



# THE CHANTICLEER

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Jacksonville State University



Volume 51, Issue 23

## Riley to cut \$500 million from state budget

By Phillip Rawls  
The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Alabama's new governor, Republican Bob Riley, proposed deep cuts in public education and state agencies Tuesday, but said they can be avoided by eliminating wasteful spending, restoring financial accountability and raising taxes as a last resort.

In his first State of the State address to the Legislature, Riley said Alabama faces "a fiscal crisis of historic proportions" — a shortfall of at least \$500 million in the new fiscal year.

Balancing the state budgets that begin Oct. 1 will require cutting education spending 6 percent and General Fund spending for non-education agencies 20 percent unless major changes are made, the governor said.

"Our government has lived like a family paying the power bill on their credit card every month, just postponing the inevitable. Well, ladies and gentlemen, the inevitable is here," Riley said in prepared remarks.

Without changes, the state is looking at laying off 3,200 school workers and 734 court employees next

year, as well as suspending jury trials indefinitely and cutting health coverage for 450,000 citizens, Riley said.

Riley's remarks are similar to speeches being heard by legislatures across the country. A survey by the Pew Center for the States found 47 states are facing deficits totaling \$100 billion.

Alabama's deficit of \$500 million represents 6.2 percent of state spending. Alabama is better off than most states — ranking 34th nationally — because the average state is looking at a 14 percent deficit, the Pew study found.

Riley said Alabama's financial cri-

sis stems from spending one-time money, not addressing longtime problems like prison overcrowding, and dramatically increasing the state's bond debt.

To avoid "Draconian cuts," Riley said state government must eliminate waste and become more accountable to the people. As a first step, he said his office is working with 30 percent less staff than his predecessor, Democrat Don Siegelman.

In addition, he has instructed the directors of state agencies to cut personnel costs by 5 percent in hopes of saving \$75 million.

Before the legislative session

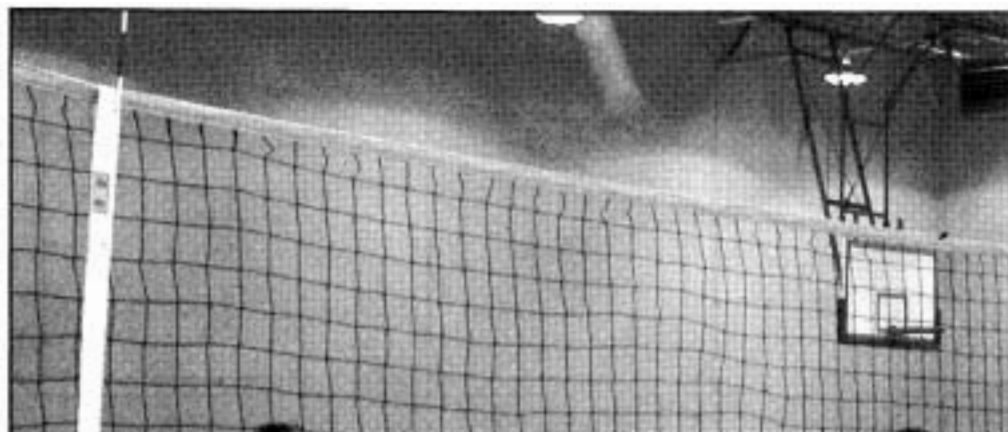
began Tuesday, some lawmakers speculated that Riley would give a gloomy speech, then see whether public reaction created any interest in new taxes.

In Riley's speech, he said the time is not right for new taxes yet.

"There are many today that say we must immediately raise taxes in light of the situation we have inherited. That may be forced upon us one day, because I have pledged that no essential state services will be discontinued to those who depend upon them. But, I will not entertain the idea of

see Riley, page 3

## Habitat volleyball tourney raises \$3,000



## Housing director resigns

By Ben Cunningham  
The Chanticleer Editor in Chief

Marie Humphrey, director of JSU's housing office, has resigned, starting a nationwide search to find a replacement.

"It's time for me to move on," Humphrey said Tuesday.

Humphrey's reasons for resigning are personal she said. Dr. Alice Cusimano, associate vice president for student affairs, whose office oversees Humphrey's, said Humphrey opted to resign, and that she was not released from duty.

The resignation is effective at the end of April, with the close of the spring semester. accord-

Humphrey nor Cusimano could remember exactly when the resignation was offered, but said it was within the last few weeks.

Cusimano is beginning the search for Humphrey's successor, who she hopes to have in place by June.

The job opening will be advertised in the Chronicle of Higher Education trade magazine, and is also being announced on several job-search Web sites, Cusimano said. Qualifications include a master's degree and five years' experience in a central housing office, she said.

The next step is the formation by JSU President Dr. Bill

screen the applicants. Cusimano said Meehan has already asked her for suggestions for the screening committee.

"We'll of course have student representation on that (screening committee)," Cusimano said, "but we'll also make sure that members of our residence life program have an opportunity to meet with any candidate that we bring to campus."

Cusimano said the search would be timed so that applicants who come to Jacksonville to interview would be on campus during the May term, so that students would be on campus.



The Chanticleer/Patricia Lockhart

Baptist Campus Ministries, ROTC, Wesley Foundation, St. Charles Church, Delta Zeta and faculty and staff competed in JSU's Habitat for Humanity volleyball tournament. Participants raised \$3,876.15 for the Jimmy Carter Work Project that is coming to Calhoun County this summer. The event lasted from noon on Friday until midnight. "We didn't have any winners, but everyone survived," said Gary Brittain, director of BCM.

## Daugette changes due in six weeks

By Jamie M. Eubanks  
The Chanticleer News Editor

After Daugette Hall's Residence Hall Association representatives made their presentation to the SGA, SGA President Robert Hayes took their case to University President Bill Meehan. Contractors and engineers have already been in the building assessing the problem.

Hayes, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Alice Cusimano and Physical Plant Director George Lord sat down with the president last Friday to discuss the problems of students living in Daugette Hall.

Meehan toured Daugette in August and was under the impression "things were going to be taken care of. I was disappointed that they were not," he said.

Hayes made the case for the students saying the living conditions were "below par."

"We weren't going to leave that meeting until there was a decision made and something was planned," Hayes said.

Changes are already being made. Lord will now serve as supervisor of housing maintenance, as well as his current

***"We weren't going to leave that meeting until there was a decision made and something was planned."***

• Robert Hayes  
SGA president

post.

"So our first issue is the health and safety of our students in the dormitory," Meehan said. "And what (Lord) will do is make sure that those issues are immediately taken care of."

Hayes, Lord and Cusimano

met with some of the residents of Daugette to reassure them these plans were being made.

"I think you'll be very pleased with the end result," Cusimano told residents. "Hopefully, you'll be here for the end result. We are in a process."

This "process" should take until the end of the summer to complete, but students could see some changes in as early as six weeks.

"The only problem, for you folks, six weeks is almost the end of the term," Lord said. "And we can't take all the bathrooms off line because that's not convenient to the residents that live here. So we're going to have to knock them down bathroom/shower unit at a time."

In six weeks' time, Lord hopes to have one of the unused bathrooms open. It had received a coating on the floor that is now peeling off.

A contractor came in two

**see Daugette, page 3**

the end of April, with the close of the spring semester, according to Cusimano. Neither

The next step is the formation by JSU President Dr. Bill Meehan of a committee to

students would be on campus.

**see Humphrey, page 3**

## Arrests made in apartment crash

By Miranda Bryant  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Two arrests have been made in last month's assault cases that ended with a truck ramming into the front of Park Place II Apartments, according to police.

Tobias Maurice Laster, 18, was arrested by JSUPD Feb. 24, for simple assault, according to police reports. He allegedly assaulted Antonio Burns last month on the front steps of Crow Hall.

Laster's court date is scheduled for this month, said UPD

Deputy Police Chief Terry Schneider. The JSU student is currently out on bond, and he is a member of the football program, said Schneider. "Coach Crow brought him to the Police Department for the arrest," he said.

Burns' keys were dropped during the attack, and an unnamed person drove his Nissan truck into Michael Hendking's living room window later that night, said Schneider.

Alex G. Freeman, 19, was arrested Feb. 26, by Jacksonville City Police for

allegedly assaulting Hendking outside his Park Place II apartment early last month, according to police reports.

His court date is set for March 17, said Police Chief Tommy Thompson.

"There is another warrant out for another person in the case," said Thompson, "but the investigation continues."

The University conducted hearings for Laster and Freeman last Wednesday, said Dr. Alice Cusimano, associate vice president of student affairs. Results of the hearings were not available.

## SGA elections moved, low turnout results

By Aubrey Vines  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Moving the SGA elections has decreased the amount of students that come out to vote. This year the SGA elections are being held in the TMB Auditorium on the third floor. In the past they have been held on the fourth floor by the mailboxes.

Miranda Bryant, chairperson of the elections committee, said the space by the mailboxes was not large enough to have voters stand in line to vote so the elections were moved to the third floor auditorium because there was more space.

"I know there's not as much happening on the third floor and that seems like there won't be as many people coming to vote, but if people want to vote, they'll come vote," Bryant said.

The move seems to have less-



The Chanticleer/Patricia Lockhart

P.J. Wilhems casts his vote Tuesday in the TMB Auditorium at the SGA's general election as SGA President Robert Hayes and First Vice President Stephanie Janis look on.

ened voter turnout, Bryant said. When elections were being held on the fourth floor people would get their mail and not know elections were being held and they would just vote for random people, according to Bryant.

