Abbott seeks election to county office

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

JSU’s former head baseball coach, Rudy Abbott, who retired after last season, is running for county commissioner. Abbott, who also served as sports information director at the University, said, “I feel an obligation to do something to give back to the community.”

According to Abbott, he will be running for the Democratic ticket. He seeks place 5, in the northern district of Calhoun County.

While he doesn’t know whom he’ll be running against just yet, Abbott said someone else will probably run for the same position. “At this point no one in the Democratic Party or the Republican Party has announced, but I’m sure I will have an opponent.”

Abbott explained his desire in running for county commissioner. “What happens when you work at a school and you’re a coach and work in public relations and work with kids and parents and whatever, for a long period of time, which I did for 37 years at JSU, you have so many people who are nice to you and try to help you in your career,” he said. “This is a good way for me to pay (back) those debts and kindnesses and to do something for our end of the county.”

Abbott said a major issue facing the county is “finding enough money to take care of the road projects and infrastructures in our district.” He explained that consequently, “county commissioners do not have the power to pass taxes and they do not have the

WJXS’ new owners bring back local news

Students may help produce local TV newscasts

By Kevin Simon
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Local news is coming back to Calhoun County, and JSU students may get the chance to help make it happen.

The Anniston area, which has long been without in-depth local news coverage, will receive additional airtime with the purchase of WJXS TV-24 by Heritage Communications LLC, a group of local media professionals.

The television station operates out of studios on the first floor of JSU’s Self Hall, also home to the University’s communication department.

Plans for the communication department to work in concert with Heritage are still on the drawing board, but a student-run news broadcast is being considered in the distant future, according to Eric Freeman, TV-24’s head production manager.

Not only has Heritage expressed interest in hiring students on staff, but “many students have approached me interested in working for TV-24,” said Mike Stedham, the community

see TV-24, page 3

SGA signs country act Rascal Flatts for April concert

By Katie Harris
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The SGA has signed country recording artists Rascal Flatts for a concert at JSU next month.

According to Robert Hayes, SGA director of publicity, “Rascal Flatts will be coming to Jacksonville University on April 12, 2002.” He explained that this concert is “a different approach.”

The SGA had to debate if a concert was even feasible this year. “It’s been really difficult to get a confirmation (from a band) since so many groups we were looking at, that were in our price range, like Lifehouse, are recording,” said Joy Boyd, SGA 2nd vice president, who heads the student activities committee. “There just weren’t a lot of availability in the spring.

“Honestly, you know, when I ran last year I wanted to have a concert,” said Boyd. “Not having a concert was never an issue with me but it has really come down to the wire.”

The SGA recently found out that their one plan had fallen through. Boyd said, “We learned that MTV Campus Invasion wasn’t going to happen about a week ago, so we called our agent and asked her what was available. We focused on Rascal Flatts because we could take them.

“MTV Campus Invasions was what we were shooting for and they’re actually not even coming to the South because Nickelback decided they wanted to cut the tour in half and return home to Canada for their Juno Awards,” Boyd said. “We had to basically explore every single option. Luckily, Rascal Flatts came through for us.”

According to Boyd, Rascal Flatts was not even in consid-

see Concert, page 2

Nine American soldiers killed in battle with al-Qaida, Taliban

By Jonathan S. Landay
Knight Riddler Newspapers (KRT)

WASHINGTON — In the bloodiest day so far for Americans fighting in Afghanistan, up to nine U.S. soldiers died and at least 10 others were injured Monday on the fourth day of a major offensive against al-Qaida and Taliban fighters holed up in snow-bound mountains of eastern Afghanistan.

It was the largest one-day combat casualty toll for U.S. forces in the five-month war on terrorism, and they came in the biggest U.S.-led ground operation of the war. Pentagon officials said it was unclear initially if U.S. fatalities totaled eight or nine.

Anti-Taliban Afghan forces specifically trained by the U.S. military for the assault also suffered casualties, but the numbers were not disclosed.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said that enemy fighters had suffered “much larger numbers of killed and wounded, and there will be many more.”

Army Gen. Tommy Franks, chief of U.S. Central Command, said preliminary estimates put the number of al-Qaida and Taliban dead at between 100 and 200, and described the offensive as “making good progress.”

Defense officials said that some of the al-Qaida and Taliban fighters had their families with them.

see Battle, page 5
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Alpha Omicron Pi:** Congrats to this week’s Sister of the Week- Amber Bullard, and this week’s Positive Panda Award- Kaila Towns. We had a great sisterhood retreat this weekend! Congrats to everyone on elections! Good luck to the softball team in the upcoming games! **Contact:** Leann Davis, leannSU@hotmail.com.

- **Alpha Xi Delta:** A big thank you to everyone who came out and supported Bachelor Beauties! A special thank you to all the great men who participated! You guys were great! Good luck in intramural softball ladies! Thanks Catherine and Celinda for a great Secret Set-Up! Sister of the Week: Courtney Edmonds. **Contact:** Katie Green, 782-7535.

- **JSU Ambassadors:** Would you like to help assist in recruiting new students to JSU? Become a JSU Ambassador! Applications are available Mar. 4-18 at the Visitor Center. **Contact:** Tracy Phillips, 782-5260.

- **Delta Zeta:** We had an awesome time at Regions weekend, we are proud of our awards! Congratulations on our Greek Awards- Presidents Silver Cup and Involvement Award! Congrats to new sisters and Nfie Members. Awards of the Week: Sister- Molly, Tiny Turtle-Allison D., Twisted- E-Board, Support- Jenn, Alumni- Kim, Baby Turtle- Madison. **Contact:** Tavia Melmen, DeltaZeta4u@hotmail.com.

- **Department of Criminal Justice Saturday Seminars Series- Collection & Preservation of Evidence.** March 9 at 8 a.m. in Brewer Hall. C3488 Credit Hour Granted. Hands-on seminar. **Contact:** Hollie Driver at 782-8131.

- **The Second Annual “Hoops for Habitat” students vs. faculty basketball game will be Mar. 15, 7 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum. There will be drawings for door prizes at halftime. Tickets are $3 in advance and $5 at the door. Proceeds go to the JSU Campus Chapter of Habitat for Humanity for a Jacksonville Habitat house.**

- **Contact:** Kim Weatherford, 782-5762 for more information.

- **The JSU Chamber Winds** will perform a free band concert this weekend, Mar. 9. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and is presented by the Ernest Stone Center for the Performing Arts. **Contact:** JSU Band Office, 782-5562.

- **Join a JSU Field School fun-filled program! Archaeology Tour, Mar. 9; 9 a.m.-3 p.m., $25 Stars of Little River Canyon, Mar. 9; 7 p.m.-9 p.m., $15 Exploring Chief Ladiga Rail Trail, Mar. 16; 9 a.m.-3 p.m., $5 Frog Pond Adventure, Mar. 16; 7 p.m.-9 p.m., $10. Pre-registration required!** **Contact:** Tatiana C. Tatam, 782-5697, ttatum@jacksonville.edu.

- **Phi Mu thanks the brothers of Delta Chi for a fun Wrestling Mixer on Monday night! Good luck!**

- **Join:** SGA and Senate! This week’s birthday girls are Katy Bowen, Christal Dabbs, and Demondia. **Contact:** Tavia.

- **SGA** welcomes our new Executive Officers and Senators to the fold! Director of Publicity Applications are due today to Office 402 TMB. Casino Night is tonight from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. in Leona Cole Auditorium, $5 admission. It’s great to be a Gamecock Leader! Contact: Robert Hayes, 782-5491.

- **Sigma Tau Delta’s annual writing contest will be held in March. Any students enrolled at JSU are eligible to apply. The categories are 1.) short story, 2.) poetry, and 3.) personal essay. Deadline for submission is Mar. 19 at 2 p.m., to Mrs. Gloria Horton, 214 Stone Center (782-5409).**

- **Zeta Tau Alpha:** Congratulations to Alpha Xi for a wonderful pageant last week. Congratulations as well to the new SGA officers. Our chapter had a wonderful time at Zeta Day this weekend where Stephanie Janis won the Alabama/ Mississippi Zeta Lady Award! Congrats to the winners at the Greek Awards Banquet as well! **Contact:** Amy Yancy 782-6192.

The Chanticleer Announcements Policy: All JSU students must notify faculty or University office before submitting items for the Announcements column. Submissions must be typed, and must be limited to 50 words. Submissions must include the 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 office 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.

