JSU athletics excel on and off the field

14 of 16 JSU athletic teams earned cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or better in fall

By Patrick McCreless
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The academic performance of athletes at JSU has steadily improved over the last few years.

During his quarterly report to the JSU Board of Trustees, President Bill Meehan said that, based on their grades from the 2003 fall semester, 14 of the 16 athletic teams had cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or better. That is up from eight teams at the end of the previous year. Also, the overall athletic program had a mean GPA of 3.09.

Meehan also said that a total of 115 athletes posted 3.0 or better averages. This includes 17 students in 11 sports with perfect 4.0s. These improvements could put JSU athletes in the running for the Academic Achievement Banner awarded by the OVC.

These academic improvements have not gone unnoticed either. In 2002, JSU was honored by popular newspaper, USA TODAY, for having one of the best graduation-rate improvements in Division I.

“I would love to take the responsibility for this, but I can’t,” said JSU athletic director Jim Fuller. He said that they had people in place from the university to help in the areas of academics. Fuller also said that the coaches have also been emphasizing academic.

“But if there was one honor that I would like to share, it would be this one,” said Fuller.

Fuller also told The Chanticleer that the only things he addresses to the athletic department’s administrative people and coaches is for every day to, “talk about winning the OVC...and talk about academics to our student athletes.”

To get these improved grades there were many factors involved according to Fuller. Athletes who needed help were allotted time to go to study halls and/or given tutors. Also, it was recommended that students who were making good grades attend study hall as well so that they could keep up their grades and maybe even improve.

Some coaches even made it mandatory for their students to study while they were on bus trips.

Checking student progress has also helped. “We monitor what our student athletes are doing, not just at the end of the semester,” said Fuller, “but during the course of the semester.”

Head coaches as well as assistant coaches do academic checks. “It’s a total program involvement of all our people,” said Fuller, “not just one singled out person.”

Fuller however, is not content with what JSU athletes have done so far. He said that even though he is happy with the progress of JSU’s student athletes, there is room for improvement.

“The only thing that I’ve asked,” said Fuller, “is let’s not be content with where we are.” He said that they would strive to get even more students with higher grades including more with a perfect 4.0.

“We’re always looking to improve,” said Fuller.

The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie

14 of JSU’s 16 varsity athletic teams received a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher for the Fall 2003 semester. Last year JSU also received recognition from USA TODAY for one of the best graduation-rate improvements in Division I.

Pulitzer-Prize winner

Rick Bragg visits JSU

By Audrey Hykes
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Most recently, Bragg has

Edwards looks for southern support

ELECTION 2004:
Part Two in a series on presidential candidates
Last Thursday, Jacksonville State University's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists sponsored a visit from Pulitzer prize-winning author Rick Bragg. Bragg was a former journalist for the New York Times from 1994 to last year, and also the author of best-selling books All Over but the Shoutin', Ava's Man, and Somebody Told Me.

According to The Borzoi Reader Online, All Over but the Shoutin' was a New York Times best seller and notable book of the year, won several awards, and was selected by news organizations and reader groups as a best book of the year in 1998.

He has received more than 50 writing awards in his 20-year career. Bragg said that Shoutin', which is a book about his mother, is one of his most meaningful works he's ever written.

Most recently, Bragg has written a biography titled I'm a Soldier, Too, the story of Jessica Lynch, a rescued prisoner of the war on Iraq.

"That story was one of the greatest ordeals of my life. I was too enticing to turn down. I practically killed myself writing it," said Bragg. He was asked to write the story because of the success of his other books, dealing with the trials of growing up and living in the South, and he said half her story is about growing up in the South.

Bragg, a native of Jacksonville, said that when it comes to writing, his heart lies in writing about his kinfolk and the blue collar workers of the South.

"The next book I write will be about the cotton mill here in Jacksonville, and it will be different."

see Bragg, page 3

By Audrey Hykes
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. John Edwards (D-NC) and his wife Elizabeth celebrate his victory in the South Carolina primary in Columbia, South Carolina, on Tuesday, February 3, 2004.