They would vote for people by the way their name sounded without knowing anything about the person. Bryant said it is good that people are voting, but they need to know whom they

**see Elections, page 3**

### By the numbers:

Number of episodes of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood taped between 1968-2000

**900**

### Gamecock Scoreboard:

Men's basketball:

Feb. 21 - JSU 78, Georgia State 76

Tonight - at Gardner-Webb 7 p.m., 91.9 FM

Women's basketball:

Feb. 22 - Georgia State 91, JSU 70

Tonight - at Gardner-Webb 5 p.m., 91.9 FM

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# PAGE TWO

The Chanticleer • March 6, 2003

## Fraternity faces sanctions after alcohol incident

By Miranda Bryant  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

JSU's chapter of Pi Kappa Phi admitted to breaking rules in the University Code of Conduct after two emergency calls were made from the fraternity house last month, said Terry Casey, director of student activities.

On the night of Feb. 13, the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi violated student group and organization policies associated with alcohol at the fraternity's house on Paul Carpenter Village, said Casey, who prepared the disciplinary sanctions for those violations.

"JSUPD was called twice by people at the (fraternity) house to respond to medical emergencies because two females were having complications after drinking alcohol," said Deputy Police Chief Terry Schneider. "The calls were about an hour apart."

Casey received information about the two incidents, which led to the discovery of the rules broken by the chapter.

"A cooler of hunch punch was made by some of the girls that were there," said Justin Couch, president of Pi Kappa Phi. "The guys did not make the punch."

Under the alcohol and drug policy in the student handbook, "the purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common sources of such alcoholic beverages, e.g. kegs or cases, is prohibited." The fraternity also violated the rule where alcohol is prohibited to be at an open party.

No reports were made by JSUPD involving the two calls, said Schneider, but emergency medical teams did respond to



The Chanticleer/Patricia Lockhart

Pi Kappa Phi violated the student code by having a punch bowl at their party last week. Now they are facing social probation and community service projects.

would not name the female involved in the emergency, but he said she was having a seizure. Ashley Stedham said she had the seizure because she combined alcohol with unhealthy dieting.

"I did not even have any of their hunch punch," said Stedham. "What happened to me had nothing to do with the punch."

The second emergency call was made because a female was complaining of alcohol poisoning, said Schneider. This female, whose name was not revealed, had a friend take her to Jacksonville Hospital where she was treated for drug-related problems, according to Schneider.

"It does seem kind of strange when just one person is affected," said Couch, "out of all the other people that were there." The unnamed female was not at the Pi Kappa Phi house the whole night, according to both Couch and Stedham. "Maybe she had done it (gotten sick) by herself," said Couch. "We (Pi Kappa Phi) are not going to jeopardize anybody's life," he said.

how we are going to improve our social functions," said Couch, "so I did research on parties and read the fraternity and organization manuals," said Couch. The fraternity will have security present at certain functions, and it will not have common sources of alcohol.

The fraternity is on "social probation" for two weeks, said Couch, in which it will not make it to mixers they have already scheduled. "I'm glad it (probation) didn't interfere with our big fundraiser," he said, in reference to the War of the Roses fundraiser where the chapter will be raising money for handicapped children. Pi Kappa Phi is also sanctioned to work 150 hours of community service, in which they will be helping the Jimmy Carter Work Project build houses for Habitat for Humanity this summer.

"They (Pi Kappa Phi) were very honest with me," said Casey, "so I took that into consideration when their punishment was being set."

"The only thing I am upset about is that it (the alcohol policy) should have been enforced the whole time," Couch said.

## Senate hears concerns from Freshmen Forum

By Aubrey Vines  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

At this week's Senate meeting Freshmen Forum President Katie Nelson voiced concerns of the student body regarding core classes being offered during May and Summer terms.

There are not enough classes offered, such as Biology 101, so if an incoming freshman wanted to get some core classes out of the way, they could not, according to Nelson.

Senator Jordan Brewer offered a solution to the problem. Someone has to find a professor that will teach the class

during the term and then get a petition signed by the students that want to take the class. The class then has to be approved by the department head.

The Freshmen Forum president said another concern of the student body was the intersection between the International House, Martin Hall and Baptist Campus Ministries. The traffic is heavy and there are no crosswalks along all four sides of the intersection.

Senator Kimber Merrill said there are some things in the works for that area that involve a five and 10 year plan. The plans include crosswalks for all

four directions and an extended turning lane between the BCM and Martin Hall.

A bill was passed requiring a representative from each organization on campus to attend every Organizational Council meeting. Organizations must be represented to receive allocations from the SGA.

There seems to be a problem with organizations not showing up to meetings until they need money and then after they stop attending the meetings. Alesha Ingram, author of the bill, said the bill was written to prevent that from happening.

## CAMPUS CRIME

- Feb. 20—Rikesh Foster, 23, of Jacksonville reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at the Theron Montgomery Building.
- Feb. 25—Casie Michelle Duggan, 20, of Birmingham reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at 232 Stone Center.
- Feb. 25—Cikera Renee Brown, 18, of Jacksonville reported assault to JSUPD occurring at Merrill Hall.
- Feb. 26—Joseph Wilson McCautney reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at the first floor of Brewer Hall.
- Feb. 26—Gavin Fevrine, 21, of New York was arrested by JSUPD for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest occurring at Nisbet Street NW.
- Feb. 26—Drew Allen Wagner, 18, of Jacksonville reported breaking and entering of an auto to JSUPD occurring at Fitzpatrick parking lot.
- Feb. 26—Freddrika Embry, 19, reported assault to JSUPD occurring at the Quad and Tredaway Avenue.
- Feb. 27—David Lavon Woodard, 21, of Birmingham was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana occurring at Penn House Apartments.
- Feb. 28—April Michelle McGinnis, 23, of Anniston, was arrested by JSUPD for DUI occurring at Mountain Street NW.
- March 1—Bryant Chase Minton, 21, of Gadsden reported breaking and entering of an auto to JSUPD occurring at Pannell parking lot.
- March 1—Jennifer Barclay, 22, of Jacksonville reported breaking and entering of an auto to JSUPD occurring at Pannell parking lot.



medical teams did respond to the calls.

The first call came from the fraternity house on Feb. 14, around 4 a.m., said Couch. He

said.

Casey directed Pi Kappa Phi to write out procedures for having opened and closed parties. "He (Casey) wanted to know

the whole time," Couch said. Alcohol at open parties on campus occurs often, according to Couch.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **JSU Anime Club** is holding its organizational meeting on March 10 at 6 p.m. at Tomo Anime and Martial Arts. Everyone is invited to attend to find out more about our organization. Also look for us in the TMB in March as we have a bake sale. **Contact:** Tomo Anime, 435-1160 or [webmaster@jsuanime.org](mailto:webmaster@jsuanime.org)

• **Counseling and Career Services** will be sponsoring a "Volunteerism: Where Can I Serve?" Workshop on Thursday, March 6 at 3 p.m. in Rm. 303 TMB. Please make plans to attend. **Contact:** Norma Penny, 782-5475.

• **Delta Chi:** Congratulations to ZTA for their Big Man on Campus. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Armed Forces Chili Dinner fundraiser. Hey ladies, want a man slave? The Delta Chi Associate Member/Brother Auction will be held next Thursday. Call 782-7453 for more details. **Contact:** Andy Symonds, 782-7187.

• **Financial Aid:** The preference deadline to have all application forms on file for financial aid is March 15. The deadline to receive financial aid for Spring 2003 is March 31. All paperwork must be complete and in our office by this date. **Contact:** Stephanie Miller, 782-5001.

• **Freshman Forum:** We would like to thank everyone who participated in Project: Valentine. It was a great success. **Contact:** Katie Scott, [katiescott@hotmail.com](mailto:katiescott@hotmail.com)

• **Phi Mu:** We had a great Founder's Day Celebration. Thanks to everyone who helped! Thanks to Sig Ep for an awesome Mardi Gras mixer! Phi Mu Ladies of the Week are Kacee and Maranda, the Sunshine Award goes to Suzanne S. and the Athlete of the Week is Bob. **Contact:** lacey-doo@aol.com

• **Criminal Justice Department Seminar Series:** "An Overview of Her Majesty's Prison Service and Her Majesty's Prison Latchmere Resettlement Prison," will be held March 8 at 8 a.m. Speaker: John Morgan, Senior Officer, Her Majesty's Prison Service (HMPS), Latchmere House Resettlement Prison. Students may receive one credit hour (CJ 488). **Contact:** William Coulter, [will\\_coulter@yahoo.com](mailto:will_coulter@yahoo.com)

• **ROTC Scholarship Board:** The JSU ROTC Department is conducting its annual scholarship board on April 2-3 at Rowe Hall. Scholarships pay for full tuition and fees, \$600 for books, and a monthly spending allowance of \$300-\$400. Completion of ROTC leads to commissioning as a lieutenant in the Army and a starting over \$35,000. **Contact:** Captain Shackelford, 782-8023.

• **SGA:** Tonight is Casino Night in Leone Cole at 7 p.m. Want \$200 cash? Then come to Thinkfast next Wednesday in the Food Court at 7 p.m. Save a life, donate blood next Monday and Tuesday. Senate meetings Mondays at 6 p.m. Want to help with campus activities? Call Mark at 782-4491. **Contact:** Andrew Symonds, 782-5495.

