Legislators in special session to discuss budget

Gov. Riley faces the difficulty of this challenge, but what does it all mean for the state and JSU?

By Rosalind Moore
The Chanticleer News Editor

Alabama voters have been called everything from idiots to devout followers of the C.A.V.E. mentality, Citizens Against Virtually Everything. Gov. Riley has gotten the message about taxes and so has everyone else.

What most Alabamians want to know now is how bad will "trimming the fat" hurt? Just as before the vote, members from each side are spewing facts and figures that don't really mean a whole lot to the average person. But what should matter to the average person is what has been happening since the vote and what actions will be taken next.

In a speech to the Alabama Legislature Riley stated, "Let us begin the journey to restoring the people's faith. Facing our budget shortfalls, we must make the most efficient use of funds on hand."

The first thing Riley proposes is providing a balanced budget by Oct. 1. Elbert Peters, a Republican and critic of Riley's tax plan, feels the governor is punishing the people and inflicting more pain than necessary.

The budget shortfall has been estimated at $675 million in the 2004 budget. Recently Alabama received about $265 million to help the budget crisis; however, after this small amount, Alabama is still left with a $400 million deficit.

Cuts that will hit closer to home deal with the Education Trust Fund budget and could eliminate funding for three major JSU programs.

"The budgets will deeply affect Jacksonville State University and the other set of 15 colleges and universities around the state that are public," stated JSU President Bill Meehan.

According to University officials, JSU will lose approximately $350,000 from line items and funding for our telephone network system.

"I spoke to the House of Representatives and told them that I felt the cuts for higher education were fair and proportional," Meehan said. "These are hard times and we'll have to make sacrifices."

Some sacrifices may include eliminations to $125,000 in funding from the JSU-Gadsden Development Center, $126,630 from the Aerospace Development Center and $100,000 from the Alabama Police Corps program.

In addition to massive cuts to the school as a whole, students may suffer reductions in state financial aid. The Alabama Student Grant program may lose aid in Riley's new proposed cuts.

According to an Associated Press release, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education would go from helping 15,739 Alabama students to only 19 in the entire state.

Other cuts that will affect the state as a whole include the release of about 7,000 prisoners, cuts in Medicaid, reduction in daycare availability, increases in state employee copays on health insurance, more education cuts and the list goes on.

Gov. Riley, during the special session, went on to say, "To be sure, our challenges are difficult, but I am optimistic that this special session is a step toward real change and a step toward rebuilding the people's trust. I ran for governor to restore the confidence of the people in their government."

Gov. Bob Riley tapes a program at JSU in early August regarding proposed Amendment One changes. Alabama voters said no to the referendum on Sept. 9. What's in JSU's future now?
UPD offers four-hour course on bicycle safety

By Daniel Spratlin
The Chanticleer Contributing Editor

The University Police Department will be sponsoring a four-hour bicycle safety course on Saturday, Sept. 27, in the basement of the police department located in Salls Hall.

This course will be taught by Dr. Charlton Jones, a League of American Bicyclists certified instructor, who has over 60 years and 200,000 miles of experience in bicycling. Dr. Jones is one of only two certified instructors in the state of Alabama and has won the gold medal for the “Over-60” category in Huntsville, as well as several state championships in Georgia.

Dr. Jones says that he is trying to express “the importance of riding a bike as opposed to cars. When the supply of fossil fuels decreases; prices will increase.” He says that prices may get so outrageous that bikes may be the best option in the future.

The course is free to all who attend and will cover basic bicycle safety as well as the correct way to ride a bicycle. Textbooks are provided, and no bicycle is required to attend. For more information, contact Dr. Charlton Jones at 256-236-6993 or Sgt. Carl Preuninger of UPD at 782-5050.

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JSU’s greek councils share common goal: Recruitment

By Rosalind Moore
The Chanticleer News Editor

Every year, JSU’s greek community begins busily preparing for a very important process. The process of greek recruitment is very time consuming and takes a lot of effort from the various greek organizations. The Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council hold a variety of recruiting functions, which are all unique to their particular councils.

The Panhellenic Council consists of five women’s organizations: Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta, Phi Mu and Zeta Tau Alpha. The recruitment process consists of four rounds, which were held from Aug. 29 through Sept. 1. Because women are encouraged to come who have little knowledge about greek life, the prospective members attend an orientation session to learn about how the recruitment process works.

“We took all the women to all the different chapters and gave them information on all the sororities,” said Megan Radison, assistant director of student life, “The process is a mutual selection process because what is best fits for one another.”

The recruitment process is a time for the Panhellenic organizations to put their best foot forward. During Panhellenic
New student section, a better atmosphere

By Rosalind Moore
The Chanticleer News Editor

On Saturday 13,663 students, fans and visitors packed into Paul Snow Stadium for JSU’s first home football game against the University of North Alabama. It was the perfect atmosphere for an old-fashioned college football night. The pre-game atmosphere was lovely as students and fans gathered in open grassy areas, tailgating and having a merry time.

In the spirit of the true college game atmosphere, JSU students were to be awarded with a new and improved student section. The section was to be ready in time for research several universities and their parking situations. The information that work for them in relation to parking. The space was sectioned off by road blockades and signs, giving students a general idea about what was going on. However, the new student section left some confused, others happy and still others with a little more to be desired. The athletic committee has been working hard to improve game attendance and better athletic attendance this year. The student section, which has been in transition since 2001, has been one of the important agendas of the athletic support committee.

“Our biggest goal has been to increase student attendance at all sporting events,” said Andy Pody, “and some minor goals include establishing a Gamecock walk before games. We don’t want to just have tailgate parties, but get community support for JSU athletics.” In the spirit of creating better Gamecock fans out of students, the committee’s creation of “what the students wanted” has gotten a few mixed reviews. Among the list of goals for the athletic committee, Pody stated that he was pleased with the start of a positive atmosphere for JSU students. “I think that the student section was a success.”

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committee head, “and we are going to research several universities and their parking situation.”

