.

"I have said that the Taliban must turn over the al-Qaida organization living within Afghanistan, and must destroy the terrorist camps," Bush said at the White House. "And they must do so, otherwise there will be a consequence."

In England, Blair called the terrorist blitz "a turning point in history" and vowed to remain by America's side "to the last."

"As for the Taliban," Blair said during a passionate, carefully reasoned speech to his ruling Labor Party, "they can surrender the terrorists or face the consequences."

"We will put a trap around the regime. And I say to the Taliban: 'Surrender the terrorists or surrender power. That is your choice.'"

In Washington, Rumsfeld described his trip as routine visit to an area of particular interest.

"We have a lot of activity in the region," Rumsfeld said before leaving Tuesday night. "He expected to return this weekend. "And I have not been there yet this year. Normally, ministers of defense visit countries where there is that type of activity."

Still, the trip was not announced until just hours before he was scheduled to depart. Typically, the secretary of defense would be expected to conduct such a visit, unless important defense issues needed to be discussed.

"The world is fairly united in this effort to combat terrorism," said Torie Clarke, Rumsfeld's spokeswoman. "And we want to make sure we have the conversations at the highest levels."

A third senior administration official said it was unclear if the cracks threatened to seriously undermine the coalition and U.S. military plans.

"We're not sure if this is just last-minute jitters or something more serious," the official said.

In any case, military action seemed unlikely before Rumsfeld returns to the United States. Until Tuesday, said two senior administration officials involved in planning the military campaign, the Saudis had agreed to provide everything the United States had requested, including the use of an ultra-modern command center at the Prince Sultan Royal Saudi Air Force Base to direct an air campaign against targets in Afghanistan.

"That's no longer true," said one senior official, adding that the Saudis have balked at plans to position U.S. forces there and administration officials fear "that there's something deeper there."

The former Soviet republic of Uzbekistan has demanded that the United States negotiate a complete Status of Forces Agreement before it will allow the use of military bases on its soil, the senior officials said. Known as SOFAs, these agreements cover everything from who pays to support the U.S. troops to the legal status of American soldiers. They can take years to negotiate.

U.S. military planners had hoped to use remote air bases in Uzbekistan as a staging ground for Special Forces troops entering territory in northern Afghanistan controlled by the United Front opposition to the ruling Taliban.

"If we don't have access to Uzbekistan, we've got some problems," said one senior official, who declined to elaborate except to say that Rumsfeld would meet with Uzbek leaders.

Oman's last-minute reluctance to support action against bin Laden and the Taliban posed similar logistical problems.

U.S. commandos launched the failed 1980 Iran hostage-rescue mission from an island in Oman, generally one of the most pro-Western nations in the Persian Gulf. Now, the small sultanate could provide a staging ground for missions into southern Afghanistan.
In Our View

Do your drunk friend a favor

Popping the top and tossing back a cold one is a motion emulated and sometimes thought to have been perfected in colleges everywhere. Along with this endeared movement of many college students comes a result — drunkenness.

This is allowed and enjoyed by those of age, but where it’s done, in regard to how the drinker is going to get home, can be a problem.

When you drive drunk, you not only affect yourself and your car, but also the innocent people you’ll careen into while swerving through the double lanes.

We all love and trust our friends and don’t want to offend them. Nor do we want to invade on a stranger who is stumbling through the darkness trying to find where the lock on their car door is. It’s the drunken idiot’s fault and problem.

But what if you were that drunken idiot, high on some emotional need, making you believe that you had to drive somewhere? Would you want to get a DUI? Would you want to pass out at the wheel and kill an unsuspecting driver?

Jacksonville Chief of Police Thomas L. Thompson recommended calling the police for everybody’s protection. The cops could then charge the drunkard with public intoxication, “or if he was a borderline case, we could recommend calling the police for everybody’s protection. The cops could then charge the drunkard with public intoxication, "or if he was a borderline case, we could recommend calling the police for everybody’s protection. The cops could then charge the drunkard with public intoxication, "or if he was a borderline case, we could recommend calling the police for everybody’s protection. The cops could then charge the drunkard with public intoxication, "or if he was a borderline case, we could recommend calling the police for everybody’s protection. The cops could then charge the drunkard with public intox..." said Thompson.

It could be recommended to walk home from the bar if too drunk, but not in this town -- public intoxication. Thompson recommended sticking your thumb out to get a ride, calling a cab, or sitting in the back seat of your car without any car keys and sleeping it off.

Public intoxication results in a $100 fine and court costs adding up to about $180, according to Thompson.

Drunken people historically get pissed if you try to stop them from doing what they want, but what about the next morning? They won’t hate you then.

If a friend is over at your house and decides to go on a drinking binge, don’t let him/her drive home. More than likely, your drunken comrade won’t remember you punching him out. Even if memory lingers on the morning after, your friend will be thanking you. It’s not hard to set the alarm clock and get your acquaintances up in time to attend all planned engagements.

Waking up to the sound of that alarm clock is better than waking up to a phone call asking you to identify the body of a friend.

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While driving, as I often do, along Route 21 between Jacksonville and Aumon, I ride in the fast lane.

My right arm is held taut while my wrist bends slightly down, positioning my hand atop the steering wheel. My left arm is bent at the elbow and resting out the open window. The radio is on and my neck is cocked a bit to the right. Why, in the fast lane going 53 miles an hour, are you in front of me?

Unless posted, there is no minimum speed to drive on Route 21, according to the Jacksonville State Troopers office, but the fast lane is for those who drive well, without insulting your intelligence, I’m sure you get my drift. It’s up to each officer to decide if you’re obstructing traffic, but you can surely do that yourself.

Oh my brother or sister, how I could adore your freshly waxed hood and your nice shiny hubcaps. How I suppose I could admire the way your seat is tilted back or how your mirror and notice when other fish are coming out of the water. You’re attending JSU. Have you known that respect on the road? There are of course some old folks doing the same, but I’m throwing this stick of wisdom as far as I can.

Perhaps the four-lane highway is as a river, and like all shiny trout fighting their way upstream, you want to be in front and be that big strong fish you know you are, but what about respect? Is it so hard to gaze lovingly into your rearview mirror and notice when other fish wish to maintain a speed above yours, and then politely — surely as you would wish others to do for you — get over in the slow lane? So the guy in the slow lane is going one mile below your preferred speed of travel, but is that really so different from yours?