• **The Society of Professional Journalists** meets March 6, 4:30 p.m. in the Self Hall conference room. Officer Elections on March 19 and 20 in the main office. Resume/Interview Workshop 3-5 p.m. on March 19. March 20, Jeh Jeh Pruitt and Lantz Croft from Fox 6 News will be here at 4 p.m. in Self Hall. **Contact:** Mike Stedham, 782-5713.

**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.

occurring at Pannell parking lot.

• March 1—Brian Christopher Brodsky, 21, of Jacksonville reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at 333 Crow Hall.

• March 3—Rosemary Allison Anderson, 22, of Jacksonville reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at the second floor of Mason Hall.

• March 3—Candace Leigh Dunn, 19, of Jacksonville reported theft of property occurring at the second floor of Mason Hall.

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

## WANTED:

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# Planetarium opens heavens to visitors

By Jennifer Tanner  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The JSU Planetarium will host an open house Friday, March 7. Two shows will be at the planetarium. The first show will be at 7 p.m. and the next one will be at 8:30 p.m.

The planetarium, located on the third floor of Martin Hall is small by most standards.

"We have 30 chairs so you can only seat 30 people, plus a few more if you're willing to stand around the walls," said Dr. Laura Weinkauff of the Physical and Earth Science Department, one of the sponsors of the planetarium shows.

The planetarium has had visitors ranging from kindergartners to college students. The Boy and Girl Scouts have also been visitors to JSU's Planetarium.

The planetarium has a large star projector and a domed ceiling so what the audience sees is much like what would be seen by looking outside. Special effects projectors are also a part of the planetarium.

"The Shooting Star is very popular," said Weinkauff.

While the science building was being renovated, the planetarium was closed.

"We've only been back in this building for a year and a half and during that time I've been working on putting it back

together," Weinkauff said, when asked if the planetarium had been used much in the past.

The science department is looking into some upgrades for the planetarium.

"There is a potential to see a lot of school groups," said Weinkauff.

Not only will there be a planetarium show on Friday, but those who attend will be able to see Saturn, Jupiter and the moon.

The Martin Hall Rooftop Observing Platform will be open. A portable telescope will be provided to let those in attendance take a look at the skies above. The telescope was a donation to the science depart-

ment.

The planets will be seen very clearly if weather permits. However, according to Weinkauff, weather reports are very sketchy. It is best to wait until about three days before the viewing before the weather report is taken into consideration.

The open house is free and everyone is invited to attend. The planetarium shows are open not only to JSU students and faculty, but also to the entire community.

The Department of Physical and Earth Science, as well as the Environmental Policy and Information Center are sponsoring this event.

# SACS commends University's mission

By Jamie M. Eubanks  
The Chanticleer News Editor

The visiting committee from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools gave their oral report last Thursday. They gave some recommendations, but also commended JSU.

In an e-mail sent to faculty and staff, President Bill Meehan expressed his relief that the SACS visit was over, "not because the institution's accreditation was ever in question, but because the occasion served as the punctuation mark following a long process."

Before the visit, Dr. Martha Lavender and Dr. Louise Clark spent the last two years collecting data for the self-study. This self-study addressed the guidelines set forth by SACS and whether the University is in compliance with these guidelines.

The visiting team came to verify the self-study first hand. They met with faculty, staff and students to accurately weigh the University's compliance with

SACS.

"The nice thing is that they gave us a commendation," Meehan said. "It's unusual. They commented on our student-centeredness."

"They specifically cited the student services at JSU Gadsden," he said. "Their overall compliment is that we are what we say we are — the Friendliest Campus in the South."

SACS also made some recommendations in areas the University can improve upon.

"They always do," Meehan said about the recommendations. "There was nothing that we were surprised by."

Within a month, JSU will receive a preliminary written report from SACS outlining these recommendations and what is expected from the University to make any corrections. JSU will then begin implementing some changes.

In December 2003, JSU's accreditation will go to a vote by SACS.

## From Riley, page 1

additional taxes until we reform the policies and practices that have created the problems we face today," he said.

State Superintendent of Education Ed Richardson said the cut Riley proposed for public schools "is real. If the economy doesn't turn around, it could go higher than that."

Richardson said he doesn't believe the public is ready to support a tax increase because some of the things they see, like football coaches' salaries

in the millions, create the false impression that all of education has money.

"It's going to take a little more work," he said.

State Sen. Sundra Escott, D-Birmingham, said she believes the Legislature will raise revenue before the new fiscal year begins.

"It looks like we've got some folks with their minds open. That's something I've not seen before," the four-term senator said.

## From Daugette, page 1

weeks ago, according to Lord, and tried to pressure wash the coating off, but it didn't work. Lord hopes to have an answer to fixing the floor by the end of the week.

"The fact that they're starting the bathroom that's already closed lets me know that they're at least trying," said Jessica Reid, Daugette RHA president. "They're not trying to work on the ones that we use."

that closed it up to ventilation.

Window air conditioning units and energy efficient windows were installed thus creating an airtight environment.

"We're basically having to drill some holes in the bathroom ceilings and put in ductwork and ventilation systems," Lord said. "Each one of your shower stalls needs a vent."

This is why the paint is chipping off the walls, according to

## From Elections, page 1

are voting for.

"We had a better turnout on the fourth floor, but on the third floor people come here to vote," Bryant said. "I hate that the turnout isn't as great, but it's more organized down here."

Suzanne Morrow, a sophomore majoring in pre-pharmacy, said she did not know that the elections were moved from the fourth floor to the third floor.

"If I would have went up to the third floor and there wasn't anyone around for me to ask where the elections were, then I

Curtiss Hall were also answered at the meeting.

"The demand was so great," Cusimano said. "We needed more space to meet the students' requests. And this was all we had. The demand was ahead of our ability to get ready."

This demand was for students who couldn't go home during spring break and other long holidays. They required a kitchen and other amenities. Daugette

wouldn't have voted," Morrow said.

Not only will students be voting on senators and officers during the elections, they will be voting on an amendment. Amendment No. 6 states that all senators must serve on two committees except for the head of the committees. The Senate has already voted on this amendment and passed it, but it must go before the student body because it is a change to the SGA Constitution.

## WANTED:

Intelligent, resourceful students to work as staff writers for The Chanticleer.

These positions are stepping stones to jobs on the editorial staff that will soon be open.

## From Humphrey, page 1

Humphrey came to JSU as director of housing in the fall of 1999, filling a vacancy left by retiring director Ray Creel.

During Humphrey's tenure the housing office initiated a new program for freshmen only in Fitzpatrick Hall. She faced the challenge of losing housing space at a time of increasing enrollment with the closing of several JSU dormitories.

Humphrey also dealt with aging facilities, as University leaders closed Forney Hall, the

campus' oldest building because of maintenance concerns, and students complained of difficult conditions in Daugette Hall.

Humphrey said she's not yet sure what her future holds beyond JSU but listed the pursuit of a doctorate among the possibilities.

"I think I learned a lot here at Jacksonville State, personally and professionally," she said. "The students here are wonderful and I've enjoyed it."

"They're not trying to work on the ones that we use."

The roof is also in poor condition, Lord said. It will be fixed simultaneously with the work going on inside the building.

"Without a good envelope on top of the building, everything we do inside will be ruined," Lord said. "So I've got to get waterproofing on top of the building, then come in also."

The problems with the inside stem from the age of the building, according to Lord. Daugette was built in 1930 when there was no air conditioning. Windows served that purpose. Over the years, the building has undergone projects

This is why the paint is chipping off the walls, according to Lord.

"Regardless of how much paint is put on the walls, it will flake off because of the moisture," Lord said.

To disguise all this ductwork and ventilation system, Lord said a drop ceiling and better lighting will be installed.

Removing the steel showers and replacing them with fiberglass units will make the showers easier to clean and more versatile.

The plan also includes taking the carpets out of the hallways and replacing them with vinyl tiles.

The students' questions about

days. They required a kitchen and other amenities. Daugette was the only living area with those accommodations, other than the apartments.

Reid is optimistic about these changes. "I definitely think it's an accomplishment, but everybody wants to see results," she said. "Hearing that they were at least concerned makes us feel a lot better and to know that they've already had people in here looking at it."

Meehan plans to see this project through. "I can make sure that it's going to be taken care of immediately," he said. "That's why I became involved."

leaders closed Forney Hall, the

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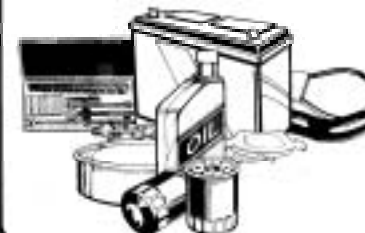
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# OPINION

The Chanticleer • March 6, 2003

## In Our View

### Dude, you got \$500 million?

Open up your wallets. You heard it here first. Unless a miracle happens tuition may go up again this fall. Governor Bob Riley delivered his State of the State address last night, and warned of a \$500 million state budget shortfall for next year. The only way to deal with that, he said, is to cut funds. Education, Riley said, will have its budget reduced by 6 percent — over \$51 million.

That's a pretty sharp contrast to the \$34 million increase the Legislature had asked for last month. And it most certainly rules out the \$1 billion bond issue that would have funded improvements to the state's campuses, including the badly needed maintenance here at JSU.

So what do all those numbers mean to you? More numbers in tuition?

JSU's state funding is cut by 6 percent for fiscal 2004 you expect the University's board of trustees to consider a 6 percent increase at its April meeting.

William Fielding, the University's vice president for student life and business affairs, said as much back in January when state fiscal officers were beginning to predict a budget shortfall for 2004.

