

# THE CHANTICLEER



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Jacksonville State University

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Postseason looms • page 16

## SGA elections Tuesday; Hayes wants student body support

By Stephanie Pendergrass  
The Chanticleer News Editor

With SGA senate elections approaching, 35 of the 60 candidates running for senator and four students running for executive offices will be chosen by the student body next week.

The candidates for the SGA's executive offices include: Robert

Hayes for president; Stephanie Janis for 1st vice president; Mark Choquette for 2nd vice president; and Marlana Chandler, Sean Greninger and Crystal Roden for controller.

The students running for executive offices have different plans and opinions to put forth, if elected. While the positions of president, 1st vice and 2nd vice president

have all been decided, due to a lack of opposing candidates, a vote will take place to decide the controller position.

Hayes, who is the presidential candidate, hopes to bring a "unique personality and character" to the SGA. "I think a leader must be a leader, not only at school, but also in the community and at events and at everything.

"You can't ever let your guard down. I think you should be the same person, all the time," Hayes said.

Hayes calls his platform "the Gamecock Ticket." He says it's about cooperation, unity and support.

Hayes said he thinks the SGA lacks student support and they need someone behind them to push them

along. "I think I'm that somebody," he said.

Hayes also said he would like to see a resolution to the parking situation, next year. He is currently working with different committees, in hopes of easing the strain.

Housing is another project that needs working on, according to

see **Election**, page 6



JSU baseball players (l-r) Matt Ruckdeschel, Scott Smith, Travis Suereth, Andrew Tarver and Matt Ebert (not pictured) were among those who foiled a robbery in Florida last week.

## JSU baseball players tackle thief

By Benjamin Cunningham  
The Chanticleer Editor in Chief

Normally, Travis Suereth keeps people from stealing bases. Last weekend he stopped someone from stealing a purse.

Suereth, a junior catcher for JSU's baseball team, and several of his teammates played a game of cops and robbers Saturday instead of playing baseball, when they chased down a purse snatcher and held him until police arrived.

The team was in Orange City, Fla., for a weekend series against Atlantic Sun foe Stetson University. Saturday's game had been postponed due to a cold, dri-

ving rain, and the players were holed up in their motel rooms.

Suereth, senior shortstop Andrew Tarver, and freshman outfielder Matt Ruckdeschel were playing cards and watching television that night in the room of team manager Matt Ebert. At about 9:45 they heard women screaming for help outside.

The women were Kay Fletcher and Claire Scott of Jacksonville, Fla., in town for a marketing seminar. Fletcher had been standing in the doorway of their ground-floor room talking to Scott when a man approached them.

"The next thing I knew he came running full force," Fletcher told

The Chanticleer in a telephone interview from her home on Tuesday. The man grabbed her purse and ran, but Fletcher didn't let go. "He threw me down, and I didn't let go of the purse. It was still wrapped around my shoulder or my hand, and I held on."

Fletcher said the man then ran down the concrete walkway in front of the motel, dragging her and her purse along with him. That's when Scott stepped in.

"Well, I just got really furious," Scott told The Chanticleer on Tuesday. "I'd never been in a situation like that before, and I just

see **Robbery**, page 2

## College students rally at State House

By Stephanie Pendergrass  
The Chanticleer News Editor

On Feb. 21, Higher Education Day took place outside the Alabama State House in Montgomery. With around 2,000 in attendance, the rally was an effort to gain more funding for higher education.

Members of JSU's student body and faculty members were present at the rally. Also, JSU's Hardcorps pep band, along with members of Alabama State University's band performed.

The theme for this year's Higher Education Day was "Courageous Solutions," as many university faculty members, and leaders supporting constitutional reform and the Higher Education Partnership pushed for more funding. The amount desired by the rally's supporters is one-third of the amount of money that goes to education in the state. They wish for the other two-thirds to go to K-12.

According to a press release from the Higher Education Partnership, "A proposal to appropriate 28 percent of the growth money in the Education Trust Fund to higher education is not sufficient.

Alabama's universities must have 33 percent of the growth in the ETF."

The release also said, "We must remind the governor, lieutenant governor and members of the legislature that we intend to support programs that treat university employees and students on an equal level with K-12 employees and students. Alabama will not move forward if one com-

**"We care about our 15 universities that are 15 pearls that this state has to recognize."**

—Margaret Garner  
Higher Ed Partnership Chair

ponent of public education is treated as a second-class citizen."

Another message from the rally was the need for "Constitutional reform, tax reform and other measures to improve university funding," according to the partnership.

"We care about our 15 universities that are 15 pearls that this state has to recognize,"

see **Higher Ed Day**, page 3

## Hostesses dismissed; some claim unfairness

By Katie Harris  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Some of JSU's Gamecock Hostesses received a letter Feb. 11 stating that their services could be better utilized with another organization and thanking them for their time as a hostess.

The letter from Coach Patrick McGee, director of football opera-

tions, stated, "our deepest and sincerest gratitude to you and for your contributions. ... We truly appreciate your assistance in recruiting the best student-athletes to JSU. ... I hope to lead the Gamecock Hostess organization in a new direction. ... Your time and talents might be better utilized as you pursue other activities. ... I wish you the best in your future endeavors."

"I don't think it was fair," said Carmen Avery, a hostess that did not receive the letter.

Hostesses serve the athletic department, especially the football team. According to Jenn Jones, a hostess that did not receive a dismissal letter, the job entails hosting unofficial visits for football recruits

see **Hostesses**, page 4

# PAGE TWO

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

•**Alpha Omicron Pi:** Congrats to this weeks Sister of the Week - Holly Embry and this weeks Positive Panda Award- Carrie Hudson. Happy Birthday to Heather Miller, Laura Lee Hale, and Tabatha Thomas. Have a great week!! **Contact:** Leann Davis, leannJSU@hotmail.com.

•**Alpha Xi Delta:** Bachelor Beauties 2002! Come see your favorite guys dressed as gals TONIGHT in Leone Cole at 7:30pm! Admission is \$1. Happy birthday to our February girls: Carrie, Trina, and Jessica. We love you! Good Luck JSU Track & Field this weekend! Sister of the week: Katie G. **Contact:** Katie Green 782-7535.

•**Delta Zeta:** Good Luck everyone running for SGA officers - Vote Kimber Merrill for Senator. Good Luck all JSU Athletes! Awards for the week: Sister - Hailey, Tiny Turtle - Taryn, Twisted - Tav and Ashley, Support - Nat, Brit, Nic, Molly, Busy DZ- Molly, Alumnea- Connie Edge. Congrats Bigs and Lils! **Contact:** Tavia, DeltaZeta4u@hotmail.com.

•**JSU's Little River Canyon Field School** offers the following programs: Archaeology Tour, March 9; 9am - 3pm, \$25/person Stars of Little River Canyon, March 9; 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, \$15/person Exploring Chief Ladiga Rail-Trail, March 16; 9am-3pm, \$5/person Frog Pond Adventure, March 16; 7pm-9pm; \$10/person. Pre-registration is required! **Contact:** Tatiana C. Tatum, 782-5697, ttatum@jsucc.jsu.edu.

•**Phi Mu** congratulates our sisterhood award winners, and all the winners of Greek awards! We are excited about our "Farm Party" formal on Friday, and we look forward to Alpha Xi Delta's "Bachelor Beauties" tonight. Good luck on midterms everybody, and have a great week! **Contact:** Brianna Bladen, 782-6145.

•**ROTC:** Capt. Mike Ludwig and Lt. Col. Stephen Lomax, the Army's Head Nurse for the region including Alabama, will speak at the JANS meeting on Monday, Mar. 11 at 12:00 p.m.. Topics will include Army opportunities and scholarships for nursing students. **Contact:** Capt. Dean Shackelford, 782-8023.

•**SGA Elections** are Mar. 5 and 6, 9 a.m. - 4 p. m. on the fourth floor of TMB. Applications for DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY are in office 402 TMB and are due Mar. 7. Get COCKY and Feel Lucky at Casino Night Thursday, Mar. 7, 7 p.m.-10 p.m. in Leone Cole Auditorium. **Contact:** Robert Hayes, 782-5491.

•**Sigma Tau Delta** will host a faculty lecture by Dr. Brad Hawley on Feb. 28 at 3:30 p.m. in Rm. 230 of the Stone Center. Dr. Hawley's lecture is entitled: "Why I'm Still Majoring in English." All students and faculty are invited to attend. **Contact:** Michael Poole, PMDC82@aol.com.

•**Zeta Tau Alpha:** Congratulations Phi Mu on your anniversary! We had a wonderful time at Collegiate Legislature, and would like to thank Robert Hayes for his planning. Thank you to Delta Chi for a great mixer. Good luck to Brady and Chis tonight in Alpha Xi's Event! Remember: Vote Crystal Roden SGA Controller! **Contact:** Amy Yancy 782-6192.

The Chanticleer Announcements Policy: Any JSU student organization or University office may submit items for the Announcements column. Submissions **must** be typed, and must be limited to 50 words. Submissions **must** include a name and telephone number or e-mail address to contact for further information, but this information does not count toward the 50-word total. Submissions **must** arrive at The Chanticleer offices in Room 180, Self Hall by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to the desired publication date.

The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit submissions for style, brevity, and clarity.

## CAMPUS CRIME

**Feb. 20** — Lori Carter, of Jacksonville, reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at Merrill Hall.

**Feb. 21** — Adam Earl Maroney, 20, of Boaz, was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at Highway 21 and Francis Street.

**Feb. 21** — Francis Dangelo Christopher AKA Christopher Dean Johnson, 24, of Jacksonville, was arrested by JSUPD for trespassing and resisting arrest occurring at Houston Cole Library.

**Feb. 21** — Arthur Jeffrey Green, Jr., 23, of Alabaster, was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at Jacksonville Place Apartments.

**Feb. 21** — Jeremy Lamar Norman, 21, of Birmingham, received a uniform non-traffic citation and complaint from JSUPD for nuisance: loud music from a vehicle occurring at Trustee and Coffee Street.

**Feb. 22** — Christopher Ray Roach, 23, of Jacksonville, was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at Highway 204 at Star Mart.

**Feb. 24** — Cedrick Bernard Baker, of Valley, reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at Crow Hall.

**Feb. 24** — Brian Joseph Kyle, of Jacksonville, reported 3rd degree theft of property to JSUPD occurring at the Crow Hall front parking lot.

**Feb. 25** — Naeemah Zakkiyya Law, of Jacksonville, reported reckless endangerment to JSUPD occurring on the roadway in front of Mason Hall.

Information in the Campus Crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Salls Hall. These records are public documents which any individual has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe this information to be in error, please call 782-5701, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050.

## Robbery: from page 1

went absolutely bonkers. And evidently I tackled this guy at about upper-stomach level and knocked him across the hood of a car." Scott said she told Fletcher to scream for help, and chased the man, who was now running from the motel.

Fletcher's screams were heard by the JSU baseball players, who rushed to the rescue. She said Suereth led the four players into the parking lot, leaping down the stairs from their second-floor room, crossing the lot and scaling two fences to catch up with the man.

"Honestly it was like they flew," Fletcher said. "I told them (later) that they were a bunch of angels."

The thief's greed apparently slowed him up. "The guy stumbled, and he was picking up money on the ground, and he got back up," Suereth told The Chanticleer Tuesday. "When he got back up and started to run again, me and [Ruckdeschel] hit him and tackled him to the ground."

Suereth said that Tarver and Ebert then caught up and held the man on the ground. Moments later sophomore catcher Scott Smith and others showed up and helped restrain him. They showed the thief little mercy. "He wanted a cigarette," Suereth said, "and he wanted us to get off of him and just let him sit there. It wasn't happening."

Tarver agreed. "We just started leaning on him harder when he started," he said.

About 20 minutes later, according to the players, police showed

up and took the man into custody. Fletcher and Scott say police told them they were familiar with the man and had suspected him in a number of crimes but had never been able to catch him in the act. "Well, they caught him red-handed this time," Fletcher said. She and Scott said they're extremely grateful for the help from the JSU players.

"They are our heroes. They're such nice kids," Scott said.