Each member of the campus safety committee has taken on the responsibility of contacting a particular university, like the University of Alabama or Troy State, to talk with their SGA leaders and administration to find out what things work for them in relation to parking. The information that the committee finds will be brought before the SGA and JSU administration to help find a better parking solution for JSU.

Jonathon Taylor, committee head of academic affairs also discussed some issues pertaining to JSU computer labs and student IDs. Last year, JSU implemented a payment system in computer labs across campus. This new system pre-

ing this first game, but was it really ready?

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also working on better access and availability of foreign language labs for students who are majoring in or studying foreign languages. Currently the lab hours are very limited.

The allocations committee plans to give out a lot of money this year. They have accomplished their first goal working on increasing participation in home games. “We have a big tailgate party coming up for the Sept. 27 football game,” said committee head Andy Pody, “and we’ve got live music! We want everyone to come out and have a good time.”

Despite very productive forum last Wednesday to encourage prospective members to research the information and become well-informed about greek life.

“The NPHC forum had an increase in participation. About 125 students came to receive information at the Forum,” stated Radison. The NPHC organizations have a different intake process and require that prospective members have anywhere from at least 12 to 24 hours and a GPA of 2.3 to 2.5, depending on the organization.

Despite popular belief that the greek system is struggling for members due to unrealistically depicted MTV shows or countless hazing inci-

the social aspect of the organization.”

The greeks at JSU are working to change these negative stereotypes by focusing on the positive and purposeful aspects of their organizations. Although there is a lot of healthy competition between the greeks through intramurals and other events, one goal that Radison wants to work on are the unification of the three councils.

Benefits to joining greek organizations include leadership skills and scholarship.

“Leadership is not a title. It’s someone who stands up for what they believe in, and someone who takes inside to what their values are, and I think greek membership has that,” Radison said. “You can look at the values of what your founders were so long ago and see that it is still in you, and to me, you can share that over centuries with people.”

Being greek is more than buying friends or having instant connections. The JSU greek community is affiliated nationwide and gives students a true feeling and connection of brotherhood and sisterhood.

Cassidy Anderson, president of the Interfraternity Council encourages students to become involved in their community.
accomplished their first goal of developing a list of questions for organizations requesting money. Each organization requesting allocation funds is required to attend an allocation meeting and answer questions concerning their need for an allocation.

The athletic support team is

“We’re taking parking seriously this year, and we are going to research several universities and their parking situation.”

- Kimber Merrill campus safety committee head

Despite very productive reports from the committee heads, there were no student body reports and only one bill came before the senate on Monday night. That’s where students who are not directly involved in the SGA, besides being a student, come into play.

The accountability of the senators lies in the hands of the student body. If students come to meetings and voice their opinions, senators will have no excuse when it comes to writing bills and bringing them before the senate. If students become more involved, senators will have no other choice than to do the job they were elected to do.

Phil Epsilon,” said Radison, “and the prospective members get to visit the chapters of their choice. On Friday, each organization gives bids to the gentlemen they want to invite back to their organization.

The IFC recruitment numbers were increased by almost 50 percent compared to last year’s total of less than 30 gentlemen.

One other council that strives to promote the greek community and its growth is the National Council encourages students to become involved in the greek community. “Our numbers rose for recruitment this year because we had more participation from the overall greek community,” Anderson said. “The best thing to do on this campus is for you to be greek. If you’re going to be a student, you might as well be greek. You’ll miss out on so much that you’ll never know about if you’re not greek.”
110,000 evacuate Carolina coast due to Hurricane Isabel

By Martin Merzer
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

NAGS HEAD, N.C. — Long lines of cars, pickup trucks and SUVs flowed inland in waves Tuesday as authorities ordered 110,000 people to evacuate the North Carolina coast in preparation for Hurricane Isabel.

The sky was cloudless, but the wind was building and 10-foot waves tore at the beach as Isabel lurked darkly over the horizon, less powerful than it had been but menacing enough to breed not only fear on North Carolina’s Outer Banks — and throughout a vast mid-Atlantic region — but also a measure of sanity.

“We’re leaving. Everybody’s leaving,” said Nick Napolitano, the owner of the Ocean Side Court vacation cottages, whose occupants sometimes ride these things out. “This one had 160-mph winds and they were talking about 40-foot waves. We get something like that and the Outer Banks are going to end up in Raleigh.”

Forecasts weren’t sure just how powerful Isabel would be when it reaches the Outer Banks sometime overnight Wednesday. Its winds had dipped to 105 mph from 160 mph over the weekend.

But the storm was still strong enough to bring destruction along a path that forecasters said was likely to include North Carolina, Virginia, Washington, D.C., West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, an area populated by millions of people rarely exposed to hurricanes.

Forecasts urged everyone in the risk area to remember that every hurricane is dangerous, and this one is spreading hurricane-force winds 160 miles in most directions from its center.

A hurricane watch was issued for coastal areas from the Maryland-Delaware border through most of Chesapeake Bay all the way to the North Carolina-South Carolina border. Tropical storm watches stretched north into New Jersey and south into South Carolina.

About 6,000 military personnel and relatives who live on or near Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Va., were told to leave. Dozens of military vessels steamed to safety far out to sea. Emergency managers in scores of counties fine-tuned their disaster response plans.

Schools closed in many North Carolina counties and emergency managers ordered a “mandatory” evacuation of all residents and tourists on the Outer Banks.

Fire trucks drove the beach roads in Dare County after the evacuation began at noon, blaring an announcement that “residents and visitors are urged to make final preparations and leave the area as soon as possible.”

“Our message is, ‘Be careful, be safe and try to get out of here,’” said Rene Cahoon, a county commissioner in Dare County, N.C., which includes parts of the Outer Banks, a 120-mile-long chain of islands that are little more than sand banks.

Weaker storms that moved north through the Atlantic earlier this season already have swept away parts of the Outer Banks.