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**CAMPUS CRIME**

- **Feb. 26 — Robert Mills, of Jacksonville, reported theft of service to JSUPD occurring at JSU Infirmary.**

- **Feb. 27 — Twincia Na-Sha Bowen, of Anniston, reported 3rd degree domestic violence and giving false name to law enforcement to JSUPD occurring at Campus Inn Apartments.**

- **Mar. 3 — Kelly Roberts, of Jacksonville, reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at Merrill Hall.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Concert:** from page 1

 eradation before MTV Campus Invasion fell through. “We were going to go with a rock group but there really weren’t any availabilities in terms of rock groups.”

According to Boyd, the concert budget is around $30,000 and the band is charging $15,000 to play at JSU.

Hayes said that the band’s price does not include lights, sound, stage, labor and catering. Hayes said that you can double the band’s price on paper to get the actual cost.

“This year, I can safely say that all of our activities were free and that just kind of, took out of our concert budget,” Hayes said.

‘The SGA has plans for the profits of the concert. “Well, if we do get a concert profit, the exec. board has talked about doing something in the form of a gift to the school on behalf of the SGA, after we consult (with) the new senate of course,” Boyd said.

The SGA is optimistic about the concert. “We haven’t had a country act in a while and I think the people are ready for it,” said Boyd. “Rascal Flatts is a country band and we have a lot of people in this area that enjoy country music.”

The SGA is still debating ticket prices. “Right now we’re thinking $5 for students and $10 for non-students,” said Boyd. “We’re going to shoot for March 16” to start selling tickets to students.

The SGA has been using Jill Wheeler, of Clear Channel Entertainment, since October to help get a band for the spring concert. According to Boyd, the agent gets a 10 percent commission of the price of the band.

There is a lot of support for this concert. Jordan Brewer, program director of the campus radio station said, “92-J will support the SGA by doing whatever it takes to help them.”

Jenn Jones, a 92-J DJ, said, “I know that since they’re a country band a lot of people won’t come out and see them. I’m going to see them (though), because I like country music and have even burned a couple of their songs to a CD,” she said.

“I’m very excited about it,” said Boyd. “I hope JSU will come out and support us.”

Boyd said she understands that country music does not appeal to everyone. “I really don’t honestly think that a universal group exists,” she said.

“We did try to get a group with crossover appeal but it just came down to Rascal Flatts. Basically, that was our option and we decided to go with it.”

According to Hayes, there is a big demand for country music at JSU based on the questionnaire freshmen took during orientation.

“I’m basically just so relieved that finally it is finalized because we have gone through a lot of drama, with set backs, trying to get a concert this year,” said Hayes.

According to Hayes, students should be able to see flyers advertising the concert around campus in the next few weeks

“Just hope the students will give it a chance,” said Hayes.

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**We haven’t had a country act in a while and I think the people are ready for it. Rascal Flatts is a country band and we have a lot of people in this area that enjoy country music.”**

—Joy Boyd

*SGA 2nd vice president*
TV-24: from page 1

communication department’s manager of student media.

Stedham said “The future relationship between TV-24 and the communication department should be tight because two of the owners are communication graduates from JSU.”

Since the departure of TV-40 and radio station Alabama 100, local news coverage has dwindled. The current WJXS programming consists mostly of local sports and infomercials.

Heritage will have daily news broadcasts, and a two-hour morning show hosted by Troi Hayes and Connie Edge, director of Alumni Affairs for JSU. The daily news broadcasts will run live at 5 and re-air at 6 and 10 p.m. According to Hayes, the goal of the new TV-24 is to “bring back local television to a hometown that has been doing without.” Hayes has considerable experience in television and has hosted his own Racing program on WJXS.

The newly organized Heritage Communications’ owners are primarily local residents. The group formed in response to the desire of previous owner, Vincent Early, to sell the television station.

Hayes, Tom Williams and Mickey Shadrix lead Heritage Communications, all former employees of Alabama 100. Williams is the CEO of Heritage.

Early has been willing to sell the station for sometime now, and first offered it to the University. JSU originally expressed interest but later declined. Early, who had a contract with the University, operates the station out of Self Hall on the JSU campus.

There is considerable experience in the new leadership of Heritage. Williams, the head of the operation, has managed several radio stations and a television station in the past year in Lake Charles, La.

Freeman worked with TV-24 a year and half ago, and enjoys the new positive environment at Heritage. “The really unique thing about the new management is the positive attitude that they have towards the production of local programming,” said Freeman.

Jacksonville is not the sole beneficiary of a local news carrier, but the whole region will gain by this acquisition. “We hope to eventually cover eight or nine counties with our broadcasts.” Said Freeman.

Heritage took control of the station on March 4 and will begin news broadcasts by March 11, Freeman said.

Abbott: from page 1

ability to zone property.”

Home rule in Alabama causes the county to have little control over county business. Abbott sees the biggest debate being over home rule.

The Association of County Commissioners of Alabama explains the importance of the commissioners on its Web site. “Each year the Association works with leaders of the executive branch as well as the 140 members of the Legislature to promote the interest of county government. Using the Association’s written Legislative Program as a guide, the ACCA works to help insure law is written in a way that is the most favorable to counties.”

The site also reports, “The Association of County Commissioners of Alabama has worked to promote quality county government and improved services to Alabama’s residents for more than seventy years.”

Abbott explained what he’d be most concerned with, if elected to the county commission. “The things that I’ll be concerned with are schools, roads, (and) keeping the barn open in Piedmont.”

Abbott also said he was in favor of anything that would be good for the University. “We’ll be supportive of any ongoing projects they have,” he said. “Anything good for JSU is good for the county.”

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Anniston chemical weapons incinerator to begin trial burns this month

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

Surrogate trial burns will begin taking place at the Anniston Army Depot’s chemical weapons incinerator this month.

The incinerator recently reached national news when it was featured on ABC’s World News Tonight broadcast. According to an ABCNews.com article, “There’s the risk of accidents or spills between the depot and the incinerator. And there’s the fear of the unknown. Residents worry the incinerator will blow toxins into (the) air, even though the Army says otherwise.”

Rufus Kinney, who represents the group Families Concerned about Nerve Gas Incineration and is also an English professor at JSU, said, “Everybody is in agreement, there’s even an international agreement, that we want to get rid of chemical weapons stockpile sites in the United States, four east of the Mississippi and four west of it. Only two of these, however, are operating. These are located in Utah and the Pacific island region and they are located in “very remote locations, without a lot of people nearby,” he said.

Last month The Anniston Star reported that the “the nation’s chemical weapons stockpile received a failing grade in President Bush’s budget plan.” According to The Anniston Star, “The 2003 budget ... called the chemical demilitarization program ‘ineffective’ because of a 60 percent cost increase estimate and delays stemming from ‘unrealistic schedules, site safety and environmental concerns, and poor planning.’”

According to Kinney, “The army chose to incinerate these weapons in the early 1990s, 20 years ago, when hazardous waste incineration was considered a safe way to destroy hazardous waste.” Kinney went on to explain that “It is no longer considered safe and it’s an industry that’s dying. Better ways are coming into use to destroy hazardous waste, because the experiences that incineration-host communities have (had have) always been negative.”

Some of the problems destroying hazardous waste can cause, according to Kinney, are health complications, such as respiratory and public health problems and even cancer.

According to a handout about the incinerator, emissions such as arsenic, boron, copper, lead and mercury would be among the emissions released from the incinerator. A press release from the Chemical Weapons Working Group reported that “Incinerator-produced chemicals like dioxins build up in the food chain.”

Another negative side to incineration is that “Incinerator-produced chemicals could cause and how that could affect Anniston. It’s a public relations nightmare,” Kinney said. “You can’t sell your house, you lose on your house in property value,” said Kinney.

He mentioned another problem incineration could cause and how that could affect Anniston. “It’s a public relations nightmare,” Kinney said. “You can’t sell your community. Anniston is in the midst of that right now; Anniston is losing big already.”

According to ABCNews.com, “Maximum protection” is a buzzword in this town. Residents say the federal government promised them “maximum protection” years ago, but has never delivered. Officials want millions of dollars in federal aid for health studies, a gas mask for every citizen and protective gear for every firefighter.

Mike Abrams, spokesman for the incinerator, views maximum protection differently. In an interview with The Chanticleer, Abrams said, “To me, maximum protection is safely destroying the weapons so that we don’t have to worry about them anymore; not just offering some sort of protection from them but actually destroying them.”

According to Abrams, surrogate trial burns will take place around the middle of this month. This will do “with the surrogate material, which is not chemical weapons, but it’s material that’s harder to destroy than the actual chemical weapons themselves. We want to prove that the work force and the facility are ready to safely destroy weapons in a session without having actual chemical weapons,” he said.