"I feel they did a great service," Fletcher said. "And not just for me, because who knows what else could have happened, what that guy was capable of?"

The players aren't so about being called heroes. "I don't like that," Suereth said. "I just hope that anyone would have done what we did in that situation."

Not everyone was entirely thrilled with the players' actions. Suereth's parents, both former police officers were at the motel with the team. While Suereth said they expressed their pride, they also said he could have used more caution. "They told me that I should have been careful because I didn't know what kind of weapons the guy could have had. Other than that they were pretty happy about it," he said.

"My dad was more concerned about me paying the rent," said Ebert. "I told him the story and he was like, 'Did you pay your rent?'"

Fletcher's admiration, though, is complete. "I don't know what defines a hero, but it's certainly doing something beyond the call of duty and not turning your back ... I think those boys did it, so they're certainly heroes for me."

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**Higher Ed Day** from page 1

said Margaret Garner, Higher Education Partnership chair. "We know that higher education is a sound investment. We know that for every \$1 the state invests in higher education, returned to the state is at least \$10 for that dollar investment. Ask any business major, that's a good investment."

Garner also said that many of Alabama's teachers are going to other states, due to the issue of salary. "Not only are we losing some of our best, we are having difficulty recruiting good faculty and staff to support our institutions," she said.

Robert Potts reiterated Garner's thoughts when he said, "We're losing faculty. We're losing staff. Our physical facilities are in shackles with hundreds of millions of dollars in deferred maintenance. We're in real danger of losing our competitive edge

and we're having insane fights with K-12 when we ought to always be working together."

Potts supported the one-third, two-third split in funding and added "As a higher education community, let's support constitutional reform."

According to the Higher Education Partnership, Alabama ranks 44th in the nation, as far as faculty salaries are concerned. The partnership also said the state's universities "are funded at 60 percent of the regional average." These statistics help support the key points of higher education.

Gordon Stone, executive director of the Higher Education Partnership, spoke about the theme of the day and gave a reason to support more funding for universities. "Alabama's public universities change lives. They change lives and they're worth supporting."



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# SGA hosts constitutional reform seminar, studying parking

By Tomiko Goodman  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

At the Feb. 25 meeting of the SGA, Robert Hayes, the director of publicity, announced that JSU's constitutional reform seminar will be held today from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The seminar is designed for high school students, and SGA members will be involved in hosting the event.

Hayes, a candidate for SGA president, announced the upcoming elections on March 5 and 6 will be held in the TMB. Students are asked to come out and vote.

Hayes announced that the SGA is having "Tell-All-Tuesdays." Every Tuesday, SGA senators are supposed to tell their peers about the meetings.

The SGA also promoted "Walk to Class Wednesdays." Students are encouraged to walk to their classes every Wednesday to help with the parking situation and traffic flow.

The SGA would like to remind students that Friday is "JSU Friday." Students are asked to wear

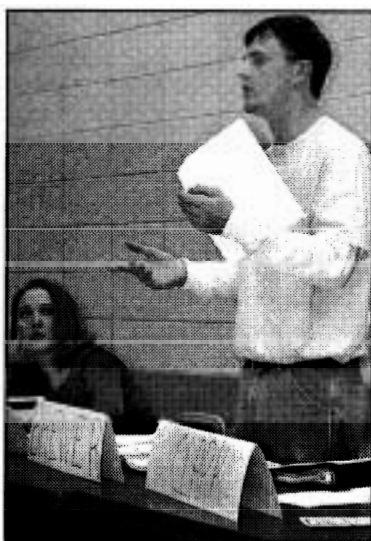
red to show school spirit.

Hayes announced that the Bachelor Beauty Pageant will be held tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Leone Cole Auditorium.

Kimber Merrill, of the parking and safety committee, reported that the resolution for parking is still in progress. The committee is also working on a solution to help make JSU safer for students.

Merrill announced International Week will be held March 10 through March 16. During the week, international students will host a soccer tournament and beach volleyball game for student organizations to participate in. Organizations that are interested should contact the International House.

The SGA passed student bill 134. This bill stated that student organizations requesting funds from the SGA must complete and return a Request for Allocations Form and the Student Information Sheet to the SGA office. Organizations requesting funds from the SGA committee must be considered an organization on campus.



The Chanticleer/ Nicholas Thomason  
Senator Jordan Brewer speaks at last Monday's SGA meeting.

Student bill 136 passed. This bill said that the Student Judiciary Council should consist of eight justices and one chief justice. A member of the SJC may be an active chairperson of any branch of the SGA. Each Justice must have a GPA of 2.3 on a 4.0 scale every

semester while serving and cumulative. The chief justice shall have a GPA no less than 2.5. This bill will be effective at the start of the 2002-03 school term.

Student Resolution 5 was passed. The resolution stated that because of the many students having trouble parking around Jack Hopper Cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., JSU should create an unrestricted parking area near Jack Hopper during that time.

The resolution is to be viewed as a temporary solution and is not meant to undermine the efforts of the parking committee. The UPD and security officers will have a smaller area to control and a reduced number of tickets would be given to students, according to the resolution.

The SGA would like to see more participation from the student body at the SGA meetings that are held on Mondays at 6 p.m. in the TMB auditorium. Students that have questions or concerns may contact the SGA office on the fourth floor of the TMB or call 782-5490.

Hostesses: from page 1

in the fall, hosting the official visit in the spring and fundraising for the hostess budget.

During these times, Jones described the main job of the hostesses as "serving as a liaison between those recruits and the coaches."

Jones said, "Being a Gamecock hostess is a really fun job and it's a good program. It really helps out JSU in the long run." Nadia Hurst, another hostess that did not receive a letter, said, "If you aren't going to try your best and participate I don't think you should do it. It's a big commitment."

One hostess wished to remain anonymous because, "I heavily support the athletic department and I don't want the students to think that their own student body is against the football team."

The hostess then said, "To my understanding, no one on the coaching staff approved the letter. Coach McGee wrote it himself, so I took my letter as a personal statement from him." She added, "I guess he's just so used to cussing and dealing with boys that it carried over into the hostesses."

Assistant football coach Scott Long said, "I don't think everyone of us read it, but, you know, it's on behalf of the football department." He then said, "Recruiting season ends and, you know, their duties are kind of over for the year. After the next recruiting season we'll do the same thing again."

Jones said, "I think it was kind of a rash decision to do it that way."

After the letter was received, several hostesses went to McGee to confront him about it. "All our feelings were hurt when we got the letter because we worked really hard," said Crystal Washington, one of the dismissed hostesses. During a conference with several of the hostesses, she quoted him saying, "The girls this year just weren't the quality I was looking for."

According to the hostess who wished to remain anonymous, she and several others went to head football coach Jack Crowe. She said Crowe was upset that the letter had been written and said he would take care of the problem.

Long was then appointed to be the hostess advisor next year. He then sent a letter to each of the hostesses that had received a letter from McGee, inviting them to reapply for the upcoming year.

Washington said she and the other girls felt better after receiving the letter from Coach Long because, "we know he cares."

Long explained, "[McGee's letter] was just kind of 'thanks for

see Hostesses, next page

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**Hostesses:** from page 4

our help' and [mine] was 'okay it's time to sign up again.' We aren't slamming any of the hostesses."

Long responded to the hurt feelings. "We didn't mean to. I can't speak for how they took it, but I don't think we meant any ill will or anything."

McGee said, "I don't know how they took it, but it was a deal where you have to try out every time. It's not automatic where I keep you every time"

"As with every aspect of the football program, we've evaluated and designated areas with potential areas of improvement and, you know, we basically feel that the hostess organization can improve and become an even more valuable asset to us," McGee said.

He then said, "Willingness to accept and embrace change within the organization, commitment to all the duties of the group and the ability to focus on the goals of the organization" are the three areas that the athletic department is looking for in hostesses.

"I can't keep them from trying out," McGee said, "but every young lady — sophomore, junior, senior — is welcome to apply and

go through the selection process based on the three areas of consideration.

"That's what I am looking for."

When asked about the hostesses who received letters, McGee replied, "I think some of the young ladies didn't comply with that."

Jones said, "I feel bad that letters were sent out to people that didn't deserve them. I sometimes wonder why I didn't get one." She then went on to say, "I've only had positive experiences with the coaching staff and everyone that was involved in hostess."

Avery said, "I don't know what it's like to read it and feel it myself, but I felt the pain of others."

In retrospect, Long was impressed with this year. "We had one of our best years ever recruiting here at Jacksonville and those hostesses are a big part of it," he said.

He named Paige Faulkner as his assistant. Faulkner is to be involved on a day-to-day basis with the hostesses. Long said the hostess organization basically runs itself and is just guided by the coaches.

Marshontri Reed, a hostess that received a letter, said she is glad that Coach Long will be the hostess advisor next year. "I have a lot of confidence in him and know he will do a great job."

# Director of Publicity

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**Election: from page 1**

Hayes. With enrollment rising, less room is available in residence halls and according to Hayes, "We're going to get some answers."

While there is little he can do personally to help the situation, Hayes said, "I can go to the proper channels and I can find out what's going on and I can let the students know that."

Janis, who is running for 1st vice president, is concerned with the actual committees within the senate. "I want the meetings to be more strict as far as parliamentary procedure," she said. "My main goal for next year is I just want the committees to be very strong and to get more done."

Janis explained that the current senators have done a good job, but due to difficulties in scheduling many have had to drop out. Several students have stepped up and been chosen as senators this semester but as Janis said, "A senator is a year-long obligation."

As far as the parking situation, Janis said she would like to see an outside source come in to help.

Choquette, who is unchallenged in seeking to be 2nd vice president, said he would like to see more student involvement next year. "I

don't think we're hearing back from the students enough," he said. "I want more students to voice what they want to do."

Choquette said "I think [the SGA's] going real good right now with what we've got, but there is room for improvement."

Roden, who seeks the controller position, said she wants all campus organizations to know they can borrow money from the SGA. She explained that only certain groups take advantage of this SGA feature.

Roden also explained what she could bring to the position. "I love SGA. That's what I love about Jacksonville is being a part of that. ... I've got my positive attitude, I'm willing to help out and all that added together, I think it would be a good asset for the exec council."

According to her application, Chandler seeks the position of controller because she enjoys being a part of the senate. "I've served on many committees, and I was the executive assistant this year" she said. "I now want to be a major part of the executive board."

Greninger seeks the position of controller as well. According to his application, "I seek this position to better involve myself with the student government. I feel that I can make a great contribution to the senate and the student body as the

controller of the SGA."

SGA senator candidates include: Crissy Almaroad, Frances Archuleta, R.J. Armstead, Blake Arthur, Brianna Bladen, Tiffany Bogus, Fallon Brantley, Jordan Brewer, Katie Carter, Jennifer Cash, Frances Clark, Chris Cook, Lacey Daniel, Bree Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Stephanie Deese, April Dorsett, Ashley Downing Branden Edwards, Angela Estes, Lyndsi Eubanks, Katie Green, Eugene Griffin, Cheryl Gunn, Laura Hale, Jennifer Hull, Kelly Hamilton, Jillian Hobgood, Alesha Ingram, Cambrey Jordan, Zach Kilgore, Lisa King, Timothy King, Mandy McKenzie, Kimber Merrill, Heather Miller, Franklin Millin, Jennifer Mince, Samantha Morrow, Wendy Moncrief, Lynsey Murrell, Jeremy Norman, Trey Parrish, Alison Pierce, Mary Catherine Poland, Lynnette Pope, Marshonntri Reid, Josh Robinson, Mardracus Russell, Stephanie Schones, Rebecca Sellers, Martelli Smith, Shannon Stephens, Andrew Symonds, Deidra Walker, Elizabeth Walker, Emily Margaret Williams, Emily Renee Williams, Amy Yancy and Holly Yates.

Elections for SGA senators and executive office candidates will be held Mar. 5 and 6 on the fourth floor of the TMB.

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# Emergency responders train in W. Va. for crises in subways

By Greg Gritrich  
New York Daily News (KRT)

STANDARD, W.Va. — A half-mile inside a West Virginia mountain, in a mining town with no mass transit, the Defense Department is preparing for a deadly terrorist attack on New York City's subway system.