The exit routes off the islands were crowded, but the exodus appeared orderly. Those heading north toward Virginia along U.S. 158 passed tall poles flying red and black hurricane flags, billboards that had been partially disassembled to let the wind pass through and forests of plywood-covered storefronts and rural homes.

One of those slabs of plywood contained a spray-painted message: “Go To Hell, Isabel.”

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cess this game,” said Pody. “I think they should definitely fence it off so that everyone will know it’s our section, but I like the students being down all at one end.”

The new position of the students, closer to the Fieldhouse, stretches over sections T through W, with the band in R and S. Many students have commented that the new section did have a better atmosphere, allowing college fans to be just that. “I like the student section because all the students are together, and we could find places to sit,” said Tim King, a junior majoring in art.

While many students agreed that there was a definite positive change, others were confused and needed a little time to get used to the change. “I’m a member of the band, and I don’t really like the place we’re sitting, because it’s right next to the opposing team,” said Brandon Landry, freshman color guard member, “and where we are now, everyone can’t see the director.”

Other students were confused about the location. “To be honest, I couldn’t find it. I think it should be better marked.” Many of the overall problems and disagreements seem to be over aesthetic matters. SGA President Chris Cook hopes that problems with proper designation of the area will be addressed soon.

“The student section is a work in progress, and a lot of the things that were discussed in our committee meeting couldn’t be done in time,” said Cook. “But definitely by next year everything that we discussed will be worked out, and the section will be what the students want.”

The new student section has gotten off to a great start. There are more improvements to come down the road and students will be able to enjoy and even better atmosphere. Many of the changes will take some getting used to.

The athletic support com-
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Trimming the fat will be harder than it sounds

By Gary Lewis
The Chanticleer Managing Editor

The Alabama Legislature is currently meeting in special session with one goal in mind: trim the fat. Cut the waste. Eliminate the pork.

It's got a lot of catchy names, but what it amounts to is sweating over enough numbers to make an accountant quit his job and start raising llamas for a living.

Oh, there's plenty of waste in government – no question about that. And if said government is centered in scenic Montgomery, Ala., waste is more than a problem. It's a way of life.

The trouble is, a lot of so-called pork spending isn't as wasteful as you might think. And a lot of what looks like a wonderful use of state funds is, in fact, pork.

Take the Booker T. Washington Magnet Arts School, for instance. It would be awfully easy to look at the $1.3 million in funding that will be slashed from the school if Gov. Riley's proposed budget passes and think that a wonderful asset to our state is being destroyed. The school may, in fact, be a wonderful asset. But it likely received such generous funding in the first place only because Gov. Siegelman's daughter was a student there at the time the money was appropriated.

No matter if you pull it or slice it, folks, that's pork.

But for every example of the other white meat, there are dozens of programs that actually help people other than those "in good with the government."

One of the hallmarks of the defeated tax plan was the college scholarship program that would have, in the words of countless pro-tax campaign flyers, sent "every deserving student in Alabama" to college free of charge. Since voters rejected the tax plan, Alabama college students will have to look elsewhere for tuition assistance.

Good thing we can rely on traditional scholarships and loan programs to offset the increased tuition that will certainly be coming, right?

Think again. Among the pages and pages of proposed cuts are 100 percent reductions to scholarship and student assistance programs totaling $9,288,854. That's an awful lot of money to take away from students right before you jack up their tuition. Good to know Montgomery was thinking of us.


For now, even the timber, agricultural and tourism industries look like they're in for a painful round of cuts. It's all about making Alabama more fiscally responsible, and that's something that certainly needs to happen. We're in a budget crisis. The state needs to save money wherever it can.

I just wish cutting costs didn't have to cost so much.

As I leave home for college, will I return 'whitewashed'?

By Mary Andom
The Seattle Times/NEX/KRT

To "whitewash" means to trade in your cultural roots to embrace white culture. Denying your culture is an illusion. Who am I and who will care if I succeed? I fear becoming a faceless person lost in a crowd.

During orientation recently, I looked for one familiar face, but I saw none. It felt like my first day of high school but now, for me and worse. Believe me, my family will give me a reality check if I step out of line. And I refuse to let myself grow apart from them.

I know that all of these fears, with time, will dissipate. I will hold on to what I believe is my cultural roots.
Dear Anyone Who Reads This Paper,

My name is Donnie Wells, Jr., local music director for your very own campus radio station, WLJS 91.9 FM, 92-J. Everyone settled into their schedules, settled into their rooms, etc? Yeah? Good. Now go get OFF YOUR BUTTS and down to your favorite local music venues. Why? Because this year, and now more so than ever, the buzz in the local music scene has grown to a roar. Bands like Suburban Love Junkies, Ethan and Haste are very much on the verge of blowing up. And lest we forget about the up-and-coming acts that also need support: Half-Down Thomas, SDB, Savalt, Twinick, Caddie and Idiot, just to name a few.

But what's that you say? You don't want to waste your hard-earned cash by taking a gamble on some unknown band you've never heard of?

Ah, but that is why we at 92J have a show designed ESPECIALLY FOR THAT REASON. Every Friday from 5-7 p.m., Yours Truly will spin the very CDs that these bands are pushing in order to further themselves in their musical endeavors. In addition, be on the lookout for a FREE newsletter devoted to giving you band updates, concert calendars and a plethora of other shwag to feast your broke-college-student eyes upon. Want to find a smokin' band to play at your frat party or get together with your buds? I'll have an email address for you in the newsletter for you to make that happen, and it will be available within a month anywhere you can pick up a Chanticleer.

Lastly, support local music. You want your bad who's in a band to make it big one day? Guess what? He/She never will if you don't go out sometime and check out his/her show. I can promise you that.

Donnie L. Wells, Jr.
Local Music Director
WLJS 91.9 FM

Elected officials are our employees

In Gov. Bob Riley's "concession" speech, he stated that the voters of Alabama have sent a message that they want reduced government before being asked for more money. Maybe he will catch up and get the whole message. We, the people, want fiscal responsibility, period. We, the people, want reduced government, period.