“Then we will prove through those surrogate trial burns that we can in fact operate our facility within the limits of the permit that the state issued in 1997,” said Abrams. “As far as actually destroying chemical weapons, we would expect that to begin in the September time frame.”

The Chemical Weapons Working Group has a three-step solution to chemical warfare agent risks. According to another press release, these solutions include: “disassembly of the chemical munitions, neutralization of all nerve and mustard agents, and re-storage or treatment of the neutralized materials.

“In terms of our facility, the risk of something going wrong that would impact students on [JSU’s] campus, my family who lives in Jacksonville, or anyone who lives closer to the depot is extremely, extremely remote. It’s virtually nil,” Abrams said. “We have a greater risk to this community with the weapons sitting in storage.”

Abrams said if incineration starts in September, “We would anticipate that we will be done with our stockpile by the year 2009.”

According to Abrams, the first two campaigns will be to destroy rockets at the incinerator. “We expect those two campaigns to be completed in about two years,” he said. “When we complete those two campaigns, the risk to our community that something could go wrong will decrease by almost 97 percent. We won’t completely eliminate the risk, but we will eliminate the greatest majority of the risk, just by getting rid of those two types of weapons.”

Kinney isn’t convinced. He said he and his family would possibly move away, and people lose jobs, and people lose their jobs, and people lose property value,” said Kinney.

According to The Chemical Weapons Working Group, “Anniston chemical weapons incinerator to begin trial burns this month.”
The first U.S. casualty came when a Chinook helicopter carrying a U.S. special forces reconnaissance team was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade as it made a hard landing under enemy fire on a mountainside in the combat zone, dubbed “Objective Remington.” The grenade bounced off the twin-rotor transport helicopter without exploding, but as the aircraft lifted from the ground, one of the soldiers aboard apparently fell out to his death, U.S. defense officials said. “As the pilot lifted the helicopter off, I believe one crew member may have fallen from the helicopter,” Franks said. “I do not believe that was immediately recognized. The helicopter repositioned under its own power and (those aboard) immediately recognized that one of the crew members had been left behind.”

Some time later, a second Chinook carrying U.S. troops landed in the same area, coming under withering small arms and machine gun fire. It may have crashed-landed after being hit, Franks said. He said that either seven or eight U.S. soldiers died in the subsequent firefight, but that the exact number would not be known “until we are able to have discussions with people involved in the fight.” All U.S. soldiers, living or dead, were extracted, he said.

The first U.S. death of the operation occurred on Saturday. The Pentagon on Monday identified the soldier as Army Chief Warrant Officer Stanley L. Harriman, 34, of Wade, N.C. He was assigned to the 3rd Special Forces Group at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

The casualties underscored the persisting danger posed to U.S.-led efforts to bring stability to Afghanistan from hard-core remnants of Osama bin Laden’s al-Qaeda terrorist network and the Taliban, the puritanical Islamic militia driven from power in December.

While U.S. officials say that fugitive al-Qaeda members and their former Afghan allies are scattered and not able to take and hold ground, they warn that the diehards can launch costly guerrilla attacks that could undermine the interim government in Kabul and tie down the U.S.-led military coalition.

“Substantial pockets of resistance remain. They’re determined. They are dangerous. They will not give up without a fight,” Rumsfeld said at a Pentagon news conference.

He said the United States intends “to continue the operations until those al-Qaeda and Taliban who remain either surrender or are killed. The choice is theirs.”

The U.S. force comprises about 2,000 troops, slightly less than half of them Afghan, he said. The rest are U.S. soldiers and elite units from six countries, including Germany, Australia, Canada and Denmark. French aircraft have joined U.S. planes in providing close air support to the ground troops, Franks said.

Hundreds of al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters are hunkered down “in the crags, the nooks and the crannies of the high ground, and our forces are right there, mixing it up with them,” Franks said. He said even more enemy troops could be holed up in the region surrounding the combat zone.

Myers said that since the operation began, U.S. aircraft have dropped more than 350 bombs on enemy positions.

In addition to wielding large quantities of small arms, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades, the al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters may have shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles that they have not yet used, Franks said.

Combat is taking place at altitudes between 8,000 and 12,000 feet above sea level, where the thin air makes it difficult for helicopters to lift their full operational loads.

They have to reduce their weight, either by cutting down on fuel or the numbers of troops they carry or both.

Myers described the region as the Rocky Mountains in the middle of winter. It’s cold, ice and snow.

Objective Remington measures 60-70 square miles and is bounded by two mountain ridges, Franks said.

(Knight Ridder correspondents Jim Ragsdale and Rachel E. Stassen-Berger contributed to this report.)
MTV’s “Road Rules” show detours past Jacksonville

By Tomiko Goodman
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

MTV’s Road Rules has canceled its trip to JSU. The SGA had reported earlier in the year that the show would visit the University to record an episode.

Road Rules is one of MTV’s top-rated reality shows, in which cast members travel to predetermined locations in a Winnebago. Cast members perform missions to advance to the next step, continuing their journey and winning cash prizes.

According to Joy Boyd, 2nd vice president of the SGA, an example of a Road Rules mission could be asking the cast to eat bugs to win money and to win larger prizes. At the end of a round, if a certain percentage of the mission is achieved cast members receive a load of cash.

MTV’s Road Rules was originally going to travel to college campuses throughout the southeast, but the producer changed the routing schedule for the tour.

After the change, JSU was not included in the schedule.

Boyd said the SGA is disappointed that Road Rules will not be visiting JSU. The committee has asked MTV to reconsider the school for any programs or events that will be held in the future.
SGA hosts Casino Night, Freshman Forum sponsoring canned food drive

By Tomiko Goodman
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Containers have been placed in several buildings on campus for students to donate items. Organizations and students are asked to donate up to 10 cans to support this event.

The fundraiser will end on Mar. 21.

Hayes also announced that director of publicity applications are due today by 4:30 p.m. in the student activities office, located in the TMB.

Jordan Brewer announced the spring 92-J benefit 2002 will be at Brother’s Bar in Jacksonville this weekend. The entertainment for Friday will include: Young Geezers, Adelayda, Ingram Hill, Leader Dog and 4th Stone.

DJ Hooker, Hooch, Ladder 6, Something 5 and Snap 9A will perform on Saturday. Preview shows will be aired each night on 92-J as well.

Free prizes, T-shirts and CDs will be given away at the benefit.

Lexi Skelley announced that Phi Mu will sponsor a Miss Little JSU pageant on March 16. Students interested in participating in the pageant should contact a member of Phi Mu.

Marlana Chandler announced “AOpi in the Sky,” a fundraiser for the members of the organization. Students will have an opportunity to throw pies for a dollar in the face of a member of AOPi. AOPi will announce the date of this event.

Hayes announced that the spring 2002 concert is in progress featuring the country band Rascal Flatts.

Habitat for humanity is sponsoring the annual “Hoop for Habitat” fundraiser on Mach. 12 at the Pete Mathews Coliseum. The game will feature students and faculty at JSU. Tickets will be on sale Mar. 7-11 in the TMB.

Students can contact the student activities office at 782-5491 or on the fourth floor of the TMB for more information.
Are you in or are you out?

Believe it or not, Alabama’s Legislature is seriously considering a bill that might be good for higher education, and good for your wallet, too.

Sen. Gerald Dial, D-Lineville, introduced a bill in January that would allow Alabama’s colleges and universities to set their own levels for out-of-state tuition. A 40-year-old state law currently requires them to charge students from other states at least twice as much as in-state students. If you’re a student from outside Alabama, this is probably not a surprise to you.

The law does provide an exemption for students from out-of-state counties within 50 miles of each school’s campus. This has allowed students from money places in Georgia like Cedartown and Carrollton to attend JSU at the same price as Alabamians. And so for years there’s been a strong number of students from western Georgia on our campus. They’ve always brought their checkbooks with them, too. Despite the fact that their parents aren’t Alabama taxpayers, the University and the area benefit from the money they spend on tuition, housing, food, etc.

Dial’s bill is an attempt to allow schools to attract more of these students and their dollars, boosting revenue gained from tuition.

A lot of state lawmakers, though, are strongly opposed to the bill. They think (and that is think, mind you) that out-of-state students are a drain on the budgets of our colleges and universities since their families don’t pay the Alabama state taxes that supposedly support those institutions. They fear that these schools will come to the Legislature begging for more money to support these students.

If our schools got a more significant portion of their funds from the state, this might be true. As it stands, though, just about 34 percent of JSU’s annual budget comes from state appropriations. The majority of funds come from federal grants and - surprise - tuition.

If more out-of-state students paying less than twice the in-state tuition were to go to a burden on college budgets, then those colleges certainly wouldn’t be asking for the power to charge them less money.