Along a dirt road that leads to an abandoned highway tunnel, the only hint that something out of the ordinary is going on is a string of parked trucks with government license plates.

Behind thick layers of Appalachian rock, rescuers in lime-green hazardous materials suits are crawling through narrow voids in an avalanche of concrete and steel.

The six men are at the far end of a mock subway station, complete with 800 feet of track and two subway cars. They are desperate to reach bloody, human figures trapped under debris ahead. But they move deliberately through the dense smoke, mapping their maze-like route and continuously checking hazardous gas gauges hanging from their belts.

Gray ash — terrifyingly similar to the thick dust that choked lower Manhattan after the World Trade Center collapsed — blankets crushed cars.

"I'm over here. Help me!" a woman cries. But the rescuers' oxygen is running short. They have to turn back.

"We think like terrorists when we create these drills," said retired 20-year Marine veteran Doug Davis. He has special training in responding to chemical and biological attacks, and now works for Research Planning Inc. — a Virginia-based war games company that devises anti-terrorism boot camps for the Defense Department.

"The people who come here already are trained," said Davis, giving a rare tour of the compound last week to the New York Daily News. "We put that training into action."

Hidden inside Memorial Tunnel, the Center for National Response allows emergency response teams to practice combating and cordoning off underground areas attacked by terrorists.

Gadgets, machinery and specialized vehicles — including a city bus and a fire truck — and tons of rubble stand ready for use in a variety of disaster scenarios.

Along with collapsed subway and bombed-out parking garage drills, there are scenarios involving chemical and biological weapons, a hijacked bus, radioactive leaks and a 20-car pileup caused by the intentional crashing of a hazardous materials truck.

New York City has been actively preparing for the worst in its subway system since the 1993 World Trade Center attack. And the Office of Emergency Management publicly stepped up the anti-terrorism drills after a Japanese doomsday cult spread lethal nerve gas in a Tokyo subway in 1995.

"We have to be ready and organized," said Don Carson, director of the West Virginia-based Operating Engineers National Hazmat Program, which oversees worker safety at Ground Zero.

"You can't save anyone if you don't have somebody who knows how to lift up the collapsed steel and rubble in a hazardous area," Carson said. "We need to take the lessons that were learned from the World Trade Center and prepare."

Carson's hazardous materials experts, the Defense Department and the Energy Department are cross-training heavy machine operators and mine rescue teams so they'll be prepared to assist after bombings, or chemical or biological attacks.

The hope is that the pilot program will be a model for how to train civil rescue and recovery teams on coordinating with law enforcement during a crisis.

The mine rescuers in West Virginia took part in the cross-training last week. After days of classroom work, they were put through an anti-terrorism course that combined collapsed subway and parking garage scenarios with an unknown hazardous gas leak.

The most difficult aspect of the drill was a multi-level maze of small wooden rooms and shafts. The teams had to crawl about 50 yards through a claustrophobic "egress trainer," lugging oxygen tanks on their backs and clearing

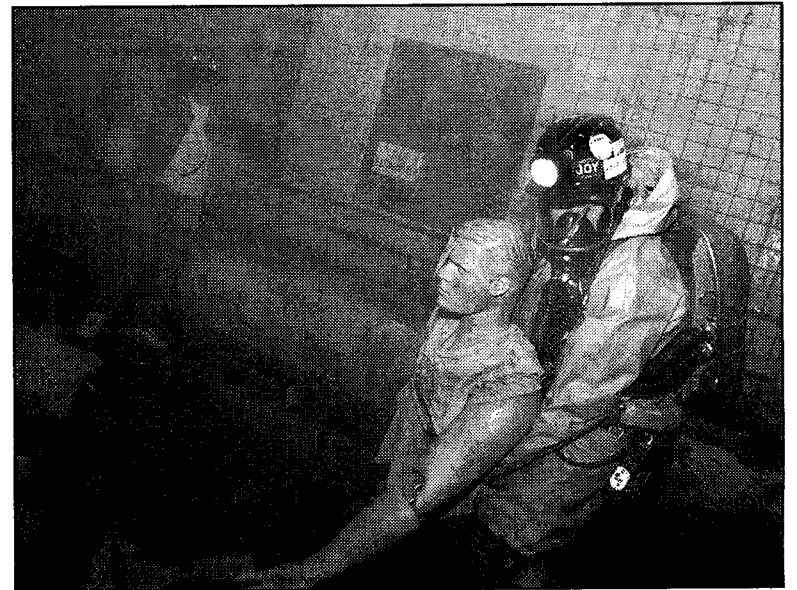
rubble as rats scurried by in the smoky darkness.

The objective was to identify the gas leak, communicate to a central command post and rescue an unknown number of bloodied, 185-pound mannequins trapped under mangled cars and concrete on the other side.

One team was forced to turn back as its oxygen ran low. The other group followed the path marked by the first team and was able to rescue three mannequins before exhausting its air supply.

"One of our guys probably would have died in a real situation," said rescuer Bill Tucker, 43. "We went from rescue mode to survival mode real quick because we were low on oxygen."

With \$16.5 million in federal defense funding, the West Virginia tunnel will train about 1,500 military and civilian personnel this year. A larger facility, the National Training Center for Homeland Security, is being



New York Daily News (KRT)/ Todd Maisel  
A West Virginia mine rescuer drags a mannequin from the mock wreckage of a collapsed medical facility during Defense Department training exercises at the Center for National Response inside Memorial Tunnel in Standard, W. Va.

planned for the Army National Guard's Camp Dawson in the Appalachian Mountains near the West Virginia border with Pennsylvania.

The National Guard center would include an urban combat range; a mock airport with two landing strips, a control tower and a terminal building; a course to practice evasive vehicle

maneuvers and pursuit tactics; and a warehouse for hazardous materials training.

"We have to be prepared for terrorist attacks," said Wayne Ashby, captain of a mine rescue team that was cross-training. "After the World Trade Center, it is pretty obvious it could happen again. We can never have too many people ready."

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# OPINION

The Chanticleer • February 28, 2002

## In Our View

### Slanted toward the truth

The kidnapers of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl kept their promise to kill the journalist, and even recorded the gruesome act on videotape.

There's only one question to ask in response to this.

Why?

What could this group possibly hope to accomplish through the kidnapping and murder of an American newspaper reporter?

They demanded money. But they had to know they wouldn't get it. The U.S. government stands firm by its policy of non-negotiation with terrorists in this new war. Giving in once would only encourage more hostage-taking for profit.

They called him a spy. Whether they actually believed this to be true or not is up in the air. They claimed his Jewish heritage as proof of his complicity with their enemy, Israel. Whether they believed he was a spy for Israel or the U.S., it seems obvious that they understood very little of the nature of American journalism.

Fairness and objectivity in pursuit of the truth are as foreign to these extremists, who claim to be Muslim, as the peaceful tenets of the faith they falsely profess.

Unfortunately, those concepts are often lost on the American people, too.

Americans consistently rank members of the media below even politicians and lawyers on the scale of trust in polls. They complain of a heavy liberal bias tainting modern American media coverage. Ironically these changes are leveled at members of a profession who hear the words "fairness," "balance" and "objectivity" from Day One of journalism school.

To be fair, objective coverage is a relatively new concept in journalism. It wasn't until the 20th century that a well-developed sense of professional ethics was widely accepted throughout the industry. But the slanted, party-backed presses of early American history and the "yellow journalism" of the late 19th century make today's claims of liberal bias seem laughable at best.

Still, Americans persist in the long tradition of blaming the messenger. Playwright Ben Hecht wrote of journalists in his 1936 script *Nothing Sacred*: "Newspapermen ... The hand of God reaching down into the mire couldn't elevate one of them to the depths of degradation." It often seems Americans feel the same way today.

While quotes in news reports extol Daniel Pearl as a hardworking, talented writer whose only goal was the truth, it's hard to imagine the American people are mourning him as a journalist.

Still, people like Pearl are drawn to journalism. For whatever reason, despite the scorn of the public at large, there are tens of thousands of people like him working to tell us the things we need to know, to explain the things we may not want to understand.

We at The Chanticleer are proud to count ourselves participants in a profession where there are people like Pearl, dedicated enough to follow any story to its end, no matter how bitter.

## Most people are not as perceived

By Stephanie Pendergrass  
The Chanticleer News Editor



Are you what people perceive you to be? When people first see you, is that all that's there?

This weekend, I talked with my dad and found out that I have apparently changed since starting college. How have I changed? Well, I'm not exactly sure, but I know it's happened. I feel more responsible, I don't get stressed out as easily and I'm more independent.

I also think I'm more determined than when I was younger. I never had to work as hard as I've had to during the past two years. When you're basically taking care of yourself, you start prioritizing. You realize what's really important, and college has done all this for me.

I also learned this weekend that, outwardly, I haven't changed much at all. Other than the obvious, like height and weight, I'm apparently still perceived as "a sweet little girl."

So, I look like a sweet little girl to the untrained eye; I guess it's when people really get to know me that they find out I can be sarcastic and sometimes cynical. Not to say that I'm not sweet — I try — but I know more than I used to. I've seen things that have changed me.

Change is difficult for me, but when it's gradual, you don't really notice. I think that's where my problem started. I thought I knew what I was seen as. Now I'm not so sure.

It's kind of like when you hear your voice — on an answering machine. You think to yourself, "That's not what I sound like!" Then you go up to random people and question them. "Do I really sound like that?! Why do you let me talk at all?!"

(Well, that might not be how everybody reacts, but it's how I do.)

Anyway, you have this idea of how you sound; you're comfortable with it — it's just you. Then you find out you sound completely different than you ever knew.

Which leads to my findings from this weekend. I thought I was seen differently than I apparently am. That doesn't really bother me, it's just kind of a shocker.

I started questioning whether or not I wanted to be perceived as a sweet little girl. I know the truth. ...

Frankly I'm not a little girl anymore, and I'm not always that shy and sweet — just ask the rest of The Chanticleer staff.

You know we act differently around different people. To some people, I'm perceived as sweet and shy. To others, I'm a sarcastic moron.

I learned I'm OK with both of these.

This judgement on how people look and act often leads to our expectations of them. We think certain people wouldn't do anything wrong, and that others are behind everything that is negative in this world. Our misconceptions lead to false impressions of people.

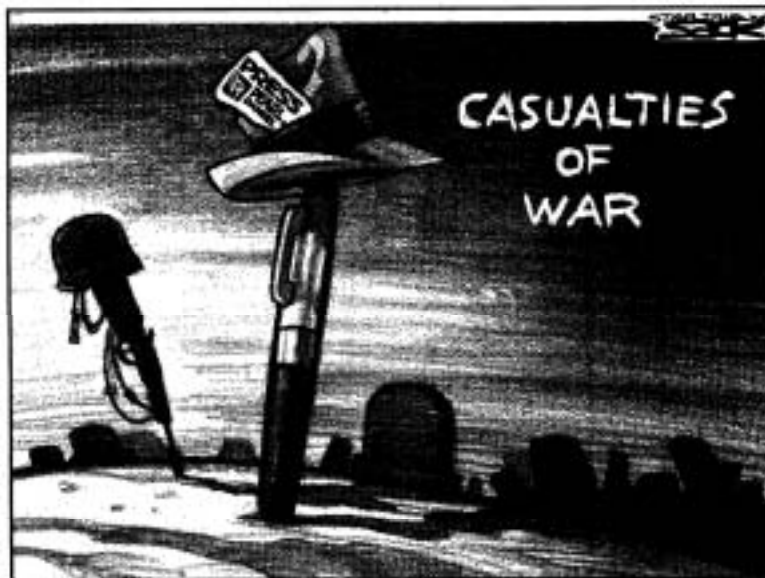
There is so much more to people than I think we realize. You go by first impressions, you go by appearance, you go by hearsay, but that doesn't really tell you much at all.

I have friends that I really didn't like when I first met them. I was going by that first impression, that vital impression that makes you think you know someone, when you actually don't know them at all.

Fortunately I've taken the time to get to know these people, and some have become my best friends. Thank God for second, third and fourth impressions. ...