Obviously if we have that kind of a cut we're going to see a tuition increase, a pretty substantial one," Fielding told The Chanticleer in January, pondering the effects of a hypothetical 10 percent cut.

If the thought of a tuition increase gets you riled up, don't blame Fielding or the trustees. When state funds are cut, the University's only source of more revenue is tuition. Students must either shoulder a greater burden of the cost of running the University, or face a reduction in programs and services.

Riley has said tax increases are last on his list of options to deal with next year's bleak budget. "I will not entertain the idea of additional taxes until we reform the policies and practices that have created the problems we face today," he said in his address.

Riley, then, won't ask most Alabamians to pay more taxes for the government services they receive. But he will, in effect, ask you. If tuition goes up, it amounts to a tax increase on the services you receive from JSU.

You won't get any more for your money, either. The University will just be to keep services at the level they are now. What can you do about this? Right now, very little. The bright side to all this is that Riley is proposing reforms to the state's tax system that would shift some of the burden off the state's poorest families. But his plans have to date been unworkable.

Though Riley says he wants to ease the tax burden on the poor, he hasn't said he wants to shift that burden to the rich. Where he'll come up with more money without doing anything remains to be seen.

The only thing we students can do at this point is wait and watch. If Riley manages to save us all by increasing revenue without

## SGA's election system an aberration

By  
Ben Cunningham  
The Chanticleer  
Editor in Chief



Here on The Chanticleer's Opinion page for the past few weeks we've been pushing an idea that some on campus might think is a little too new and different for JSU.

We've said in staff editorials, and I've said in my columns, that the SGA Senate's current election system is flawed. The at-large method of electing senators isn't representative of the student body, and it may contribute to the general apathy about student government on this campus.

Currently, when students vote each spring, they select three names from a long list of people running for a spot in the Senate. The 35 people from that long list with the most votes win. Those senators don't represent any particular portion of the student body, they all represent the entire student body, at large.

What's needed, I've said, is a new system, one that divides the

Senate's 35 seats among the student body on some basis. Each candidate would run for a specific seat, representing say, students in the College of Arts and Sciences, or in Daugnette Hall, depending on how you wanted to divide up the seats.

The idea is to make senators accountable to a specific group of students, people they might see in class or in their dorms. Those students would know who their senator is, and would presumably have something in common with him. When a student had a problem that could be addressed by the SGA, he'd know exactly who to call.

This concept is at the heart of representative democracy. Voters elect people from their area to represent them in the

state Legislature in Montgomery, and in statehouses around the country. The people of eastern Alabama recently voted to send Mike Rogers to Washington, to represent them in Congress, just as voters across the country elect representatives to vote on their behalf.

This is the way laws are made, taxes are determined and budgets disbursed. This is the way the will of the people is carried out in all 50 states and in our nation's capital.

Our elected leaders on campus, however, don't seem to think democracy needs to work that way at JSU. We asked each of the candidates for the SGA's executive offices if they'd support a plan to revamp the election system, apportioning the Senate's seats among the student body somehow. Few of them were opposed to it, but none of them came out in support of it. No one really seemed to understand why anyone would want to do such a thing.

That's kind of odd, really, because that's the way SGA's at most colleges and universities do things. That's right, it's not just state and national governments that do this, our peers at Alabama's other colleges and universities do too.

The students at West Alabama, UAB, Samford, Montevallo, South Alabama, Auburn, Alabama and other schools apportion at least some of the seats in their student government senates by college or school.

Others, like Troy State and Birmingham-Southern, mix things up by adding seats apportioned by students' class standing, their housing situation or other factors.

Alabama-Huntsville takes things the farthest, with a bicameral student Assembly resembling Congress. Their Senate is elected by class standing, and their House of Representatives by the school's various colleges.

In fact, I could only find one other school in the state that does things the way we do at JSU. North Alabama's student Senate is elected entirely at-large, and judging by their Web site they suffer from problems of apathy and dis-involvement similar to ours.

It's not just in Alabama, either. Tennessee, Georgia and countless other schools across the South and the nation know that having a representative democracy means you've got to actually represent someone.

If you think the SGA here at JSU needs to better represent the student body, find a senator and urge him to support changing the election system. It's too late to change anything this year, but



students can do at this point is wait and watch. If they manages to save us all by increasing revenue without raising taxes, vote to put him back in office in 2006. But if we sink deeper into the quicksand of shrinking budgets and rising tuition, vote for anybody that promises change.

BEELER '03  
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FRED "MISTER" ROGERS  
1928 - 2003

election system. It's too late to change anything this year, but with some effort we might someday find a way to make our student democracy an actual democracy.

## IN YOUR VIEW: QUESTION OF THE WEEK

**"Would you travel to Atlanta this weekend to see the Gamecock men's basketball team play in the A-Sun tournament?"**

*-Compiled by  
Patricia Lockhart  
Photo Editor*



**Jimmy Alvarez**  
Sophomore  
Exercise science

"Yes, because it would be a good way of having fun."



**Stephanie Janis**  
Senior  
Criminal justice

"Yes, if I did not have to work. Go Gamecocks!"



**Jennie Melnick**  
Sophomore  
Exercise science

"I would love to support my team because they need support to do their best."



**Jason Rucker**  
Junior  
Business

"Yes. I would go to support our team."



**Emory Wheatly**  
Senior  
Geography

"Yes, I would go because I love basketball."

# Dear Big Music, you are cut off – signed, college students everywhere

By Emily Brill  
Nightly News Editor

PHILADELPHIA — There's a revolution afoot — and if you're in doubt, go check out a typical college dorm.

Almost all U.S. colleges and universities are now wired for high-speed Internet access, which means that students can download music files in a matter of seconds (if they couldn't already at home). According to a recent study conducted by research firm eDonkey-Net, 28 percent of the American population 12 and older have downloaded a music file off the Internet. This translates to 60 million downloads.

So here's a news flash for Big Music: It's over. We have cut you off, and guess what? We don't feel the least bit guilty.

Why? Because the overwhelming majority of the artists who fill our hard drives are considerably well off, as are the people and companies who manage them.

"Why should I feel guilty?" asks

Princeton University freshman Molly Fay. "Most of the artists I download make more money than I ever will. Who am I to care if I cheat them out of a couple of bucks?"

But money isn't all of it. There's a big difference between stealing a hot dog from a street vendor and downloading an MP3 (a popular format for packaging and sending audio files). University of Pennsylvania freshman Malcom Dorson points out that "downloading something is way too impersonal to ever make me feel guilty." We don't have to look anyone in the eye, and when we "take" a file, we're not removing it; we're copying it.

Another reason there's no chance of us returning to the music stores: making our own CDs is just way too convenient.

"The majority of my CDs are definitely my own mixes," says University of Pennsylvania freshman Merrill McDermott, adding that since she likes a lot of different genres of music, "downloading is the only way to obtain that eclectic mix" she's after. And

Merrill isn't alone. None of us want to have a decision as important as what to put on a CD made for us by a bunch of executives in a California conference room.

The Recording Industry Association of America is, of course, upset. And the organization's honchos seem to think that they're going to legislate their way out of this revolution by gaining access to private customer information held by Internet service providers. Haven't these guys heard of Web anonymizers — sites like SilentSurf.com, Anonymizer.com, and dozens more that will likely pop up? Such sites make anyone's presence on the Internet virtually ghostlike.

We aren't revolting against the artists. We are revolting against the non-artists, the people who take art and make it fit into a Doritos commercial. For those of us who have the money, supporting the little-known groups remains an important cause.

"The only reason I would ever buy a CD," says Brown University freshman Janis Sethness, "would be to support

the music groups that I like. But if a group is on and I like what I hear, I go to Kazaa, not Tower Records."

Music industry efforts to curtail our use of file-sharing programs will be futile for two reasons. First, kids are always one step ahead and can defeat almost any technology with another. Second and more important, the music industry gives us too great a reason not to buy music. They charge us \$20 for albums that cost about 13 cents to make — albums that have, perhaps, two songs we actually want. That's a whopping 15,385 percent gross profit — and I mean gross.

New pay-per-download services — like one now in the news for which users pay \$10 a month plus 49 cents per song — are probably still too expensive and won't work. Even if they did, it's hard to see how the music moguls would be able to keep their lifestyles on that kind of money.

Our revolution doesn't threaten the future of music. In fact, we have high hopes for what these changes could bring to our ears. University of

Pennsylvania freshman Kevin Collins recently wrote in Wharton's First Call newspaper: "File sharing systems will force the resurrection of the album." Programs like Kazaa, Collins argued, will "force the artists to return to the album to sell music" instead of going on MTV to promote a single song.

Fay captures a prevailing sentiment: "If having MP3s means that [someone] in a suit won't be able to buy that third BMW he was craving, along with the house in the Hamptons, because the rest of the population saves necessary money by not purchasing music from a store, then I'm all for it."

### ABOUT THE WRITER

Emily Brill (EmiJaneB@aol.com) is from New York City and attends the University of Pennsylvania, where she is a freshman. She wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at the Philadelphia Inquirer, 400 North Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19130

## THE CHANTICLEER

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The Chanticleer is the newspaper of the Jacksonville State University community. Copies of The Chanticleer are distributed across the JSU campus weekly on Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters.

Single copies are free from newsstands. Unauthorized removal of multiple copies will be considered theft and prosecuted as such.

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# FEATURES

The Chanticleer • March 6, 2003

## Read My Lips covers the stage tonight **Life lessons by Mister Rogers**

*80s cover band from Atlanta performs tonight at Brother's Bar*

By Danni Lusk  
The Chanticleer Features Editor

What started as just an 80s cover band is now evolving into a "three-headed monster," said Bart Bryers, lead singer of Read My Lips.

