



More dinner for your dollar - p. 5

THE CHANTICLEER

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Cocks scratch out win - p. 7

September 5, 2002

Jacksonville State University

Volume 51, Issue 2

UPD doubles parking fines, steps up enforcement

By Jamie M. Eubanks
The Chanticleer News Editor

Those who park where they're not supposed to at JSU will now be paying more for it, and may have to deal with more than just a ticket.

According to University Police Chief Nelson Coleman, JSUPD has doubled the price for parking and other violations. A student caught parking in the wrong zone was fined \$10.00. Now, such a violation will cost students \$20.00.

Coleman said "many, many" students weren't paying attention to parking regulations in previous years because fines weren't very expensive. But this year violators will be paying with more than their dollars.

Parking fines aren't the only ones that have doubled. Every violation, except parking in a handicapped zone, will cost the perpetrator twice last year's rate. Parking in handicapped zones, without an adequate decal, is still \$50.00.

"For a number of years, our parking fines were far below anybody else," commented Coleman. "And, so it was time to bring them in line with other universities. In addition to that, a lot of people weren't paying very much attention to tickets because they didn't have to pay very much. So they didn't see it as a problem."

To enforce these regulations, UPD has hired two safety-security officers, whose sole purpose is writing tickets.

These officers will be giving warnings for those parking on campus without a decal until Sept. 9. These officers leave a slip of paper that lists decal information, proper parking zones and how to get a visitor parking pass.

Coleman said, "That's a little misunderstanding about the Sept. 9 date. Sept. 9 they specifically apply to no decal tickets. And a lot of students thought they could park anywhere they wanted to, including handicapped zones, and not get tickets until Sept. 9. That is not true."

If someone parks in a handicapped zone, a crosswalk or a yellow zone they will be ticketed. Other zone violations, Coleman said, will probably



The Chanticleer/Nicholas Thomason
UPD Officer James Strickland demonstrates the department's new immobilizer boot, which will be used on repeat parking offenders.

receive a warning until Sept. 9. According to Coleman, there are "a lot of people who collect a lot of tickets and don't pay

them, and don't purchase a decal. What the students thought was that we couldn't find out who they were if they didn't purchase a decal."

This simply delayed UPD in finding who the violator was. Subsequently, the student was charged a large fine that they usually didn't find out about until they applied for graduation or were denied for registration for classes because the fines had not been paid.

"We will talk to several faculty, staff and student groups, probably SGA, about utilizing the Immobilizer Boot," said Coleman. "You attach this to one of the wheels of the car and you can't move your car. And for people who get a lot of tickets and don't pay them, we can

immobilize their car." The collection of faculty, staff and students will decide how many unpaid violations constitute the use of the Immobilizer Boot. And to have the Immobilizer removed, the student would have to pay a \$25.00 fine plus all the tickets that have been incurred.

UPD has made it a little easier to purchase a decal to encourage more students to purchase them. They can now be purchased online on the Student Access System.

"I think this is going to be great in the future. But we're working the bugs out of that. Hopefully, that will be something that all the students will use in the future."

Congressional hopefuls Rogers, Turnham debate at Jax State

By Jamie M. Eubanks
The Chanticleer News Editor

Congressional candidates Mike Rogers and Joe Turnham matched wits at JSU Tuesday night.

Rogers, the Republican candidate from Saks and Turnham, the Democratic candidate from Auburn are running for the third congressional district seat that is being vacated by Bob Riley. They participated in a debate that was broadcast live by WJXS TV24.

The candidates agreed on many issues, but took staunch opinions on others.

Turnham has an eleven-point plan for weapons destruction, which includes research into alternate technology and hoods to be delivered to Calhoun County residents before incineration begins. Rogers, on the other hand, said he has found no evidence that the hoods work. He feels the priorities lie in preparing local schools in case of emergency.

Both candidates see the need for training first responders and informing the community about emergency preparedness.

War with Iraq, once again, seems imminent. Both candidates support the current administration's actions. But the moral wanted to





Congressional candidates Mike Rogers (left) and Joe Turnham debate Tuesday night in Self Hall. Rogers, the GOP nominee for Alabama's third district, and Turnham, the Democratic nominee, are running for the seat being vacated by gubernatorial candidate Bob Riley.

Courtesy Steve Latham

The candidates agreed on many issues, but took staunch opinions on others.

Higher education was not an issue that was thoroughly discussed. Rogers, an attorney, said he would make sure federal funding for higher education continues at the current amounts, at least, if not more.

Turnham, a small businessman, empathizes with the plight of the college student who gets buried under thousands of dollars of debt just paying for tuition.

The Anniston Army Depot and incineration were hot topics for the candidates and one of the few they disagreed upon.

Both candidates support the current administrations' actions. But the panel wanted to know how the candidates would vote if called upon.

Rogers said, "There is a very real and present danger of attack from Iraq against our country. I will support an invasion of Iraq based on the information that I have available. But I do think before we go forward the president needs to, and think he will, make his case to the people as to why that threat is imminent."

see **Debate**, page 4

Frosh-only Fitz a unique experience

By **Jamie M. Eubanks**
The Chanticleer News Editor

Some questioned how well the freshman coed living situation would work in its first year in Fitzpatrick Hall. With freshman football players and other young men and young women under the same roof, the possibilities are endless.

To get a resident's point of view we asked how the students thought it was going.

Stacy Harris, a freshman nursing major from Tarrant, Ala. calls Fitzpatrick home. She came from a very conservative Catholic school. For the first time, Harris faces no restrictions. She doesn't have to be at a certain place at a certain time and has to adjust to living with someone else—the normal freshman experiences.

"I had to adjust to them bringing their friends over when I wanted to go to bed," she commented. "I had to learn not to always focus on my needs and wants, but I had to adapt to my roommates needs and wants."

Harris was also making the usual changes in class scheduling. On top of all this she was confronted with a coed living situation.

"I thought I would be okay with it," Harris said, "but I'm beginning to see that I probably should have lived in Sparkman. I've been raised differently. And when I see all these guys all around, it makes me uncomfortable."

She also sees some problems with keeping track of who comes in and out of the building.

"We're supposed to sign in if we have guests," Harris stated, "but if there's guys here, they come up to the rooms anyway, whether it's visitation hours or not. They stay as long as they want to. They don't sign in. There's nobody there twenty-four hours a day."

"At night, there'll be guys coming to the rooms, it's like one o'clock in the morning, and I'm ready to go to bed and I feel like there's nothing I can do about it."

She feels this makes getting to know and forming a relationship with roommates even more difficult.

Alesha Ingram, a residence assistant at Fitzpatrick, said there is an eleven o'clock curfew. After that time, guys

see **Fitz**, page 4

Rejuvenated Spirit finds JSU a pleasant home

By **Benjamin Cunningham**
The Chanticleer Editor in Chief

Joe Donahue, a JSU sophomore from Birmingham majoring in computer science, spent this summer with his family, but he didn't spend it at home.

Donahue was a member of JSU's Spirit Drum and Bugle Corps, a performing ensemble similar to a marching band, but with some very important differences. For one thing, there's no football involved, and members spend the summer touring the nation by bus competing at shows coast to coast, spending their nights either on the road or sleeping on high school gym floors.

"It's a huge family, pretty much," Donahue said of Spirit. "You basically live with each other for a whole summer." Huge is right. The corps had 125 members this summer, and that's not counting the small army of instructors, drivers, cooks and other staff and volunteers who make the tour possible each year.

Spirit is one of dozens of corps that travel and compete as part of Drum Corps International's annual Summer Music Games tour. DCI is the chief sanctioning body for the drum corps activity, sort of the NFL of the marching world.