When I think that I am going to go faster than the cars in the slow lane, and I go to pass, yet the slow lane drivers pick up speed with me and I soon notice someone on my tail wishing to overtake, do you know what I do? I speed up beyond my safety zone for a few seconds to give way, or I slow down a bit to get back in line. What I wish of other drivers, I do.

The left lane is also for those wishing to shortly turn left, yes, but notice I said shortly. This isn’t L.A. You don’t have to worry about finding an open space to slide into long before your turn. One quarter of a mile or less is plenty of time to prepare. The most vehicles I’ve ever seen side-traveling jam along Route 21 is nine.

Once, in the dusky hours of an otherwise forgotten day, I was in a pack of 12 or so, but it was because of one pissed off little Chevy-fish. She was in the fast lane going about 40-45 mph — conveniently the exact same speed as a Pontiac-fish in the slow lane. She stayed, she obstructed and she bothered. I pondered why she was being so selfish. Maybe she got in a fight with her boyfriend? Maybe the driver behind her had previously upset her? Maybe ... Why was I being made to think so much about her?

I was the second car behind her in a row of many, and after about five minutes, I began to grow irate. I honked a bit, as did some of the other drivers. I began to lean toward the left shoulder and shine my high-brightens in her side mirror mounding the appropriate words and waving the appropriate finger; then I saw flashing blue lights behind me. I have never been so happy to see a five-o, one of the brothers in blue.

He pulled the tarn over and the river ran free. Glory, glory.

Freedom people. You can annoy other motorists, you can hinder them, but I wouldn’t do it to you.
Some live with urban terrorism on a daily basis

By Acel Moore
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

After two weeks of intense fear and uncertainty over the attack by terrorists on Sept. 11, the call from political, civic and business leaders now is for Americans to return to normalcy.

The problem is what now constitutes normal.

In a lot of American places, fear is what’s normal. For many Americans, living in terror in their daily surroundings is normal. In Philadelphia and other cities across the nation, there are those who knew lives of fear, crime and violence long before Sept. 11. They include the elderly, who in many neighborhoods are prisoners in their own homes. They don’t go outside unless escorted. And on pleasant days or evenings they no longer sit on their front porches or stoops.

Even on days when the summer heat is overwhelming, and despite not having air conditioning, some are so afraid of burglary that they keep their windows shut, rendering themselves dangerously vulnerable to the heat.

Those who live in neighborhoods taken over by illegal drug trafficking experience the sights and sounds of a war zone. It is not uncommon for those residents to hear automatic gunfire nightly. Parents fear for the safety of their children, too often caught in the crossfire between rival gunmen.

On Dec. 28 of last year, seven people were murdered and three others wounded by four young men in a boarded-up drug house in West Philadelphia in what police called the city’s worst mass murder in recent memory.

More recently, a neighborhood in South Philadelphia has been plagued by gun violence and murder. Again, police trace the violence to a rivalry between drug gangs.

Deputy Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson said the violence there was got out of hand in the last month and half. According to Johnson, 17 people have been shot in a two-block area of South Philadelphia during that period. Two of the shootings were fatal.

On Aug. 16, six people were shot in that neighborhood, and on Aug. 24 two people were shot, including a mother of three who was killed.

People in these neighborhoods, said Johnson, “live in fear every day.”

According to statistics compiled by the Justice Department, blacks who compose 12 percent of the nation’s population, accounted for 47 percent of all the gunfire deaths in 1998. Of the more than 15,000 people who died of gunshot wounds that year, 7,000 were black males.

Clearly the number of deaths that occurred in one day on Sept. 11 is unparalleled in modern times.

In Philadelphia, according to Johnson, gun violence brought on by the drug trade is out of control. As of Sept. 26, there had been 216 homicides in Philadelphia so far this year.

Believe me, I hear the argument that fear of urban crime pales in comparison to the terror unleashed by the suicide airplane attack on Sept. 11 at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, an attack that possibly could claim as many as 7,000 victims.

Not only is the magnitude of the evil act unsurpassed in modern history, they argue, but also the surprise and uncertainty over what to do and what to expect have traumatized most Americans as has no other event.

My purpose here is not to compare one terror with another. My point is that, just as we now feel fear and anguish over international terrorism, so we should nurture a righteous anger over the slaughter that occurs daily in our cities—a body count that does not get enough attention and is taken as given by too many people.

Is this “normal”? Just as we’re wracking our brains over the best way to prevent terrorism, we should be wracking our brains for the best ways to prevent urban terror.

Many political and religious leaders were out leading prayer vigils—rightfully—over the events of Sept. 11.

Now that we are supposed to be returning to normality, it would be good to see them out in the neighborhoods expressing concern about the tors and terrorists that live among us.

ABOUT THE WRITER
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My fellow Afghans will suffer in a U.S. attack

By Belquis Ahmadi
KRT Forum (KRT)

A U.S. attack on Afghanistan will only prolong the suffering of my fellow Afghans. I fled my home in Afghanistan five years ago. As a nurse, I saw every type of havoc that war can inflict on the human body — injuries caused by gunshots, bombs, shells and mines. I don’t want more Afghans to be subjected to this violence.

When I lived in Afghanistan, I always wondered what it was like to live in peace. To us, peace had lost its meaning. After I came to the United States, I began to understand the meaning of peace and what it feels like to live in peace. The peace I learned to appreciate vanished on Sept. 11. When I saw the horrible events of that day on television, I started to cry uncontrollably. Watching the tragedy over and over again brought back the memories of war that I had been trying very hard to forget. My heart was filled with thoughts of the victims and what their families faced.

My thoughts went back to Afghanistan. The fear of Soviet soldiers, of the Mujahideen attacks on Kabul, Afghanistan’s capital, in the early ’80s and of the bombs in schools, bus stations, universities and government buildings. The fear of jet fighters and the memory of how every time we saw a plane in the sky, we rushed to hide. I remembered the day in 1980 when I saw the hundreds of people killed and injured by a shell that hit a bus stop in Kabul.

Finally, I thought of the destruction of my country and the thousands who lost everything in the war against the Soviets that lasted from 1980 to the mid-’90s — the widows, the orphans, the disabled and the beggars.

Then came the Taliban. The Taliban’s first announcement in Kabul was their return to power in 1996 ordered women to stay home, not to work outside their homes and to wear the burqa — a head-to-toe cover with a small mesh to see through. Girls were forbidden to go to school and men were ordered to grow beards.