So I guess that's the point of my little tangent. Before you think you know someone, get to know them. You can't always trust first impressions; they can give you some sort of outlook, but don't put all your trust in them.

Just because you don't necessarily have an appreciation for the qualities and possessions of other people, doesn't mean that they're wrong. Something extremely important to you may seem trivial to the next person, it all depends on the person and once you get to know someone, you might just be able to develop an appreciation for their differences.



## THE CHANTICLEER

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### LETTERS POLICY

The Chanticleer welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typed. Letters may be hand-delivered or sent through campus mail to our office in Room 180, Self Hall, or to the mailing address at left. Letters may also be e-mailed to: [jst\\_chanticleer@jstmail.com](mailto:jst_chanticleer@jstmail.com).

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are abusive, defamatory, or submitted anonymously. Letters may be edited for style, brevity, or clarity. The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any correspondence. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to the next publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Rebuttals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the initial, original or later response.



# Pearl was killed because he was an American

By Mark Bowden  
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

So Danny Pearl is dead. His killers offered various rationales for the murder of the Wall Street Journal reporter. First they said he was a CIA agent, then acknowledged that he wasn't. Then they claimed he was actually an Israeli spy. Right — a Mossad agent who was born in Princeton, attended Stanford University, and was then assigned to work undercover at the Berkshire Eagle newspaper in western Massachusetts for five years. For what? To keep an eye on the golf courses and hiking trails? Pearl was killed because he was an American. His executioners probably took additional pleasure in the fact that he was Jewish. Pearl was lured into their hands because, as a reporter, he knew there are two sides to every story, and he wanted to tell theirs. He wanted a better understanding of why a small group of Pakistani Muslims would conspire to plant four ounces of a powerful explosive in the soles of would-be suicide bomber Richard Reid's shoes and send him off to blow up an American Airlines flight between Paris and Miami. It was a good story, an important story. It is what drives every reporter. Primarily, there is curiosity. Every good reporter is driven by a desire to make sense of the world,

to find out for himself or herself exactly what is happening and why. We learn through experience that what everyone thinks is true often is not. So you regard all second- and third-hand information with suspicion and seek out firsthand material with dogged intensity. In my experience, one of the surest signs of the truth is the element of surprise. Things are almost never what we think.

Searching out the truth, seeking out both sides of a conflict, can be important work. Many conflicts in the world are grounded in misunderstanding and irrational distrust, and many, if not most, can be resolved by better communication.

This is a guiding principle of pacifist theory, and a noble undertaking. It is not done only by journalists. It is also the work of diplomats, foreign aid workers, missionaries and even police, spies and soldiers. The truth is as valuable to warriors as peacemakers. So Danny Pearl's motives were in the best tradition of civilized society.

By all accounts, he was not a danger junkie. He was pursuing a good story from a hotel room in Karachi, a southern Pakistani port city that is not exactly a war zone. He arranged to meet a source at a restaurant. He probably knew that the people he was meeting were dangerous, but the meeting was in a public place,

and no doubt his contacts seemed friendly and helpful on the phone. He would have gone to the meeting, and the one after it, probably convinced that everyone sees the value in telling their story, that everyone wants to be understood. So he placed his trust not just in the people he was meeting, but in the inherent value of the work he was trying to do.

His captors had their own idea of how to tell their story. They kidnapped him and distributed pictures of him with a gun to his head. They made impossible demands of the U.S. government, then slaughtered him. Cruelty and murder weren't enough for them. They chose to make a spectacle of the execution, videotaping it and sending it out into the world. The horrific videotape is their answer to the hope that dialogue and mutual understanding can resolve all human differences.

They can't. Those who tried to blow up American Airlines Flight 63 and who killed Danny Pearl are implacable enemies of the United States and the Western world. They marked Pearl as a spy because their world view doesn't allow for a person like him, a Jew prospering in a secular society by pursuing his own talent and curiosity. Why seek the truth when it is already known? When all has been revealed? Why care what an enemy thinks or says?

Some journalists do seek out war zones — in part for the excitement, in part out of ambition, and in part because pictures and stories from such places are rare and in demand — particularly since so many major American newspapers and TV networks have cut back on foreign correspondents.

Most journalists, even war reporters, are not like that. I am not, and everything I have heard about Pearl convinces me that he wasn't, either.

I have never been a full-time foreign correspondent, as he was, but I know what it is like to follow a story to a dangerous place. To someone who doesn't do it for a living, risking your life to tell a better story sounds like a foolish thing. But it rarely involves a knowing plunge into great risk. It involves following a trail that gradually leads in that direction, knowing that you will back away if circumstances get too risky, but not wanting to abandon the thread out of timidity or cowardice. Because those of us who write stories love our work, and believe in its importance, we tend to go farther down that road than most people would. At heart, it means placing your trust in the basic decency of other human beings.

Most people possess that decency. The murder of Danny Pearl reminds us that some don't.

## Shouldn't psychic Miss Cleo have seen this one coming?

By Tanya Barrientos  
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

Back in August I tried to call Miss Cleo.

I wanted to talk with her about a bad moon rising. Mysterious sources, channeled through the Associated Press, had informed me that the television-commercial psychic with the Jamaican accent as strong as island rum was about to face serious legal problems. The State of Missouri was sore about the way she was peddling her sixth sense to the public, and it filed a lawsuit calling her a fraud.

Maybe she saw it coming, and that's why she was out every time I phoned. Maybe she could feel the wicked mojo emanating from the Show Me State, and sensed there was bigger trouble on the horizon.

If she did, she was right. Now the feds are after the two companies the allegedly clairvoyant Miss C shills for. They say Psychic Readers Network Inc. and Access Resources Services Inc. cheat people out of their hard-earned cash.

On Friday, a federal judge ruled that investigators could not only peer into the phone-in fortune-

teller's crystal ball, but also take a close look at the companies' business practices.

That ruling came after the Federal Trade Commission filed a lawsuit alleging that the firms scam callers into paying for services she advertises as being free, harasses patrons by repeatedly calling them at home, bills folks for things they never bought, and threatens to report them to collection goons when they argue.

Of course, the head of the companies, Peter Stolz, says the feds are wrong. Oh, sure, some callers have complained (the commission puts the number at 2,000), but he says that's how it goes in the realm of the unknown.

"To say we are being deceptive is just plain wrong," Stolz said, adding that "99.999 percent of customers are happy with the service."

With Friday's preliminary injunction, the companies have agreed to take the mystery out of their pricing by telling callers up front what a glimpse into the future will cost them. The injunction will be in place until the court rules on the suit's allegations.

So, you think it's curtains for

Cleo?

Open your mind. She already has a slick lawyer. I predict that she'll get an even slicker Hollywood agent, and that her planets will realign. She couldn't have asked for better publicity.

After a few pesky court appearances and the negotiation of a hefty fine or two, she'll be free to pursue her true calling: mega-stardom.

My Magic 8 Ball says her chances are good.

She'll read Letterman's palm, then do Leno's chart. She'll trade in her turban for silky designer robes, and before we know it she'll be starring in her own TV show.

Think I'm crazy?

Look at John Edward. On his syndicated show, "Crossing Over," he supposedly speaks with the dead.

For an hour every morning, he stands in the center of a softly lit studio and makes people in his audience weep as he tells them that dearly departed Grandma, or Uncle Ted, or little sister Tess still remembers how much they love chocolate cake, and by the way, isn't it time to buy a new car? All I'm saying is there's a market.

### IN YOUR VIEW

#### "Should the United States attack Iraq?"

--Compiled by  
Andrea Brown



Antoine Jackson  
Freshman  
Undecided

"I don't know. I haven't been watching the news."



Aéscha Jackson  
Freshman  
Physical therapy

"... we should attack Pakistan because they killed Daniel Pearl."



Michael Pattillo  
Freshman  
Physical education

"If we know that they are definitely involved with Afghanistan."



Christi Pilkington  
Graduate student  
History education

"... we didn't finish the job the first time. Now it needs to be finished."



Darryl Speakman  
Junior  
Graphic design

"No. War just doesn't make sense. Peace will build power."

#### ABOUT THE WRITER

Tanya Barrientos is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or send e-mail to tbarri@aol.com.

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# FEATURES

The Chanticleer • February 28, 2002

## Sports Nut renovations nearly complete

By Joshua W. Bingham  
The Chanticleer Managing Editor

After surviving a fire in 2001, the Sports Nut has widened and by April will be a unique restaurant by day and a diverse bar by night encompassing dugouts and a sky-box for avid sports nuts of all ages.

On Jan. 5, 2001, a fire began in the print shop that was beside the Sports Nut. As it burned through the attic, it crossed over and burned through the Sports Nut, said owner Mike Williams. "The majority of everything I had in here was lost."



The Chanticleer/ Joshua Bingham  
The Sports Nut sign that read "Half a Nut is better than no Nut at all" after suffering a fire in 2001 now reads "The new half."

After the fire, Williams said his family had to make some sacrifices but learned a lesson about true value and how the most important things are family and faith. "I mean that's what it's all about," he said.

He then looked at his loss as an opportunity and began renovations.

Perhaps the biggest changes for the Sports Nut are that people of any age will be allowed in, and the business will no longer be open Sundays, nor offer membership.

Currently, the north side of the establishment is complete with a full bar, some tables and pool tables above a green floor surrounded by walls holding a giant scoreboard and bar-common neon fixtures.

Nine beers are on constant tap, of which the brands rotate, 23 bottled beers are available and liquor is served.

The beers on tap change with popularity, Williams said. And "if somebody were to come in, be into a certain type, we could always work it into the nine." The most popular ones right now are Killian's, Natural Light and Bud Light.

Williams said the most popular liquor is Jagermeister and most popular mixed drink is Long Island Tea. "We make the best ones and that's why," said bartender and wife to Mike, Mary Beth Williams.

Though the additions are liked by customers, Sports Nut is "not really a bar yet," said regular Bob Johnson. "I mean, they're still rebuilding from the fire."

Johnson went on to say, "I have mixed emotions about [the renovations]. I kind of like the [previous] darker climate. But I've been assured that they are going to darken it up once they open the [restaurant side] up."

Before the fire, the Sports Nuts served food as well as beer and liquor. Food won't be served until Sports Nut is fully finished in April, Williams said, and it's missed.

"I wish they'd hurry up and get the restaurant part back opened up," said Sports Nut regular Cary Duggan. "That was some of the



best food they got there. ... I just love the food here."

Sports Nut manager Gisela Burton, a German immigrant, said the majority of hungry inquiries have been about the recipes from her motherland that were the specials of Wednesday nights. Still to be a feature once food is again served, Williams said the most unique beers Sports Nut will offer are German, to go with the food. "The most unique is the German beer," he said. "See, we don't even have all of those German beers yet because they go with the German food. So when we reopen, we'll have the German beers."

Though the kitchen is finished, no food will be served until the Sports Nut is fully renovated. "The

see **Sports Nut**, page 12

(Above) Sports Nut manager Gisela Burton talks with a customer over the renovated bar holding many signed dollar bills below glass, some tinted with smoke from a fire in 2001.

(Below) The only wall in the Sports Nut that isn't being renovated because of the many requests to owner Mike Williams.

Photos by Joshua Bingham



## Spring Break is coming: do you know where you're going?

By Abbey Herrin  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Has the monotony of school got you down? If so, stay strong and remember the one reason to keep on keepin' on: spring break.

Spring break is a week in which students can rest the mucus membrane and forget about those physics problems or that 10-page MLA style research paper. This void of time is a choice opportunity to get away, and that is exactly what thousands of colleges students do every year.

Panama City Beach, Fla., is the most popular destination for spring-breakers in this area, according to Janet Tompkins, co-owner of J&J Worldwide Travel in Jacksonville. Besides the convenient location, PCB is party central during spring break. This is why MTV has been there to observe the mayhem seven out of the last eight years.

For those in the market for an alternative to the wildlife of Panama City, there are plenty of other options, according to Real College Life, a Web site that offers

an in-depth guide to various destinations.