On top of that, our colleges and universities are already begging the Legislature for more money. Higher education has never been funded adequately by the state, and it’s that fact that’s driving these schools to look for more revenue in the first place.

You’d think more legislators would jump at the chance to add a little extra money to college budgets without having to get it from the state. But apparently these legislators would rather see the state’s money come from federal grants and private donations. The major-ity of $30 million of JSU’s annual budget comes from state appropriations. The majority of funds come from federal grants and - surprise - tuition.

That’s the good news. The even better news for the Tide is that they’ve already got $30 million of the private donations in hand, leaving them with just $20 million to raise. I must admit, the thought of Alabamians freely donating $30 million to what they deem a good cause is a heartwarming notion.

However, my heart turns cold when I remember the $160 million the state Legislature struggled to come up with in December’s special session to avoid a second-straight year of proration for education in Alabama.

Gov. Don Siegelman suggested the Legislature close tax loopholes for big business to come up with the cash. Business leaders balked, and pressured legislators into killing the governor’s proposal. Apparently, those business leaders weren’t feeling quite as generous as the members of the Crimson Tradition Fund, the 28-member group which put up the $30 million already pledged for UA’s capital improvements.

The Legislature did find a way to come up with a lot of the $160 million, eventually. Instead of closing tax loopholes, they decided to increase taxes paid by people who use telephones. In other words, they taxed you and me instead of lobbyist-backed big businesses. Hey, why not? I’m feeling generous. How about you?

That, in case you couldn’t tell, was sarcasm.

So, what’s wrong with this picture? Education needs $160 million just to keep out of proration, and a knock-down, drag-out political fight ensues over who’s going to pick up the tab. The Crimson Tide needs $100 million for new and improved athletic facilities and people fall all over themselves to donate.

Does it appear that there might be a priority or two out of place?

Don’t get me wrong. I’m not trying to diminish the cultural importance of college sports in Alabama. I’m a strong advocate of athletics in an academic environment, just as I am of music, theatre, etc. There’s as much to be learned about human nature in sports as there is in the arts.

But providing tens of millions of dollars for athletic facility improvements when the state’s colleges and universities - as well as elementary, middle and high schools - are looking for cash to keep academic running shows exactly where the priorities of Alabama’s people lie.

It’s not athletics generally that are the priority either, it’s specifically UA athletics, and Auburn athletics. The athletic committee of JSU’s board of trustees recently recommended a bond issue of $3 million to fund the beginnings of our own athletic facility improvements. There was no announce-ment of matching donations of $3 million to go with that bond issue. And JSU’s bonds will likely be repaid by increases in tuition, just as will the bonds issued to renovate the TMB, Houston Cole Library and Ayers Hall.

Until Alabama as a society recognizes the importance of funding education, you’ll continue to see announcements about the millions spent on the Tide and Tigers, while at the same time reading the news about funding crises for education.

It is, after all, an Alabama tradition.
In new Louima verdict there are no winners

By E.R. Shipp
New York Daily News (KRT)

"Chuck, we won, Chuck! You're coming home, pal," the lawyer told Charles Schwarz.

"We won!" the lawyer's assistant screamed into the phone to Schwarz's wife, Andra, and lawyer, Ronald Fischetti, in an interview Friday morning.

"We lost" is what so many people — especially black people and, among blacks, especially Haitians — are feeling since that decree from the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was announced in a case that will live in infamy.

It was triggered, of course, by what the court described as "the brutal assault on Abner Louima in the early hours of Aug. 9, 1997, while he was in custody at the 70th Police Precinct in Brooklyn, New York."

The critical words of the three-judge panel were these: "We hold that Schwarz's convictions for the civil rights violations must be vacated and remanded for a new trial because his attorney's unwaivable conflict of interest denied him effective assistance of counsel, and because the jury was improperly exposed to prejudicial extrinsic information during jury deliberations."

We also hold that all three appellants' convictions at the second trial for conspiracy to obstruct justice must be reversed for insufficient evidence." All that gobbledygook means is this: Schwarz, though he agreed to be represented by a lawyer whose firm represented one of his co-defendants, as well as the police officers' union, did not have the right to give up his right to have an impartial attorney.

Moreover, the jury learned from outside sources that even though one cop pleaded guilty and his lawyer was insisting that only he was involved in the assault, another cop was involved in the sexual assault of Louima in a bathroom at the 70th Precinct stationhouse.

So Schwarz, who has been in a federal prison for nearly three years, now gets a new trial. And two other cops are allowed to walk because they were charged with something that the prosecutors didn't prove.

To that, Al Sharpton, one of Louima's most public champions, said, in so many words: Hogwash! It was "probably the most astounding reversal that any of us have seen in our lifetime."

That's an arguable point, but for now, let Sharpton have his hyperbole. Louima said it more simply: "I am very unhappy."

Winning and losing is not so easy to discern in what has been described rightly as one of the worst instances of police brutality in the nation's history. No one disputes that Justin Volpe rammed the broken broomstick up Louima's rectum while worked up about the abuse he'd taken on the street outside Club Rendez-Vous. Volpe admitted as much, in pleading guilty May 23, 1999.

The question has always been: Who was the officer who assisted Volpe in assaulting Louima?

According to the appellate court, Schwarz's lawyer, Stephen Worth, had dual loyalties — to Schwarz and to the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, which had retained him. Schwarz could have benefited from a defense focusing on someone else as the officer who assisted Volpe in assaulting Louima. But the union, against which Louima brought a civil suit, would benefit from the jury believing that Volpe was a nut who acted alone. Who wants a lawyer with divided loyalties?

The bottom line is that these guys — Schwarz, Thomas Wiese and Thomas Bruder — are no longer cops, and that's a good thing. They violated their oaths and, as the appellate court said, "they 'agreed generally to impede investigators by putting forth and corroborating a false version of what occurred.'"

But rather than being charged with something akin to saving their own hides, they were charged with what amounted to trying to keep the grand jury from doing its job. So let the other guys off if the prosecutors screwed up and give Schwarz his new trial. Whether he's convicted or not the next time, he has paid and will continue to pay.

He and his pals know what they did.

ABOUT THE WRITER
E.R. Shipp is a columnist for the New York Daily News. She won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 1996. Readers may write to her at the New York Daily News, 450 West 33rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10001; e-mail: eshipp2002@hotmail.com.

Clear your closet — and your conscience — for Afghan children

By Heather Moore
For the KRT Forum

Not an animal rights activist, but still feel funny about wearing fur? Then please take those fur coats out of storage and donate them to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. PETA won't spray them for anti-fur protests as we've done to tens of thousands donated furs over the years. Instead, we'll see that they get to Afghan children without coats to keep them warm during the bitter cold winter months.

It's too late for the animals that suffered and died at the hands of the fur industry. We can't give them their coats and lives back. But we can do something to help children who cannot afford or don't have access to the many humane alternatives to fur.

With the help of the Philadelphia-based American Friends Services Committee (AFSC) the coats are being shipped to Afghanistan and distributed to children and their families.

After you've cleared your closets of furs, please vow never to buy another.

Modern technology has done nothing to end the suffering of animals killed for fur. Millions of foxes, beavers, bobcats, chinchillas, otters, coyotes, black bears, rabbits, raccoons, and other animals, are caught in steel-jaw leg-hold traps. The European Union Council reports that 7,559,303 animals are trapped worldwide every year, 2,500,000 of them in the U.S. Leg-hold traps are so hideously cruel they have been banned in 69 countries — but not here. Not yet.

Animals on fur farms suffer an equally horrid fate. More than 27,500,000 animals worldwide — primarily minks and foxes — are crammed into tiny wire mesh cages.

Scott Beckstead, a Waldport, Ore. attorney, and president of the Central Coast Humane Society, recently wrote of "peeling season" on the fur industry trade journal The Trapper & Predator Caller recently admitted that the fur industry is in a downward spiral. "Decades-old fur industry directories reveal that in 1972, there were 797 established fur garment makers in the United States, most located in New York. Twenty years later, in 1992, the number dwindled to only 211. Today, numbers of garment makers are rapidly decreasing as older skilled craftsmen retire. Few young people are interested in devoting the years of apprenticeship necessary to master a craft with an obviously diminishing consumer base."

So dump your furs where they'll do some good, and dress with fashion and compassion in mind.

ABOUT THE WRITER
Heather Moore writes for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (www.PETA.org). Readers can contact her at: PETA, 501 Front St., Norfolk, Va. 23510. Furs may also be sent to the same address. This essay is available to Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service subscribers. Knight Ridder/Tribune did not subsidize the writing of this column; the opinions are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of Knight Ridder/Tribune or its editors.
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Need someone to split the rent? Call 782-8192 today! Leave a message and we will return your call.