When the Taliban announced that it was forbidden to watch television and asked us to destroy our televisions, my family buried not only our television in our yard but also our magazines, books, family photos and music cassettes. After the Taliban ordered people to paint their windows so that women could not be seen from the street, that Nasim’s family had a gun in their home.

On the night of Sept. 11, when Kabul was attacked by rockets fired by an armed opposition group, Nasim told me by e-mail he was very afraid, thinking that the United States was attacking. The wounds of Sept. 11 will not be healed through an attack that takes more innocent lives.

The people of Afghanistan have already suffered through 20 years of war. They should not be the victims of this new war on terrorism. Nasim deserves to know what it is like to live in peace.

ABOUT THE WRITER
Belquis Ahmadi is a New Voices fellow working with the Women’s Rights Advocacy Program at the International Human Rights Law Group in Washington. From 1988 to 1994, she was head nurse/administrator for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Kabul, Afghanistan, where she served as liaison between representatives of the warring factions and the Red Cross medical staff she supervised. She can be reached at pmproj@atiprogres.org, or by writing Progressive Media Project, 409 East Main St., Madison, Wis. 53703.

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Interest high in military, but not many are signing up

By Jon Yates
Chicago Tribune (KRT)

CHICAGO — A generation ago, Howard Hammond’s father-in-law talked him out of joining the military during the Vietnam War.

On a recent day, Hammond sat in an Air Force recruitment office on Chicago’s North Side, trying to persuade his son to enlist.

"I think he’ll be good at it," Hammond said as Dustin, 20, watched a video about boot camp. "They need people now."

It is not an easy sell. In the days since terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, interest in the armed forces has skyrocketed. Enlistment, however, has not.

Officials of all four branches of the military say they received a flood of calls and office visits and clicks on their Web sites. But few people are actually joining.

The lack of enlistments has led some to question young Americans’ patriotism, but others say it is difficult to draw conclusions.

Because the government has capped the number of soldiers in the military at 1.4 million, a goal reached weeks before the end of the fiscal year Sunday, some say there is little incentive for recruiters to sign up new recruits.

Others say young men and women are simply waiting to see how the war on terrorism will unfold.

"I think we’ve got a lot of people who feel there might be a need, but they’re waiting to see," said David K. Segal, director of the Center for Research on Military Organization at the University of Maryland.

"The demands for the campaign, as it’s being thought through, are not for a large number of troops."

Recruiting in general has been difficult in recent years, as a soaring economy created more opportunities for high school graduates, sapping the military of some of its allure.

At the same time, the overall size of U.S. armed forces has shrank, as the government has repeatedly decreased the number of active-duty military personnel. In 1986, the military stood at just under 2.2 million. Ten years later, it was down to about 1.5 million, and for the past few years it has hovered around 1.4 million.

At the Marine Corps recruiting center in Bensenville, Ill., a team of four officers works up to 14 hours a day, looking for recruits in the western suburbs. In an average week, two or three people will sign up in the small office tucked between a 7-Eleven and a hot dog stand on Grand Avenue.

Since Sept. 11, the office has enlisted no one. "As an office this month, things haven’t turned out the way we wanted them to," Staff Sgt. Shawn Lamey said. "There are a lot of people coming in, but for whatever reason they haven’t joined."

The situation is similar in other branches and recruitment centers nationwide.

Nationally, the Marine Corps saw a 300 percent increase in visits to its Web site and a 350 percent jump in phone calls immediately after the attacks. But those numbers have not translated into new recruits. Master Sgt. Ron Turner said, in part because a significant portion of the interest came from former Marines looking to re-enlist or help.

The Air Force had a 169 percent increase in Web traffic after the attacks, but Staff Sgt. Eric Petosky calls recruitment business as usual.

Helen Elrod, an Army spokeswoman, said her branch "has not seen a drastic increase," and neither has the Navy.

Recruitment officials say it can take days or weeks for potential recruits to pass physicals, take attitude tests and get paperwork in order, meaning it could be a while before the full impact of the Sept. 11 attacks is evident. But those do not appear to be a spike in the number of people beginning the process, leaving some to conclude that no great increase is anticipated in the weeks ahead.

"I don’t know if it’s a matter of time or what," said Brian Curtice, a public affairs officer for the Navy Recruiting District in Chicago.

"I don’t how many people are ready in their own personal lives to just drop everything and join. To join the military takes a strong commitment. You have to put your life together first."

Charles Moskos, a professor of military sociology at Northwestern University, calls the reaction to the terrorist attacks "make-believe patriotism."

"Everybody’s flag waving, and nobody’s joining," he said.

Moskos believes the military is understaffed by about 400,000 personnel. The only way to meet those numbers is to require service for those seeking federal education scholarships, offer shorter-term enlistment options, or bring back some form of a draft, he said.

Segal, of the University of Maryland, disagrees. He said most recruiting centers have met their goals for the fiscal year and won’t start looking for new recruits in earnest until Monday, when the next fiscal year begins. Young men and women won’t decide whether to join until they know if they’ll be needed.

At the Chicago Air Force recruiting office, where the staff sergeant has signed up two people since the attacks, Dustin Hammond said it will be another week before he decides whether to enlist.

Hammond said he had considered joining for more than a year.

Watching the attack on the World Trade Center pushed him to meet with a recruiter.

He said he will either go back to school to become a paralegal or trade in his faded blue jeans, black leather coat and Nikes for an Air Force uniform.

"I’d like to serve my country. That tragedy really aggravated me," he said.

The Student Government
Association
Presents Comedian
Damon Williams
( Opening Act for the Kings of Comedy)
Thursday, October 11th
at 7:30 p.m.
Leone Cole Auditorium
**FEATURES**

Former Jacksonville native shows work at Hammond Hall

By Misti N. Hayes  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

JSU is proud to host the most-recent exhibit by O. Rufus Lovett, titled “Weeping Mary” at Hammond Hall Gallery.

Former residents of Jacksonville, Lovett's family has deep roots at JSU. Lovett’s father, Opal R. Lovett, was the campus photographer for more than 35 years. His mother, Opal A. Lovett, was an English professor for JSU. Both parents retired in 1986 and are still residents of Jacksonville.

O. Rufus Lovett's greatest influence came from his father's expertise as a photographer. In a book written about his life, Lovett describes the sights and smells of the rooms in which his father spent most of his time working. His first exposure to photography may have come early in his childhood as he observed his father working, but it was not until he attended Jacksonville High School that he really began to show an interest.