Myrtle Beach, S.C., is an ideal destination. It's not too far of a drive and the beaches are gorgeous. Also, there are plenty of hotspots for late night activity, according to the site. And for the more sporty spring-breakers, Myrtle Beach has some of the best golf courses in the country.

South Padre, Texas, is another ideal vacation that has grown in popularity in recent years, according to Real College Life. South Padre is perfect for water sports,

horseback riding and skiing. Bottle nose dolphins inhabit the island as well, making it an aquatic utopia.

Locations outside of the United States could be the perfect spring-break destination for students with big loan checks or generous parents. Cancun, Mexico is the most popular of these, according to Tompkins. Most students opting to travel to Cancun fly to Orlando and cruise out of Port Canaveral, she said. Cruises departing from New Orleans are also available but are more costly.

The Bahamas are a relaxing option for spring break. The island offers fishing, water sports and casinos, but has a much more laid-back atmosphere, according to Real College Life. More relaxed rules about alcohol consumption and free drinks at casinos make the Bahamas perfect for beer guzzlers.

For the more politically correct students, there are ways other than raising hell to spend spring. Break Away, a nonprofit organization out of Tallahassee, Fla., offers various

see **Spring Break**, page 12



**Sports Nut:** from page 11

kitchen's finished, immaculate, remodeled, painted, redesigned — it's entirely brand new," Williams said. "It's sitting back there. But it's on the other side of the construction, so I can't walk the food through the sawdust and get sawdust on the food."

Once the construction is finished, Williams' employees won't have to walk out of the south side too much because of the many booths and "food-consumption friendly" designs Williams plans to install.

"When I say that, I mean we're going to have at least 50 places to sit that are going to be booth oriented, down low," Williams said. "In comparison to our old bar-top tables with the bar stools, [which] just [weren't] food-consumption friendly."

Williams was always proud of the food he served and his redesign plans are focused more that way. "I really feel like the food is going to be a bigger deal this time around than it ever has been," he said.

After finishing the redesign, Williams plans to have the Sports Nut situated so that when customers walk into the foyer, they will see a chain-link fence separating the north and south sides. In

the southern-restaurant side, there will be home and visitors' dugouts at floor level separated by a raised skybox section.

The dugouts will resemble ones on baseball fields enclosed by chain-link fences with a door for each one and consolidated benches all the way across behind tables, Williams explained.

The skybox will hold four different booths reaching to the ceiling, considered luxury seats, Williams said. They're going to be bigger than normal and each have a little TV hanging out front, but still with a view of the wide-screen television that's going to be installed, and the stage.

Other booths will be placed around the elevated skybox and dugouts, Williams said.

One part of the original Sports Nut that won't be changed is a section of the wall across from the skybox holding many pictures, most signed, of sports heroes. The pictures are yellowed from the smoke of the fire. "Everybody that ever was at the Sports Nut before the fire related to this wall," Williams said. "They all remembered this wall. They can all remember seeing this wall and so I'm leaving this wall."

Though most clientele at Sports

Nut are middle-aged regulars, Williams encourages college students to visit. "The majority of my clientele right now are my regulars," he said. "You know, I have more and more college students coming in as they realize that we are half open."

"If enough college students come down here ... they can basically dictate what I do - what entertainment I have and how I operate," Williams said. "As long as they behave, I'll give them an opportunity to come down here and basically, I'll cater to them, as long as they don't misbehave. If you act right, I'll keep you in here."

Williams said that once completed, the Sports Nut will have live entertainment every weekend of both local and touring bands showcasing "whatever the customers want."

He also wanted to point out that the Sports Nut is available to rent for private parties. Catering, security and taxicab service will be provided and are required.

Renovations, more of a slant toward food and allowing all ages entry will change Sports Nut.

"It's going to be (a) very unique, very Sports Nut, very unique [establishment]," Williams concluded.

**Spring Break:** from page 11

training and trips to students who wish to make a difference. The Break Away program involves community service dealing with pertinent issues such as literacy, poverty, racism and the environment.

Spring break can be a barrel of laughs and a chance to party like a rock star, but proceed with caution. The complete and utter chaos of spring-break madness has been known to get out of hand. Sometimes good times on the beach result in bad times in a jail cell.

To avoid the pokey, Real College Life offers some tips.

First and foremost, be a responsible drinker. This includes having a designated driver at all times and never having open containers in the car. Also, if your buddy is sloppy-drunk, make sure to keep him inside of the hotel room and away from any destructible property (if they happen to be the violent type).

Make sure that all lights and signals are working correctly on the car and that registration and proof of insurance is at easy access.

Finally, always treat police officers with respect. Following their instructions politely and using "yes

sir" and "no sir" will go a long way.

If traveling outside of the United States, make sure to have a copy of your passport and visa handy in case anyone requests to see them. Keep them secured away safely and bring them out only when necessary. It's also a good idea to know where the U.S. Embassy or other U.S.-supported organizations (like the Red Cross) are located. Be wary of exchanging all of your currency; use traveler's checks whenever possible. And, to keep your tummy at its best be sure to avoid drinking water unless its bottled.

It isn't too late to plan a vacation for spring break, however it may be costly this late in the game, according to Tompkins. Most students start making reservations in October or November. J&J Worldwide Travel locks in a certain number of rooms for a special price to be paid in advance, Tompkins said.

So if you haven't already made plans for spring break, get cracking or look ahead to next year. No matter if you decide to rot in Jacksonville or bask in the sunlight of the Bahamas, be careful, be safe and do not read or pick up a pencil at all costs.



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# Britney Spears loses innocence on the big screen

Review by Abbey Herrin  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Britney Spears is everywhere — Pepsi commercials, Herbal Essence commercials, MTV and the walls of adolescent girls all over the world. Now Britney has crossed genres into the film industry with "Crossroads," her motion picture debut.

The movie tells the story of three childhood friends who have grown apart in high school. There's Mimi, the pregnant wild child (Taryn Manning), Kit, the elegant cheerleader (Zoe Saldana) and Lucy, the sweet little valedictorian virgin, played by Spears.

The three estranged buddies wind up embarking on an adventure out west to pursue their dreams: Lucy wants to find her mother, Kit wants to see her boyfriend at UCLA and Mimi wants to enter a talent

contest in hopes of getting a recording contract.

At first, the girls are downright bitchy to one another, but surprise! They end up bonding and realizing the power of their friendship due to a series of dramatic occurrences on their trip.

The plot in the movie is unoriginal and way too much drama takes place in the course of a few days. Kit discovers that her boyfriend is a rapist, Lucy discovers that her mother does not want her and Mimi has a miscarriage, all in a 30-minute span. It's like watching three episodes of "Montel" in a row.

Britney Spears surprised me, however. Rather than strut around in leather Daisy Dukes with a snake wrapped around her neck, Britney looks very natural in the film and actually wears sweatpants and T-shirts. Britney shows a girl-next-door aspect of herself that is very



(L-R) Zoe Saldana, Taryn Manning and Britney Spears act it up in "Crossroads" as three friends taking a road trip out west. Courtesy Paramount Pictures

refreshing. She cusses, gets drunk, rebels against her father and loses her virginity.

Anson Mount who plays Ben, Britney's love interest, is a good match for her. He has a raw edge and is not the typical guy you would pair with Spears. Saldana and Manning give good performances as Lucy's friends as well.

The older supporting cast is very weak in the movie. I've never been so embarrassed for Dan Akroyd in my life. His portrayal of Britney's father is horrible. "Sex and the City" actress Kim Cattrall plays a small part as Britney's mother, and she disappoints as well.

The movie is similar to Prince's 1980s film "Purple

Rain." It is a movie that is centered around a recording star that tries to capitalize on the music as much as possible. Britney sings throughout the movie and eventually converts one of her very "profound" pieces of poetry into a song that she sings at the movie's end.

"Crossroads" is lackluster. It follows the age-old pattern of road trip movies and deals with the stereotypical topics of coming of age and friendship. It does pick a sentimental bone, however, and I did find myself crying at the end.

Britney show that she may possibly have acting potential, but she definitely chose the wrong script to get started on.

If you have a poster of Britney Spears on your bedroom wall or own the Britney Spears watch or board game then you will love this movie. Otherwise, you might be a little disappointed.

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 3/6/02 DJ Dixieland - Brother's

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2/28/02 Lynam - Café Firenze  
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 Verbena - Zydeco  
 3/1/02 Natalie Grant, Phat Chance, Plus One and ZOEgirl - Boutwell Auditorium  
 3/2/02 Laura Dawn and The Calling - Five Points Music Hall  
 Seafound - The Nick  
 3/3/02 C-Dawg, Cody Dickinson and Jolo HERMANN - Zydeco  
 3/5/02 Black Cat Music - Boiler Room

**Atlanta**

2/28/02 Freak the Jones - 10 High  
 Wombat - Smith's Olde Bar  
 3/1/02 Big Atomic - C.J.'s Landing  
 Cheryl Wheeler - Red Light Café  
 Wayne Shorter - Rialto Center  
 Soup - Smith's Olde Bar  
 3/2/02 Drive By Truckers - Smith's Olde Bar  
 420 Monks and C-4 - The Masquerade  
 3/6/02 34 Satellite - Smith's Olde Bar  
 The Sadies - The EARL

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# Explore the river's banks in Tademy's "Cane River"

By Molly Louise Sosebee  
 Special to The Chanticleer

Lalita Tademy researched her maternal family history only to find bits and pieces of the truth and a desire to learn more about her heritage. Tademy's determination to research her family's history resulted in the book, "Cane River."

She was a vice-president of Sun Microsystems, but left her corporate career to research her heritage that fascinated her as a child. She remembered contradicting views of family members and became determined to figure out which views were correct.

Cane River is a real area located in Louisiana. Though the actual area is quite different

from that in the book, it still makes for an interesting read.

"Cane River" begins in the time of early-American slavery, continues through the Civil War and ends before the Civil Rights Movement. This beautiful work of fiction is rooted in years of research, historical facts and family love.

Following the lives of four generations of women, the novel shows their struggles and hardships. It illustrates their will to survive and to achieve more than what is expected. It uncovers the deepness of their family relationships.

"Cane River" includes old newspaper clippings, photos, deeds, wills and other important documentation of Tademy's family members' lives. Many of

these documents hold important facts about Tademy's ancestral history.

This novel is a well-developed blend of fact and fiction. It offers insights into the Creole life with the various languages spoken and the customs of the Deep South. It causes one's mind to conceive an idea of what it was like to live in captivity.

This book is not about slavery necessarily, but mainly about mothers and daughters and their will to survive. It is a story about relationships. It is about finding the will within one's soul to move on and achieve more than what is expected. One does not need to be a woman, a Southerner, or an African American in order to



Courtesy Harmony Books

enjoy "Cane River."

Look for Tademy's next novel soon to be out in the coming year. It is about her paternal family history.

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# the Funny Bone



## Useless Quiz

- 1.) Where was the first umbrella factory in the U.S. founded?
- 2.) What month is recognized as "National Turkey Lovers' Month"?
- 3.) What animal consumes nearly 28 times its own weight in food?
- 4.) Who said, "Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed there are many rewards, if you disgrace yourself you can always write a book?"
- 5.) What state has 62 lighthouses?
- 6.) Where is the largest swimming pool in the continental U.S. located?
- 7.) What do you call a building in which silence is enforced?
- 8.) What college was the first on record to use the word "campus"?
- 9.) The most popular day for eating out in the U.S. is what?
- 10.) What holiday inspires consumers to buy 165 million cards each year?