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Casino Night 2002

Don’t Think Twice
Before You Roll The Dice!

Thursday, March 7th
Leone Cole Auditorium
7pm-10pm
$5 Admission

Sponsored By The Student Government Association
**Two-day concert to benefit 92-J**

**Call the folks and tell them you won’t be seeing them this weekend because the 92-J Benefit is going on at Brother’s Bar.**

The concept of the 92-J Benefit was first developed last fall by Something 5, a band very familiar to the Jacksonville music circuit, according to Jordan Brewer, program director at the station. The band wanted to give something back for all the exposure 92-J has given to local music.

Dan Nolen, owner of Brother’s, and Beau Nolen, manager of Brother’s, took matters into their own hands and decided to make the next benefit a weekend event featuring several bands. Last semester seven bands played and the turnout was so impressive that the Nolens decided to do it every semester, said Brewer.

The fall benefit raised over $700 to go toward promotional items for the station and an additional $150 for the American Red Cross. Brewer said, in honor of Sept. 11. This semester’s benefit will feature 10 bands.

On Friday night, the Young Geezers will open. The Young Geezers recently filled up an Anniston bar. The Peerless Saloon, like a tight sardine can.

**SGA rolls the dice on 9th annual Casino Night**

“Do you feel lucky?” If so, get your poker face ready for the one-armed bandits at this year’s SGA Casino Night tonight.

For $5, students will receive a souvenir cup filled with gambling chips to play the number of games at Casino Night, according to SGA Director of Publicity, Robert Hayes. Some JSU faculty and staff members will be dealers and hosts of the games which include black jack, crap, roulette and the money wheel. The ever-popular slot machines will also be there. Students may purchase more chips in addition to the souvenir cup of chips they receive when they pay admission.

Faculty and staff members Dr. Teresa Reed from the English department, David Ziegler of multimedia services, Connie Edge of the Alumni House, Dr. Steven Whitton from the English department and Mike LaPlante, JSU’s mens’ basketball coach will be among the games’ hosts.

Casino night is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the SGA, according to SGA 2nd Vice President, Joy Boyd. The event usually draws around 200 people, she said, “They come and go, but we usually have around 200 all together.”

Door prizes donated by local businesses will be given throughout the evening. The biggest prize that we have is a white gold engagement ring from Couch’s Jewelers, said Boyd. Other prizes are Chick-fil-A coupons and free movie rentals.

Refreshment will also be served and T-shirts will be sold for $7.

So if “you feel lucky,” join the other gamblers on Mar. 7 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Leone Cole Auditorium.
**Review by Abbey Herrin**

*The Chanticleer Staff Writer*

Ben Affleck, Alec Baldwin, a $145 million budget and lots of explosives: "Pearl Harbor" has the word blockbuster written all over it from the get-go.

Directed by Michael Bay, who also did "Armageddon" and "Bad Boys," it is a given that the movie will be action-packed just by watching previews. However, the movie tries to cram in way too many plots, subplots and storylines into this three-hour epic. The result is an entirely too long mish-mash of real and fictional events.

"Pearl Harbor" allegedly depicts the "date that will live in infamy" when the United States became involved in World War II. However, the movie lacks historical accuracy in its attempt to entertain and please the masses.

The whole beginning of the movie focuses on building a strong friendship between Rafe McCawley (Ben Affleck) and Danny Walker, played by Josh Hartnett. The boys bond on the farm as kids and grow up to be great patriots. Rafe signs up for the British Air Force and takes off, leaving Danny behind along with Evelyn (Kate Beckinsale), the love of Rafe’s life. When Rafe comes up missing, Danny and Evelyn turn to each other for comfort and hook up within a very short time period. Rafe returns and damn it, his girlfriend is boinking his best pal.

As interesting a scenario as this may seem, it has nothing to do with the events that actually led up to the attack on Pearl Harbor. The characters are fictitious, and the love story is unfitting and unnecessary.

Other characters’ stories are featured as well, some that were actually real people. Cuba Gooding, Jr. plays Dorie Miller, a sailor who was very heroic during the attack. Alec Baldwin plays Col. Jimmy Doolittle, another war hero. The parts that include these characters are realistic and actually based on events pertinent to the attack.

The movie dishes up plenty of wide-scale explosion scenes, sure to please any "Die Hard" fan. However, some of the events that take place during this extremely long movie seem very contrived and are not even based on real historical fact. For example, in an attempt to convince his Cabinet, President Franklin Roosevelt (Jon Voight) rises to his feet exclaiming, "Don’t tell me it can’t be done!" Although this stirring scene may heighten one’s sense of national pride, it never actually happened.

The casting for "Pearl Harbor" is very impressive; however, there are simply way too many stars and too much going on in each character’s life to really focus on what the movie is supposed to focus on — the attack at Pearl Harbor.

Just the same, Gooding, Jr. is awesome in this film, so is Baldwin. Hartnett should not have been cast in his role; he still belongs in the teen-movie genre. Affleck is usually great in movies but the love-story plot that he is absorbed in is so lame that one cannot help but be disgusted; the writers are to blame for that. Dan Akroyd is great as well in his role as Captain Thurman.

Even though "Pearl Harbor" is a high-budget blockbuster full of stars and bombs, it still fails to convey the real sentiment behind the tragedy. Rather, it focuses on the namby-pamby love story of people who did not even exist and puts the real characters on the backburner.

For those seeking entertainment that happen to have three hours to spare, "Pearl Harbor" may be the way to go. For those seeking some historical accuracy, watch The Learning Channel or go to the library, because you won’t find it in this movie.
dogs and cats are relinquished to shelters. Of that, 2 to 3 million dogs and 3 to 4 million cats are euthanized. The argument of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals — and many shelters — is one of numbers. Why clone a pet when so many others are available?

“We’ve got enough here,” said Helen Sanders, a volunteer at the Seal Beach Animal Care Center in Southern California. “For someone who was thinking of cloning, I’d say, ‘Go rescue an animal.’”

Kay Morefield, another volunteer, said forming new relationships can be as rewarding as trying to re-create an old one. “I have five dogs, and I wouldn’t clone them,” she said. “I’d rather start over.”

As for the arguments of nature vs. nurture, Morefield believed “85 percent of dogs can be trained” and that genetics don’t play as important a role.

Training means a lot for a dog destined to sniff out bombs or drugs. But it isn’t everything. In fact, it isn’t even most of it, said Caroline Haldeman, training director for the Orange County (Calif.) Working Dog Association. “Eighty percent is genetics; the rest is proper training,” she said. “You can train a dog whose genetics aren’t so good, but it’s much harder.”

It is with this in mind that Haldeman, somewhat reluctantly, is a proponent of animal cloning. A good healthy dog is just too hard to find — too often, trainers find out too late that a dog has a physical problem. With genetic assurances, dogs can be trained from an earlier age, with better results, Haldeman said.

“You never know in breeding what you’re going to get,” she said. “It’s a pretty touchy subject, but this would be such a benefit that I don’t think it’s a big deal.”

Since Sept. 11, “We can’t even keep up” with the demand for police dogs, Haldeman added. “There are so few perfect dogs out there. When you find a dog that has it all, you just want to hold on to him.”

Alanis Morissette

Under Rug Swept

In today’s teen-pop, TRL-dominated world of music, it’s very rare that an artist actually writes and produces an entire album, but for Alanis Morissette, it seemed like the only natural way for her to evolve as an artist.

Collaborating with producer Glen Ballard on her previous studio albums, Morissette sold more than 16 million records and won seven Grammy Awards. Cutting those ties and venturing out on her own would have been difficult, she said. “It’s a pretty touchy subject, whether you find a dog whose genetics aren’t so good, but it’s much harder.”

Most of the songs on “Under Rug Swept” were written on guitar, which is very evident on many of the album’s tracks. The most notable is the first song on the album, “21 Things I Want In A Lover,” where Alanis lays out a laundry list of qualities she prefers, but not necessarily needs, in a lover. Dean DeLeo of Stone Temple Pilots guests as lead guitarist on the song, which helps to add more of a rock edge to the song.

Bassist Flea from the Red Hot Chili Peppers also guests on the album, as does Meshell Ndegeocello on the track “So Unsexy,” which explains Morissette’s own self-affirmation in a relationship.

“Under Rug Swept” does have its softer moments, though, with the acoustic ballad “Flinch,” which tells the story of how hard it’s been to get over a past boyfriend, even though it’s been more than 10 years. The deeply personal lyrics make it something that anyone can relate to when she sings, “How long can a girl be tortured by you?”