The band was started two years ago after Bryers left the former 80s cover band Members Only, which he helped start.

"It's taken a little bit longer to get [Read My Lips] going, but it's because we did it on purpose," he said. "[The formation of] Members Only was an accident and it was so easy."

After Bryers searched for eight months, he finally found three of the four other members of the band at an Atlanta music store he frequented.

Pat Garrity, the bass player, used to play in a "hippie" band called Deep Blue Sun. "He always tells us about his gigs he used to play, in all these places in the country," Bryers said. "They would play nude."

Jon Abel, the drummer, is a Berkley graduate with a

degree in music. Bryers said Abel is leaving soon and the band is currently holding auditions for another drummer.

Venus Asay, keyboard player, has been playing piano since she was three.

After six gigs of playing together, the band's lead singer quit and Bryers turned to a friend of his to cover the band's next show at Georgia Tech.

Jen Price had rehearsed with the band a few times while the members searched for a lead singer. And although she was just there to rehearse, she ended up loving it, said Bryers.

"She had such good stage persona," he said. "I was floored that she could pull something like that off without ever having [performed] before."

The band covers the top hits of the 80s "faithfully and truthfully," Bryers said. With all five members singing, the band replicates the harmonies, as well as the instrumentation of the songs.

On average, the band does



Courtesy Read My Lips

Read My Lips plays at a recent show at Brother's Bar. They are: Bart Bryers (l)- lead/rhythm guitar, Jon Abel- drums, Jen Price- lead vocals, Venus Asay- keyboard and Pat Garrity- bass

100 shows per year, playing Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

Despite the negative things many musicians say about cover bands, Bryers said it is a "good training ground." By using 80s covers, the band has gained a large fan base, who Bryers now plans to introduce other covers and original material to. "It's hard to get some people to look at it as if we can manipulate our situation to our advantage," he said.

By creating a "bar version" of the band, the members can play during the week. This simplified version will contain

all instruments except the keyboard. Without the full production of Read My Lips, which includes lights and flashy stage props, this new version of the band titled My Boyfriend's Back, will play 60s music.

The set list will include songs like "It's My Party" by artists such as the Supremes and Cher, according to Bryers. He hopes to have My Boyfriend's Back playing by summer.

Read My Lips is also working on recording a five original-song EP to sell at shows. "My idea from the beginning

was to play the big hits and the covers and to get a fan base," Bryers said. "And then to start laying our originals in there to see if we can make a splash."

By introducing the original material slowly, Bryers said the audience will hopefully come to accept the music as a part of the band's regular show.

To Read My Lips, an impressive performance is the most important part of the show. "I think that performance trumps playing ability," said Bryers. "Performance is always the most important thing in a band like this."

## Life lessons by Mister Rogers

By Danni Lusk  
The Chanticleer Features Editor



It was a sad day Thursday when I heard Mr. Rogers had died.

It's comforting to flip through the never-ending list of channels and then stop briefly on PBS to see shows I remember watching as a child still on television. It makes me feel a little young.

But childhood doesn't last forever. And at 20 years old, I am just now realizing this.

Mr. Rogers dying isn't what started this realization. I think it's a combination of knowing I am graduating in a year, paying bills with my name on them every month and Mr. Rogers dying.

Out of the 16 children's shows listed on the PBS Web site, I remember watching three of them as a child: Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Reading Rainbow and Sesame Street.

I like to think I'm still young, partly because a lot of the things I grew up with are still around — Care Bears, eyelet dresses, famous actors and actresses and shows like those on PBS. But when someone like Mr. Rogers dies, it makes me realize that I have to

## Sensation, not sense, lures those who love the nightlife

By Tom Maurstad  
The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

entertainment, from



## Deal yourself in

SGA's Casino Night rolls the dice for the 10th year in Leone Cole tonight

By Tom Maurestad  
The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

A sold-out show, a club packed with party people — by nightlife conventions, Great White's concert at The Station was the place to be on a Thursday night in West Warwick, R.I.

But then came the pyrotechnics, followed by the flames, the smoke and the darkness that left 96 people dead, 187 injured and a nation of onlookers feeling a mix of shock and horror.

In the days since, that initial jolt has segued into questions and concerns about what happened and who is responsible. But beneath issues of indoor fireworks, crowd control and club safety, a darker undercurrent runs. As tragedies such as the inferno in Rhode Island and the Luman stampede in a Chicago club remind us, danger is the element that gives such entertainment its edge.

Extreme behavior and extreme situations are an important part of all kinds of

entertainment, from NASCAR to rock concerts. Nightlife has often had a deathly dangerous subtext: drugs, intimate strangers, dangerous neighborhoods. For those who have attended a few club concerts, news of the fire in Rhode Island probably stirred an anxious pang as they flashed back to those shows, those nights, those situations when they were part of the crowd packed into an overstuffed club, and if anything had happened ...



Bob Thaver/Providence Journal

Father Don Milligan, a fire department chaplain, stands quietly outside a nightclub on Feb. 21 where a fire killed dozens and injured more than 150.

"There was a time in my life I went to shows like that, and

see **Fire**, page 6

## the 10th year in Leone Cole tonight

By Danni Lusk  
The Chanticleer Features Editor

The SGA's 10th annual Casino night begins tonight at 7 p.m. in the Leone Cole Auditorium.

The event will last until 10 p.m. This year's games will include black jack, craps and roulette. Students cannot win money, but instead win tickets, which are entered into a raffle for prizes at the end of the night, according to Andrew Symonds, SGA director of publicity.

The more tickets you win, the better the chances you have to win, he said.

Prizes are donated to the SGA by various local businesses. This year, the top prizes are a television and a DVD player. Other prizes include a CD player, value meal coupons from McDonald's, folding chairs

from Jacksonville Medical Center and candles.

Students pay \$5 at the door and receive a cup full of chips to play games with. More chips may be purchased for an additional \$5 a cup, Symonds said. Chips are cashed in at the end of the night in exchange for one ticket per chip.

Last year about 200 people came to Casino Night, according to Mark Choquette, SGA 2nd-vice president.

T-shirts will not be sold this year due to lack of sales last year, according to Choquette.

However, the cups that chips are given in have the "Cocky" logo on it, he said.

"The purpose of Casino Night is to provide entertainment for the students," said Symonds.

# Mr. Rogers makes it a sad day in the neighborhood

By Hal Roedeker  
The Orlando Sentinel (KFT)

Pause for a moment today and remember all the people who have helped you along. Mister Rogers would like that.

"No one of us gets to be a competent adult without other people taking an interest in us, without loving us," he used to say.

For more than 30 years, Fred Rogers helped millions of children and parents with the lessons of love, kindness and friendship he delivered on public television's "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." That sprawling and appreciative population now mourns him.

Rogers died early Thursday of cancer at his Pittsburgh home. He was 74. He had been

diagnosed with stomach cancer shortly after the holidays, family spokesman David Newell said.

Rogers met his wife, Joanne, when they were both music majors at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla. In 1991, the college laid a stone in his honor in its Walk of Fame, right outside the house where he lived as a student.

He called Rollins "a nurturing neighborhood for me, just the right place to learn and grow. Some of the most enduring friendships I have in this life began at Rollins."

His death was the top story on morning news programs. "He created a safe place for kids on TV," said Harry Smith of CBS' "The Early Show."

He is survived "by his wife,

Joanne; two sons, two grandsons and millions of grateful neighbors," Katie Couric said on NBC's "Today."

Diane Sawyer of ABC's "Good Morning America" said she hoped the 900 episodes of his show would run forever and recalled the special treat of interviewing him.

"When he'd come to the studio, he would end it always by hugging you, hugging members of the crew and saying, 'Think about what you're doing today' to remind everybody this isn't just a job. It's your life you're creating," Sawyer said.

It's a lesson that people in the television business would do well to ponder a day after the cheesiest ratings period ended. Flooding the airwaves



Fred Rogers, host of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood

were the sagas of a deluded pop star, a fake millionaire and pampered celebrities in the Australian jungle.

The foolish programs catered to the lowest common

denominator, unlike the classy Rogers. But he wouldn't criticize others. That wasn't his style.

Rather, the ordained Presbyterian minister tried to reach the best in his audiences. During a 1997 awards ceremony in Los Angeles, he received a career achievement award from the nation's television critics.

He followed a dirty joke by Drew Carey and several giddy acceptance speeches with a story about a monastery where the number of monks dwindled. The problem: Success replaced love.

"I realize more and more that even if we do all the right things in television scripting and production and editing and

see **Rogers**, page 6

one like Mr. Rogers dies, it makes me realize that I have to grow up some time.

One of Mr. Rogers' best-known sentiments on his show was, "There's only one person in the whole world like you." With that sentiment in mind, I grew up, with many other kids I'm sure, believing that I was special and that I could be anything I wanted when I grew up.

And now, here I am — all grown up. (Well, for the most part.) And that "anything" I dreamed of being as a child is a journalist.

But still, I reminisce about the days when I sat intently in front of the television, watching my Aunt Kathy read books and do puppet shows on her local access children's TV show. I smile thinking about Mr. Rogers singing "It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." And I laugh remembering the sound Cookie Monster made when he ate the letter of the day cookie.

I think if everyone could take a moment each day to remember the little things that make us feel young, we may all be a little bit happier.

It's not age, nor appearance that make us get older. It's your attitude.