Rufus Lovett was asked by the high school yearbook sponsor around his sophomore year to be the school photographer, according to his father. Lovett’s father then taught him everything he knew about quality photography. The rest is history.

The high school submitted some of Rufus Lovett’s pictures to the University of Alabama, which hosted the Alabama Press Association convention. He won several awards.

Afterward he went on to graduate from Sam Houston State University and later received his master's degree at East Texas State University.

He has resided in Longview, Texas for more than 24 years, where he teaches photography at Kilgore College.

Lovett has many remarkable attributes to his career. He had the fortune of working with renowned photographer Ansel Adams in Yosemite, Calif., in the Ansel Adams Workshop. Other accomplishments include photographs published in the magazines “Gourmet,” “Texas Monthly” and “Mooey.” He has also been recognized in “LIFE” magazine’s 2000 Alfred Eisenstaedt Awards for “The Best Magazine Photographs of the Year.”

The distinguished “Annual Governor’s Exhibition” has presented Lovett’s works for the last nine years. His photography has been exhibited in numerous states across the country, including Alabama, Arkansas, California, Oregon, Texas and Washington. Lovett and his father have also contributed their photography in a father/son exhibit in recent years.

Perhaps Lovett’s greatest achievement is his Image Gallery in Texas where he exhibits the works of his students and other outstanding photographers from various states.

The exhibit at Hammond Hall Gallery this month displays photographs of the small Texas community, Weeping Mary. The origin of the community’s name derives from the folklore of an African-American woman named Mary who was so distraught over the loss of her land after the Civil War, she became known as “Weeping Mary.” Citizens of the community named a church after her, and eventually the town became known by the same name.

Rufus Lovett was originally sent to Weeping Mary to photograph the community for an article that was never printed. His mother explained that her son was apprehensive about how the people of the small Texas community would respond to his presence. Now, after years spent photographing them, the people of Weeping Mary consider Rufus Lovett one of their own.

He is welcomed every year to attend vacation bible school, fourth of July picnics and spends many holidays with his newfound friends. Lovett’s collection of photographs of the petite African-American community provides a unique expression of humanity within its natural habitat. Weeping Mary has a significant intrigue, which is evident in the exhibit, according to Lovett’s father. “Time stands still in there,” he said.

The Hammond Hall Art Gallery is exhibiting the photography of O. Rufus Lovett from Oct. 2-26. Gallery hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information concerning this exhibit, contact the Art Department at 782-5526.

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Versatile jam band Left Foot Down visits Jacksonville tomorrow night

By Danni Lusk  
The Chanticleer Features Editor

Jacksonville has played host to many a great jam band in the past and Friday night Brother’s Bar will once again keep a crowd dancing with the Jacksonville debut of Left Foot Down.

Based out of Knoxville, Tenn., Left Foot Down is the culmination of many different types of music ranging from soul, R&B, jazz, blues and rock. The six-member act features the lead vocals of guitarist Trei Sansom and drummer Brack Owens. Along with Sansom, John Montgomery dishes out electric and slide guitar licks to add to the bass work of Kevin Light. Giving the band its soulful grooves are percussionist Adam Adkins and keyboardist Stevie Jones.

Left Foot Down formed in 1998, but it's beginnings came in 1996 when Owens, Montgomery and Light started the band Wayward Station. Two years later, the members of Wayward Station met up with Sansom, who was looking for a band to play with after the breakup of his previous gig. Left Foot Down has since then played all around the Southeast and opened for the Allman Brothers in June 2001.

The name “Left Foot Down” came from the dancing that the audience breaks into at their shows. “[Dancing is] what usually ends up happening at our shows,” said Sansom. “It醺ceas having a good time, putting your left foot down and gettin’ your groove on.”

With a mixture of jazz, bluegrass, soul, hip-hop and a little bit of everything else, Left Foot Down gives a whole new meaning to the term “jam band.” The fact that they “do everything” is what makes Left Foot Down so different from other bands, according to Sansom.

It's not unusual to see the band playing a bluegrass-based original song from their 1999 self-titled album and then moving into a cover of an Outkast song, said Sansom. Some other covers that have been played at their shows include “Come Together” by the Beatles, “Just Dropped In” by Kenny Rogers and “Oye Como Va” by Santana.

“We don’t really pick any one style of music,” said Sansom. “We do everything from bluegrass, to southern rock ... you name it, we’ll try it.”

Not only is their music diverse, but the audience it reaches out to includes people from different backgrounds. Sansom remembered a police officer in Knoxville who was a fan of theirs and greatly enjoyed the atmosphere at their shows because of the crowd. “What he enjoyed the most was being able to come out to a show and being able to see people of all walks of life gettin’ in the same room and having a good time,” said Sansom.

Another interesting aspect to Left Foot Down is the fact that they encourage people to record and videotape their shows. All they request is that anyone who does record give a copy to the band. Information about their Bootleg Vault is available on their website (http://www.leftfootdown.com). “Please buy a CD,” said Sansom. “But if you got a live recording, give it away, cause that’s for everyone.”

“I think the big thing is diversity,” said Sansom. “That’s what makes Left Foot Down what it is.”
Tori Amos
Strange Little Girls

Review by Danni Lusk
The Chanticleer Features Editor

She’s done it again. After two years without a new album, Tori Amos has captured the attention of her fans.

Her new album “Strange Little Girls,” named after the Stranglers’ “Strange Little Girl,” includes covers of songs by an all-male roster of artists. The album’s purpose is to interpret 12 songs through the eyes of women. All of the songs are written for or about women and most of them do not have happy endings. With songs that range from relaxing “Time,” to thoughtful “Bonnie and Clyde ’97,” Tori takes the liberty of tearing into others’ artistry and turning it into her own.

In “Bonnie and Clyde ’97,” Eminem’s controversial song about murdering her husband, Tori reworks the once-candied story into an eerie, siren-like wail. Tori’s a cappella song tells the story of her being raped. With the employment of deep, intimidating violins and piano music, whispery spoken-words and a siren-like wail in the chorus, Tori draws attention to the horrific lyrics better than Eminem ever could.

Tom Waits’ “Time” mourns the passing of time, but Tori makes it into a song about not waiting in despair, but waiting in love. It’s sultry tone and emotional deliverance makes you close your eyes and sway to the rhythm of the song and your own emotions. Although Tori didn’t write them, the words are absolutely beautiful.