Morissette showcases more of her talents on “That Particular Time.” She plays piano over a muffled drum loop, which adds the perfect tone to showcase her voice’s range.

The album, which begins on a high note, ends on a subtle and beautiful one with “Utopia.” It was originally released on her Web site as a tribute of sorts to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. In it she explains her idea of how we could achieve a perfect world if we actually wanted it. She sings, “The is my ideal / my end in sight / My nirvana / my ultimate.”

This album should not be compared to Morissette’s previous efforts, because it more than sets itself apart from them, and completely shows how she’s grown since “Jagged Little Pill” and “Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie.”
As the song goes on, this soothing voice shows the talent and heart that feeds Tuckett's solo-sounding duet. It voices the feelings we as humans have all shared in: The quest for a golden mean. Musical tracers and abstract accompaniments provide an almost soprano voice then drops back down to answer with a supple baritone. The talents held by this duo shall soon reward them in full. There is no doubt in my mind that Jimmy Paxson and Jimmy Tuckett’s lovechild, Sub.bionic, will make its way into the mass public’s ears in no time.

In “Plum,” there is a driving acoustic guitar riff and natural harmonies that are reminiscent of the fab four and would get the most stoic toe tapping. This promising track carries with it a poetic verse that repeats “hope is not erased...” It voices the feelings we as humans have all shared in: The quest for a golden mean. Musical tracers and ambient rhythms send emotions whirling through other lullabies such as “Hush” and “Heart Attack.”

Through the use of diminished and minor chords the sounds emitted by this duo shall soon reward them in full while the children. If you find yourself questioning the legitimacy of some of the Billboard Chart toppers then this CD should be a welcomed addition to your musical library. While pre-fabricated heavy metal and bubble-gum pop seem to be the latest trend, Sub.bionic has gone against the grain and developed an album that will keep the wheels of wonderment turning.

“Another glass of rhythm to warm it up” reverberates off lullaby-like guitar riffs in Sub.bionic’s “Hush.”

It’s one of the many hypnotizing and entrancing tracks from Jimmy Tuckett and Jimmy Paxson’s new album, “You I Love...” Sub.bionic by definition is below or under superhuman; however, this duo is anything but average.

If you find yourself questioning the legitimacy of some of the Billboard Chart toppers then this CD should be a welcomed addition to your musical library. While pre-fabricated heavy metal and bubble-gum pop seem to be the latest trend, Sub.bionic has gone against the grain and developed an album that will keep the wheels of wonderment turning.

In their music you hear the "good time vibe" that Robert Smith and The Cure provide, and you get the feeling they have admired Thom Yorke of Radiohead from afar for quite some time. Jimmy Tuckett’s voice entices memories of Jeff Buckley, Tori Amos, and yes, Joni Mitchell. The melodic guitars and abstract accompaniments provide just enough diversity to will your curiosity towards the next track.

In “Plum,” there is a driving acoustic guitar riff and natural harmonies that are reminiscent of the fab four and would get the most stoic toe tapping. This promising track carries with it a poetic verse that repeats “hope is not erased...” It voices the feelings we as humans have all shared in: The quest for a golden mean. Musical tracers and ambient rhythms send emotions whirling through other lullabies such as “Hush” and “Heart Attack.” Through the use of diminished and minor chords the sounds emitted by the speakers carry a David Byrne or Trent Reznor-like haunting.

I found myself floored by two tracks in particular though. “God in Neutral” and “Nuclear Bomb Parade” sold me on this album faster than Robert Johnson ran to meet the devil at the crossroads. “God in Neutral” demonstrates the impeccable vocal control of Jimmy Tuckett. His range pings from one end of the spectrum to the other, never slowing or showing weakness as he tip toes into his falsetto range. As the song goes on, this soothing voice shows the talent and heart that feeds Tuckett’s solo-sounding duet. Joni Mitchell and Tori Amos come to mind as he confidently wails in an almost soprano voice then drops back down to answer with a supple baritone.

“Nuclear Bomb Parade,” the final album track, provides an exit that puts the perfect finishing touches on the Sub.bionic experience. Full of surprise, it begins with a Jon Bonham like drumbeat that is followed by a guitar lick strong enough to straighten any mother’s aqua-net curls. Echoes of Trent Reznor’s Nine Inch Nails leap from note to note as the song compels you to turn it up and step on the gas.

With this album, Sub.bionic has staked its claim and is pressing forward in full stride. The talents held by this duo shall soon reward them well.

Don’t let quality music like this get thrown to the wayside. Take the time to listen to Sub.bionic’s “You I Love” and leave the bubble gum to the children.
This page contains a reading comprehension task about the horoscope for the week of April 17-23, 2002. The text discusses various astrological influences on different zodiac signs during that week. The horoscope mentions the need for renewed self-esteem, social acceptance, and emotional rules or limits. It also highlights the importance of new proposals or shared group activities. The text also includes a crossword puzzle with clues and answers. The answers to the crossword puzzle are also provided at the end of the page.
JSU beats Troy State, falls to FAU in tourney

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Well, the Gamecocks didn’t win the conference tournament, but they caused a shake-up in the seedings when they beat the second seeded team, Troy State 69-62 in the opening round.

After all, Jax State was projected to finish last in the preseason conference poll. The Gamecocks were waxed by the Trojans in the other two meetings this season. So, the seven-point victory gave them some much-needed confidence.

The win was also the Gamecocks’ first-ever postseason victory since moving up to Division I. Jax State also ended a three-game losing streak to the Trojans and improved its record to 4-1 against Troy State in the postseason.

“We didn’t change our game plan on how we wanted to play them, in fact, we had a couple of things in our bag of tricks that we never had to use,” head coach Mike LaPlante said. “I thought we played with a lot of energy. We came right out of the gate as the more aggressive team.”

The Gamecocks jumped out to a 7-0 lead over the first three minutes of the game after Omar Barlett got hot from the field. Barlett was troubled with early fouls, so he had limited playing time in the opening half. He finished the half with 11 points and finished the game with 19.

The Trojans mounted a comeback and took their first lead after Robert Rushing hit a jumper with 11:44 remaining in the opening half. Troy State held a 13-12 lead until the Gamecocks went on a 10-2 run over the final five minutes to take a 30-29 lead at halftime.

“We came in at halftime ahead by one,” LaPlante said. “I said, ‘The first 20 minutes are gone. You’ve got 20 minutes left in your season. Decide how you want it to end. If you don’t want it to end today, do something to not let it end.’

The Gamecocks did just that. In the final half of play, JSU had its best shooting half of the season, hitting 60.8 percent from the floor.

Jax State was shooting very well, but the Trojans still managed to tie the game at 38 minutes three into the final half of the game. But, the Gamecocks wouldn’t let TSU get the lead.

Poochie Richardson and Jay Heard hit back-to-back 3-pointers, followed by a free throw by Barlett increased the Gamecock lead to 45-38 at the 14:34 mark. TSU narrowed the lead to three points with only 2:24 left in the game, but JSU sealed the deal from the free-throw line. The Gamecocks went 10-for-12 from the charity strike over the final 56 of the game.

Barlett and Heard led the Gamecocks with 19 points each. Richardson finished with 16 points, while Josh “Sleepy” Perry contributed with 13.

Lamay Wilson led Troy State with 20 points, followed by Donnie Pemberton’s 14 and Rushing added 11 points.

“Now, I guess there’s a sense of urgency,” said Heard. “It’s or die. You lose, you go home.”

Well, the Gamecocks played hard, but they once again let Earnest Crumbley come off the bench to beat them. The Owls claimed a 55-47 victory over JSU in the second round of the tournament last Friday.

“This was just a hard fought game,” LaPlante said. “You have to give credit to Florida Atlantic. They came away with the win tonight.”

JSU shot a dismal 32.7 percent from the floor and committed 21 turnovers. FAU didn’t shoot much better though. The Owls shot 33 percent for the game and 22 percent in the second half.

“You could equate it to a baseball game where two pitchers are going at each other, throwing a one-hitter and a no-hitter,” LaPlante said. “If that’s ugly baseball, then that’s what the game is. It was a beautiful game by both teams defensive-ly, if you want to look at it in that way.”

In the first half, Jax State scored a season-low 18 points and committed 14 turnovers as FAU built a 27-18 lead at halftime. The Gamecocks only hit eight shots in the first half.

The Gamecocks didn’t seem to ever take control in the opening half. They trailed by 10 points in the second half.

But, Richardson gave the Gamecocks their first lead after he connected on a four-point play with 11:08 to play. Crumbley got the lead back for FAU after he hit six straight points to put the Owls ahead 38-34.