KRT/Robert Lehner

Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. John Edwards (D-NC) and his wife Elizabeth celebrate his victory in the South Carolina primary in Columbia, South Carolina, on Tuesday, February 3, 2004.

By Rosalind Moore
The Chanticleer News Editor

After last week's South Carolina win, Democratic presidential hopeful John Edwards is focusing his energy on the southern states. Six candidates remain in the democratic race after the Feb. 3 seven state primary showdown. According to an Associated Press report, Edwards beat John Kerry by a 2-to-1 margin among South Carolina voters who said the economy was a top concern.

Edward has continued throughout the democratic primaries to stress his economic message. According to the Associated Press, Edwards received the most support in the two states - South Carolina and Oklahoma - where many voters have expressed their disapproval of the Bush administration.

John Edwards garnered a recent victory in his native South Carolina, but according to a poll taken by Edison Media Research/Mitofsky International for the Associated Press, he has still not been able to convince voters that he is the most electable candidate.

Many voters in the state of South Carolina were loyal to Edwards, not because of political views, but because of his biological ties to the state. But the looming question remains— Who is John Edwards and if he wins the primary election, can he beat George W. Bush?

This year's presidential election has been a bit different. From Howard Dean's presidientially uncharacteristic show of exuberance in Iowa to John Edwards appearance on Late Night with David Letterman, candidates have used many tactics to show that they are real human beings.

John Edwards showed his humor on an appearance last week on David Letterman, where he read a list entitled, "Things never before said by a presidential candidate" that included jokes about women with ugly babies and a reference to Janet Jackson's Superbowl wardrobe malfunction. Edwards humor was well received by the crowd and he later talked to Letterman about his campaign.

Fifty-year old John Edwards, U.S. senator for the state of North Carolina, was born in Seneca, S.C. and currently resides in Raleigh, NC.

Edwards received a B.S. from North Carolina State University in 1974 and later received a law degree from the University of North Carolina in 1977. He is a Methodist

see Edwards, page 2

By Erin Chupp
The Chanticleer Photo Editor

On Jan. 31, the Gamecock basketball team fought hard to claim victory. The Eastern Illinois coaches also fought; one of JSU's Hardcorps pep band members.

The clock hit zero for halftime, and both teams headed for the locker rooms. Hardcorps, dressed in 80's fashion, got up to play the team out and the go-go dancers were set to perform in front of them on the court.

For this game Mark Fifer, director of Hardcorps, chose to play "Whip It" as the sweaty players left the court. JSU Athletic Director Jim Fuller commented that he doesn't remember being at a game where "The Fight Song" wasn't played while the team went out.

Normally it would not matter what song was being played, but for "Whip It" Fuller thought the dancers looked a little more spread out. Another added feature of this song is that the three 20's, the base sound of the band, come onto the floor and pose, dressed as Deevo, with the dancers.

After the band started playing, the Eastern Illinois players decided to go through the dancers to get to their locker room. Usually the visiting teams go around the band, the same way they entered.

Players did not have a problem getting through, other than the dancers trying not to hit anyone with the whips they use as props for the 80's song.

After the team passed, the coaches came through. The EUU assistant coach Steve Wemmer did not have such an easy time getting through the line. In order to get to his locker room he pushed Kyle Gairhan, a 20 player posing in robotic forms, out of his way. As part of his costume Gairhan was wearing a bright red hat held on by a chinstrap that slid off his head. He pushed it back on and the two were in heated debate as to who had the right of way.

The crowd on that side of the stadium started roaring. It was Alumni Day for the JSU Hardcorps, so anyone who was once a member was back and just as upset at what was going on. The rest of those seated around the event were loyal fans of the supporting music group: fellow musicians, Marching Southerners, and parents of the band.