The fact that drum corps is based on music and art doesn't

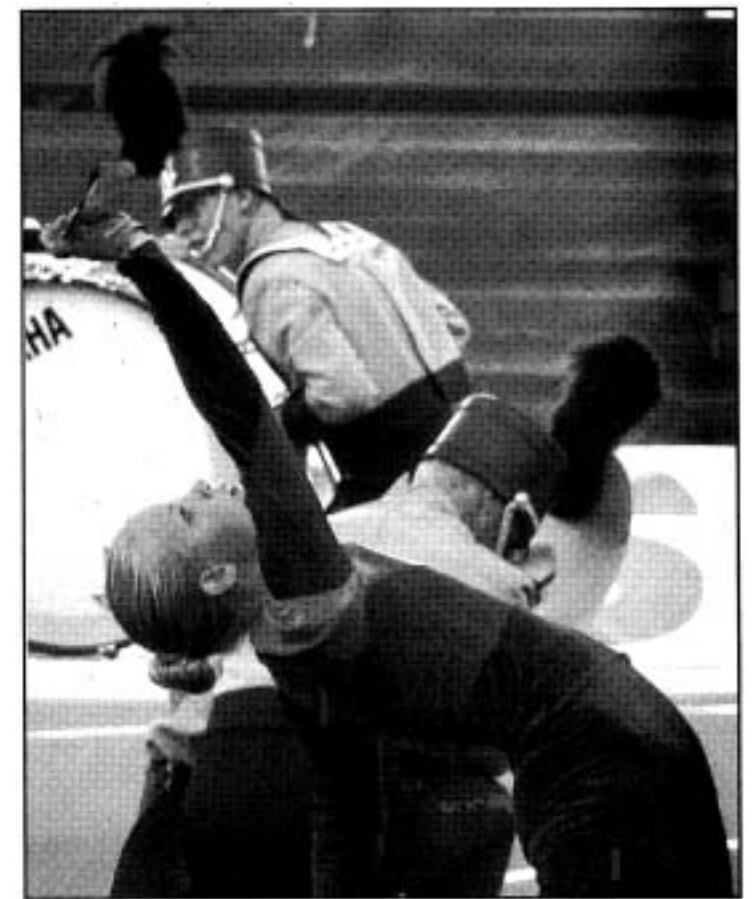
mean it's not a physically challenging, competitive activity. Most performers are in peak physical shape, bodies and minds honed by weeks of practice. Donahue sports the typical drum corps look: slim and tanned from hours of daily practice all summer, his hair cut boot-camp short to keep cool.

Drum corps can even get a little dangerous. Donahue sat part of this season out thanks to a concussion he received from a knock to the head by another performer's contra, a horn sort of like a tuba, but carried on the shoulder.

"I wasn't too good for a couple weeks," Donahue said. He spent a week at home, but soon was back out on tour and on the field, eager to finish the season.

The tour ends in early August each year with a week-long championship event, held this year in Madison, Wis. The top 12 corps get to perform in that Saturday night's DCI finals, a coveted honor that all corps aspire to. Spirit was a finalist this year for the first time since 1990, finishing in 10th place at Madison on Aug. 10.

That placement may have a lot to do with being based at JSU. Spirit began as the Spirit of Atlanta in 1976, founded by JSU alumnus Freddy Martin. The corps made a quick rise to



Courtesy Mike Morris

Spirit Drum & Bugle Corps members perform at Drum Corps International's finals event in Madison, Wis., last month. The corps finished in 10th place overall, its highest ranking in 12 years.

DCI's top ranks and was a regular finalist until the 1990s. Financial and competitive troubles had a lot to do with the corps' decision to associate with JSU in 2001.

Spirit had been holding camps on campus for several years already, and found a helping hand in Ken Bodiford, JSU's director of bands. When

the corps moved, Bodiford was named its executive director, and it's been an upward climb ever since. The corps jumped from a 16th-place finish in 2000 to 13th in 2001 before achieving finalist status this year.

The relationship has been good for Spirit and good for see **Spirit**, page 4

PAGE TWO

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **JSU's Campus Ministry Association** will sponsor a **Candlelight Vigil** on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 9 p.m. on the field between Stephenson Hall and the Wesley Foundation. All students are invited to participate. **Contact:** Gary R. Brittain at 435-7020, gbrittain@cableone.net.

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

- Aug. 27—Yolanda Marie Zawadic, 19, of Georgia, was cited by JSUPD for nuisance: loud music from a vehicle occurring at Forney Ave.
- Aug. 27—Eric Horton, 32, was cited by JSUPD for nuisance: loud music from a vehicle occurring at Trustee Cir.
- Aug. 27—Robert Craig Irwin, 27, was cited by JSUPD for nuisance: loud music from a vehicle occurring at Forney Ave.
- Aug. 28—Joshua James Burrell, 23, of Pisgah, was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at Hwy. 21.
- Aug. 28—Michael Willis, of Auburn, was cited by JSUPD for minor possession of alcohol occurring at Coffee Cir.
- Aug. 29—Mary Diane Johnson, 21, of Glencoe, was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at Pelham Rd.
- Aug. 30—Jermarale Dewon McGhee, 20, of Calhoun Co. was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at University Cir.
- Aug. 30—Jarred Benjamin Morsch, of Opelika, was arrested by JSUPD for minor possession of alcohol occurring at Mountain St. Beer, a cooler, brass knuckles and pepper spray were also seized.

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 have any questions, please call 782-8192 or 782-8192.

JSU, city to hold Sept. 11 memorials

By **Jamie M. Eubanks**
The Chanticleer News Editor

On Sept. 11, 2001 America paused in horror. On Sept. 11, 2002 she will pause to remember. Jacksonville State University will remember, and **it will also take action.**

"We will take time to pause and reflect on how the events of Sept. 11 impacted our lives and take the opportunity to look ahead," said Dr. Alice Cusimano, the associate vice president of student affairs. "It has changed our country, **our world and us as individuals.**"

President Bill Meehan has dismissed 8:45 a.m. classes on Sept. 11 so all faculty, staff and students can attend the

program. It will begin at 8:30 a.m. on the front lawn of Bibb Graves Hall.

"This is an important time for the community to come together for a common purpose," Cusimano said.

SGA President Robert Hayes will give a welcome message and instructions for the silent processional around Trustee Circle. It will begin and end on the Bibb Graves Hall lawn.

"The group walking together shows unity, but the silence allows us to think about the event's impact personally," Hayes said.

After the processional an observance program will be conducted by President Bill Meehan and Jacksonville Mayor Jerry Smith. Special

music will be provided by JSU's music department.

At 11 a.m. the city of Jacksonville will unveil the new Maj. Dwayne Williams Memorial at the Jacksonville City Cemetery. Williams, an Army officer and son of retired JSU employee Pearl Williams, was killed in the attack on the Pentagon on Sept. 11.

"It will probably be the largest memorial in the state," says Beau Beaty, the director of parks and recreation for the city of Jacksonville. "There will be music, speakers, a gun salute and bagpipes."

There will also be a candlelight vigil at 6:30 p.m. on the town square in Jacksonville sponsored by an area church.

Sept. 11 Memorial Events

8:30 a.m. - Memorial Service and Silent Processional
Bibb Graves Hall, front lawn
(8:45 classes will be canceled)

11:00 a.m. - Unveiling of the Maj. Dwayne Williams Memorial,
Jacksonville City Cemetery

6:30 p.m. Candlelight Vigil, Jacksonville Square

Classifieds call 782-8192

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PERSONALS

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Yard Sale this Saturday, Sept. 7, from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. 305 Vann St. SW, near Huddle House. Kitchen items, clothes, other stuff perfect for college apt. or the dorm.

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OPINION

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In Our View

Debate shows Joe knows

The irony would be hilarious if it weren't so sad.