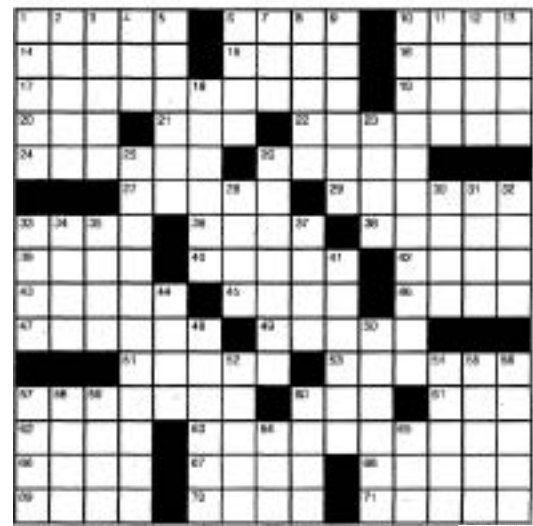
### Useless Answers

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1.) Baltimore, Md.     | 5.) Maine              |
| 2.) June               | 6.) Baltimore, Md.     |
| 3.) Cats               | 7.) "Silentium"        |
| 4.) Ronald Reagan      | 8.) Princeton          |
| 5.) One's own birthday | 9.) One's own birthday |
| 6.) Eastern            | 10.) Easter            |



## Crossword

- ACROSS
1. Park, CO
  6. Second Beatles' movie
  10. Fencing sword
  14. Monarch's loyal subject
  15. Inter \_\_\_ (among other things)
  16. Cooking fat
  17. Sinfulness
  19. Soft cheese
  20. Pinnacle
  21. London hrs.
  22. Sinatra's hometown
  24. Main course
  26. Underneath
  27. Caste member
  29. Type of cat or goat
  33. Office note
  36. Lodgings in London
  38. Misconception
  39. LSD, for short
  40. Head skin
  42. Compass point
  43. Faint trace
  45. Skiers' ride
  46. Pub quaffs
  47. Part of USSR
  49. Double-reed instruments
  51. Obnoxious one
  53. Gas-station in the sky?
  57. Chandler's private eye
  60. Can material
  61. Seth's mother
  62. Domain
  63. Supplementary
  66. Glance over
  67. Mob violence
  68. Queeg's ship
  69. Grip
  70. Tijuana snack
  71. Dadaist Max
- DOWN
1. Upper crust
  2. Singer Carly
  3. Entice
  4. Self-importance
  5. Prokofiev or Rachmaninoff
  6. Stop!
  7. Inventor Whitney
  8. Gracefully slender
  9. Kickback cash
  10. Strenuous effort
  11. Baseball facility
  12. New York canal
  13. Idyllic place
  18. Reparations
  23. Skeleton piece
  25. New England state
  26. Persistent problem
  28. Part of OED
  30. Report type
  31. Pinkish wine
  32. Humanistic disciplines
  33. N.E. state
  34. Canyon reply
  35. Kind of ICBM
  37. Hefty slice
  41. Earnings
  44. Art style of the '20s and '30s
  48. Frustrate
  50. One Kennedy
  52. Communication



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## Solutions



- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| services                        | 58 Shell rival            |
| 54 Bolshevik leader             | 59 Genuine                |
| 55 Linda or Dale                | 60 Bandleader             |
| 56 Find a new tenant for a flat | Puente                    |
| 57 Col. Potter's command        | 64 One of Disney's dwarfs |
|                                 | 65 Boat propeller         |

# ★ HOROSCOPES

By Lasha Seniuk  
Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service  
Feb 25-Mar. 3, 2002

**Aries** (March 21-April 20). Work routines will greatly improve early this week. Expect financial negotiations or business proposals to be quickly finalized. Some Aries natives may soon enter into an unusual partnership, contract or short-term investment. If so, thoroughly research all details. Ethics or timed payments may be central issues. After Friday expect romantic partners to question new social plans or family decisions. Offer detailed explanations. Tempers may be high.

**Taurus** (April 21-May 20). Before midweek watch for loved ones to ask personal questions. Old promises, yesterday's attractions or delicate social triangles may all be at issue. Although others are now critical, important emotional gains are available. Stay focused on honesty and newly revealed information. After Friday financial reversals are annoying. Bad debts or forgotten payments may soon require attention. Be consistent. Shared responsibility and reliable planning are needed.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21). New romantic attractions will this week offer strong evidence of affection, trust and loyalty. At present, potential mates may be highly focused on

past social history or outdated memories. Don't give it a second thought. Loved ones now need to privately resolve old disappointments and reclaim their public lives. For many Geminis intimacy will greatly increase in the coming weeks. Watch for emotional safety and delicate flirtations to soon trigger deep passion.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22). Long-term friendships will soon change. Late Tuesday watch for a friend or lover to openly discuss past events or recent social dynamics. For some Cancerians public disclosures and renewed honesty will now be an ongoing theme. After Friday pay attention to the mood or expectations of loved ones. Someone close may wish to clarify a recent comment, event or family promise. Small clues will be meaningful. Expect bold decisions in the coming weeks.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22). Social and work routines will increase this week. Before Thursday expect key officials and close friends to clearly state their expectations. Revised assignments and unusual social invitations may be a prime theme. Watch for group planning and team events to be important. Some Leos will now leave behind unrealistic projects, lost ambitions and outdated friendships. Use this time to evaluate social priorities and develop new career confidence. Others

will follow your lead.  
**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Late Tuesday a close friend or lover may wish to discuss past events, romantic promises or ongoing social obligations. Before Thursday others will be highly focused on social triangles or rare displays of public loyalty. Avoid openly showing emotion. A balanced response may be important. After Saturday news from a co-worker may rapidly change a key business or educational project. Study written errors and financial miscalculations for valuable hints.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Family relations may demand special attention this week. Expect both loved ones and marital partners to doubt their self worth or place in the group. All is well, however. At present, low confidence is mostly a passing mood. For many Librans brief social questioning will be followed by a sharp increase in romance, sensuality and valid family decisions. New growth will soon arrive. Be patient and expect important home and romantic changes by mid-March.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Short-term flirtations and new attractions are particularly pleasing this week. After Tuesday expect a colleague or friend to express a subtle romantic interest or new affection. Remain cautious, however: social politics and group dynamics may be more

complex than anticipated. Go slow and carefully consider the feelings of mutual friends or relatives. At present, silent emotions, social competitions and minor jealousies are a strong influence.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Financial obligations or a revised public reputation are accented this week. Before Wednesday watch for colleagues to rely heavily on your ability to finalize contracts or represent the needs of the group. Accept all new duties and proposals. Recent doubts concerning leadership qualities or business potential can now be steadily resolved. After Friday a close friend may be excited by a new love interest. Remain cautious. Romantic promises will change by later next week.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Subtle attractions and new sensuality will be unavoidable over the next few days. Watch for powerful wave of social interest to soon arrive. For many Capricorns a fairly long period of emotional distance or social boredom is coming to an end. After Thursday expect a potential lover or new friend to issue an unexpected invitation. Later this week watch also for canceled projects or a fast reversal of work assignments. Stay alert. Authority figures may be moody.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Relations with co-workers may dramatically change this week. Over

the next few days expect work methods and daily routines to be complex, unusually political and socially intense. Time requirements or delicate team decisions may require extra attention. Don't avoid small or difficult tasks. For many Aquarians competing schedules will soon lead to improved workplace standing or new long-term agreements. Expect valid and rewarding negotiations in the coming weeks.

**Pisces** (Feb. 20-March 20). Romantic partners will now rely heavily on your advice. Before Wednesday watch for an unusual social complication or family disagreement to cause lovers or marital partners to doubt their self worth or community standing. Point out obvious misinterpretations. At present, loved ones may be overly influenced by long-established emotional patterns. After Saturday business obligations will slowly increase: expect older managers or officials to opt for controversial new methods.

**If your birthday is this week . . .** avoid challenging older relatives and authority figures for the next few weeks. After May 11th a new era of social independence and fast progress in all financial matters will arrive. By late June an important romantic choice may be needed. A new relationship versus ongoing romantic promises may be at issue.

# SPORTS

The Chanticleer - February 28, 2002

## Gamecocks beat Mercer, fall to TSU

### Jax State geared for Atlantic Sun Tourney

By Anthony Hill  
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The Jax State men's basketball team is ready for the A-Sun tournament. The Gamecocks finished the season with games against Mercer and Troy State last week.

Pete Mathews Coliseum was on fire when the Gamecocks hosted Mercer last Thursday. Good defense and a rowdy crowd helped lead the Gamecocks past the Bears, 95-68.

"I thought our defense really set the tone tonight," said head coach Mike LaPlante. "We played about as hard on defense as we have all year."

The Gamecocks held Mercer to 36.2 percent shooting for the game and forced 17 turnovers, which they were able to turn into 31 points. The Gamecocks finished the game, shooting an amazing 53 percent and out-rebounding the Bears, 40-33.

Jax State jumped on Mercer early and often, taking a 24-10 lead over the first seven minutes of the game and pushing the lead to as many as 20 points in the first half.

Mercer never seemed to give the Gamecocks much of challenge. The Bears never got to within 20 points in the final half. Jax State pushed its lead to as high as 32 points after Ryan Chambless hit a 3-pointer from the corner with 4:20 remaining in the game.

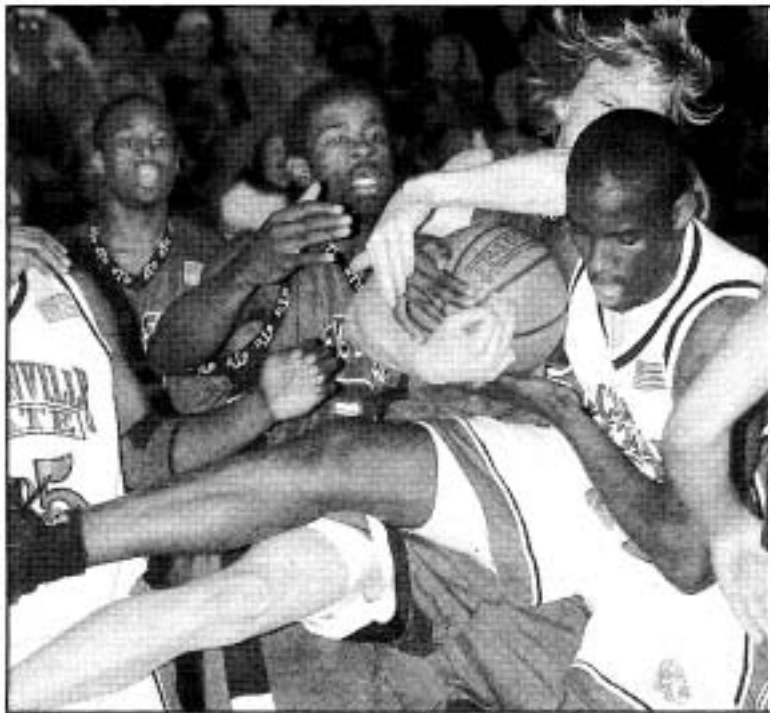
Omar Barlett finished the game with 18 points and nine rebounds, while Jay Heard and Poonie Richardson each finished with 16 points. The streaky Scott Watson contributed with a season-high 15 points for JSU.

Will Emerson led Mercer with 19 points and seven rebounds. Aleem Muhammad added 16 points, while Jay January contributed with 14.

The Gamecocks tried to conclude the season on a positive note by whupping Troy State last Saturday.

"We owe them one," said Barlett. "They beat us very early in the season and we're a different team now."

Well, the Trojans still seem to have the Gamecocks' number and



Gamecock center Omar Barlett fights for the rebound during loss to Troy State last Saturday at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

pounded JSU, 79-60.

Trojan forward Lamayn Wilson was simply unstoppable early in the game and tallied 23 points at the half. Wilson finished the game with 33 points and 10 rebounds.

"Coach told me to keep my poise, take your time, distribute the ball if my shot don't come," said Wilson. "They came and I knocked the big shots down."

Troy State went on a 21-3 run to build a 40-18 lead with 4:03 remaining in the first half. The Trojans shot an amazing 60 percent from the field in the first half and held the Gamecocks to just 30.8 percent.

Troy State had a 45-22 lead at halftime.

"That first 20 minutes I thought they played about as well of a 20-minute half as anybody we've seen all year," said LaPlante. "For a game where they were playing for a share of the conference title, they played one of their best halves of the season."

"We just didn't match their intensity the first part of the game," said Heard. "If we played 40 minutes like we did the second half, it's another ball game."

The Gamecocks opened the second half with a lot of fire. Jax State went on 14-4 run to cut the lead to 49-36 after Barlett hit a jumper at the 15:04 mark. The Gamecocks cut the lead to 56-48

after Barlett hit another jumper with 8:45 remaining.