The rhythm section of the band is also set up on the court, beside the stands and the stairs to the second level. These players had front row seats for the incident. Keyboardist Coty Cockrell said, "They could have gone around with ease, or waited because the average song lasts 30 seconds." Arnold Montgomery agreed, "It was really unprofessional."

Tempers continued to rage on the floor in this one corner of the Coliseum. The rest of the building was trying to figure out what was going on as they chanted "Crack that whip" along with the end of the music.

When the half began, Fuller had just walked through the dance line back onto the court and towards his seat with OVC Commissioner John Steinbeck.

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By the numbers:

Gamecock Scoreboard:

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<th>Men's Basketball</th>
<th>Women's Basketball</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5 - Austin Peay 64, JSU 72</td>
<td>Feb. 5 - Austin Peay 76, JSU 67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 7 - TN Tech 101, JSU 86</td>
<td>Feb. 7 - TN Tech 71, JSU 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonight - at Morehead State 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tonight - at Morehead State 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday - at Eastern Kentucky 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Saturday - at Eastern Kentucky 5:30 p.m.</td>
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and has a wife named Elizabeth and four children, one of which died in 1996.

Edwards, who was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1998 came into office, promising to fight for the little guy against a political world tainted by big money. He doesn’t plan to run for a second senate term and instead has set his eyes on the bigger prize of the presidency. According to Aol.com political analysts, Edwards has attempted to play on his boyish charm and down-home image by focusing his campaign around the needs of “regular people.”

Edwards was considered as a running mate for Democratic presidential nominee Al Gore in 2000. He was passed over for Connecticut Sen. and former 2004 presidential candidate, Joe Lieberman. However, this missed opportunity began Edward’s exploration for a presidential bid of his own this year.

Some of his major campaign issues have continued to focus on education and health care. According to Edwards' Web site www.johnedwards2004.com, he supports a responsible plan to cover every child, cut costs for all, and strengthen the safety net.

"The only way we can tackle the health care problem is to ask for responsibility from everyone: responsibility from parents to make sure their children have health care," said Edward’s in a campaign speech. "We need responsibility from government to help families insure their kids and deal with the rising costs of health care, and responsibility from drug and insurance companies to bring costs down for every American."

According to his Web site, the Edwards Plan covers approximately 21 million Americans at a cost of about $53 billion per year. He also says that his health care plan will save roughly $17 billion per year through other special programs he will implement.

Edwards also has a comprehensive plan to strengthen our schools, support our teachers, expand after-school programs, and improve our high schools. He also has offered a plan called “College for Everyone” which would make college tuition free for the first year for every person who is qualified to attend a public college and is willing to work part-time.

The Edwards Plan for jobs and the economy includes his goal to create jobs with a 10 percent tax credit for companies that keep jobs in America. He also believes that a venture capital fund is necessary to bring jobs to those areas he feels were hit hardest in the Bush economy and new tax credits for working Americans to buy their first home, save for retirement, or save for child’s education.

"My ideas are based on principles as old as America. Corporate books should be honest. Rewards should be based on accomplishment, Executives and other insiders, should be accountable," Edwards stated in an address at Georgetown University.

Edwards supports major issues like Roe v. Wade and strongly believes in the woman’s right to choose. He wants to eliminate tax cuts for wealthy Americans and create a tax code that is representative of American values.

As a senator of Edwards major support included trying to improve domestic defense and fighting against special interests to improve security at chemical weapons plants.

Virginia State Senator, Benjamin Lambert endorses Edwards for president because of his commitment to the everyday American.

"In a strong field of candidates, John Edwards is the one who can win in November. He understands the issues faced by everyday Americans, and he can communicate with voters in every region of the country," Lambert said. "Edwards will be a president for all of America, and I’m going to work hard to turn out my fellow Virginians to vote for him on Tuesday."