State School Superintendent Ed Richardson is recommending cuts that directly affect education rather than cutting the fat and the nonessentials. His actions are immoral, fiscally irresponsible and self-serving. At best, he is threatening the voters of Alabama.

His mandate is to represent the educational welfare of Alabama's schoolchildren. Not providing money for textbooks, classroom materials and reasonable technology is a failure to perform the duties of his office.

Since the teachers are ultimately responsible for education, teachers' representatives should be able to protect the welfare of teachers without threatening the welfare of those they teach. To do otherwise is incompetent and immoral.

Do we fail to understand that the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States created a new kind of government... of, by, and for the people? Do we fail to understand that we, the people, are the government? Let us hold our elected and appointed leaders to a high level of political morality. They are elected or appointed to serve the people. They work for the people. The people are their employers. We must watch and hold them responsible for their actions or inactions as any employer does.

One reason the state is in the current mess is that the people, have failed in our responsibility to oversee the actions of our employees. We must be ever vigilant to observe how our officials serve or abuse the power we give them. We must contact our state representatives and senators and notify them that we are watching how they vote. We must then communicate our reaction to their votes. We must show Montgomery that we are not stupid. Are we listening, voters of Alabama?

Barbara H. Gordon
Hartselle, Ala.
Miss JSU shares her passions

By Katja Sunnarborg
The Chanticleer Features Editor

It is that time of the year again when a new Miss America is chosen from among 51 women from each state and the District of Columbia. Next Saturday, ABC will air the competition, and one who will be watching and cheering for Miss Alabama is Miss JSU, Katie Clifton. I wanted to sit down with her to recall some of the things that she has gone through the past year, and to find out what is going on in her life at the moment.

Chanticleer: Hi, How are you? Katie: I’m great (laughs).
Chanticleer: Tell me about yourself? Katie: Well, I just turned 21 and hmmm ... I have double major, English and communication, my concentration is radio/TV, but umm ... I don’t know ... I might like to write one day too, maybe children’s books.

Chanticleer: How has the past year been as Miss JSU? Katie: It has been the most exciting, exhausting, exhilarating, tiring and amazing experience in my life. It has been incredible. I didn’t realize that one year could be packed with so much stuff. It’s been great though. I wouldn’t trade any of the experiences I’ve had for anything.

Chanticleer: Tell me about some of the things you had to do? Katie: In June I went and competed in the Miss Alabama pageant, and that was incredible. There were 40 other girls...

young woman, she was a lot fun to be around with. It’s kind of neat to know that this Saturday I’m going to be able to watch Miss America Pageant on TV and say, “hey I know that girl” (laughs).

Chanticleer: What opportunities has being Miss JSU given you? Katie: I had a lot of opportunities to go and sneak to different met during the past year? Katie: You need to give me a second with this one (laughs). Well, actually, (pause) a lot of opportunities that I have had, have come through NOT just from being Miss JSU, but also working for the television station, TV24. Uh ... I think it was last October or November that I actually got a chance to go to Auburn and do a story.

You know when people ask me that, usually the first thing I tell them is that I had no idea two years ago where I would be now. One of the best parts about life is that if you just sit back and trust that everything is going to be OK as long as you believe in what you’re supposed to believe in, and as long as you have faith in yourself. But I don’t know, there are amazing for the amount of scholarships it gives out every year.

Chanticleer: The first question again, Tell me what kind of person you are? Katie: I am (pause) ... blessed. I have been blessed. When I think about, as a freshman, the goals I had set for myself, and now I’m sitting here less than a year away from my graduation...

So what about the kiss?

By Katja Sunnarborg
The Chanticleer Features Editor

I think, somehow, I managed to be the only one who missed the famous kiss. This is “THE kiss” – the one that everybody is talking about and will keep talking about for a long time.

Now I didn’t happen to see it, because we still didn’t have cable in my apartment when the Video Music Awards aired on MTV. It took me a few days to realize what had happened, and it wasn’t until I saw some magazine covers like those of Us Weekly and People that I finally discovered the conversation on everybody’s lips.

So they kissed, Madonna and Britney, on stage right at the beginning of the VMA’s, and the kiss had some tongue in it as well. Madonna also kissed Christina Aguilera, but that wasn’t so special since there was no tongue involved.

Us Weekly even put a body language expert, Dr. Lillian Glass, on the assignment to tell people what was really going on. “Madonna’s mouth is open to receive Britney’s tongue, whereas she’s more guarded with Christina because her mouth is closed,” and this goes on and on, scene by scene, according to what “Glass says.”

But the whole point is the
Katie: I had a lot of opportunities to go to Auburn and do a story about President Bush when he came to endorse the Republican Party. And um... that was neat, that was a lot of fun. Those are the types of things that you're never going to forget.

Chanticleer: Who is the most interesting person you have

Katie: That is a good question. as you have faith in yourself. But I don’t know, there are plans and goals that I have kind of set, but for the most part I’m just going to sit back and enjoy the ride (both laughing).

Chanticleer: What made you participate in beauty contests in the first place?

Chanticleer: What plans do you have for the future?

Katie: Scholarships. The Miss America Scholarship Pageant organization is absolutely

now I’m sitting here less than a year away from my graduation, I think about all the things I have been able to do, all the people I’ve been able to meet, all the opportunities TV24 has given me, and not least of those is Miss JSU, and I just think about all those things that have come my way and how blessed I’ve been, and that is the only word I can think of—blessed.

But the whole point is the tongue. What if Britney wouldn’t have opened her mouth? Would this still be such a shocking thing then? Would the media still be showing magnifications of the kiss? Would the media still care, and more importantly, would we the audience care?

To me it seems like the kiss was just a stunt to get more attention for both Madonna and Britney. What I do know is that Britney is coming out with a new record, and Madonna didn’t do too well with her last one. I guess it doesn’t hurt to kiss a fellow artist at the beginning of an on-air awards ceremony, while singing “Like a Virgin.”