“Your memory’s like a train / you can see it getting smaller as it pulls away / The things you can’t remember tell you the things you can’t forget / It’s time, time, time that you love.”

Mellow piano and Tori’s smooth voice make the song into something that would bring any heartbroken lover to tears.

A more upbeat song, “Heart of Gold” by Neil Young is transformed from a country-twang melody into a jagged-edged combination of a yellow jacket guitar and a Bösendorfer. The whining guitar licks and the layered harmonies of Tori make this song something you can rock out to.

The album’s title song, “Strange Little Girl,” is probably the one heard most-often (I first heard it on 92J). It’s a catchy tune and evokes a sense of bounciness that I haven’t heard since “Cornflake Girl” off her 1994 album “Under the Pink.” It’s definitely a summery song that you can crank up really loud in the car and cruise down the interstate.

Being a Tori Amos fan, I was just happy to hear her voice again after two years, but it would have been much nicer to hear her own original music. Whether you’re a Tori fan or not, this album is enjoyable. However, if someone who has never listened to Tori’s music before picked up this CD, they may not quite understand her point in making this album.

Tori’s daring move to tear into other people’s work is dangerous work. As a songwriter, I’m sure she would cringe at the idea of someone doing this same thing to her work. But she takes these songs by the hand and adds to them a sort of passion and grit that is sometimes missing from her own work.

Now with rap-metal on the decline, it’s hard for a band of that genre to come out with anything worth having. But not for P.O.D. with their new release “Satellite.” This album is pretty much like the last one they had.

“Satellite” is a record that has infectious grooves, catchy lyrics and good content in the songs. Sonny (vocals), Marcos (guitarists), Traa (bass) and Wuv (drums) have almost worked up a spiritual masterpiece. With songs like “Thinking About Forever” and “The Messenger,” they tell about their spiritual beliefs and how you can work out your problems through those beliefs.

P.O.D. also sings about school shootings in their song “Youth Of The Nation.” A school shooting happened about a block away from where they were recording this album. It touched the guys so much to see the pain of the people at the school they decided to write a song for them.

“Without Jah. Nothing” features H.R. from Bad Brains. Bad Brains has long been known as P.O.D.’s favorite band. The album also features Eek-A-Mouse and Christian from Blindsides on different tracks.

In this record, P.O.D. used a lot more of their musical influences like punk, metal, jazz and reggae. This is music that feels good, makes you happy and makes you want to jump around in a mosh pit. These are guys with a mission to rock, tell the world about their beliefs, and make music you will love.

Driven by action, not by characters

Review by Axel R. Barrero
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

What film can capture adrenaline, love, greed, money, deception, loss of control, Indy racing and awesome car wrecks? Answer: “Driven.”

It all begins when Carl Henry (Burt Reynolds) resurrects Joe Tanto (Sylvestre Stallone) from retirement to help an unfocused young driver named Jimmy Byrle (Kip Pardue). Sophia Simone (Estella Warren) breaks up with the returning champion Beau Brandenburg (Til Schweiger), and then becomes the obsession of Jimmy. He seeks her as the way out from the pressures of the commercial side of racing which his brother, who’s also his manager, is forcing upon him. After Beau gets back together with Sophia, Jimmy loses control, and it is up to Joe to patch it all together.

When Jimmy’s teammate has a gruesome and explosive accident during a race, both Jimmy and Beau save him, which becomes the initial point of mutual respect. Jimmy decides to forget all about the commercialism, and focus on the advice of Joe. This angers his brother, who leaves to become Brandenburg’s manager. How do all these events play in the end? Watch the movie.

The film has a believable story line with the small exception of characters surviving tragic car crashes. The movie is not one of great depth when it comes to the characters, and probably would not be very interesting unless you like adrenaline pumping crashes and speed. The film is also designed like most sport-based films: action along with sports commentary. The soundtrack is acceptable. The special effects of the crashes are good. The artistry in the film is not significant. It’s an action flick with a light serving of drama and little humor. The movie captures the Indy-car racing atmosphere well.

This movie would be good for the race fan and lovers of special effects. The characters are shown to have deep rooted pasts that intertwine which makes the film acceptable to those who seek to unravel more than what is seen on the screen.

Kip Pardue’s character of Jimmy can be seen to reflect all of us when we lose sight of the important things necessary to succeed, and focus on the wrong ways to deal with our dilemmas. The film depicts how all of us can overcome obstacles when we pull away from distractions.
According to an American Animal Hospital Association poll, what percentage of dog owners admit they talk to their dogs on the phone and leave messages while away?

What does the average American wedding including 188 guests cost?

The average American’s diet consists of what percentage of junk food?

By Lasha Seniuk
Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service (KRT)
October 8-14, 2001

Leaves and needles may cause confusion. Friends and co-workers will be impressed with your optimism or workplace ethics. Use this time to promote controversial ideas or further key projects. Financial rewards will arrive shortly.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Group activities, business meetings or social gatherings will be particularly demanding. Expect opposing forces to strongly disagree. Opinions, controversial ideas or new methods may all be at issue.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Family agreements will be temporarily delayed. Although loved ones are anxious to finalize home decisions, progress will be difficult. At present, relatives and friends are relying heavily on your patience.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Money luck and career options will steadily increase. Expect previous conflicts with authority figures to soon work in your favor. Past delays will evolve into new opportunities.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Public reputation and social ethics may soon be key concerns. Expect friends or co-workers to offer unusual criticism. Late schedule changes, rare proposals or risky policy changes may trigger disagreements.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Friends and co-workers will be impressed with your optimism or workplace ethics. Use this time to promote controversial ideas or further key projects. Financial rewards will arrive shortly.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Verbal promises, social plans or yesterday’s opinions may be important. Watch for loved ones to be sensitive to small details or minor daily changes. Past disagreements with friends or relatives will also recur.

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Trying to be charitable about musicians’ efforts

By Ben Wener
The Orange County Register (KRT)

The reaction, as you might guess, was immediate. Not long after the “America: A Tribute to Heroes” telethon last Friday, I heard from virtually every friend I have about who moved them most.

Everyone seemed to love Bruce Springsteen’s “My City of Ruins,” U2’s blending of “Peace on Earth” and “Walk On” was a big favorite. Most agreed that Billy Joel hasn’t performed with as much passion since the ‘80s. Tom Petty still rules.