And if you keep a smile on your face and a happy look at life, like when you were a child, your youth will stick with you.

You're only old if you think you are.

Another Mr. Rogers' sentiment that I've kept with me is that every person has the potential to impact other people's lives, whether it is positively or negatively.

There is always someone else in the world that will always remember you.

"If only you could sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to people you may never even dream of," Mr. Rogers once said. "There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person."

**From Fire, page 5**

if anything had happened, if a fire had broken out, I would have been toast," said Frank Farley, a Philadelphia-based psychologist specializing in media psychology and former president of the American Psychological Association.

"But being in the center of a huge crowd, feeling the excitement of that crowd activity, the energy, the chaos — that's a big part of why people go to something like that. It's the thrill value of being in a crowd at a nightclub versus being home alone."

In the same way that suspending your disbelief is an essential part of the movie-viewing experience, going into a crowded club to see a concert requires a suspension of judgment.

"You're putting yourself in a situation that in any other context you would probably think was intolerable," Farley said. "But that's precisely the

situation you're seeking out when you go out at night to hit the clubs or see a show — you want to be where the action is."

The people killed or injured in the recent nightclub tragedies are people who chose to go out and be part of a crowd, to be where the action is rather than to stay home and watch it on TV. Those who do stay home are seeking their own kind of action, as reflected in the current craze for reality entertainment.

In shows such as "Survivor" and "Fear Factor," we watch people trying to deal with extreme situations. For both participants and viewers, reality entertainment provides a form of safe danger. It's understood that the "dangerous" action we watch is occurring over a safety net, that there are all sorts of mechanisms to prevent anything really bad from happening.

But then we see something

like news footage of the crush of people stampeding out of that Chicago nightclub or read the nightmarish accounts of the survivors of the Rhode Island nightclub fire and something inside us flips, as entertainment becomes horror.

"It's a strange situation, because news is the original reality entertainment," said Farley. "We consume silly reality entertainment like 'The Bachelorette' and horrifying news stories through the same media. It's what we do with them, how we process them that differentiates them."

These tragedies are jolting reminders that life isn't a TV show, and when you go out at night, reality entertainment is real. There are no safety nets, no off-camera controls making sure things don't get out of hand. When things go wrong in real life, they — sometimes — just go terribly, tragically wrong.

**From Rogers, page 5**

promotion, even if we should deliver the perfect program that everybody in the world would see, if we don't have love for the people we're working with and the audiences we're working for, our whole industry will someday dwindle," Rogers told the audience.

"Love and success, always in that order. It's that simple and that difficult."

He followed that approach on his program, which was produced from 1968 to 2000 at WQED, the Pittsburgh public television station.

The last first-run episode of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" was made in December 2000, but didn't air until August 2001.

He was much loved everywhere. His sweet singing of the show's theme ("It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood"), his cardigan sweater and his gentle voice delighted young viewers and reassured parents that there was an oasis of beauty in an increasingly coarse medium.

"His legacy will be that he made millions of children feel safe and comforted in a time when so much of the bombardment of the media is overwhelming," said Linda Ellerbee.

The veteran newswoman who has won acclaim for her Nick News programs, called

Rogers a wonderful example. "For everything that we all agree is bad about television and children, he was the good of it," she said. "Nothing is as bad as he was good."

Audiences serenaded Rogers wherever he went. One of his sweaters hangs at the Smithsonian. Eddie Murphy spoofed him with "Mister Robinson's Neighborhood," a "Saturday Night Live" skit that Mister Rogers enjoyed.

Beyond the trappings and

**"For everything that we all agree is bad about television and children, he was the good of it."**

—Linda Ellerbee

fame, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" touched on serious themes, from war to love to feelings. He was gratified to hear parents, who grew up with the program, say they were sharing it with their children.

"If those parents can through watching again, recapture some of their own childhood, that's going to help them be in tune with their children and their growth," Rogers said in 1997.

John Sinclair, chair of the music department at Rollins College, called his longtime friend "the epitome of a gentle

spirit" and a great ambassador for the school. Rogers had known about the stomach cancer at the end of last year, Sinclair added, but went ahead with his duties as grand marshal of the Tournament of Roses Parade.

Sinclair recalled that he found both of his children bouncing on the TV icon's knees during a visit to the Sinclair home. "I like children much better than adults," Rogers said.

"Through his kindness, he educated all of us on what it was like to be accepting," Sinclair said. "He liked everyone just the way they were."

In later years, in appearances at the White House and the Daytime Emmy Awards, Rogers asked audiences to remember "the extra special people" who had helped them. He asked for a half-minute of silence.

"I'll watch the time," he would say. People would laugh, then grow silent. Many would be in tears later.

"Wherever they are, how pleased the people you've been thinking about must be," he said afterward. "My hunch is, that besides me, there are many others in this life who often think about you and all that you've done for them."

Millions are pausing now for another reason: Thank you, Mister Rogers.

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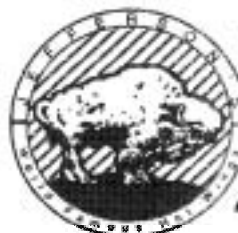
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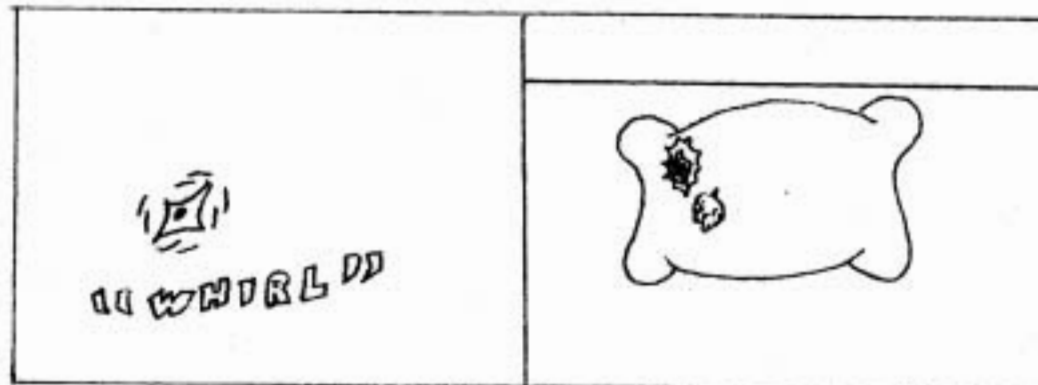
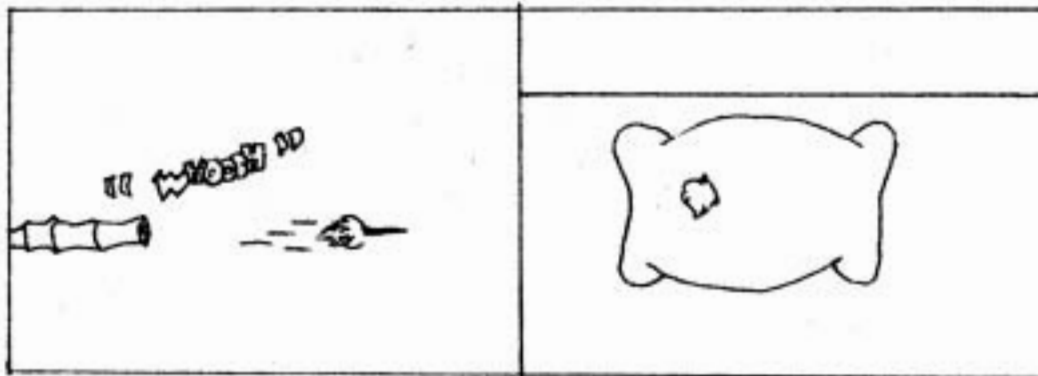
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# the Funny Bone



## Genki Ink

by Jajuan Jackson

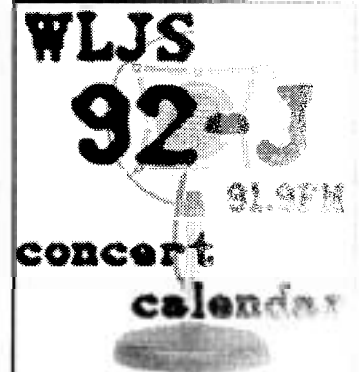


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# SPORTS

The Chanticleer • March 6, 2003

A-Sun tourney  
is really just  
about anybody's  
ball game

By  
J. Wilson Guthrie  
The Chanticleer  
Sports Editor



This week our boys head into the A-Sun Tourney wide open. Next week the women. This is our last chance in the A-Sun to get a championship banner.

So people have been asking for predictions. Who's gonna win it? I don't know. Of course I'm biased; I always want, or at least hope that JSU will win. But as an objective member of the press I really shouldn't have that view.

I don't feel comfortable making a prediction without complete information. I have seen many of the A-sun teams play this year, and I know a lot of the strengths and weaknesses, but I have not witnessed all of the bracketed teams play.

And of the ones that I have seen play I see no one that is a clear-cut victor over the other. Even our beloved Gamecocks have their downfalls, as do all the other teams. And all the teams bracketed have their strengths too, including Jacksonville.

So I can't honestly tell you who I think will be A-Sun Champions. I will tell you that all the games should be very good. And someone will win.