Jax State continued to mount a comeback with tip-ins and follow-up dunks by Josh "Sleepy" Perry. Perry finished the game with 11 points.

Troy State took control of the game for good after Robert Rushing took over late in the game. Rushing finished with 19 points.

Barlett led the Gamecocks with 16 points and nine rebounds and Heard finished with 11 points.

"I don't want to say that I was holding back, they had good defense on me," said Rushing. "I didn't have to do much but find Lamayn. I will probably do a lot more on Thursday (tonight)."

"Man, it's been a few months since we played them," said Barlett. "We really didn't have a feel for them until the second half. We're going to see what happens on Thursday (tonight)."

The Gamecocks will face the Trojans one more time in the opening round of the A-Sun tournament today in Orlando. Tip-off is set for noon.

"Our mentality is we have to be more worried about ourselves," said LaPlante. "We just need to go in and play with a lot of intensity. Whoever gets hot for three games in three days is going to go to the (NCAA) tournament."

## Jax State softball rolls on

By Lindsay Mullins  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The Jacksonville State softball team (7-1) is on a roll. The Gamecocks added two more wins to their record when they defeated an ill-prepared Centenary, 6-0 and 2-0 in a double-header on Sunday.

Tera Ross (3-1) recorded her third-straight shutout of the season after allowing only one hit during the first game.

Jax State began the game by scoring two runs in the second inning, thanks to back-to-back RBIs from Renee Hasan and Rachel Countryman. The Gamecocks cranked the bats up again in the sixth inning when Hasan and left-fielder Jessica Ford both sent shots sailing over the fence, giving Jax State a 4-0 advantage.

Countryman then raced to home plate after a Centenary error. The Gamecocks concluded the scoring after Allie Simon smashed a single between two Centenary players to bring home Andrea Tomey.

"The first game, I think we got into their game mode," said head coach Jana McGinnis. "They were throwing a lot of balls at the beginning of the day and we got relaxed. We got out of our attack mode as hitters because we were expecting

them to throw balls. We eventually adjusted and scored four runs in the sixth inning."

Veronica Davis (4-0) recorded the victory for the Gamecocks in the second game, allowing three hits and no runs in a 2-0 victory.

The Gamecocks looked a little sluggish during the first three innings of the game, but Countryman ignited the team and excited the crowd after she blasted her fourth homerun of the season in the bottom of the fourth inning. Countryman went 1-for-3 in the second game.

The Gamecocks concluded the scoring of the night after "Breezy" Oleman brought home Simons on a double into the outfield.

"I have to give credit to Centenary's pitchers," said McGinnis. "They did a good job of keeping our hitters off balance. It's like our hitters could never could never get into the flow of the game. But we got our bats going and we won. That's all that matters."

The Gamecocks will travel to Statesboro, Ga., to play in a tournament hosted by Georgia Southern tomorrow. Jax State will host UAB on Tuesday. The game is set to start at 4 p.m.

## Veronica Davis earns A-Sun honors

By Anthony Hill  
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The Gamecock softball team looks very impressive this season, especially the pitching of Veronica Davis and Tera Ross.

Davis was named the Atlantic Sun Pitcher-of-the-week after she allowed only two hits and struck out eight against No. 24 South Carolina at the South Carolina Invitational last week.

Davis, a native of Carmichael, Calif., transferred from Sacramento City College where she was named to the California State Tournament All-tournament team and Most Valuable Pitcher

for the Bay Valley Conference in 2000 and 2001.

She started four games of the Gamecocks' eight and is a perfect 4-0 on the season. For the week, she allowed just one earned run on



Junior pitcher Veronica Davis.

15 hits in 27.2 innings of work. She gave up just one multiple base hit and struck out 22 for a .042 ERA. Her eight strikeouts against South Carolina marked the second time in three starts she struck out eight batters. Davis has only walked five batters this season.

She also pitched a 2-0 shutout against Centenary on Sunday.

The Gamecocks will travel to Statesboro, Ga. tomorrow to play in a Georgia Southern tournament.

# Jacksonville State women drop two conference games

## Staff Reports

The Gamecock women made a strong run at the A-Sun tournament, but the run came too late as they dropped two heart-breaking losses to Georgia State and Campbell last week.

The Gamecocks traveled to Atlanta last Thursday and fell to Georgia State, 65-61.

"We had our opportunities to win, but we didn't follow the shots," said head coach Dana Austin. "We couldn't get in our rhythm and I really don't think we executed very well tonight either. Georgia State took Kelly (Nye), Heather (Shepard) and Freddricka (Embry) out of their game and we have been depending on them to score lately."

Down by as many as 10 points in the first half and 12 in the second, Jax State tied the game a total of

six times and even took the lead early in the first half. Freeman hit a layup at the break to tie the game at 32.

Georgia State scored nine-straight points to open the second half, but the Gamecocks fought back. Tiara Eady hit a layup with 3:04 in the game to bring Jax State within four, 60-56, but the Panthers withstood a last effort by the Gamecocks and rained on their chances of making the A-Sun tournament.

Shanika Freeman led Jacksonville State with 21 points, 12 rebounds and seven steals. McKell Copeland finished with 12 points, four steals and three assists.

For the Panthers, Patechia Harman had 17 points.

The Gamecocks tried to get back on track when they traveled to Buies Creek, N.C., to face Campbell last Saturday, but a ques-



The Aniston Star/Steve Gross  
Gamecock center Tiara Eady passes the ball during the Feb. 11 game.

tionable call helped propel the Camels over the Gamecocks, 67-66.

Down by as many as 11 points in the first half, the Gamecocks went on 15-5 run to come within a point of tying the Camels after Laniece Thomas hit a layup. The score was 33-32 at the half.

Jax State dominated most of the

second half, leading the game in rebounding (44-34) and field-goal percentage, shooting 41.9 percent.

The Gamecocks took their first lead of the game to begin the second half after Embry hit a jumper. Jax State increased the lead to as many as eight points before the Camels started to charge back. Campbell went on a 15-7 run to go ahead, 53-52 with 9:35 left.

The game went back and forth for the last five minutes with three lead changes and four tie scores.

With two seconds on the clock and the score tied at 66, April Cromartie gave the Camels the lead after she hit the first of two free throws after a controversial foul on Gamecock forward Shari Riley. Embry rebounded the ball and threw it the length of the court, but no one was there to catch it.

"We played a very good game today and I hate that the game had

to be decided on a last-second call and free throws," said Austin. "We had so many good things happen today. Freddricka played really great and Shari Riley gave us some good minutes."

Embry finished the game with her first career double-double with 23 points and 10 rebounds.

"I knew that we needed to win to make it to the tournament," said Embry. "And that was my motivation, but I also wanted to play better than I did Thursday against Georgia State."

Freeman finished with 14 points, while Amanda Tyus added 12 points.

The Gamecocks will host their final two games of the season against Florida Atlantic tonight and Central Florida on Saturday. Tip-off for the FAU game is set for 7, while Saturday's game will begin at 2 p.m.

## 2002 Atlantic Sun/Coca-Cola Men's Championship Tournament UCF Arena • Orlando, Fla. • Feb. 28 - Mar. 2

Thursday, Feb. 28

Troy State (#2)

12:00 p.m. CST  
Live on 91.9 FM, WLJS

Jacksonville State (#7)

Friday, Mar. 1  
Semifinal Round

#2 vs. #7 winner

5:00 p.m. CST  
Live on 91.9 FM, WLJS  
(if JSU plays)

Florida Atlantic (#3)

7:15 p.m. CST

#3 vs. #6 winner

Jacksonville (#6)

Saturday, Mar. 2  
Championship Game  
Winner advances to  
NCAA Tournament

#2/#7 vs. #3/#6 winner

1:00 p.m. CST  
Live on ESPN  
Live on 91.9 FM, WLJS  
(if JSU plays)

Samford (#4)

5:00 p.m. CST

#4 vs. #5 winner

Central Florida (#5)

7:15 p.m. CST

#4/#5 vs. #1/#8 winner

Georgia State (#1)

2:15 p.m. CST

#1 vs. #8 winner

Belmont (#8)

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# One on one with "Thrill:" Omar Barlett

By Anthony "Thrill" Hill  
The Chanticleer Sports Editor



The Chanticleer/Anthony Hill  
Junior Omar "Big O" Barlett.

Gamecock center Omar Barlett is one of those players that you're simply happy to know. He's a success story waiting to be written.

He didn't get an opportunity to show his basketball skills until his senior season in high school and now look at him. He's the big man on campus, literally.

Barlett played at Jones Community College last year and averaged 16 points and eight rebounds. He was also named as the Region 23 Tournament Most Valuable Player and selected as a First Team power forward on the All-Region Team.

It's been a long time since the Gamecocks had a big man who dominates like Barlett does in the paint. He's here now.

Omar and I sat down and talked about his life at JSU and the road he took to get here.

**Thrill:** What's going on, Omar?

**Omar:** I'm all right.

**Thrill:** Cool. I saw you at the softball game on Sunday. Did you enjoy watching them play?

**Omar:** I think they're pretty good. They come out and support us so we try to return the favor by going out and supporting them.

**Thrill:** That's good. What happened against Troy State last Saturday? They just exploded on us early then we came back and then lost it. What happened?

**Omar:** Well, they came out on fire, just like you said. It just took us a little while to get started and we came out in the second half and picked it up. They just came up on the winning end.

**Thrill:** OK. We play them again tonight in the first round of the tournament. How's the team's confidence?

**Omar:** We hadn't played them in three months, so we really didn't get a feel for them. We play them again tonight and I know they're walking around like the "fat cats." But, we gonna' be the "street rats." (Both laugh.)

**Thrill:** How do you feel about your first season here at JSU?

**Omar:** I think that I had a pretty successful first season. I guess that I can be satisfied with that.

**Thrill:** What about the school as a whole? Have you enjoyed being at JSU?

**Omar:** Yeah. I like this school a lot. I've been here for about five months now and I like it. I'm not complaining.

**Thrill:** Do you remember how you felt after your first game as a Gamecock?

**Omar:** It was different from junior college. The tempo was a lot more up and I had to adjust to that. After the first game I feel like I did that.

**Thrill:** You didn't start playing basketball until your senior season of high school. How were you able to obtain such a large level of success in such a short period of time?

**Omar:** People are going to always tell you that you can't do stuff, but don't listen to them. If you put your mind to anything, you can do it. That's how I looked at it. That's why I think I'm so successful right now.

**Thrill:** Why did you start playing basketball so late?

**Omar:** (Laughs.) I kept getting cut from the line-up.

**Thrill:** Really?

**Omar:** Yep. **Thrill:** Now that's crazy. (Pause.) It's very unlikely that a transfer is going to come in and become a team captain his first year. You've done that. Do you see yourself as a natural leader?

**Omar:** I asked my coach in junior college what he thought it took to be a leader. He told me that it just comes natural and my second year I became team captain. Coach liked my work ethic and the way I carried myself and named me captain.

**Thrill:** Now Omar it seems like you're always saying something when you're running up and down the court. Are you a big trash talker?

**Omar:** Well, I don't talk trash. I'm usually trying to root my teammates on. (Laughs.) But, if it came to it, I would talk trash.

**Thrill:** Who's the best team that we've played all year?

**Omar:** (Pause.) I would have to say Jacksonville University. We grinded it through three overtimes. That has to be the best team right there.

**Thrill:** I would have to agree

with that. Now you're from Miami, Fla. Why did you choose to come to JSU?

**Omar:** I wanted to get out of Florida. I didn't want to be a momma's boy or nothin' like that. So I just left the state because I didn't want to run home every time something went wrong. I just wanted to go out and explore things on my own.

**Thrill:** So, what do you do when you go home?

**Omar:** I'm a homeboy. I stay in the house. (Both laugh.) I'm a momma's boy when I go home. I don't go out too often. I just stay at home and watch TV or something.

**Thrill:** What's on your mind Omar?

**Omar:** I'm ready to go to Orlando and try to win this tournament and go on to the NCAA tournament.

**Thrill:** Who do you model your game after? You remind me of a mixture of Kevin Garnett and Dennis Rodman.



Omar: I think my game is

kinda similar to "KG."