I personally couldn’t care less why they kissed, or even that they kissed at all. I still admire Madonna for her career in the music industry, yet I do not always like her music—and this goes for Britney, too. Still, it is something that our generation likes to see. We are not so guarded anymore, and people are very open-minded, even when it involves two women kissing.

I liked what Kim Cattrall told Us Weekly about the kiss, “They’re both two amazing women, but they’re both too heterosexual.” It is true; it doesn’t make sense, other than for marketing reasons. You would think it’s more like two college-aged girls experimenting, only one of the girls is a 45-year-old mother of two. If it weren’t Madonna, I would use the word tasteless, but I won’t.

I happened to look on the Internet to see what my country’s media thought about the kiss. I wasn’t surprised to see it wasn’t on the front page on any papers, but I was surprised that some papers didn’t mention it at all. I guess we already saw this with TATU, those two girls from Russia who pretended to be lesbians.

The fact is, it didn’t work with them, so why should it work with Madonna and Britney?
LONDON — A protester rolled a nut to Prime Minister Tony Blair’s doorstep with his nose on Friday, completing a 7-mile (11.2-kilometer) journey across London, aimed at highlighting the issue of student debt.

Mark McGowan, 37, crawled on his hands and knees for 11 days as he pushed the nut from Goldsmiths College in southeast London to Downing Street using his nose.

“I wanted to do something that was particularly difficult, so I think I’ve proved the point there,” said McGowan, who wore a bandage on the tip of his nose. He had spent eight hours a day since Sept. 1 pushing the nut through the capital.

McGowan gave the nut to a member of Blair’s office with a letter asking the Prime Minister to accept it as payment for his master’s degree in art history at Goldsmiths College in October.

“I’ve got a sore nose, but hopefully I’ve paid it (the debt) off,” McGowan told Sky News. “I handed the nut in... At least I’ve made my point, and I think that’s important.”

Asked whether McGowan’s debt would be canceled in return for the nut, Blair’s office said it was “not for us to be involved in his financial dealings.”

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The dripping package of garbage showed up on Connie Striegel’s porch four days before Christmas. Although it was covered with holiday gift-wrapping and bore a return address of “Santa,” it was anything but a present.

Inside were rotten oranges, banana peels, hairballs, a used sanitary napkin and a letter signed by Robin Troy, a Pittsburgh woman unhappy with her neighbors, tenants of Striegel’s apartment building.

Under a previous landlord, Striegel’s apartment building had problems with drugs, prostitution and wild parties. Troy sought help from Striegel’s husband, Brian, the building manager, for a problem with a tenant who kept putting trash at the curb days before it was due to be picked up, giving stray animals extra time to scatter it.

By December 2001, according to the appeals court decision, Troy decided to take a different approach. She and her mother collected some of the garbage, packed it up and mailed it to the Striegels’ home in Cranberry Township, Butler County.

Troy was convicted of disorderly conduct in March 2002 and fined $300 by a district justice. She appealed to the Butler County Court of Common Pleas, where Judge John H. Brydon upheld her conviction in October 2002, but lowered the fine to $25.

Troy, 41, a hotel housekeeping supervisor, said in a phone interview Friday that she now believes she was wrong to send trash behind and realize that he is, without a doubt, one of the coolest human beings ever to grace God’s green earth. I also mention this because everyone should know the legacy Cash left behind and realize that he is, without a doubt, one of the coolest human beings ever to grace God’s green earth. I also mention this because everyone should know the legacy Cash left behind and realize that he is, without a doubt, one of the coolest human beings ever to grace God’s green earth. I also mention this because everyone should know the legacy Cash left behind and realize that he is, without a doubt, one of the coolest human beings ever to grace God’s green earth.

Led by singer-songwriter-producer Jim James, MMJ has recorded one devilishly beautiful piece of Americana. The album opens with the riotous “Mahgeeth,” but it’s the second track, “Dancefloors,” that really kicks off the album. It walls and rocks like The Band saying goodbye to 1976 in a dusty old barn, while Track 3, “Golden,” has Hank Williams written all over it. It’s a clever little country song that disguises the fact that it’s really about drinking and vengeance. James’ voice wobbles over the line “People always told me/ Bars are dark and lonely.”

But like the most popular girl in high school, there are downsides to being pretty and clever. Track 6, “I Will Sing You a Song,” is way too basic a nursery rhyme for this album, and James is a much better songwriter than the man who penned the line, “I will sing to you of greater things/ Money, gold and diamond rings.”

Although the album drags slightly through the latter stages, Track 11, “Steam Engine,” is an absolute gem hidden away at the end of the album. It’s a charming love note surrounded by guitars that sound like they have been dipped in honey, and when James sings, “Your skin looks good in moonlight/ and goddamn those shaky knees/ the fact that my heart is beating/ is all the proof you need,” your heart will melt. All in all, “It Still Moves” is just like the way you see your girlfriend or boyfriend when you have been away from each other for a week or two: refreshing, warm, comfortable and absolutely gorgeous.

from Cash, page 5
before enlisting in the military as a radio operator in Germany during the Korean War.

After the war, Cash was selling washing machines in Memphis, Tenn., when he nervously approached Phillips for an audition at Sun Records.

“You could tell he was a head
Nelson, Waylon Jennings and Kris Kristofferson to push the boundaries of the studio gloss that dominated country music until the 1970s.

Two decades later, Cash would play songs by Tom Petty and Nine Inch Nails on a series of critically acclaimed roots albums created in an unlikely alliance with rap producer Rick Rubin.

Rich Robinson of The Black Crowes once said that there is no new music. He said he interprets Keith Richards the same way Keith Richards interpreted Muddy Waters. Well, whether or not this is true is another debate entirely, but he does have a point. Every band draws influences from somewhere, and the world of punk rock is no exception.

In the opening song on the new album by punk stalwarts Rancid, “Indestructible,” singer-guitarist Tim Armstrong sings, “I’ll keep listening to the great Joe Strummer/ ‘Cause through music we can live forever.” While Rancid will never really be able to live up to the legendary status of Strummer and The Clash, they do a fine job of carrying on the flag for punk bands today.