JSU played host Tuesday night to a debate between candidates for Alabama's third district congressional seat. Republican Mike Rogers and Democrat Joe Turnham set up in the studios of TV-24 in Self Hall for the event, broadcast live on local television.

There the candidates were, in the middle of a campus and a town filled with thousands of college students. But they had precious little to say that would be of interest to the average student.

But can you blame them? The average college-aged American doesn't read the news, pay attention to politics, register or vote. Why waste precious campaign time on people who aren't going to get off their cans to support you on Election Day?

The one youth-related question of the night was directed at Rogers for campaign contributions he'd received from ever-controversial Auburn University trustee Bobby Lowder. The panelist wanted to know if Rogers would be wrapped around Lowder's thumb because of the contribution.

Rogers brushed the notion aside, saying the money was actually from Lowder's business, Colonial Bank, and that most of Alabama's banks had made contributions to his campaign. He then used the opportunity to say that he'd support Alabama's colleges and universities as vital state resources, and that if elected he'd work hard to make sure federal dollars kept flowing to Alabama's higher education institutions.

"They're critically important to our region, and they're going to be important to me as your next congressman," Rogers said.

The promise of pork was an easy one for Rogers. After all, who's going to come out as an opponent of higher education? Still, his vow of support was courteous, if nothing else.

Turnham, in the time he was allotted to respond to Rogers' comments, went a step further. Rather than address funding for higher education, he talked about funding for the students.

"College students today graduate with more student loan debt than their parents or their grandparents paid for their first homes," Turnham said. "They're maxing out credit cards. They're borrowing all the money they can to get a baccalaureate degree, to get a specialist degree, to get a graduate degree so they can come into this economy and contribute." Does that sound familiar? Does it sound like your life?

Turnham didn't say what exactly could be done to deal with the issue of crippling student debt, but he at least indicated he was aware of the problem.

"Auburn students are no different from Jacksonville State students in the fact that they're getting clobbered," Turnham said. "And quite frankly many times their howls are going on deaf ears in the halls of the United States Congress."

It wasn't much, but it was a sign that Turnham knows young people are out there, and that many of us are in debt up to our eyebrows trying to pay the ever-rising cost of an education. Even if he doesn't have all the answers, at least he knows the

Lesson one in the retail world: people suck

Most, if not all of us, are in college for one main reason: we ultimately all need jobs. The Eagles claimed, "When we're hungry, love will keep us alive." In that case, many of us may not be around much longer.

It's said that, "Money is the root of all that kills." Well we're all murderers I guess, because we're all after money. You have to work to get by in society. Some work harder than others, but most of us have to cut costs, scrimp and save, be responsible with what we buy.

So what kind of job can you get while you're working to find a better job? There's pretty much a lack of anything too glamorous in the college-student workforce. The food industry, grocery stores and retail are three types of jobs that come to mind, which the average college student, all too often, seems to fill.

When I was in high school, my grandfather would consistently ask me, "You got a job yet?" Pop-Pop was proud to know when I got my first real job. The week I graduated high school, I started working in retail at a sporting goods store. I'm still working there; working my way through college, wondering how long I could survive if that was my

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer Managing Editor



lifetime career. Oh, the life of a salesperson! The most annoying thing I find

in my little

retail position is the lack of respect. Notice I call it "my little retail position." I can talk bad about it; it's my job.

My part-time job has taught me to be respectful of other people, even when I may not be shown mutual respect. My motto at work: "Kill 'em with kindness." I find this makes rude people feel guilty and uncomfortable. Mission accomplished.

It's not that I wasn't respectful before I joined the workforce, I just couldn't relate. Now if someone gets my order wrong, a price is messed up, or they've sold out of what I want to purchase, I don't get mad. I relate to how that person feels, and when you can't help a business' mistake, you shouldn't be blamed for it. It's not easy working what many think of as menial jobs.

One thing retail has taught me is there are a lot of selfish people out there. I can't tell you how many customers try to talk me into giving them discounts, or try to talk me into giving them some sort of deal on our merchandise. "Yes sir, you enjoy your discounted sweatbands, and I'll enjoy making new

friends in jail. Fair enough!"

Another complaint I have is why oh why do people complain about a store's prices, and say that another store has something for cheaper? If that's the case, go to that store. I don't work on commission, I get paid by the hour, and I'm not getting paid enough to care that little Jimmy has a baseball game and the other sporting goods store has batting helmets for less. Obviously those items weren't in stock or weren't up to standard, so stop complaining and fork out the extra \$5.

While it probably seems as though I'm completely cynical, please note that before joining the workforce, I was bright-eyed and optimistic. In fact, I'm probably still jaded enough to think my future career will be the most exciting job in history. Optimism dies hard, just give me time.

I was told when I first started working that I would grow to hate people. It hasn't hit me yet, because truthfully most people are polite and grateful. However, the minority of the public give everybody else a bad name. I find myself waiting for rude customers to make their way to me. When someone is just exceptionally nice, I want to hug them.

I'm working to one day be on television. My goal is to not sell shoes and the like for the rest of my existence. Nothing's actually wrong with selling shoes, but there's always room for improvement in any career.

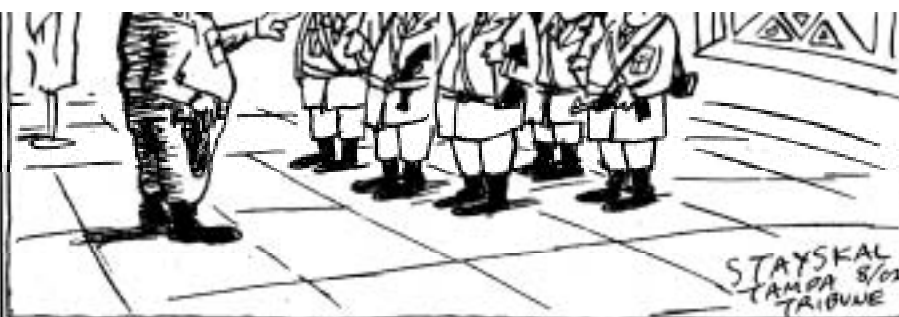
I'm hoping that my term in retail and working with the public will teach me a thing or two about manners and how to deal with people in sometimes stressful situations. If I can handle back to school time, football season, Christmas and Thanksgiving holiday rushes and Saturday nights with a bunch of sarcastic teenage customers, I can handle almost anything.

I once saw Sean Connery in an inter-



eyebrows trying to pay the ever-rising cost of an education. Even if he doesn't have all the answers, at least he knows the question needs to be asked. That alone could be enough to make him the candidate for the 20-somethings of Alabama's third district, which contains JSU, Auburn, Tuskegee University, Talladega College and a host of junior, technical and community colleges.

If you're planning on getting off your duff and registering to vote here in Jacksonville this Nov. 5, remember that Joe knows you're out there.



almost anything.

I once saw Sean Connery in an interview, and when asked what the worst job he ever held was, he stated, "All work is honorable." I tend to agree with Mr. Connery. If you're taking the initiative to get up and find a job and stick with it, I see that as completely honorable.

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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 offices in Room 180, Self Hall, or to the mailing address at left. Letters may also be e-mailed to: jsu_chanticleer@hotmail.com.

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous, defamatory, or submitted anonymously. Letters may be edited for style, brevity, or clarity. The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to desired 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 article, editorial or letter in question.

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Spirit (from page 1): Drum corps places 10th in national competition

JSU as well, especially from an exposure standpoint, Bodiford said.

"At every performance they announced us as 'Spirit from Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama,'" Bodiford said. The smallest crowd from among Spirit's 47 performances this season was around 3,500, according to Bodiford. That's a lot of people from Texas to Canada who hadn't heard of JSU before they saw Spirit.