But I can't make an educated guess and no one can. All that anyone can do is give his or her feelings and personal thoughts

## 'Cocks top Camels, GWU to end on 7-0 run

### *Fourth-seeded JSU begins Atlantic Sun Conference tournament in Atlanta today against fifth-seed UCF; NCAA just three wins away*

By Mike Vaughan II  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State entered the final week of the regular season on a five game win streak, looking to enhance their 18-9 record and their seed in the upcoming Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament. They can say mission accomplished after a pair of conference road wins; at Gardner-Webb by an 83-75 spread, and at Campbell by a 68-56 score.

JSU traveled to Boiling Springs, N.C. on Thursday to face the Gardner-Webb Running Bulldogs, which was to be the Gamecocks third consecutive Senior Night ballgame. They sent a crowd of 3,217 home unhappy as they rode Poonie Richardson's 17 points to a decisive 68-56 victory. The win upped the Gamecocks win total to 19, a Division I school record. It also moved them back into a second place tie with Samford.

Richardson was one of four Gamecocks to score in double digits on the evening. Josh "Sleepy" Perry scored 15 points, James Denson poured in 13 to go along with eight rebounds, and Jay Heard added 12 points with seven rebounds and four big steals. GWU was led by Andre Manning and Tim Behrendorff, who each scored 20.

The first half started as a dead

utes in. That would be the last time the homesteaders saw the lead, as JSU sprinted out to a 16-0 run to take a 29-14 lead. Gardner-Webb did manage to pull the margin back to 11 at 44-33, but the large run did its damage. Perry and Heard both had eight points to lead the Gamecocks in the half.

In the second period, JSU attempted to put the game out of reach, as they hit three quick 3-point baskets to push the lead to 53-33. The Bulldogs, proved they still had some bite left in them as they pounced out to a 23-6 run to narrow the gap to three. JSU then shot their first foul shot of the game at the 10:16 mark of half two, and used foul shooting and a James Denson dunk in the last minute to pull away for the 83-75 win.

"Anytime you can get a road win, you have to be happy," said head coach Mike LaPlante after the win. "Especially when that road win is in the conference and helps your seeding in the upcoming tourney."

LaPlante got another road game to end the week, as the Gamecocks traveled to Buies Creek, N.C., to take on the Campbell Fighting Camels. In a continuing theme, it was the fourth straight Senior Night to end the regular season for JSU. And again, for the third straight time, JSU sent the home team away with an empty feeling, this time after a 68-56 Gamecock triumph.

scoring under 70 points (1-9). Their 20-9 final regular season record was the first 20-win season in the team's Division I history. They also finished at 10-6 in the ASC, which is good enough for second place in the ASC North division.

Omar Barlett, who was the only Jacksonville State player to score over 10 points, led the Gamecocks. Barlett had 14 points, five rebounds, and a pair of blocked shots. Heard had nine points, four boards and a career-high six steals. Richardson and Scott Watson both added eight points. Both teams scored 20 in the paint, but JSU made its ground by scoring 27 points of 28 CU turnovers.

The first half started like a dream for JSU, as they shot out of the gates to a 14-1 lead. JSU kept that lead the entire half, leading 32-18 at intermission. Barlett had 10 of his 14 in the half.

The final half to the regular season didn't start great for JSU as Campbell scored 14 quick points. JSU's hot 3-point shooting brought them back however, as they never lost the lead, and key foul shooting helped them weather an 18-6 Camel run late to hold the final score to 68-56.

"I'm very proud of this team," said LaPlante. "This part of the season is over, and as a team, we set a goal at Lipscomb to win the final seven games of the season. We got that goal and it's time to make a new one."



The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie

The Gamecocks' forward Omar Barlett jams over a Samford player in their meeting at Pete Mathews earlier this year. JSU hopes to do the same to all of their Atlantic Sun opponents in this their final year to go to the A-Sun Tournament.

automatic NCAA tourney berth. The A-Sun tourney starts today, as No. 4 seed Jax State plays No. 5 Central Florida at 11 a.m.

No. 8 Jacksonville game on Friday at 5 p.m. CDT. The ASC title game is on Saturday live on ESPN2 at 11 a.m. CDT. The

anyone can do is give his or her feelings and personal thoughts about that. And just like me, no one can leave all of his or her personal biases at home.

All that anyone is doing is just a guess. That's why gambling isn't a prolific form of livelihood. If it was easy then it wouldn't be gambling nor would sports be any fun.

There is that underdog spirit in everyone — that incessant urge to cheer on the people or team or group that has been wronged or **has** never won a game and are going against unimaginable odds — to win the big game, even when there is nothing to win. And that throws a wrench into the gears of every person that has ever or will ever try to pick a winner.

And everyone knows that no matter the consistency of the team, or the star power of the players, when you get to this part of any season one mistake, one missed field goal, one inch to the left or right ends some seniors' hopes and dreams of ever playing again.

And so March Madness begins. That is why it is deemed such. It is truly madness. And our A-Sun Tournament is no different. There will be great madness in the Peach State this weekend, and unless something really bad happens someone will win the A-Sun Championship. And seven other teams will go home with nothing but memories.

## Correction

Because of an editing mistake, there was an error in last week's story on the JSU baseball team.

Both the headline and first paragraph said that the win against MTSU was JSU's first of the season. They should have said that the win was Corn's first of the season.

The team was 2-3 after the MTSU game, and as of press time Tuesday was 4-6.

We apologize for any misunderstanding caused by the error, and wish the team well.

The first half started as a dead heat, with Gardner-Webb holding a slim 14-13 lead five min-

utes after a 68-59 Gamecock triumph.

The win was the first of the season for the Gamecocks when

the season. We got that goal and it's time to make a new one."

That new goal is an Atlantic Sun Conference Title and an

as No. 1 seed for the playoffs. No. 5 Central Florida at 11 a.m. CDT time. The winner plays the winner of the No. 1 Mercer-

the game is on Saturday 11:00 on ESPN2 at 11 a.m. CDT. The tourney is held at the Georgia State campus in Atlanta.

## A grand slam



Ruben Herrera, a Junior from Caracas, Venezuela, sends a forehand return to a waiting Belmont player. Herrera helped the Gamecock's men's tennis team improve to 3-and-5 on the season as they defeated Belmont 5-2. JSU's women's tennis team also won Saturday against Belmont improving to 4-3.

## Gamecock baseball drops two home heartbreakers to Stetson

By Amado Ortiz

The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Preseason Atlantic Sun favorite Stetson stole the series from the Gamecocks by putting together back-to-back seventh inning rallies in Saturday's doubleheader. The heartbreaking losses overshadowed Jessie Corn's brilliant performance on Friday night as he struck out eight batters in seven innings of

work

The buzz all week had been whether or not the Gamecocks could play with the Hatters from Stetson. The buzz was answered as JSU won the opening game of the series 3-2 on the strength of Corn's arm.

JSU would take the lead in the second inning after Brian Haskins led off with a double and Richard Turner drove him in with a single.

The Hatters took a 2-1 advantage in the fifth as four of their six hits came in the inning. The Gamecocks would answer in the bottom half as Bobby Hicks batted in Kerri Fair with his second single of the night.

JSU would score the winning run in the seventh after Hicks led off with a double and scored on Haskin's RBI single. Josh Forrest pitched two scoreless innings in relief of Corn who

that category. Katja Fuess came off the bench to score 13 points and grab a career-high nine rebounds. Senior Tiara Eady scored 12 points and snatched eight rebounds. Casey Collins, who scored 23, led GW.

Half one was led by the visitors, as JSU sprinted out to a 14-8 lead. Gardner-Webb drew in the welcome mat, however, as they ended the half on a 13-1 run to take a 44-42 lead. The lead was lost only on the last shot of the half, before which JSU had led the entire stanza.

The run the Bulldogs ended the half on was stretched into the second period. GWU took a 13-6 run to up the lead to nine. JSU promptly tied it back up after a 14-5 run. After another GWU nine point lead, JSU drew back to an 81-81 tie, led by Freeman scoring six points in the last two minutes. A questionable traveling foul, called on her with :03.2, remaining ended any JSU shot at a regulation win.

Overtime saw GW hit their first three 3-point shots, all by Sequenta Blackman, as the home team outscored the Gamecocks 18-10 in the free period to win 99-91. The loss dropped JSU to third in the Atlantic Sun North, and was their fifth straight road loss.

The Gamecock women traveled to Campbell for a noon game on Saturday. Again, the matchup shaped up to be a powerful JSU team against an outmanned opponent. This time, however, David did not fail Goliath as JSU put away the threat from the Camels 70-54. That snapped the five-game road losing streak and upped the team to 14-11 and 8-6 in the ASC.

Fuess, making her first start in the red and white, made the most of the opportunity, scoring 23 points and a career high nine rebounds. Cobie Carlisle spotted 12 points and nine boards. The big story occurred around Freeman. Foul trouble and a 4-of-14 shooting afternoon limited her to eight points, snapping her 32-game double figure scoring streak, leaving her one short of Lisa Baswell's mark of 33.

Fuess was the big girl on campus, however, as she scored three of the Gamecocks' first four baskets as JSU pounded out a 14-1 early lead, never allowing the Camels to get into a rhythm. They stretched it to a 23-17 mark at the midpoint of the half, when the Super Subs, as JSU's second team is known, came into the game. They used

see Women, page 9

recorded his second win of the year.

The Gamecocks drew first blood in conference play and looked to finish off the Hatters on Saturday. The confidence from the win showed as JSU took a 4-2 advantage in the fourth inning as Bret Pettus belted a double to right and Jason Horn singled to left. Kerri Fair would later hit a single that drove both runners in.