“Indestructible” is a good old-fashioned Mohawk sing-along that pushes the quality of their 1995 landmark release “... And Out Come the Wolves.” While the highlight of the album is the first single, “Fall Back Down,” there are several moments throughout the album that put MTV punk posters like Good Charlotte to shame. “Out of Control” is a ripper of a punk song that recalls Motorhead, while The Clash’s reggae influences are evident in “Arrested in Shanghai.”

“Tropical London” is one of a number of breakup songs written by Armstrong for his former wife Brody Armstrong (lead singer-guitarist for The Distillers), who dumped him for Queens of the Stone Age’s Josh Homme. The bile is there, and his heart was definitely broken. “If you lose me, you lose a good thing,” he screeches.

Through 19 songs Rancid attempt to remind us how punk bands should play — fast, loud and very simply. With bands like A Simple Plan and Good Charlotte doing their best to give punk rock a bad name, Rancid are still doing it for the kicks. Although great punk albums are difficult to come by — and this is by no means a great punk album — I’m sure Joey, Dee Dee and Joe are looking down (up) upon what Rancid are trying to do and smiling.
The Chanticleer

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**Weekly horoscope Sept. 22-28**

**Aries** (March 21-April 20). Family relations will begin a period of calm expansion and renewed commitment. Strongly expressed opinions, controversial decisions or group obligations will no longer be ignored.

**Taurus** (April 21-May 20). Before midweek, romantic and social invitations are unreliable. Expect friends and lovers to present scattered ideas, misinformation or invalid facts. Be flexible and wait for canceled group events to be rescheduled.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21). Over the next four days, financial messages may be misleading. Wait for potential partners or new employers to clarify their positions or offer reliable numbers. After Thursday, a romantic flirtation or new relationship may dramatically deepen.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22). Authority figures may be unusually focused on rules, regulations or procedures this week. Complex issues of ownership, seniority or legal permissions may be underlying concerns.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22). Love relationships will be complicated but exciting over the next few days. Potential lovers and long-term partners may offer unexpected invitations. Trust your instincts and go slow.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Mentors or older advisers may provide misinformation early this week. At present, authority figures may feel uniquely pressed by deadlines, corporate policies or ethical standards.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). Early this week, previously silent business officials may propose revised contracts or detailed partnerships. Many Librans will be asked to expand their circle of workplace influence. Don’t be shy.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22). Key officials may rely heavily on your advice or leadership abilities over the next six days. At present, hidden workplace politics and conflicting priorities may create complicated group expectations.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21). Previously derailed relationships will now move forward. Before next week, expect loved ones or long-term friends to outline their fears, expectations or disappointments.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Seductive invitations are accentuated over the next few days. Early Monday, respond quickly to unique flirtations or unexpected compliments. Many Capricorns will soon begin a phase of heightened sensuality and rekindled faith in long-term commitment.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Shared agreements will now work in your favor. After Tuesday, expect complex property or business contracts to become workable, streamlined and predictable.

**Pisces** (Feb. 20-March 20). Colleagues and long-term friends will now address issues of lost ambition or disinterest. Remain patient and expect others to take extra time describing their ideas, opinions or needs.
Fan support in full force at JSU-UNA game

By J. Wilson Guthrie
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Well the Gamecock football team lost this weekend. They lost to a DII team and since once you become a sports writer then an editor everyone wants your opinion of the game. And I told everyone that we should not have a problem with the team except that they were VERY fast. And they were, just a little too fast.

So we lost. I am going to go out on a limb here and say that we might just beat Kansas. I know, I know we are the underdogs, I think this team will rebound well, especially under Mayo.

And don’t get me wrong I like Maurice, he is a great quarterback, but I think in a game like this we need to go with experience, and Mayo has it.

But since I didn’t have to write this game for anyone I got to do something that I haven’t gotten to do in quite a while and that was be a spectator at the JSU game. And a home game none the less.

I had some unfortunate things happen last week and I needed something like this to take my mind off it. And boy did it. There were huge

JSU wins at home, Cary MVP

By Michael Vaughan II
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State volleyball came home from a tough road swing that saw them go 2-2. They returned to host the Papa John’s Jacksonville State Invitational, as they brought in Belmont, Davidson and Evansville.

In the end, none were strong enough to overcome the Gamecocks, as JSU went 3-0 to up their record to 6-2 on the year. The All-Tournament Team was comprised of Lacy Haller (Evansville); Lindsay Cleveland (Belmont), Latisha Chapman (Davidson), Nicole Tonelli (Davidson), Shari Weyer (JSU) and Christina Cary (JSU), who was also named tournament MVP.

JSU faced the Aces from Evansville in the first match, and those Aces were ready for the challenge, as they pushed the series to five games before JSU finally prevailed 25-30, 30-24, 30-23, 26-30 and 16-14. JSU led game one 12-8 before Evansville shot on a 17-5 streak to take the game. Game two featured separate 6-1 Gamecock runs as JSU never trailed.

The third game was back and forth, until a 16-3 JSU streak iced it. JSU had things well in hand in game four, leading 26-24, when Evansville scored the final six points to force game five.

In the fifth game, Shari Weyer had four big kills in a short span, and Sara Tognetti came off the bench to score three straight aces, as JSU held off a furious comeback attempt.

“I try to play off my team,” said Weyer. “I do feel I get stronger as the game goes on, but then so do all of us.”

JSU played again that evening in a game many Gamecocks felt was a “remember-me” affair against Belmont, an old Atlantic Sun rival. Belmont came in 0-6 on the year and it showed, as JSU completely destroyed the Bruins, 30-13, 30-24 and 30-21.

The Gamecocks came out on a tear in the first game, scoring nine of the first ten points, and never looked back. Belmont attempted to answer in game two, and held a brief 11-9 lead. Jacksonville State then crushed any opposition with another huge blitz, this time outscoring the Bruins 13-3, and they cruised the rest of the way. Game three was anti-climatic, as JSU pulled out early and ran away with the three-game sweep.