Donahue, for one, came to JSU and the University's Marching Southerners band after marching with Spirit.

"Spirit was the main reason I came to JSU," Donahue said. "I hadn't really heard anything about JSU before I came to Spirit."

Other payoffs for the University could come in the near future, according to Bodiford. He said Spirit's return to the top 12 is drawing interest from instrument companies in the form of sponsorships.

"That not only benefits Spirit, but it directly affects the Marching Southerners as well," Bodiford said. "It's great advertisement for them, and in return we get reduced

prices and in some cases free equipment. In the long run, I'd say within five more years, the University's going to see huge financial savings as far as having to buy band equipment."

Spirit has benefited perhaps most in people and money. Bodiford and other JSU faculty members are on the corps' staff, and JSU students are among its members and volunteer ranks. The corps also has the University's buying power when it comes to instruments, equipment and buses.

That's not to say JSU has taken over completely. Many staff members and volunteers are holdovers from the Spirit of Atlanta days, and the corps still plays its trademark song, "Georgia," and wears its traditional baby blue uniforms instead of JSU red and white. The corps has gained solid financial and competitive footing and managed to maintain its identity.

The arrangement has worked so well, that it's drawing the interest of other DCI corps. Dan Acheson, DCI's executive director, says no corps has ever been so closely associated with a school as Spirit is with JSU, but others are now looking into it.

"There's a couple that are looking at what their local relationship might be with their university to see if maybe they can strike something," Acheson said. "There are a lot of people looking at it going, 'Hey, we should be able to figure that out,' because it is a very positive activity for the university as well as for the corps. That association is huge."

As a three-year member who was with the corps before it officially moved to JSU, Donahue said one benefit is the maturity level of the performers. DCI rules say performers can be between 14 and 21 years old, and having more JSU students has raised the average age of Spirit's members.

"A lot of times when we've had younger people come in, they start out a little less mature than everybody else," Donahue said. At 21, he's reached the maximum age and has marched his last summer with the corps.

"To have everybody start out on the same level has helped us out tremendously. It makes me wish I hadn't aged out."

Debate (from page 1): Candidates differed little

His information is based on news reports, since he doesn't have access to information that current members of Congress have.

According to Turnham, "Saddam Hussein is dangerous, and I support the president when he commits American troops. I think it's appropriate to have a debate within Congress and to have a debate with the American people. I want to fight this war, but I want to fight it when we're all ready."

On the subject of prescription drugs, Rogers would seek action immediately.

"Prescription drug costs are outrageous. And we've got to have a prescription drug benefit now, not later," said

Rogers "There are critics who say, 'I don't think it's the right delivery system.'

We need to pass the prescription drug benefits for seniors now. Then if we want to come back next year and revisit the delivery system, I'm open to that."

"I am one of those critics," said Turnham of Rogers' plan. "The seniors in this congressional district don't deserve a

plan that Republican leaders up in Congress push that will leave prescription medicines up to private insurers. We need a straight forward plan that is through medicare."

Rogers and Turnham face off on Nov. 5 when the nation returns to the polls.

"Saddam Hussein is dangerous, and I support the president when he commits American troops."

—Joe Turnham, Dem. congressional candidate

"There is a very real and present danger of attack from Iraq against our country. I will support an invasion of Iraq ..."

—Mike Rogers, Rep. congressional candidate

Fitz (from page 1):

can't be in the girls' rooms and vice versa.

"If there are guys in the room, the person would get written up," Alesha said, "and after so many write-ups, you get kicked out of housing."

"I think the 11 o'clock curfew is stupid, to be honest," said Chris Ray, a secondary education major from Dallas, Ga. "It's pointless. We're off at college and they're putting rules like this on us with no real ways to enforce them."

On the other side of the coin, some students feel housing with only fellow freshmen is beneficial. Daniel Weeks of Huntsville is one such student.

He said, "We go through everything at the same time. So if we need help with a class that is an all-freshman class, you've got it. That's awesome."

There is also the issue of safety in this environment.

"There have been cops in here the last few nights," said Ray. "I don't know what's going on, though. That's all I know."

University Housing officials could not be reached for comment on this story.

Housing has instituted the Freshman Initiative Residential Experience, which brings programs and special events that are tailored just for freshmen. These programs include information about STD's, time management and relationships.

"I think everybody should give it time and not criticize it so much," Ingram commented, "because, so far, it's not bad at all."

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FEATURES

The Chanticleer • September 5, 2002

More dinners for less dough

By Danni Lusk

The Chanticleer Features Editor

You've paid your bills, gone out to the bar almost every night this weekend and now all you have is \$15 left to eat on for the next five days. What do you do?

For five days, three complete meals a day and a few snacks in between, you can eat on \$15 or even less.

It's important, first of all, to know what foods keep you healthy and from constantly being hungry. Debra Goodwin is a foods and dietetics instructor in the JSU Family and Consumer Sciences department and a registered dietitian. Most people need between 1,800 and 2,000 calories a day to keep your energy up, she said. And with that kind of diet, you should keep your fat intake below 60 grams.

Any foods with fiber are very filling, according to Goodwin. Whole grain breads, fruits and popcorn are a few of the foods that contain fiber. "People need to get between 25 and 35 grams of fiber every day and at least six to eight glasses of water a day," she said. "If you get fiber and water like you should, you don't get as hungry."

Now, back to what to do with your \$15. Bargain buys on foods are everywhere. You just have to know where to look.

For breakfast, I planned to have a choice between whole grain toast and a variety of fruits - in my case, I wanted apples and bananas. Three bananas at 19 cents per pound



Tamecca Killings compares prices and the nutrition labels on a food product at a local grocery store.

and six red delicious apples for 91 cents was all I needed for five days worth of fruit and plenty of fiber for the morning.

For lunch we also needed the whole grain bread, so a whole loaf rang me up at a meager \$1.19. One pound of name-brand bologna and 16 slices of cheese added up to be \$2.88. Just a sandwich won't fill up most people, so I also purchased a two-pound bag of carrots for \$1.19 to munch on.

Dinner gets a little more complicated. Instead of cooking one thing for each night of the week, I opted to use one two-pound beef rump roast (\$4.11) and make it last the whole five nights. By making a roast with cut up carrots and one potato, you have your first night's meal. Three baking potatoes

were \$1.29. With the left over roast, you can make beef stew by adding a bag of 79-cent frozen mixed vegetables. You can also make beef hash by cooking a cut-up potato, a 20-cent onion and the roast meat together. With three different entrées made from one two-pound roast, you've fed yourself for five nights.

I still had one baking potato and some carrots and apples left over, so one day I can have a baked potato for lunch and eat an apple and some cut-up carrots for a between-class snack.

So, for \$13.77 I just bought all of my groceries for five days.

If bologna sandwiches and roast aren't your favorite picks off the food chain, then there are other options. A jar of

peanut butter at \$1.39 and grape jelly for 99 cents will buy you the classic PB&J sandwich for lunch. Then, for dinner you can have spaghetti for three meals for a mere \$5 (that includes the two pounds of ground beef).

Microwave dinners aren't too bad on the budget either, some ringing up as low as 79 cents. "They're fairly nutritious as well," said Goodwin.

The most important thing to do when you are tight on money and time is to "concentrate on the healthy foods first," according to Goodwin.

"Snack foods and fast foods really can wreak havoc on your budget," she said. "If you will buy the best foods it really is better for your budget."

College 101: Your dorm room is not just your castle

By Joy Woodson

Knight Ridder Newspapers

If you're headed off to college and have never lived in the same room with anyone, then you are in for a rude awakening.

By rude awakening, I mean a 3 a.m. call from your roommate's boyfriend (or girlfriend), drunk students banging on your door or the grating sound of a clogged vacuum in the hallway.