Heard hit a 3-pointer with 6:56 left in the game to put JSU ahead 40-38. The game continued to go back and forth for the next three minutes. Emerson “Downtown” Brown tied the game at 44 after he hit 3-pointer with 3:36 remaining in the game. Florida Atlantic took the lead for good after Andre Garner scored on a tip-in with 3:14 left in the contest. FAU went 6-for-7 from the free throw line in the final minutes to seal the win.

The Gamecocks were led by Heard’s 11 points and nine rebounds. Barlett finished with nine points and 11 rebounds, while Richardson and Brown contributed with only eight points.

Gamecock softball sweeps UAB in double-header

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

After winning the Georgia Southern Tournament last weekend, the Gamecocks (11-3) entertained the home crowd with a sweep over the University of Alabama-Birmingham Blazers (11-7).

Jax State beat UAB 3-1 and 7-3 in a double-header at University Field on Tuesday evening.

Junior pitcher Veronica Davis put on a show, while recording wins in both games. Davis pitched a combined total of nine innings and recorded 17 strikeouts to lead the Gamecocks past UAB.

To begin the game Jax State struck first in the second inning when Allie Simmons faced a double between two Blazer outfielders to score Andrea Temple and Jessica Ford.

Jax State added to its lead when Renee Hassen slapped a double to center field to bring home “Breezy” Olen in the bottom of the fourth to make the score 3-0.

The Blazers didn’t take a loss without a fight. Chiffanie Engram recorded an RBI when she knocked a double into center to bring home Candice Huth in the sixth inning. The score made it 3-1.

That’s as close as Davis and the Gamecocks allowed UAB to get. She struck out the next four batters to seal the win for JSU.

As the second game approached, so did the cold Jacksonville breeze. The Gamecocks beat the Blazers 7-3, but not without a mid-game scare.

UAB scored three unanswered points in the third inning to come to within two points of the Gamecocks, 5-3. The Blazers began the comeback with a home-run by Engram at the top of the inning to make it 4-3. UAB followed the home run with a single by Aimee Vaughn. Kai Paul recorded an RBI after she slapped a double to center.

“I thought we played with a lot of energy. We came right out of the gate as the more aggressive team.”

In the high jump category, Ambler finished in a tie for 13th position with a jump of 1.47 meters. Pitzo finished tied for 17th with a jump of 1.42 meters.

Armstrong also competed in the long jump category and came in 10th out of 24 jumpers. She recorded a jump of 5.10 meters.

In the shot put, LaChandra Barfolomeow recorded a throw of 9.36 meters, good enough for a 19th place finish out of 27 athletes competing. She also competed in the discus throw, recording a throw of 25.52 meters and a 19th place finish out of 25 athletes.

The men competed in two categories, the 1500-meter run and the 5000-meter run. In the 1500-meter, Sam Corns finished with a time of 5:21.45. Sam Corns finished with a time of 5:40.37 in 19th place and Ronnie Laughner finished 11th out of 22 runners in the 5000-meter with a time of 17:02.

The Gamecocks next outdoor meet is on Saturday at Sanford University.
# Gamecocks beat FAU, fall to Central Florida to finish season

By Jay Pace  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The Jax State women’s basketball team finished the season with a win against Florida Atlantic and a loss against Central Florida.

The Gamecocks’ tournament hopes were dashed a week ago, but they still managed to dig deep enough to knock off FAU, the third seeded team in the conference, 93-91 last Thursday.

Shanika Freeman, who missed two free throws with 2.4 seconds remaining in regulation, redeemed herself when she hit a jumper as time expired in overtime to secure the victory for the Gamecocks.

“I had to redeem myself after I missed those two free throws,” said Freeman. “I thought that was our chance. I was so upset but I was real happy when I hit the shot.”

“I tell my players that at one point in their career they’re going to be on the free-throw line with an opportunity to win,” said head coach Dana Austin. “Tonight was Nip’s (Shanika) night to win.”

After jumping out to an early lead, poor shooting and foul trouble plagued the Gamecocks for most of the first half and they trailed 37-29 at halftime.

Amanda Tyus, who finished with 18 points of her own, tied the game at 50 with 14:31 left when she nailed one of her four 3-pointers. Tyus hit another 3-pointer with 3:24 remaining to give JSU its largest lead of the game at 76-70.

“That’s my job,” said Tyus. “Tonight’s just about pride and we just wanted to knock somebody out since we can’t get there (the tournament).”

FAU came back and overcame the Gamecocks 10-4, tying the game at 80 at the end of regulation. The game was Jax State’s third overtime game of the season. They haven’t won one this season.

The Gamecocks frustrated the Owls with a high-pressure trapping defense and forced several FAU turnovers late in the contest. The Gamecocks continued to pound the Owls in the paint with Freeman, who finished with 24 points.

“I would have never thought if they would score 90 points that we’d have a chance to win” said Austin.

“Fred” Embry also contributed with 21 points and a team-high nine rebounds.

FAU had five players score in double-figures. Tamica Pierce led the Owls with 23 points and 11 rebounds.

The Gamecocks concluded the regular season with a game against Central Florida at Pete Mathews Coliseum last Saturday.

Freeman and Embry put in another great performance on the court, but it wasn’t enough to get by the Golden Knights, who won 72-62 to end the season with an 8-19 record.

The Gamecocks trailed by as many as 14 points in the opening half, but cut the deficit to five early in the second half after Freeman hit two free throws with 17:24 left to play. JSU couldn’t get any closer.

“That was tough,” said Austin. “The biggest difference I saw was us not making shots. We could never get our press going and then at the end of the game they just dribbled right through it. I thought we started attacking the basket the last 10 minutes of the game, but that was something we needed to do to close the game.”

Central Florida’s Lanetra Cook was unstoppable from the 3-point line. She hit eight 3-pointers and finished the game with a game-high 28 points. Five of her 3-pointers came in the final half of the game.

Freeman and Embry led the Gamecocks with 23 points each.

Erin Page finished with 13 points and Ali Roberts contributed with 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Golden Knights.

“The seniors are losing are players that coaches love,” said Austin. “We knew they were going to bring a work ethic. We knew they were going to bring desire, dedication and loyalty.”

## 2002 Atlantic Sun/Coca-Cola Men’s Championship Tournament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, Feb. 28</th>
<th>Friday, Mar. 1</th>
<th>Saturday, Mar. 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Troy State (#2)</td>
<td>Jacksonville State</td>
<td>Florida Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSU (#7)</td>
<td>Jacksonville State</td>
<td>Florida Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Atlantic (#3)</td>
<td>Florida Atlantic</td>
<td>JSU</td>
</tr>
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<td>Florida Atlantic</td>
<td>Central Florida</td>
<td>Georgia State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samford (#4)</td>
<td>Central Florida</td>
<td>Georgia State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia State (#1)</td>
<td>Georgia State</td>
<td>Belmont (#8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Head baseball coach Jim Case enters his first year at JSU with a lot of hopes and ideas for the future. After all, he’s been waiting for this opportunity for a long time. He has over 1,000 games under his belt at the collegiate level and a wealth of experience.

The area isn’t new to him either. He attended Ensley High School as a youth and coached at UAB and Mississippi State.

It’s difficult to replace anybody, especially if that person is the winningest coach in Alabama sports history (Rudy Abbott). Coach Case doesn’t see it as a challenge, but an honor and that’s what he coaches with — honor.

The Gamecocks look to be on the road to a successful season, and they’re in good hands as long as Case is at the helm.

Thrill: How are you, coach Case?
Jim: I’m doing great.
Thrill: Good. Now what went through your mind when you found out about the players who raced down a robber in Florida?
Jim: You know, I was really proud of them, especially when I first heard about it. It had been a terrible two days. I had been in the motel, just watching it rain. We basically just went to eat and come back.

There was nothing we could do baseball-wise. It was all over by the time I had found out about it. I was really proud of them because I felt like they heard somebody in need and then they responded. If it were my wife, if it was my mother, I’d be glad somebody helped.

Thrill: You coached against Mississippi State over the weekend for the first time since becoming head coach here. What were your feelings and emotions like before that game?
Jim: Before the game I didn’t have a lot of emotions. I was more worried about whether or not we were prepared. I wanted us to do well. During the game it wasn’t so bad because I wanted OUR guys to do good. When the game was over that’s when the tough time came for me. I was disappointed that we didn’t play better. I have to admit there was a part of me that was proud of what we had put together THERE. Almost every kid there, I had recruited. I think they’re a special group that’s going to have a good year.

Thrill: Now coach, we play a tough schedule this season. Our conference games are even tougher than most teams. Who was it, JU

By Anthony “Thrill” Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

One on one with “Thrill:” Jim Case

Jim Case
Head baseball coach

is really unbelievable in that state. Kids grow up in that state, wanting to play baseball at Mississippi State. The tradition is in place.