**Thrill:** Omar, do you feel comfortable at the center position? You look like a good power forward to me.

**Omar:** It doesn't matter what position I'm playing, just as long as I'm getting the job done. I'm a power forward, but it doesn't matter where I play to me.

**Thrill:** What do you do when

you're just hanging out?

**Omar:** I watch TV and try to do some homework. I just chill out. I don't do anything in particular.

**Thrill:** Have you settled down yet? All the ladies must be all over you.

**Omar:** See Thrill that's the problem. They're not. (Both laugh.) I don't know what's taking them so long. They NEED to come on!

**Thrill:** What's the funniest thing you've done to get a females' attention?

**Omar:** Probably acted silly and did something goofy.

**Thrill:** Like what?

**Omar:** I don't know. I probably messed with a few girls' hair just to get their attention. I've messed with other girls so she could see me. I've done some crazy stuff.

**Thrill:** (Laughs.) Now what's the funniest thing coach LaPlante has said or did after he's gotten mad at the team?

**Omar:** What's the word he always says? (Pause.) I can't remember, but he's funny when he imitates Carl (Brown). "Whatcha doin' frat?" (Both laugh.)

**Thrill:** Who are the team comedians?

**Omar:** Ooh! There's Kelley Hall, my roommate Poonie Richardson and Carl Brown.

**Thrill:** OK. Who's the better dunker, you or Josh "Sleepy" Perry?

**Omar:** (Pause.) I think that Josh may have a little more style than I do.

**Thrill:** Do you have



any nicknames?

**Omar:** They call me "Big 'O,'" ("Old Otis," said Poonie.) (Both laugh.) They call me "Old Otis." Those are the nicknames that I KNOW about.

**Thrill:** How good is Poonie Richardson?

**Omar:** That's my boy. He's tight. I think he's the best point guard in the league.

**Thrill:** Do you have a favorite cartoon?



**Omar:** Bugs Bunny.

**Thrill:** All right. Free Association. Miami Dolphins.

**Omar:** Home team and I

gotta go with them.

**Thrill:** Frosted Flakes.

**Omar:** My favorite cereal.

**Thrill:** Tracy McGrady.

**Omar:** Tight.

**Thrill:** Pat Riley.

**Omar:** (Laughs.) He needs to retire. He's getting too old.

**Thrill:** Minnesota Timberwolves.

**Omar:** Kevin Garnett. They're going to the finals this year.

**Thrill:** Beautiful.

**Omar:** Nia Long.

**Thrill:** A-Sun champions.

**Omar:** Jax State Gamecocks.

**Thrill:** All right. One more question. Is this team good enough to win the tournament?

**Omar:** When we're clicking on ALL cylinders, yeah.

**Thrill:** OK. Good luck in the tournament man.

**Omar:** 'Preciate it Thrill.



## Gamecock golfers finish second at Invitational

### Staff Reports

Georgia Southern fired a 288 in the final round of the Ron Smith Invitational to finish with a 574 to edge past the Gamecocks on Sunday.

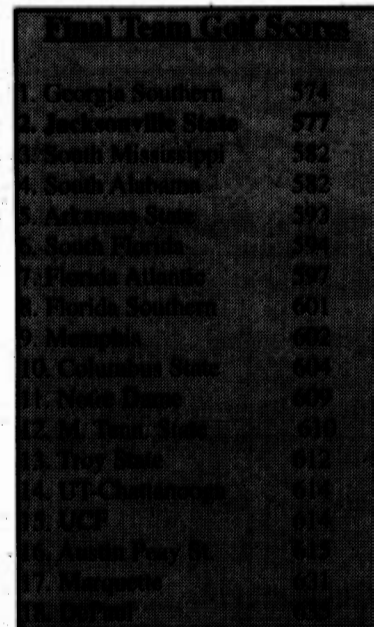
Jax State was sitting atop the leader board after day one of the Invitational. The Gamecocks shot a total score of 282 in the opening round to lead. Jax State was four strokes ahead of Georgia Southern (286).

Georgia Southern turned up the intensity and stroked its way to a three-stroke win over the 18-team

field. It was the second-straight second place finish for Jacksonville State. The Gamecocks finished second at the Beau Chene Collegiate Classic last Tuesday.

JSU's Jose Campra and Matias Anselmo each shot 143 to finish tied for eighth place, while Angel Monguzzi's 145 was tied for 13th. Steven Makie shot a 148 to tie for 20th place on the par 71, 6,830-yard South Florida course.

South Florida and Southern Miss tied for third place with a two-day total of 582 and Arkansas State rounded out of the Top 5 with a 593.



# Gamecock baseball team sweeps Oakland, falls to Stetson

## Staff Reports

The JSU baseball team played its first conference game of the season against Stetson and fell to Hatters on Sunday. They rebounded and swept Oakland University at Rudy Abbott Field earlier this week.

Bryan Zenchyk was a combined 7-for-7 with five RBIs and four runs scored as Stetson swept an Atlantic Sun Conference doubleheader from Jacksonville State 11-2 and 7-2 on Sunday at Melching Field.

In game one, Stetson took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first on Brian Snyder's second home run of the season. Chris Westervelt, Snyder, and Zenchyk hit three consecutive doubles in the third inning and Ian Church added an RBI single as the Hatters extended their lead to 4-0.

In the bottom of the fifth, Stetson loaded the bases with no outs, chasing JSU starter Steve Shippey (1-2) from the game. Andy Wilson then tagged reliever C.R. Palmer for a grand slam over the center field fence to break the game open. It was Wilson's third home run of the season, and the second grand slam for a Hatter.

Stetson added three runs in the sixth while Jax State avoided the shutout with two runs in the seventh

to cap off the scoring.

Brian Sullivan (1-0) went the distance for Stetson to pick up the victory.

Snyder scored four runs for the Hatters, while Zenchyk went 3-for-3 with two runs and three RBIs. Ben Phillips homered for the Gamecocks.

In game two, Evan Conley gave the Gamecocks an early 1-0 lead with an RBI double in the top of the first. Stetson took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the second inning on RBI singles from Josh Laws and Rusty Beale. Brian Haskins drove in Phillips in the top of the third, tying the game 2-2.

Mike D'Aoust gave Stetson a 4-2 lead in the bottom of the third with a two-out, two-run single to center. The Hatters added two more in the fourth inning and two more in the sixth inning to cruise to the victory.

Roger Lincoln (2-0) pitched three strong innings in relief of Mike Wiley to earn the victory. Lincoln allowed just one hit and no walks while striking out seven. Lucas McCollum (1-1) suffered the loss for JSU.

The series, originally scheduled for three games, was shortened to two games due to rain last Friday and Saturday.

Jax State returned to action with a single-game against Oakland at

Rudy Abbott Field on Monday.

The Gamecocks felt no ill-effects from a long road trip back from Stetson as they took the first of a three-game series with Oakland University 6-1 on Monday.

The transfer from UAB Blazer Jeremy Hudson went six innings, striking out eight and allowing only four hits to earn his first win of the season. The Gamecocks aided Hudson from their first at-bat, scoring two runs in the first and three more in the third.

Phillips went 1-for-4 with a single and two runs for the Gamecocks. Phillips hit came in the first on a single to right field to plate Ben Padilla for the Gamecocks' first run. Travis Suereth had a single to left field in first to plate Conley for the 2-0 lead after one.

JSU tacked on three more runs in the bottom of the third. Conley smashed a double down the left field line to start the inning. He would later score on Scott Smith's single through the bottom of the third. Brown would walk later in the inning with two outs to put runners on first and second. Centerfielder Heith Comer then singled to center field to score Smith and Brown as the Gamecocks took a 5-0 lead through the top of the seventh inning. Brian Haskins smashed a double to bring home

Brown.

Bobby Wynns came in for relief of Hudson. He went the rest of the way, striking out three and allowing one walk.

Game two and three of the series was played on Tuesday at Rudy Abbott Field and the Gamecocks won both of the games.

Shiftlett pitched five solid innings, allowing only two hits, one earned run and seven strikeouts to improve to 1-1 on the year as JSU won 8-1.

Oakland scored one run during the second game when Ryan Freiburger scored after Erik Crossley slapped a single into the outfield.

The Gamecocks came back in the bottom of the third to plate three runs. Heith Comer led off the Gamecocks with a single, followed by a single from Conley. Comer and Conley would score on Ben Phillips sacrifice bunt and an error by the Oakland third baseman in which Phillips would reach third base on the play. Phillips would score off a Scott Smith fly ball out to left field to give the Gamecocks a 3-1 advantage.

Jax State would plate another run in the fourth off a double by Conley to score Comer, who had reached base on a fielders choice.

Two more runs crossed the plate for the Gamecocks in the fifth and two in the sixth to give JSU the win.

The final game of the series was cold and long, but Conley paced Jax State by going 3-for-3 from the plate as the Gamecocks won 4-3.

Third baseman Brian Haskins went 2-for-3 with a triple and an RBI.

In game two, the Grizzlies would take the early lead once again by scoring a run in the top of the first inning off a Nick DiPonio single through the right side that scored Crossley.

Jax State would match that run in the bottom of the first when Conley smashed a single up the middle and brought home Matt Ruckdeschel, who reached base on a throwing error.

JSU plated two more runs in the third to take the lead off a Ruckdeschel homer to left field and Phillips double down the left field line to score Padilla, who reached base on a walk.

Oakland would tie the game in the top of the fifth when David Alexander smashed a two-run shot off pitcher C.R. Palmer. JSU would score the game-winning run in the sixth thanks to a Haskins single to right field.

Palmer (2-0) got the win for the Gamecocks and Lucas McCollum got the save.

The Gamecocks will travel to play Mississippi State in a three-game series tomorrow.

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## JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY HOUSING RE-APPLICATION PROCESS 2002-2003

The Housing Re-Application Process will begin on Monday, February 25, 2002. During the re-application process, you will need to complete a Student Housing re-application Form. Residents who vacate their assignments for summer but will return to campus housing during the Fall 2002 Semester, will not be refunded their \$100.00 deposit -- it will carry forward to the Fall Semester. However, any administrative charges for cleaning, improper check-out, etc., will be assessed to the resident's student account. Residents who do not participate in the upcoming re-application process are not guaranteed student housing assignments for summer and/or Fall 2002 semester. It is assumed that residents who do not participate in the re-application process are vacating their assignment and do not require campus housing and must vacate their room on April 24, 2002, by 10:00 a.m.

The following Halls will not be available to current residents: **Fitzpatrick and Curtiss**  
Fitzpatrick will become a Co-ed Freshman Hall.  
Curtiss will become an academic building.

### February 25 - 26 --- Squatters Days

Campus Inn, College, Crow, Daugeette, Dixon, Fomey, Jax, Logan, Pannell, Patterson, Penn House, Sparkman residents who wish to return to their same room/apartment have priority and cannot be bumped from their current room/apartment assignment.

**To re-apply come to the Housing office located 117 Bibb Graves between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.**

### February 27 - 28 --- Same Hall/Different Room

Campus Inn, College, Crow, Daugeette, Dixon, Fomey, Jax, Logan, Pannell, Patterson, Penn House, Sparkman residents who wish to remain in their same residence hall but request a different room/apartment assignment.

**To re-apply come to the Housing office located 117 Bibb Graves between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.**

### March 1 -- Fitzpatrick and Curtiss Hall Displaced Residents Only

Current residents in Fitzpatrick and Curtiss Hall may sign up for assignments in Crow, Daugeette, Sparkman, Campus Inn\*, College\*, Jax\*, Logan\*, Pannell\*, Patterson\*, Penn House\* (\*If eligible)

**To re-apply come to the Housing office located 117 Bibb Graves between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.**

### March 4 -- Hall to Hall Changes

All current residents who wish to reside on-campus but who are requesting an assignment in a different hall.

**To re-apply come to the Housing office located 117 Bibb Graves between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.**

If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please contact your Hall Director or the Department of University Housing and Residential Life



# Live On! Live On! Live On! Live On! Live On!