Heartbreak would take place in the seventh inning as the Hatters were down to their last strike three consecutive batters. Stetson would hit two singles followed by a double that cut the lead 4-3. Then Chris Westervelt hit a soft ground ball to short that rolled under the glove of Evan Conley allowing the tying and go-ahead runs to

see Baseball, page 9

**From Women, page 8**

a quick, smothering defense to assist a 13-0 run, and a 15-6 final 10 minutes to take a 32-18 lead at the break.

Campbell then went frigid in the second half, as they went for an eight minute stretch without hitting a field goal. JSU outscored them 15-5 during that stretch. The rest of the game was on cruise control as JSU ran out to a 70-54 win. The win clinched at least a .500 season for JSU, as they have two home games and a tournament game remaining.

Coach Dana Austin instilled aggressiveness to Fuess before

the game, but Fuess was not worried. "I don't think aggressively, but I will take anything the defense gives me," she said. "When I do that, aggressiveness comes naturally."

Austin spoke glowingly about her "diaper dandies." "I'm proud of our freshmen. They bring a high energy level and a pack mentality when they're in the game," she said. "They also proved today that we can win when Nip (Freeman) has an off night."

Whereas the men's regular season is over, the women still have two games at home this

week before their tournament starts March 13th in Orlando. They host Belmont on Thursday, as they battle the Bruins for the number two slot in the division. Then the Gamecock ladies host Samford on Saturday in the final regular season Atlantic Sun Conference game for both schools, as they both move to the Ohio Valley Conference next season. Saturday is also Senior Day, where the four Gamecock seniors, McKell Copeland, Tiara Eady, Latasha Mathis, and Amanda Tyus, will be honored before the contest.

**From Baseball, page 8**

score. Stetson would score two more runs to win the second game 7-4.

The rubber match again saw the Gamecocks lead late in the game only to have the Hatters put together another rally. Jax State jumped out to an early lead off a two run double from Conley. Stetson would tie the game in the second off a two run

home run from Mike D'Aoust. JSU regained the lead in the third with an RBI single from Matt Ruckdeschel. The lead didn't last long as Richard Turner hit a two-out single in the bottom half of the inning to tie the score 4-4.

The Hatters would steal another game from the Gamecocks benefiting from two

bases loaded singles from Pete Rasmusen and Joe Kurelic as JSU's Josh Nix suffered the loss.

JSU (4-6,1-2) returns to action on Friday against Belmont at Rudy Abbott Field. First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m. and the doubleheader begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

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Belmont (#2)

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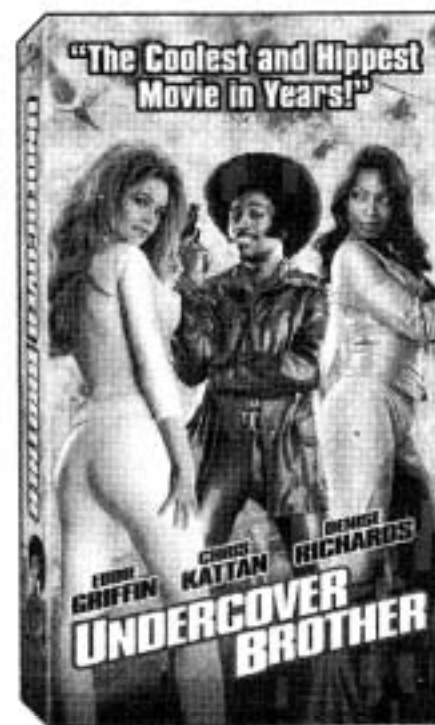
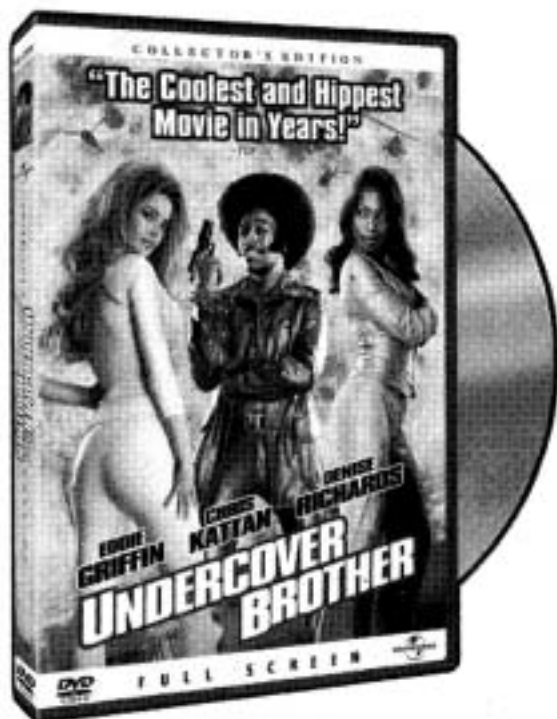
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# Kevin Simon “takes shots” for Gamecock rifle team

By Jane Little  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Taking shots is often a bad habit developed in the college years. Students have been seen taking shots in team competitions. “Let’s see who can take the most shots in the least amount of time. Whoever wins buys the next round.” Kevin Simon has mastered the art of taking shots in college, but in quite a different way than the average student.

Simon and the shooting Gamecocks have a more ‘liver friendly’ habit on their mind. They are the most successful team on the Jacksonville State University campus. They make the NCAA tournament almost every year.

The Great American Rifle conference is the best rifle conference in the country and JSU is a part of it because the Atlantic Sun does not offer

rifle. They won the conference two weekends ago. This clinched them a spot in the NCAA tournament that will be held in two weeks in West Point, N.Y.

Simon shoots both rifles for JSU. That includes the 22’ caliber and the air rifle. He is an All-American hopeful this year. “Kevin practices like it is a match,” said rifle coach Gerald Deboy. “He is a major contributor and a large part of the reason why we are successful.”

Simon is a junior from Stratford, Conn. He lived in Stratford his whole life until he signed with JSU. Coming to the South was a difficult transition for him. It took him a while to adjust to the culture and he said he will never adjust to the weather.

His dad was the person who introduced him to the sport, at the age of nine. He has been

shooting ever since. He loves to shoot at a high level of competition, and that is why he chose to come to JSU. Simon wanted to come to a school that would make the NCAA tournament on a consistent basis.

It was difficult when the team failed to make the tournament last year. I asked Simon what has made the difference this year. “Before we were sort of a one shooter school, and now it is more of a group effort.” said Simon. “This year the whole team is committed to winning, which motivates everyone to do well.”

He also believes that they have gotten rid of some of the ‘weaker links’ on the team, which is helping them to be successful.

Simon is a member of the Delta Chi fraternity and lives in their fraternity house on campus. He joined the organization because he wanted to

meet new people. He hopes to be the first rifle team member that belongs to a fraternity to receive his degree. It is remarkable that Simon can keep his focus while living in a house with 13 other guys, but he does.

Rifle is strictly a mental game, and it is necessary to be completely focused before matches. Simon uses a lot of mental preparation. “The night before matches I go through the whole match in my head,” said Simon. “I think about the way it is going to feel when I shoot.”

Simon is a well-spoken, well-rounded athlete. He puts all that he is into his shooting. He knows what it takes to be a champion. That is what our rifle team is full of — champions.

Although rifle is not a big spectator sport we should be aware that our rifle team con-



The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie  
Kevin Simon shoots in the smallbore rifle event during JSU’s match against the University of Kentucky. Simon, a Junior from Stratford, Conn., is an All-American hopeful for the Gamecocks and wants to lead to another NCAA championship.

tinues to put us on the map. They have been dedicated to winning championships for our school for years. We should be proud of what they accomplish for JSU.

# Softball team picks up first loss against UA

By J. Wilson Guthrie  
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

JSU’s perfect record was tarnished Tuesday night as they dropped a pitchers duel to No. 20 Alabama, 1-0.

Tera Ross (4-1) had one earned run charged, walked one and sat down five facing 24 batters for the game. The Gamecocks left five hitters on base with five total hits for the night.

The Crimson Tide’s only run came on a second-inning solo shot by designated hitter

Stephanie Vanbrakle. The Tide had three hits on the night leaving three batters on board.

A slow drizzling rain did not hinder play or crowd turnout as the seats were packed with 526 people.

The third inning showed signs of a JSU comeback as third baseman Ali Simons led off with a walk and advanced on a sacrifice bunt by short stop Becky Carpenetti.

Simons continued around the bases on a 2-2 hit from Stacey Smith, which put run-

ners on the corners. But a Renee Hasan popped out to second and Melinda McDonald was out on a fielder’s choice.

The Gamecocks again showed promise on a hit from Jessica Ford in the seventh but quickly sat down on a fielder’s choice from the pitcher, which left Annie Davis on first. Staci Ramsey and pinch hitter Ashley Cling struck out swinging for the Tide to end the game.

“This was the game that I was expecting and hoping

for,” said JSU head coach Jana McGinnis. “A good fast-pitch game is 1-0 or 2-0.”

“(Ross) wanted to beat Alabama,” said McGinnis.

“I was so excited to get to pitch [against Alabama],” said Ross.

The Gamecocks also picked up three games on the road, sweeping the Bulldog Classic Tournament. The loss takes JSU to 9-and-1 on the season, with the team returning to action at the College of Charleston Invitational tomorrow against Eastern Kentucky.



The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie  
Tera Ross delivers a pitch in a game earlier in the year. Ross pitched seven innings in her fifth start on the season. Ross took a line drive shot to the shoulder/chest area in the Tuesday’s loss to Alabama, but was fine and continued the game and made the play at first.

# CASINO NIGHT!!



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