Don't even think about studying in your dorm room, unless you like trying to memorize equations while Ja Rule or Creed blasts from below. If you're lucky enough to live on a quiet floor, that doesn't mean your roommate will adhere to the rules. The library is your best bet for studying. Security guards and librarians walk around ready to crack a whip if there's too much noise.

Noise isn't the only thing you'll contend with. You'll also have to share your space and your things. The imaginary line drawn on the first day is just that: imaginary. Sometimes, **your roommate will come with little**: no television, no carpet, no anything; or you could bring all the amenities: radio, refrigerator, microwave, etc.

Not only will sharing be expected, it'll be necessary if you want to keep the peace. You wouldn't want to notice a few missing items and wonder how you lost them, when all the while Angry Roommate was the culprit.

Agreeing on the usage of items before the school year begins will keep spats down.

Decide when it is OK to use the television, if food should be labeled and how the room should be kept clean.

Speaking of cleanliness, you should keep your side reasonably tidy. Enjoy altercations? Then by all means be as messy as you like. When rumors fly that your room smells like old sneakers, don't wonder why you've become a loner. But if your roomie is as messy as you are, it's fine - you two can be loners together.

Your roommate may want to drink, although that's illegal until age 21, or smoke. Remember you are not your roommate's keeper or parent.

If you're the smoker, do it outside. Smoking in dorms is off-limits in some places, but if it's not on your campus, ask for a roommate who also smokes.

If your style is to also have overnight guests and parties, be considerate. Most students have morning classes and want to get to sleep before dawn, so tell your loud friends to come back on the weekend. Taking your party elsewhere is also an option. Your roommate will thank you.

Remember, college dorm rooms can be small. Because the space is so tight, making it a pleasant living experience will benefit everyone. Be respectful and thoughtful, and you could make lifelong friends. If your roommate is a little horror, though, and nothing you do seems to work, leave or file a complaint with the hall coordinator.

Television cable news and comfort shows take a central role in the year since Sept. 11

Television cable news and comfort shows take a central role in the year since Sept. 11

By Steve Johnson
Chicago Tribune

Bringing change to an industry so large and lumbering as television is, as the saying goes, like heating up the ocean. When it occurs, it does so degree by degree over long periods of time.

But if anything was going to do the trick quickly, it was an event as cataclysmic as the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the U.S.

TV immediately took a central role in this national drama, of course, through its function as news provider. But people

predicted more general changes in the medium, everything from a new seriousness of purpose to the death of reality TV. Like most post-attack predictions, they've proven as exaggerated as, for instance, reports of irony's demise.

"All the hyperbole that people were slinging did not turn out to be true and we should have known better," says Robert Thompson, director of Syracuse University's Center for the Study of Popular Television. "Irony did not die. As a matter of fact, ABC almost gave the Prince of Irony (David Letterman) Ted Koppel's slot."

As soon after September as the Super Bowl, NBC was running an all-Playboy Bunny episode of "Fear Factor" head-to-head against the big game's patriotic halftime show.

"It shows how quickly American popular culture can dissolve even the most horrid tragedy," Thompson says.

Probably the most profound change in television since Sept. 11 is the marked increase in ratings for the cable news channels.

Obviously, there was a huge spike immediately after the attacks, but even in July, for instance, ratings for CNN were

up 133 percent in the period since Sept. 11 versus in the calendar year before.

On the entertainment side of television, viewership preferences last season, the start of which was delayed because of the attacks, did seem to undergo a slight shift. Programs that relied on traditional, even classic formats gained viewers, a reflection, some contend, of an audience desire for more comforting fare.

Whether that's true or just one of the cyclical shifts in taste is an open question, but certainly "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation's" rise to No. 1

drama and the rise of "Friends" to No. 1 series were noteworthy. Also on the rise: the long-running "Law & Order" and "Everybody Loves Raymond."

But reality TV, contrary to early reports, is anything but dead. The 2001-2002 season's two editions of "Survivor" placed in a very healthy tie for sixth in the ratings, and schlocky reality fare such as "Dog Eat Dog" and "American Idol" are drawing large summer audiences. MTV's "The Osbournes," a show about addled British heavy metal singer Ozzy and his family, was the season's sensation, while the

music channel's Chicago edition of "The Real World" drew that series' highest ratings yet.

Two of last season's series that directly addressed terrorism, CBS' "The Agency" and Fox's "American Embassy," made little impact on viewers, although "The Agency" managed to escape cancellation.

Two others on the topic, Fox's "24" and ABC's "Alias" - all four of them were in the works before Sept. 11, by the way, were favorites of critics but not of large audience segments.

By January, TV executives see 9-11 TV, page 6

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9-11 TV: from page 5

were saying, to a person, that Sept. 11 seemed to have had no discernible impact on the kinds of shows that creators were pitching for this coming fall, CBS' brief consideration of a show about a World Trade Center widow and widower

notwithstanding.

"It really did not affect our development at all," CBS Entertainment President Nancy Tellem said in July. "There was a rush of articles talking about comfort TV, (but) at the end of the day ... they are looking for quality TV to watch."

That's not to say the medium

and its viewers aren't still interested in the attacks. CBS' March broadcast of the "9/11" documentary was the highest-rated show of the year, and most every TV outlet is planning to take part in an orgy of commemoration for the one-year anniversary, including a CBS rebroadcast, Sept. 8, of "9/11."

"Goldmember" is pure cinema gold

By Danni Lusk

The Chanticleer Features Editor

Austin Powers is back again on the big screen with the same sexy slapstick comedy you remember from the first two installations of his so-far trilogy.

"Austin Powers in Goldmember" is full of comedic cameos by Hollywood superstars such as Tom Cruise, Gwyneth Paltrow and Danny DeVito. Britney Spears even makes an appearance donning the same machine gun "jubbies" the Fembots in the first movie had.

Although most of the jokes in the movie are totally predictable (if you've seen the first two, of course), you'll still find yourself laughing until your soda is coming out of your nose. Hey, if it ain't broke, don't fix it, right? The names of Powers' girly fixtures still bring laughs - Paltrow appears as Dixie Normous.

The main female fixture of the movie this time is Beyoncé Knowles of Destiny's Child. Her character, Foxxxy Cleopatra rivals the performance of the last Austin Powers partner, Heather Graham.



Courtesy New Line Cinema

Beyoncé Knowles and Mike Myers share the screen in this summer's comedy hit, "Austin Powers in Goldmember."

Knowles presents a "foxxxy" yet tough-girl kind of attitude to the character. Her transition from a 1960s roller skating rink/club singer to a 21st-century sexy spy is flawless - not to mention, I dig the afro.

Fat Bastard makes a small appearance, only to poke fun at the fact that he's fat. And Verne Troyer plays an even bigger role in this movie than in the last as Mini-Me. One of the funniest moments in the movie happens when Dr. Evil first appears with Mini-Me attached to the front of him in a sling.

But the newest member of Mike Myers' always funny cast is Goldmember, a Dutch Euro-swinging with badly sun-dam-

aged skin. Goldmember's love for gold is comparable to that of James Bond - so much that he actually has a gold member.

While Austin once again is trying to defeat Dr. Evil, he also encounters some paternal issues. His father Nigel Powers, played by the 1960s spy movie star Michael Caine, has reappeared in Austin's life after years of abandonment. It's obvious where Austin gets his "mojo" from when we see Nigel flirting with two Asian twins named Fook Mi and Fook Yu.

With swinging music, hip 1960s outfits and the same laugh-until-you-cry jokes, Goldmember is definitely worth the \$6.75 to see it. Yeah, baby!