"The President and I come from very different backgrounds. But I still believe in America where the son of a mill worker can go toe-to-toe with the son of a President," said Edwards. "If I’m president, I will wake up every single day, fighting to put the interests of working Americans first. Their values are the values I was raised with, and their fight has been the cause of my life."
There were no incidents reported by JSUPD this week.

Information in the Campus Crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Sallis 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.
"Project Valentine" promotes love

Freshman Forum begins campaign to help organ transplant recipients

By Zach McFall
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

As an organ transplant recipient, Kel Kelley and his wife Joanne, decided to create the TripleHeart organization. Their objective is to provide an internet-based outlet for organ transplant recipients to communicate with each other.by sharing personal experiences and valuable information.

Last year Kelley, also a member of JSU alumni, contacted Freshmen Forum about helping out with a newly created extension of TripleHeart called “Project Valentine.” The intent of this project is to provide cell phones, for emergency telephone access, to individuals waiting for organ transplants, and who would otherwise not have this valuable resource.

Most candidates waiting for an organ transplant are often too sick to work, and therefore cannot afford simple luxuries like a cellular telephone.

In the past, beepers have been the traditional means of communication for transplant patients. However, with the added benefits that a cell phone provides, many doctors are increasingly recommending that patients have one with them wherever they go.

The Chanticleer recently had the opportunity to speak with Kelley about the success of this service and he said “Since starting Project Valentine a year ago we have collected over 600 cell phones for patients in need and they continue to pour in as the needs continue to rise.”

Last year Freshmen Forum donated a large portion of these cell phones, totaling 107. Just as they did last year, Freshmen Forum is currently accepting all cell phones no matter the age or condition.

It is best if the cell phones are donated with the charger, but will be accepted either way. Although Freshmen Forum is sponsoring this project, everyone can help by dropping off their old cell phones in the Office of Student Life, 402 TMB, by February 16, 2004. Your help in making a difference is greatly appreciated.

from Bragg, page 1

SGA gears up for elections

By Olivia Fadul
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

It is that time of year again! The Student Government Association of Jacksonville State University is doing elections bigger and better this year.

The clock is ticking, and today marks the deadline for all potential senator and executive office candidates to enter the race. All prospective candidates should turn in their applications to the Office of Student Life, 402 TMB.

Last year 35 people ran for Senate elections and all 35 received a seat. SGA is hoping to change all that about. Also last year 437 students voted in the SGA election. SGA is hoping for a different turnout this year.

According to Jennifer Mince, Director of Publicity, SGA has been running ads in the Chanticleer, word of mouth and has a billboard on the 4th floor of TMB to encourage people to run for a Senate seat or an Executive Office. Mince stated that the election this year would be more widespread than it has been in the past.

The campaign speeches are being held February 16th at the TMB auditorium immediately following the 6 p.m. senate meeting. Candidates will be allowed to speak their minds and tell voters what they have to offer JSU.

This year the SGA is taking a different angle in the election process to encourage student to come out and vote. The candidates campaign speeches and platforms will be televised on JSU Today on Thurs. Feb. 26 at 3:30p.m.

Also this year all campaign speeches will air on 92J. On Tuesday, March 2 and Wed. March 3 voting will take place in the TMB Auditorium.

According to SGA president, Chris Cook, voting for Mr. and Miss Friendly and Mr. And Miss Jax State will also appear on the ballot.

When asked by The Chanticleer what a candidate must possess to be a leader, Emily R. Williams, Vice President of the Student Senate, responded, “It takes involvement, dedication, motivation, and ambition.”

“A leader must know how to delegate. A leader must realize you can’t do everything by yourself. A leader must want what is best for the students and not what is good for your benefit,” said Mince.

Both Mince and Williams are encouraging student to come out and see the Campaign speeches on February 16th, watch JSU Today, and know the candidates that are running.

from Band, page 1

I am responsible for game management,” he said. “Their players should have the same rights that we do when we’re on the road. They should be provided an area to get to their locker room both exiting and entering the floor.” This concern was addressed in a letter to the athletic director at Eastern Illinois Monday morning.