The final match came Saturday against the Davidson Wildcats. The Cats proved to be very wild as they pushed a very weary Gamecock team to the limit, but JSU won again in five by scores of 31-29, 19-30, 30-24, 24-30, and 15-10. After a close first game, Davidson had something to prove, and they did with a 16-4 span in the second.

After exchanging wins in the third and fourth games, the Gamecocks pulled ahead in the fifth behind a nice crowd to eke out the victory.

“We played with a lot of attitude, which is great,” said Rick Nold. “We have good players off the bench, and we need that spark in close games.”

While we didn’t play our best all game, we stepped it up in the fifth game, and that’s our plan,” said Jennifer Brenneman. “If you push us to five, our conditioning takes over.”

“I worked hard, but honestly feel I didn’t deserve it,” said Cary about her tournament MVP award. “There were more players on the team that did better, especially Suzi (Terrell). She did a great job, but didn’t get anything. and I’m a little disappointed (about that).”

The volleyball team now travels to another invitational tournament at Alabama.

“If we play tough, we can win a few,” said Nold. “The fact that it is on the road makes it tougher, but it’s not too insurmountable.”

Cary takes OVC Player of the Week and MVP

Gamecocks on track after early losses
Track team performs well at Mississippi meet

From staff reports

STARKVILLE, Miss.—Jacksonville State finished second in both the men’s and women’s cross country meets over the weekend at Mississippi State. Emily Hulse was the first woman ever to finish under 20 minutes with a time of 19:28, and finished 10th in the 5K. Mackenzie Hayes finished just over 20 minutes in 13th place, with a time of 20:25.

On the men’s side, Ashenafi Arega placed first among JSU men in fourth place overall with a time of 26:30 in the 8K run. Arega’s brother Yibeltal placed seventh with a time of 27:16.

The rest of the JSU cross country team schedule is as follows:

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after early losses

JSU’s soccer team bounds back to handle Lipscomb 7-0, on three-game streak

By Michael Vaughan II
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State soccer went through some growing pains in their first two games, an expected occurrence for such a young team.

That growth period has become a power surge lately as the Gamecocks defeated visiting Lipscomb (0-4) by a three goals to none tally on Friday night at the coliseum field. JSU is now 2-0 all time against the Bison, outscoring them by a 7-0 margin.

Breanne Milne, Kendra Bischoff and reserve Christina Simpson scored goals for JSU. The assists came from Felicia Guajardo, Joanna McCaughhey and Daniela Malta. Milne attempted seven shots, Ashley Smith attempted three, and Liz Hendricks, Guajardo, Tiffanie Stewart, McCaughhey and Christina Balint each attempted two shots apiece.

The first half was spent mainly on Lipscomb’s end of the field, as Jacksonville State attempted eleven shots, hitting only one. That one came at the 39:45 mark of the game, when Simpson took a pass from McCaughhey, who received a pass from Malta. Simpson then hit the goal, in what would prove to be the game winner. McCaughhey and Malta were credited with assists.

Second-half action saw more stonewall defense from the Gamecocks, as the Bison did not attempt a single shot in the period. JSU attempted 13 of their own, hitting two.

The first goal came at 75:53, when Kendra Bischoff hit a shot from about a third of the way upfield and put it in, giving JSU a 2-0 lead.

Nine minutes later, Breanne Milne took Guajardo’s setup and shot past a defender to close the scoring.

Jacksonville State goalie Amanda Stephens received the shutout, but did not record a save. JSU has not been scored on in 333 minutes of play, covering three entire games, and more than half of a fourth. Two of those three consecutive shutouts saw the Gamecocks allow one shot or less.

“If I had to use one word for the game it would be ‘strong,’” said Milne.

“We’re playing well the last few games, and our confidence is high,” said Simpson. “If we keep believing in ourselves, we’ll continue to be successful.”

“Our goal is to not allow a shot,” said Bischoff. “When we do what coach says, we keep putting up goose eggs.”

see Soccer, page 10
The Gamecocks are sporting new helmets this year. The sides of the predominantly red helmets feature a smaller version of the traditional Gamecock logo with the letters JSU above it. The new look marks the sixth helmet design in the last four years.

**Lions, Tigers and Bears, Oh My!**

Two of Jacksonville State's scoring drives against North Alabama came off turnovers by the Lions. Jeremy Wilson recovered a fumble by the UNA quarterback, and Rod Green recovered another one.

**If I only had a starter...**

Redshirt junior Anthony Mayo will record his first start of the year. Mayo has a 4-3 record as the Gamecocks' starting quarterback.

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**JSU Sports Standings**

### Football

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Kansas has the No. 2 passing efficiency quarterback in the nation. “We’re going to have all we want in terms of challenges. It ought to bring out the best in us. For this football team, the lesson is, you had better be ready to play your best every time you go play.” — Coach Jack Crowe

Follow the yellow brick road!

JSU is 1-1 against Kansas teams. The Gamecocks faced Pittsburgh State twice. They won in the '92 Division II National Championship and lost in the '91 National Championship.

There’s no place like home, Dorothy...

Fans traveling to the game might find something that reminds them of Jacksonville. Jefferson’s, a delicious restaurant in downtown Lawrence, Kan. is owned by Jax State alum Jeff Webb. Jefferson’s is famous for its deep-fried pickles and hot wings.
Gamecocks fall to D-II North Alabama

By Amado Ortiz
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

JSU hoped history would repeat itself this past Saturday against North Alabama by bringing the Lions out of the history books to renew the storied Division II rivalry, but some things are better left alone.

The D-II Lions upended the Gamecocks 28-16, and Mark Hudspeth and his team backed up all the trash talking they had done all week long.

Usually the Division I-AA schools have an easy time with Division II schools, but in in-state games anything can happen, and the Lions made sure of that. Jax State had won the previous eight against UNA and now have lost two straight to Division II schools since moving to I-AA.

The Lions outgunned the Gamecocks by nearly 150 yards, and Coach Crowe estimated there were at least a dozen blown coverages in the game.