Not as many as I expected mentioned Neil Young doing Lennon’s “Imagine,” but more than I suspected were touched by Wyctel Jean’s take on Marley’s “Redemption Song.” Most were mixed about what to make of Fred Durst and that Goo Goo Dolls with too many iz’s in his last name singing Pink Floyd’s “Wish You Were Here.”

Then came the critics.

Whose bright idea was it to let Celine Dion belt “God Bless America”? Why didn’t Simon bring out Garfunkel for “Bridge Over Troubled Water”? Did any of them know any words to “America the Beautiful” beyond the first verse?

Yet, faults and all, everyone wanted to know if it will be released as a benefit album soon. (Yes, it will, reportedly on Oct. 16.)

Then they asked what I thought. My first response, after fighting back the urge to rant about Enrique Iglesias’ pathetically plastic performance: Now isn’t a time to be critical?

Suddenly, but with good reason, we have been thrust into a new era of “We Are the World” and sentimentality, in which stars check their egos at the door in the name of humanity — and how can any rational, caring person be so insensitive as to pick apart the results?

Right, I’ve done so before. Some might recall how much I despise that retooled version of “Candle in the Wind” that Elton John and Bernie Taupin slammed out after Princess Diana’s untimely death. I’ve lapped up benefit albums for Greenpeace, Kosovo refugees, efforts to rid the world of land mines, and assorted AIDS and cancer research organizations — hoping that putting down such fund-raising tokens won’t be misconstrued as putting down the charities themselves.

But those gestures are isolated. This is different. Now you can scarcely find an artist who hasn’t been inspired to action, and the number of benefits expected by year’s end are rising fast.

Michael Jackson has written a new song, “What More Can I Give?,” which he will record with the help of, among others, Destiny’s Child, Boyz II Men and Justin Timberlake. Nile Rodgers recently put together an all-star ensemble — including Diana Ross, Lou Reed, Sheryl Crow, Sugar Ray, Seal and Run-D.M.C. — to redo Sister Sledge’s “We Are Family.”

A new version of Marvin Gaye’s “What’s Going On” is about to come out, featuring key motivators Bonobo and Jermaine Dupri alongside Gwen Stefani, Staind’s Aaron Lewis, Michael Signer, N’Sync, Nelly, Jau Rula, and Nelly Furtado. Originally its profits were intended for African AIDS education. Now they will be shared with the American Red Cross.

There’s also an all-star Latin pop single in the works, with Gloria Estefan, Chayanne, Carlos Vives, Jali Velazquez, La Ley and Celia Cruz, for starters, performing a song called “El Ultimo Adios.”

You shouldn’t need me to translate.

Cruel as it may be to say this, I really don’t want to hear any of them. On paper they sound hoary and why do I think they will be even more mawkish than that awful thing Lee Greenwood trotted out at times like this.

Not to be convinced this will get out of hand? Try this one: “Voices of America.” It will feature classic rock fixtures performing American standards (“The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” etc.) as well as a few new tributes.

Who are these classic rock fixtures? Well, how about John Cafferty? You know, from “Eddie and the Cruisers?” Then there’s Nick Gilder, of “Hot Child in the City” fame. And Mike Reno of Loverboy. And members of Pablo Cruise, Survivor and Toto.

And penning a new song, “Sea of Fire,” in honor of dead firefighters: Leslie West of Mountain.

Gee, can’t wait.

Look, you have my word: As these things unfold in and I comment on them, I’ll try to keep my venom in my hip pocket. But a blanket statement for all good intentions to come: You don’t have to buy lousy “product” to contribute, and it doesn’t make you any more of an American to own them all.

10 SONGS
Here are healing recommendations you sent in — but I’m saving the U2 selections for later. The comments are yours.


“Simple Creed,” Live (2001) — “We gotta love each other / we need each other.” A perfect creed.

“Real Love,” Mary J. Blige (1992) — “Because it’s a … fun, get-you-dancing type song to take my mind off the sadness.”

“The Future,” Prince (1989) — “I’ve seen the future and it will be, and I’ve seen the future and it will work.”

“Wake Up Everybody,” Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes (1975) — “The world won’t get no better if we just let it be.”

“Pure and Easy,” Feie Townshend (preferably from “Lifehouse Elements,” 2000) — “(His) hymn to the simple, transcendent power of music.”

Anything from the O Brother, Where Art Thou? soundtrack (2000) — “It’s the only thing that didn’t make me feel even crumlier when I listened to it.”

“Music (For a Film),” Radiohead (1997) — “Only listen if you are willing to indulge in your depression. You can hear Thom empathizing with your pain.”


“Badlands,” Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band (1978) — “I believe in the faith that can save it. We don’t need a war; we need to heal.”
The Chanticleer - October 4, 2001

SPORTS

No. 23 Gamecocks swing back into action

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Junior running back Rondy Rogers and the Gamecock offensive line ran all over Samford on their way to a 36-16 victory last year. The football team used the open week to prepare themselves for the game against the Bulldogs on Saturday.

The No. 23 ranked Gamecocks were able to rest and heal a few bumps and bruises and also look at a few more players to prepare for the Samford game.

“I felt like our kicking game needed some extra work,” said head coach Jack Crowe. “Steven Lee’s field goal percentage in the last game was not what we would like it to be.”

“But, I thought he kicked very good today (Last Tuesday),” said Crowe. “We did some situational kicking and used a variety of holders and snappers out of different formations.”

The Gamecocks also lost two players from injuries suffered during the Arkansas State game and a few more players are banting ailments going into the showdown with Samford.

Senior defensive end Marvell Granville (Sheffield, Ala.) suffered a fractured right fibula and is likely to miss 3- to 4-weeks. Marcus “Burg” Blandingburg (LaGrange, Ga.) will also miss the Samford game due to an injured right ankle he hurt last week in practice.

The Gamecocks got an opportunity to view a few sophomores and freshmen during the week off. The football team is set to begin an eight week run at the playoffs. They are also going to be on the road for the next two weeks.

- Freshman D’Marcus Mitchell and sophomores Rod Green and Russell Green will receive more playing time on Saturday in the secondary.
- “We’re trying to get confidence in some of the younger players who had been playing in the secondary,” said Crowe. “Those three guys we need to play more and more. We think we can be more effective playing more people and using more combinations of people.”

Quarterback Reggie Stancil rushes for yards against Samford during last season’s 36-13 victory.