Thrill: What is the most impressive element of the JSU baseball team?
Jim: Well, this year’s team certainly has some leadership from the upper class. Whenever there’s change there’s people that really like it and don’t really like it. This group of seniors made it easy on us because they brought into the system we were trying to put in. From the baseball standpoint, our strengths would probably be the depth on our pitching staff.

Thrill: I’ve noticed that the team has been hitting the ball a lot better this season. What do you think the reason is for that?
Jim: I think it’s two things. They’ve worked really hard on it and

and our assistant coaches, Steve Gillispie and Matt Ishee.

Thrill: Does the team have any sluggers in the lineup? Do we have any guys that could send the ball out of the park on any given pitch?
Jim: Our park isn’t conducive to home runs. But we do have some guys who can hit the ball out. Ben Phillips, Nic Brown, Travis Sueroof, Scott Smith, who’s also a football player, has some power. And, we have some other guys who I would say has some power, but it may not leave the park, but they’ll hit doubles.

Thrill: That’s enough about baseball. What are you and your daughter going to do for her birthday?
Jim: (Laughs.) I don’t know. I told her that she could pick out something to do and we’ll do it. I’ve missed some, which I’m thankful today to be in town for. I told her to pick out some place to eat and we’d do that and if she wanted to do something fun, we’d do that.

Thrill: Who’s birthday is it, Catherine or Elizabeth’s?
Jim: It’s Elizabeth. She turned 11 today (Monday).

Thrill: What have you enjoyed the most about being here at JSU or Jacksonville in general?
Jim: To me that’s really easy. It’s the people. The people here go out of their way to be friendly.

Thrill: I know Jacksonville isn’t Palm Springs or anything, but it sure beats Starkville doesn’t it?

Jim: (Laughs.) Yeah, well. I like Starkville too. I like small towns.

Thrill: What do you do during your spare time?
Jim: I don’t do a lot. I don’t have hobbies or golf or fish. If I have time off I try to spend time at home.

Thrill: Do you have a favorite song or music group?
Jim: If I told you my favorite music group you would’ve never heard of him. I like a country singer named Guy Clark. I really like southern gospel music and country.

Thrill: Most baseball players are superstitious. How about the coaches?
Jim: I like to say I don’t have superstitions, but I really do. If we win today I try to remember which way I came to work. If I wore this pair of socks, I’d wash them, but I’d wear them again. I always have a thing I do when I coach third base where I rub dirt around the base. If I don’t that I feel like I hadn’t done something. I won’t wear an odd number either.

Thrill: Name the best movie you’ve seen in the past year.
Jim: This is sad to say, I’ve been married since 1982 and I’ve only been to the movies one time. Usually I just watch ESPN or Seinfeld right before I go to bed.

Thrill: You were a good catcher back when you played. Do you think you would’ve been successful in today’s game?

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Jim: Yeah, I could do about what I did. I was just an average player.

Thrill: Name two players you would pay to watch.
Jim: (Pause.) That’s a really good question. (Pause.) That’s a tough question too. I always take my hat off to Barry Bonds. I guess that another one would be Pudge Rodriguez. There’s a lot of pitchers that I’d pay to watch.

Thrill: Free Association

Jim: Free Association. Ensley High School. (Former high school)
Jim: Just a wonderful place at that time.

Thrill: George Steinbrenner.
Jim: Demanding.
Thrill: Rudy Abbott. (Legendary JSU baseball coach)
Jim: Tradition.
Thrill: Steve Shippey. (Gamecock pitcher)
Jim: Competitor.
Thrill: Matt Ishii. (Assistant baseball coach)
Jim: Great young coach.
Thrill: Mrs. Jan Case. (Jim’s wife)
Jim: Most special person I’ve ever met.

Thrill: Gamecock baseball.
Jim: On the rise.

Thrill: One final question. How long do you see yourself as the head baseball coach of JSU?
Jim: I hope it’s for a long time. In the coaching business you never know. We came here with the idea of this being home. We want to be a positive in the community and not a negative and I hope that we can be that.

Gamecock women golfers finish 15th, men take fourth

From Staff Reports

Jacksonville State’s women golfers finished 15th out of 20 teams in the Edwin Watts/Carolinas Classic hosted by the College of Charleston last Tuesday. Memphis won the overall title by shooting a total score of 610. The Gamecocks finished play at 660.

JSU’s top finishers were Angie Green and Marie-Eve Dion. Both finished tied for 66th. Florencia Rodriguez tied for 81 and 85 to finish tied for 67th. Kathy Johnson and Colette Murray both tied for 73rd after total scores of 168.

The Jax State men’s team took a one-under-par 71 to tie for 15th. The Musketeers finished play one round over the Gamecocks with a 287. Temperatures never got above 30 degrees on Sunday. Winds gusted up to 28 mph and the wind chill made it seem like 21 degrees.

Steve Mackie shot a one-under par-70 to tie for 11th place, while Matisas Anselmo finished with a one-under-par 71 to tie for 16th. Nick Mackay fired an even par 72, while Jose Campra shot a 74 for the Gamecocks.

LSU led the tournament after Saturday’s play by two strokes over Tulsa and was awarded the team championship.

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Bulldogs sweep JSU baseball in three-game series

From Staff Reports

Head baseball coach Jim Case paid his first visit to Starkville since becoming JSU's coach, but the Bulldogs weren't feeling too friendly as Mississippi State swept the Gamecocks in a three-game series last weekend. Mississippi State (6-1-1) had a season-high 18 hits during wins over the Gamecocks (7-8) in the first two games of the series.

Mississippi State scored 10 times in the first four innings and finished with 16 hits in registering their season-high 11 strikeouts, scattered eight hits and walked one in six innings and three-hit the Gamecocks over seven innings.

JSU scored its lone run in the seventh when Scott Smith struck out but reached on a wild pitch and scored three batters later on John McCarley's sacrifice fly to right field.

Mundle faced a two-out double to the right-center field gap in the first inning to plate a pair of runs and stake Collums to a 2-0 lead. Gendron went 3-for-5 to lead MSU at the plate. Gendron lashed a two-out single to score the first of two Bulldog runs in the third and added another two-out, run-scoring single in the fourth to extend the MSU lead to 5-0.

Jonathan Papelbon followed Collums on the mound in the eighth inning, closing out the game by striking out five of the six batters he faced.

The two teams closed out their three-game weekend series on Sunday. Junior left-hander Joey Collums struck out a career-high 15 to lead No. 23 Mississippi State (6-1-1) to a 5-1 win and series sweep of Jacksonville State at wind-chilled Dudy Noble Field.

Collums matched his previous career-high for punch-outs with his seventh in the fourth inning. He blanked JSU through six innings and three-hit the Gamecocks over seven innings.

Junior right-hander Tanner Brock (2-0) struck out seven and held Jacksonville State to three hits in a seven-inning mound appearance.

The Gamecocks tallied five of their eight hits and scored four times in the eighth, three on a bases-clearing double by Travis Suereth.

In the second game, JSU used a pair of infield hits and an infield groundout to take a 1-0 lead off MSU starter Paul Maholm (1-1) in the first inning. But the 23rd-ranked Bulldogs answered with four runs in their half of the first and cruised to their fourth consecutive win of the season.

Maholm registered a staff season-high 11 strikeouts, scattered six hits and walked one in six innings of mound work. Robby Goodson worked two innings of no-hit, shutout relief and Jacob Blakeney made his MSU pitching debut in the ninth, striking out two of the three batters he faced.

Maniscalco and Brinson extended their season-opening hitting streaks to all seven games, with Brinson and Jason Burkley delivering three hits each. Burkley belted a two-run home run in the first inning, his second blast of the doubleheader and team-leading fourth of the season.

MSU's 3-4-5 hitters in the batting order, Brinson, Burkley and Jon Mungle, followed up their three-consecutive home run showings in the opening game with three straight doubles during a four-run, five-hit Bulldog scoring burst in the fourth inning.

Heath Comer had a double and a single to lead JSU at the plate. Starter Lucas McCollum (1-2) took the loss and was charged with 10 runs during his four-inning stint on the mound. Bobby Wynns worked the final four frames.

The Bulldogs scored four runs in the first off Gamecock starter Steve Shippey (1-3) and added three more in the third on consecutive home runs by Matthew Brinson, Jason Burkley, and Jon Mungle.

Matthew Maniscalco, Chad Henry and Steve Gendron had three hits each and Brinson matched a career-best with four RBIs to lead Bulldog hitters.
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