Will Hall picked apart a JSU defense – that two weeks ago had made two goal-line stands against A&M – for 295 yards and four touchdowns.

The Gamecocks led 10-7 at the half but didn’t capitalize on their red-zone offense. The Gamecocks were there three times but only scored one touchdown, one field goal and had another one blocked.

The second half was not as favorable. The Gamecocks scored one touchdown after junior Anthony Mayo was inserted in the game. He orchestrated a 15-play 74-yard drive, capped by Kory Chapman’s 2-yard run that made it 21-16 with 8:31 left in the game.

Then Will Hall went to work, converting a 53-yard completion to Randy Vickers that led to North Alabama’s final touchdown and drove the nail through the JSU coffin.

“I have to have reasons for this or something has to be done about it. In speaking briefly with a few players one-on-one, I think we tried to do too much. I don’t think we probably had some guys in the positions they play their best football in ... there were two or three who didn’t react too well in the position we had them in,” said Crowe.

It was a disappointing loss for the Gamecocks in more ways than one. Since coming on as JSU’s head coach, Crowe has tried to create a Division I type mentality around campus. Crowe noted that everything about the game, except the game itself, was good, saying the student attendance, the tailgating and the whole event management around the game was the best he had seen. “That’s what makes the game that more disappointing.”

This week the Gamecocks have a chance to play spoiler, and there’s not one Gamecock who doesn’t think they can do it.

According to Crowe, “The lines between Division II and I-AA and Division I are vague at best. Here is an example of that: We are now playing a Kansas team that has got a quarterback named Bill Whittemore, who was Newcomer of the Year in the Big 12 last season.

“He is clearly the dynamic part of a Kansas offense that is just out-scoring people, that against UNLV they never punted. This guy is from Brentwood, Tennessee and signed with UT-Martin. He transferred from UT-Martin when they changed head coaches and went to Fort Scott Community College.

“That is to tell you the difference between the (Division I, I-AA and II) teams is a small line.”

Hopefully, the Gamecocks can make Kansas feel worse than JSU felt last Saturday at Paul Snow Stadium.

Crowe changing look of Gamecocks

By J. Wilson Guthrie
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

JSU’s head coach Jack Crowe is fighting to change the Gamecocks’ image – an image change from Division II powerhouse to great Division I-AA team.

“It has been something that I have been fighting for since day one,” said Crowe.

“I think we have shown a lot of progress, especially on defense, since the beginning of the season,” said Coach Lisa Howe. “Those first two games [Alabama and Birmingham-Southern] were tough, but we continued to improve even during the losses.”

Jacksonville State now travels to the University of South Alabama tournament, where they will play the Pirates of the University of West Florida and the Lions of the University of Mobile.
Anthony Mayo, a junior from Atatta, Al. and last year's starting quarterback, got his job back Monday as JSU head coach Jack Crowe confirmed Mayo would be taking the first snap for the Gamecocks Saturday against Kansas.

"Mayo has looked a little better right now," said Crowe.

Mayo had lost the starting job to sophomore Maurice Mullins during spring practices. Mullins ran into some problems during Saturday’s game versus the University of North Alabama.

"I think that (Mullins) is going through a learning curve right now," said Crowe. "Mayo gives a better management.

Crowe is referring to Mayo's play management and ability to make other players comfortable in the huddle.

"When I get in there, I just get the play called and go up to the line and see what the defense is in," said Mayo. "If I have to make a check it comes really easy to me."

Mayo entered the UNA game during the first drive of the fourth quarter. When asked if it was too little to late he responded, "No, when I came in it was a two-score game. We had a long 15-play drive, and it took over six minutes off the clock, and we cut it to a 3-point lead."

But there is no animosity between the two quarterbacks.

"Maurice and I have a great friendship," said Mayo. "I don't think that it is going to affect our friendship. I don't think there is going to be any turmoil at all."

Mayo also doesn't consider this a motivation to play any harder than he already does.

"It's a motivation in itself," said Mayo. "But I play hard just to win. Even when I was the second-string quarterback, I still played hard."

Mayo will take his first snap as a starter this year at 6 p.m. Saturday.

By Amado Ortiz
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The JSU volleyball team is off to its best start since the 1997 campaign. Who is responsible for their 6-2 record? Well, there are a lot of factors playing a role here.

Second-year coach Rick Nold has brought his high energy and is regarded as a player's coach around campus. The senior leadership has been huge for the Gamecocks, as Jennifer Brenneman and Christina Cary (Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week) have led by example. Another reason for the success comes all the way from Louisville, Ky.

All the way means more than one thing for this freshman. It means everything on the volleyball court and making all your effort count. Outside hitter Jessica Starck has been a huge part of the Gamecocks' success, and Chanticleer Sports had the privilege of catching up with her.

Q: What's the hardest thing about being a freshman on the team? Starck: When you're in high school, you're the big dog, and when you come to college you have to prove yourself again that you're a player and you can play.


Q: Do you want me to put that in there? Starck: No. (All laugh) Q: I can write that guys don't need to get their hopes up. Starck: Well, you can put it in there, do whatever you want.

Q: What do you do when you're not playing volleyball? Starck: Play in a tournament tomorrow. Q: What, you don't go out much? Starck: No, I love going out, but not much time for that during the season.

Q: What's the one thing The Chanticleer readers need to know about you? Starck: Well, don't judge a volleyball player by the way she looks on the court, cause we normally don't look very nice. And we also notice who comes to our games. The baseball, softball and basketball team all came to the game.

As a member of The Chanticleer sports staff, I love attending volleyball games and seeing the uniforms, and I was at the game, but Jessica didn't notice me. Maybe next week? Jessica and the rest of the Gamecocks travel to T-Town to play in a tournament against Alabama.

Freshman Starck making big effort.

Jessica Starck and Christina Cary take practice Tuesday afternoon. "When you're in high school, you're the big dog, and when you come to college you have to prove yourself again that you're a player and you can play," said Starck.