Gamecocks finish 30th at Auburn Invitational

From Staff Reports

The Gamecock Cross Country team got back into the swing of things when they took a trip to Auburn.

The Gamecocks were facing some stiff competition when they stepped onto the track last Saturday.

The University of Alabama, Auburn University, and Baylor were a few of the teams they tried to match up with.

The JSU men’s and women’s teams both placed 30th at the Auburn University Invitational. The men ran in the 8,000 meter race, while the women ran in the 5,000 meter.

Nationally ranked Alabama (24:55) ran away with the men’s team competition, while Baylor (17:22) took the women’s side.

On the men’s side, the Gamecocks finished with an average time of 30:25. The top finisher for JSU was John Weston, who came in 170th position with a time of 28:02. He was followed by Dayton Nichhuss, who came in 197th with a time of 28:42. Jonathan Dalton (235th), Jan Kolar (239th) and Sam Cordts (250th) rounded out the competition for JSU.

The women had an average time of 22:07. The top finisher was Frances Archuleta, who came in 159th position with a time of 20:13. Archuleta was followed by Addie Ferguson who took 194th place with a total time of 21:29. Aimee Pitzo (198th), Gina Davis (224th), Traci Reid (252th) and Rachel Doak (233rd) rounded out the competition for JSU.

Both teams will return to action on Saturday when they travel to Birmingham to race in a pre-Regional meet at UAB.

Two-sport star earns another honor

From Staff Reports

Jacksonville State University’s two-sport star, Ashley Martin, received her second weekly honor of the season last week.

This time, it was for another sport and conference.

Martin was named the Atlantic Sun offensive player of the week after she scored eight points in three matches for the Lady Gamecocks.

“Especially the game-winning goal against conference rival Belmont. She also tallied both of the Lady Gamecock’s goals in the 2-0 loss against Mississippi State,” said Martin’s coach Lisa Howe.

“I have always had personal goals for myself playing soccer and getting player of the week was one of them,” said Martin.

Martin is JSU’s fifth player of the week in the Atlantic Sun, formally known as the Trans America Athletic Conference.

Troy State’s Jessica Murphy accompanied Martin by being named the A-Sun defensive player of the week.

The two will battle each other when the Lady Gamecocks host Troy State tonight at University Field. The game is set to start at 7:00.

According to head coach Lisa Howe, “All of us that play up top always pump each other up and promise that the next ball is going to be for them,” said the coach. “Huburt and I should naturally connect more often because of where we are on the field.”

Martin scored four goals in three matches for Jax State this week, including the game-winning goal against conference rival Belmont. She also tallied both of the Lady Gamecock’s goals in the 2-0 loss against Mississippi State.

Junior midfielder Ashley Martin.

The junior midfielder has seen her share of publicity this season. Martin has made national television appearances and hundreds of stories written about her, after becoming the first female to score a point in a NCAA Division I football game this season. Most recently, it was her accomplishments on the soccer field that have made headlines.

“It is awesome getting recognized for my accomplishments in soccer,” said Martin. “I have always had personal goals for myself playing soccer and getting player of the week was one of them.”

Martin is JSU’s fifth player of the week in the Atlantic Sun, formally known as the Trans America Athletic Conference.

Troy State’s Jessica Murphy accompanied Martin by being named the A-Sun defensive player of the week.

The two will battle each other when the Lady Gamecocks host Troy State tonight at University Field. The game is set to start at 7:00.

“Always gives you a little more of an opportunity to be at your best when you go ahead and prepare people to be in the game rather than let circumstances dictate who plays and we’ve had circumstances dictate who plays,” said Crowe.

The Gamecocks don’t seem to be too worried about the Bulldogs, especially after Samford loss to a team they defeated, Nicholls State. 

The Bulldogs fell to the Nicholls State Colonels last Saturday, 20-16.

Samford was led statistically by receiver Aaryia Holmes, who tallied 176 yards of total offense, including six receptions for 116 yards.

Bulldog quarterback Josh Kellett also completed 11-of-21 passes for 160 yards and rushed for 10 yards during the loss.

“I’m going to do everything within my power to make sure we don’t lose,” said Gamecock defensive tackle Spencer Gordon. “I don’t see us losing to them or anybody else.”

Kickoff for Saturday’s game in Birmingham is set for 6 p.m. at Seibert Stadium.
Men’s golf finishes fifth at Carolina First Intercollegiate

From Staff Reports

Jacksonville State fired a low round of 287 to finish fifth with a total of 583 in the Carolina First Intercollegiate Tournament, hosted by Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, last Tuesday.

The Gamecocks fired a 296 and were tied for 10th place after the opening round. The tournament schedule was cut from 36 to 18 holes because of rain last Monday.

East Carolina’s Will Pope had the individual lead after he fired an opening round four-under-par 68. Adam Gee (UNC Wilmington), Alex Larrazabal (Coastal Carolina) and Matt Davidson (Furman) were all tied for second place at second place at two-under-par 70.

UNC Wilmington took a four shot lead over Coastal Carolina and defending champion Virginia Commonwealth in the early goings. Only 10 shots separated the top nine teams going into the final round.

Jose Campra and Matias Anselmo each finished with a one-under-par 143 to finish tied for 10th place. The opening round was the low round of the day to finish at 6-under par 138 for the Gamecocks. Nick Mackay (148) tied for 32nd, Steven Mackie (148) finished 38th and Angel Monguzzi was 49th with a 152 for the Gamecocks.

JSU entered the final round in 10th place, but battled back with the low round of the day to finish seven-under-par. UNC Wilmington shot a two-under-par 574 to maintain its lead and claim the title.

“Have we our defense down now,” said Lady Gamecock goalkeeper Adriana Finelli. “It was a total team effort. In games like this, when the play is slower I have more time to be really vocal and totally do my job.”

The only goal in the first half came within the first five minutes. Junior Emily Hulburt made it look easy as she kicked the ball to fellow junior Angela Tribble who scored at the 4:50 mark.

The Lady Gamecocks outshot the Hatters in the first half 10-3 and also in the second half 10-4. Finelli had four saves.

The rain became more intense during the early minutes of the second half. The Lady Gamecocks seemed to feed off the weather and difficult circumstances as they stepped it up another level and pressured Stetson for the rest of the game. They were tied for 10th place, but battled back with the low round of the day to finish seven-under-par. UNC Wilmington shot a two-under-par 574 to maintain its lead and claim the title.