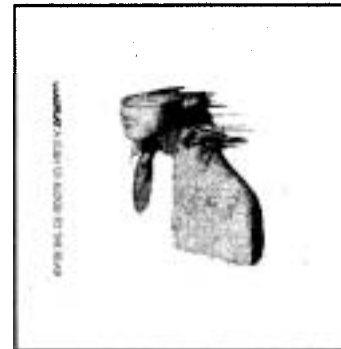
Coldplay's new record a musical savior

By Nathan Weaver

Special to The Chanticleer

At last! Music fans rejoice, for the new messiah has come to save the world from the soulless pop, and that messiah

is called Coldplay. It's the kind of record that can save the music industry from the mire of pre-fab music that is slowly suffocating us all. Everyone enjoy and be enlightened.



Courtesy Capitol Records

The new record, "A Rush of Blood To the Head," is true to its name. It comes on quick, fast and hard.

In this, their sophomore



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its name. It comes on quick, fast and hard.
 In this, their sophomore release, Coldplay has made the music on this record more mature and has maintained the high production quality from their first record.
 The first admirably done single from the album is "In My Place." But, the song that really stands out on this record is the opening track "Politik." In this song, the band expresses very clearly and simply the universal truth we all seem to be looking for: "Give me real, don't give me fake." Simple words for complicated times.

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SPORTS

The Chanticleer - September 5, 2002

Gamecocks slip past A&M

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Special teams coach Patrick McGee told junior place-kicker Steven Lee the game might come down to his foot last week. Lee believed him, and that could've been the reason he was so cool when he prepared himself for the 41-yard game-winning field goal with five seconds remaining in the game last Saturday.

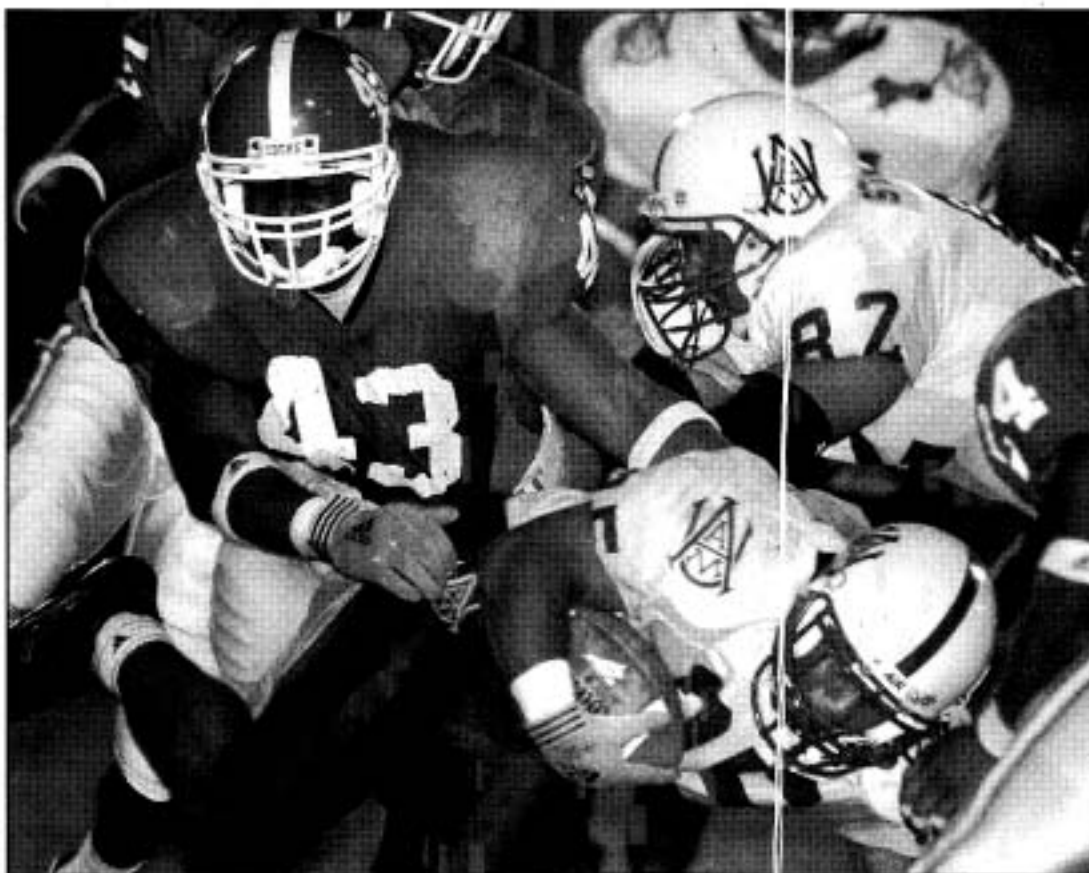
"Coach McGee told me that it could happen," Lee said. "I was prepared for anything. You never really want the game to come down to you, but you have to prepare yourself for it."

Lee's last minute field goal propelled No. 24 Jax State (1-0) to a 20-17 come-from-behind victory over Alabama A&M (0-1) in front of a record crowd of 16,851.

Alabama A&M began the game very strong, especially defensively. Alabama A&M jumped on top of JSU after Mathis hammered quarterback Reggie Stancil and forced him to fumble. The ball was scooped up by Desmond Hardy, who then raced 73 yards for the Bulldogs first touchdown of the game.

Matters didn't get any better for the Gamecocks. Martel Holt read Stancil's eyes and picked off a pass later in the opening quarter. The interception led to another A&M touchdown.

Mathis got to Stancil again later in the first half and forced him to fumble once more. This time, it only led to 28-yard Rashad Cyler field goal. The



Sophomore linebacker Jonathan Crutcher tackles Alabama A&M running back Melvin Gideon during Saturday's game at Paul Snow Stadium. The Gamecocks pulled off a 20-17 last-second, come-from-behind victory.

Bulldogs went into the locker rooms at halftime with a 17-0 lead.

Rogers ran for 75 yards in the second half alone, and finished with 98 yards and one touchdown on 16 carries to lead the Gamecocks. The Gamecocks seemed to be playing a lot more inspired in the second half. Rogers gave them a halftime speech to remember.

"I kind of gave the team some attitude at halftime," Rogers said. "We were completely out of our character. Turnovers, that wasn't us. Not being able to

pass or run the ball wasn't us. We're better than that and I let the team know that."

The pep talk seemed to work. The Gamecocks outscored Alabama A&M 20-0 in the final half of the game.

Anthony Mayo replaced an injured Stancil in the second half and did what most people are accustomed to seeing him do, comeback. He did it in high school. He does it every spring game. He always seems to find a way to bring his team back.

"I was just thinking that we needed 17 points," Mayo said.

"I don't think his pulse rate went up any," said Crowe.

Mayo seemed poised for the comeback. He completed 6-of-14 passes for 101 yards.

Rogers and Kory Chapman completed the comeback late in the fourth quarter with a touchdown and a two-point conversion.

Jax State later drove down the field and set up Lee for the game-winner.

The football team will return to action on Sept. 14 when they travel to Starkville to face Mississippi State.

WVU shuts out Gamecocks

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The Jax State soccer team (0-1) had a rough start to the new season after they traveled to Auburn to face West Virginia on Sunday. The Mountaineers used quick feet and rough play to propel them over the Gamecocks, 5-0.

The Gamecocks had a few opportunities to light up the scoreboard early, but a stiff West Virginia defense prevented them from gracing any part of the goal.

The Gamecocks seemed to be able to play with West Virginia early on. JSU used a great defensive strategy (4-5-1) to keep the Mountaineers off the scoreboard for the first 13 minutes of the game, but WVU's Chrissie Abbott smashed a kick past Amanda Stephens to put the Mountaineers up 1-0 at the 24:36 mark in the opening half.