The Lady Gamecocks will continue with conference play as they host archrival Troy State tonight. The game is set to start at seven.

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ATM
One on one with “Thrill”: Jennifer Brenneman

By Anthony “Thrill” Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The first time I saw Jennifer Brenneman play was last year when the Lady Gamecocks played Belmont. She recorded an amazing 15 kills in that game. Jennifer is the type of player that can rekindle a love for volleyball that you may not have known you had. She’s so smooth, precise and confident when she hits the court. You can almost see the passion in her eyes as she makes kill after kill during a match. Off the court, she’s as sweet and cool as she looks. Jennifer’s experience in two sports also lends a fresh perspective to her take on things.

Thrill: How are you, Jennifer? Jennifer: I’m doing good. How are you?

Thrill: I’m trying to maintain and check out how neat it is in here. (Jennifer’s apartment)
Jennifer: (Both laugh) Yep. Thrill: How do you feel about the way the season has gone thus far?
Jennifer: Um. I was disappointed with the way things started off, but I’m really looking forward to conference play. We made some changes and we should be all right.

Thrill: Do you think that the volleyball team has a shot at winning the conference?
Jennifer: Yes. I do.

Thrill: Why do you feel so confident?
Jennifer: One of our strengths is our quickness and with the changes that we’ve made, we will probably surprise some teams.

Thrill: What is your mid-set on the court? You all look so normal when you hit the floor.

Jennifer: We have to pump yourself up or something.
Thrill: Yeah. We jump around and listen to music before games.
Jennifer: (Laugh) That’s the game face. Volleyball is a calm game. You have to use your mind.

Thrill: How did you initially react to Coach Rivera? He isn’t a traditional type of volleyball coach.
Jennifer: Well, he reminds me a lot of my club coach. That’s one of the reasons I chose this school. I like his style of coaching.

Thrill: You lettered in softball in high school. Could you have played softball in college?
Jennifer: Yeah, I wanted to. I thought about trying out here, but I think that would have been too much.

Thrill: You received a substantial amount of playing time as a freshman last season. How difficult was it for you to adjust to the game on the college level?
Jennifer: It was difficult at first. But, you learn from the older players after a while and get used to things.

Thrill: Why did you choose to attend college here at Jax State?

Jennifer: You are a long ways from Minier, Illinois.
Thrill: I wanted to go far away. I was just different and I wanted something different.

Thrill: How did you react to Jacksonville when you first got here?

Jennifer: Surely, Minier was a different place. When I went to the mall, before they added on to it. Chissy (Cary) and I were just shocked it was so small.

Thrill: Do you prefer to do things like a type of party girl?
Jennifer: Yeah. I was shocked. We’ll just leave it at that.

Thrill: Who is the funniest player on the team?
Jennifer: (Laugh) Exactly. She’s very funny. She has a lot of energy. Chissy gets a lot out of conversations and it’s hilarious.

Thrill: Do you have a favorite teammate?
Jennifer: Not really. The freshmen that came in with me last year are pretty close.

Thrill: Is there any trash talking in volleyball?
Jennifer: Yes. You can’t do it directly, but you can turn toward your teammates and talk. Sarah Taylor (junior middle blocker) is the best at that.

Thrill: What athlete would you be excited to meet?
Jennifer: Out of any sport?
Jennifer: Sammy Sosa. I grew up at Wrigley Field.

Thrill: What was the last CD you bought?
Jennifer: It was probably a mix CD. I like to listen to various rap. A little Afroman and stuff.

Jennifer: It’s funny. I borrowed it from someone.

Thrill: Have you become a little more skeptical of people since the September eleventh incident?
Jennifer: Yeah. Our team talks about that a lot. We even had a team meeting dealing with it. It really puts a lot of things in perspective.

Thrill: Do you see yourself doing after college?
Jennifer: I’d like to be a chiropractor.

Thrill: How do you feel about the football team being undefeated thus far?
Jennifer: I’m happy and excited. It’s been an exciting year so far, especially with Ashley and all. Gives our school some recognition.

Thrill: No doubt.

Thrill: Free Association. Atlantic Sun tournament?
Jennifer: I want to be there.
Thrill: Ben Affleck. (Actor)
Jennifer: I don’t like him.
Thrill: Favorite color.
Jennifer: Blue.
Thrill: Illinois.
Jennifer: Farm.
Thrill: JSU.
Jennifer: (Laugh) The color red or Gamecocks.

Thrill: Thanks Jennifer. Have a nice day.
Jennifer: Thanks. See you later.

Lady Gamecock volleyball winsless in Mississippi

From Staff Reports

The Lady Gamecock volleyball team (4-8) spent last weekend in Mississippi as they faced Ole Miss (4-7) and Mississippi State (6-5). JSU took on the Ole Miss Rebels and beat them in the first game, but were unable to win again as the Lady Rebels dominated JSU, capturing a 3-1 win last Friday.

“We played pretty good during the first game,” said sophomore outside hitter Jennifer Brenneman. “You should’ve seen the looks on their face after we won.”

The first game belonged to the Lady Gamecocks, but the night belonged to Ole Miss and Jaime Burns, who was honored prior to the match for achieving her 1,000th career kill. She finished the night with her seventh double-double of the season with 20 kills and 21 digs.

In game one, the Lady Gamecocks were down 6-3 and 12-15, but rallied to take a 19-12 lead, before going on for the 30-18 win. The Lady Gamecocks hit .263 during the opening game, while the Rebels hit .026.

Game three stayed tight with numerous lead changes. The game was tied 22-22, but Ole Miss won four consecutive points to take a 26-22 lead. JSU then won the next three points to close to within 26-25. Ole Miss won three of the next four points to take a 29-26 lead. The Lady Gamecocks made it 29-27, but a service error gave the Rebels a 30-27 win.

Ole Miss ran away with the final match, 30-20, to clinch the game.

The Lady Gamecocks then traveled to Starkville to face the Bulldogs of Mississippi State and were blanked 3-0 last Saturday.

Ten different Bulldogs registered kills against the Lady Gamecocks. Misty Hubenthal paced the Bulldogs with 11 kills while Lauren Bounds had nine kills with no errors on a .563 hitting performance. The Lady Gamecocks were outshot .269 to .158.

The Lady Gamecocks will face Jackson, Fla. to face Jacksonville University tomorrow.
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