That's when Jax State seemed to lose control of the game. The Mountaineers scored their second point of the game at the 14:08 mark when Lisa Stoia swept the ball past Stephens to make the score 2-0.

The Gamecocks were held without a shot attempt the entire first half.

The second half began a lot like the first half ended, with West Virginia attacking Stephens and the rest of the Gamecock defense. Stoia found the back of the net again after she nailed the ball past two Gamecock defenders to put West Virginia up 3-0 a little over three minutes into the second half. Stoia would score again, along with Megan Mattei to help finish off Jax State.

Even though Stephens allowed five points, she still put in a valiant effort during the loss. She finished the day with 11 saves, nine coming in the final minutes of the game. Sophomore Owen Crosland gave JSU its' only shot of the day in the final minutes of the game.

"Hopefully we learned from this game, and it will benefit us down the road," Howe said.

The soccer team will return to action next Tuesday when they host South Alabama at University Field. The game starts at 4 p.m.

Lee wins SFL honors

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

It seems like it was just a year ago, after the first game that our kicker was being awarded with Southland Football Conference special teams player of the week honors. Well, it's happened again. This time, junior place-kicker Steven Lee received the honors.



Gamecock volleyball splits 2-2 at Winthrop tournament

Gamecock volleyball splits 2-2 at Winthrop tournament

From staff and wire reports

Head volleyball coach Rick Nold was impressed with his team after its performance at the Microtel Inn & Suites Winthrop Invitational last weekend. Jax State defeated UNC Greensboro 30-20, 30-21 and 32-30 and Garner Webb last Friday, but dropped a match to host-team Winthrop and Virginia Common Wealth last Saturday.

The Gamecocks began the tournament with a big victory over UNC Greensboro.

Junior Jennifer "Jen Bren" Breneman had a match-high 14 kills to lead JSU over UNCG. She also finished the

day with two double-doubles. Christina Cary had 11 kills, while Meredith Duke dished out 35 assists. Freshman Kisha West contributed with a match-high 15 digs.

Earlier in the day the Gamecocks defeated Garner Webb, 3-2 (30-20, 27-30, 30-20, 26-30 and 16-14).

Senior Allison Wright was a major contributor in the victory with her intense play during the first two matches. Cary led JSU in kills with 16 and three other Gamecocks had double-doubles. West had 13 kills and 14 digs, while "Jen Bren" contributed with 11 kills and 19 digs. Freshman Kim Halbach added ten kills and ten digs.

Jax State battled hard, but was unable to continue winning after it ran into Winthrop and Virginia Common Wealth. The Gamecocks lost 3-2 to Winthrop and 3-0 to Virginia Common Wealth.

The Gamecocks put up a heck of a fight though.

Jax State began the day by playing Virginia Common Wealth. The Gamecocks dropped that match 3-0. The Rams won by the scores of 30-20, 31-29 and 30-27 behind the offensive performance of Lauren Bidi, who had 16 kills and a .353 hitting percentage. JSU had two players with double digit kills. Kisha West had 12 to go along with a .379 hit-

ting percentage and Taylor finished the match with 11. West also had a team-high 11 digs, while Wright added ten.

The Gamecocks then played their final match of the tourney against Winthrop. Jax State took the first game, 30-24, but the Eagles bounced back to win the second game in easy fashion by the count of 30-15. The Gamecocks won game three, 30-27 and Winthrop took game four, 30-26. The Winthrop win forced a deciding fifth game which the Eagles won, 16-12.

The volleyball team (2-2) will travel to Toledo to compete in the Rocket Classic tomorrow.

kicker Steven Lee received the honors.

Lee was named the Southland Football Conference Special Teams Player-of-the-Week after he kicked the game-winning field goal in the final seconds of the game last Saturday to launch JSU to a 20-17 victory over Alabama A&M.

Lee, a native of Mobile, Ala., kicked a 41-yard field goal with just five seconds remaining in the game to cap a 20-point second half comeback by the Gamecocks.

"We all got it done at the end, that's all that mattered," Lee said. "I just thank the Lord for my good teammates to put me in a position to do it," he said. "It was a total team effort."

Lee also connected on a 33-



Courtesy The Anniston Star/Bill Wilson
Junior kicker Steven Lee

yard field goal with 7:39 remaining in the game to cut the lead to 17-9. Lee has hit at least one field goal in each of the past eight games. He's also connected on 10 of his last 12 field goal attempts.

Stephen F. Austin tailback Tony Tompkins rushed for over 200 yards in a loss during his collegiate debut to earn Offensive Player-of-the-Week honors, while Roderick Royal was selected as the Defensive Player-of-the-Week for the Lumberjacks.

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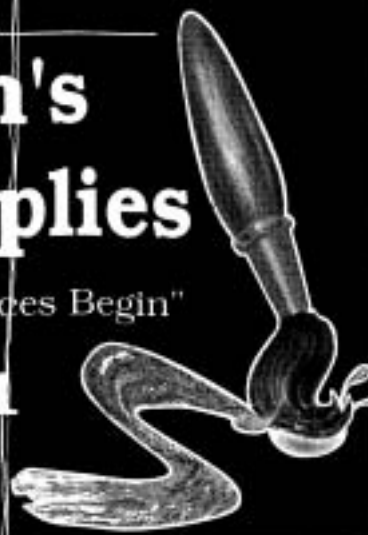
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One on One with "Thrill:" Steven Lee

By Anthony "Thrill" Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Junior All-Conference place-kicker Steven Lee isn't your average kicker. He's a guy who's respected by most of his teammates. People even know him outside of football.

Lee took time out of his busy schedule to chat with me on Monday morning. We talked about everything from his game-winning field goal to his ambition to be a kicker.

Thrill: What's going on Steven?

Steven: Nothing much. I'm just gettin' ready for Mississippi State.

Thrill: Yeah, that's good. I'm trying to come up with some questions to ask you. It's not often that people have to interview a kicker.

Steven: Yeah, I know. I'm either a hero or zero, pretty much.

Thrill: How did you end up being a place-kicker?

Steven: My oldest brother kicked at Ole Miss. I still had dreams of being a wide receiver or quarterback or something like that. But, I grew up around kicking.

Thrill: You must feel like you're on top of the world after hitting the game-winning field goal last Saturday?

Steven: I feel like I'm on top of the world because we started out with a win.

Thrill: How did you feel as you prepared yourself for the kick?

Steven: Na. I just make sure that I'm loose and maybe hit a few on the sideline.

Thrill: I know that you transferred from the University Tennessee.



Junior kicker Steven Lee

Steven: Um, playing time basically. I wanted to kick. It didn't look real good for the future.

Thrill: What's the difference between the players here and the guys at UT?

Steven: Not a lot. The talent level is about the same.

Thrill: What's practice like for a kicker?

Steven: (Laughs.) I'm glad you asked me and not the other guys. They would say nothing. They think we just watch TV or SportsCenter or go to Sonic or something, and that's about it. (Both laugh.)

Thrill: Let's talk about some more stuff besides football. What do you like to do when you're not kicking?

Steven: I like to play golf and PlayStation 2. I go to church on Sundays and that's about it.

Thrill: Who's your favorite teammate?

Steven: Um, I hang out with Will Wagnon (JSU wide out) a lot. I'm either over at his house playing the PS2 or washing some clothes. A lot of guys usually end up over at his house doing the same thing. During two-a-days Rony and I were playing him and Reggie a lot

in NCAA 2003.

Thrill: What do you think about the ladies here at Jax State?

Steven: I think the ladies aren't bad at all here. You notice more and more once the spring and summer time gets here.

Thrill: How well do you get along with the guys on the team?

Steven: I think it's pretty good. Everyone still likes to make fun of me. (Both laugh.) Like the old saying goes, if you're not picked on you're not liked. If that's true, the guys like me an awful lot. (Both laugh) Unless guys are faking it for me, I think we have a pretty good relationship.

Thrill: What do you see yourself doing after you graduate from Jax State?

Steven: The NFL would be a lovely goal to achieve. I'll probably get a shot at that. Hopefully that can come true. You never know what the Lord has in store for you.

Thrill: Who's the best player that you've ever played with?

Steven: It would have to be a toss up between Jamal Lewis (Baltimore Ravens tailback) and Ontario Smith (Oregon tailback).

Thrill: What type of music do you like to listen to?

Steven: Uh, not really. I'll listen to pretty much anything. Nothing specific.

Thrill: All right, who's a better coach, Jack Crowe or Philip Fulmer?

Steven: Jack Crowe, definitely. **Thrill:** Okay, let's do some free association.

Steven: OK.

Thrill: Adam Vinateri. (New England Patriots kicker)

Steven: Super Bowl.

Thrill: NCI 2003. (PlayStation 2 video game)

Steven: Great game.

Thrill: Will Wagnon. (JSU senior wide receiver)

Steven: (Laughs) Tall and skinny.

Thrill: Jennifer Lopez.

Steven: Good looking.

Thrill: Patrick McGee. (JSU special teams coach)

Steven: That's my boy. He's the coach who takes care of us.

Thrill: Michael Jordan.

Steven: Tremendous athlete.

Thrill: Mr. Ronnie Lee. (Steven's father)

Steven: Pap or dad. He's a role model to me.

Thrill: P. Diddy. (Rapper)

Steven: He'll be someone else tomorrow.

Thrill: Mobile. (Steven's hometown)

Steven: Close to home.

Thrill: One more question. How far do you see the football team finishing this season?

Steven: I'd love to still be here practicing when everyone else is gone home for the Christmas holiday. I think can go all the way to Chattanooga. It's attainable. We'll just have to put the pieces together like we did the other night.

Thrill: That's it man. I appreciate the interview. Good luck with the rest of the season.

Steven: Thanks Thrill. I'll see you around.

Give it up for the Gamecock defense

By Anthony Hill
The Chanticleer Sports Editor



Sure, junior quarterback Anthony Mayo came into the game and guided the offense beautifully last Saturday. And, Steven Lee kicked a flawless 42-yard field goal to seal the victory with five seconds left on the clock.

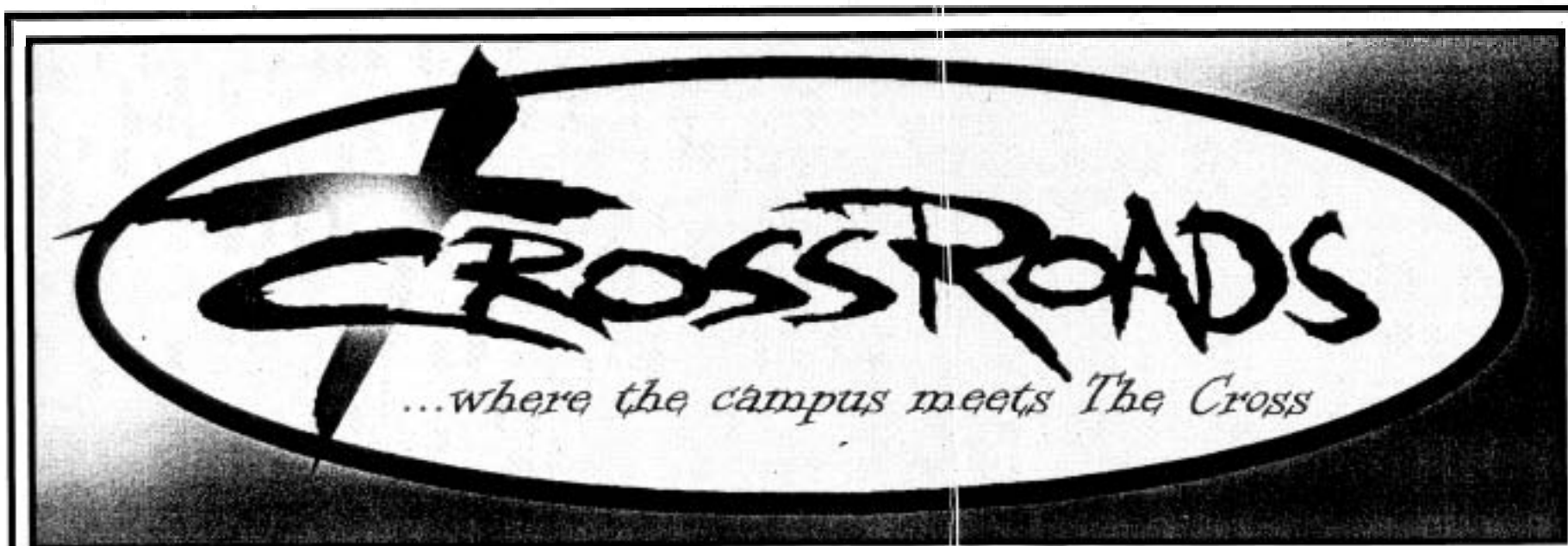
But the real heroes of the game were the Gamecock defense. They made key stops every time we needed one. As a matter of fact, the Jax State defense never seemed to get shook the entire game.

"We never panic," said all-conference safety Markee Coleman. "No matter how bad the situation seemed to get, rule number one is never panic."

"Some of the guys were probably nervous, but not me," said All-Conference linebacker Corey Warren. "I knew that we had it together. I kept faith in the offense, and I knew that we were going to do our part to keep us in the game. I began to think we needed to make a turnover or score a few points. That's what kept me motivated. We just played our hearts out and everything seemed to come together."

They didn't seem to get rattled when we trailed 7-0, 14-0 or 17-0. They simply continued to play hard and pound away at the Bulldog offense. Alabama A&M scored all 17 of its points in the first half of the game. And, all of the points came in result of turnovers by All-Conference quarterback Reggie Stancil.

They shut out the Bulldogs in the final half of the game. There seemed to be an abundance of confidence floating through the air as the fourth quarter began. I first noticed it when I saw



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confidence floating through the air as the fourth quarter began. I first noticed it when I saw Gamecock cornerback and punt returner Neika Willis throwing up his four fingers with pride and hope at the start of the last quarter. Then, I began to look at the way Coleman, Rod Green and Courtney Bolden were covering A&M's wide outs, not to mention the pass rush of Big Jermaine Hoyt and Adrian Ragland and bone-crushing hits of Jonathan Crutcher. Even I began to believe that we might comeback, simply because I began to see how much the defense believed we could still win the game.

"We knew that we (defense) were going to come through," said Warren. "I saw that the offense needed some help, so we simply turned up our play a little bit. We all believed in each other."

The defense did more than turn up the pace in the second half. They smashed the Bulldog offense during the final half of the game. A&M could only muster a mere 143 yards for the rest of the game.

Willis got the crowd crunk after he intercepted a pass in the third quarter. The pick also seemed to change the momentum of the game. It was also his first career interception. The interception extended a streak of five-straight games the defense has recorded an interception dating back to last season.

There will probably be more to come this season. Something tells me the Gamecock defense will pick off a lot more balls this year.

I spent the entire summer working in the JSU athletic department and got a chance to get to know some of the defensive players fairly well. I constantly spoke to guys like Warren, Willis, Coleman, Hoyt, Haneef Haqq and Russell Green, who didn't play last Saturday due to an injury.

I could tell that this was going to be a special year for the defense. They constantly spoke of team unity and building a championship mentality. Well, if they continue to play as well as they played the other night, the sky is the limit for this group of defenders and the rest of the football team.