Fuller felt that he could have prevented the situation from occurring, but all was handled within a short period of time. He doesn’t have a problem working with Fifer or the Hardcorps band. They were just trying to do their job of performing and the players on the other team were just trying to get to their locker rooms.

Speaking about Hardcorps Fuller said, “They very well may be the difference in a couple of our ball games.”

Cockrell explained “it was definitely an unnecessary and violent push.” The police at the Coliseum told Gairhan that he could file a report because of what had happened. He said he will not because “it’s not going to do any good.”

The police on guard for this Saturday night’s game only totaled to four. Questioned, none of them witnessed the episode. If they had seen it Weemer would have been arrested on the spot. Because they did not, Gairhan would have to file a report at the station and get the coaches information himself. When asked after losing a close conference game 78-73, and later by email, neither Weemer nor head coach Rick Samuels had a comment about what occurred at halftime.

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Available on DVD & VHS

Once Upon a Time in Mexico

Rent it TODAY!

Rent 2, Get 1 Free

Columbia Pictures and Dimension Films present a Troublemaker Studios Production, a Robert Rodriguez flick.

Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek, Johnny Depp, "Once Upon a Time in Mexico." Mickey Rourke, Eva Mendes, Danny Trejo, Enrique Iglesias, Marco Leonardi, Cheech Marin, with Roben Blades and Willem Dafoe.

Mary Vernieu, Tony Mark, Casting, Graciela Mazón, Screenplay, Robert Rodriguez, photography, and directed by Robert Rodriguez.

Elizabet Avellan, Carlos Gallardo, Robert Rodriguez, Written and Directed by Robert Rodriguez.

Soundtrack on Milan Records.

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Gay marriages in U.S. not queer

Valentine’s Day is for people in love. And sometimes those people happen to be of the same sex.

Alabama entered the national debate over same-sex marriage last week when Rep. Gerald Allen, R-Cottondale, introduced a bill in the Legislature proposing an amendment to the state constitution that would define marriage as “a unique relationship between a man and a woman.” The issue has been a hot topic since President Bush’s State of the Union address in January where he said defining marriage as between a man and a woman is “the only alternative to defend the sanctity of marriage.”

Marriage is more sacred than sex these days because sex is just randomly had by many people with others they hardly even know. (Unless you’re Britney Spears and then you get drunk and marry someone on the fly.) But forget Britney — marriage is one of the most revered bonds you can attach yourself to.

Sure you can argue that marriage isn’t that important, no one would go through with it.

Being married is important to me, and to many other people I know. It is the idea of having someone you can look to everyday for support. It’s having a companion and a friend to talk to at any time. It’s being able to wake up next to someone that you are in love with and attracted to every day.

And if you can find that person that is important enough to you to marry, marry them. Even if they are the same sex as you.

Homosexuality may not be the way things are supposed to go according to nature, but nowadays there are so many different kinds of families, I don’t see how having two moms or two dads is any worse than not having one or the other. And who says you have to have kids to have a meaningful relationship? There are people who are physically unable to have children and who still have very happy marriages.

Making a commitment to someone you love, despite what sex they are, should be legal. You nor I should determine whether or not two people who love one another get married. And this country which prides itself on the freedoms it grants its citizens shouldn’t either.
The ‘L’ word: Make Valentine’s Day really mean something

By Angela Balinbin
The Seattle Times/NEXT

“I’ll never let go, Jack. I’ll neeeever let gooood!”

OK, fine. I’ll admit it. As Kate Winslet uttered those Oscar-winning words, I sniffled. Really, though, any girl would get Titanic-ly teary at the thought of Leonardo DiCaprio’s frozen carcass drifting away. How heart-wrenching. Romantic. Emotional. Yes, this is what our culture calls a “love story.”

Ahem, but in describing the genre correctly, I wouldn’t call “Titanic” a love story. It’s a romance. Or a story about love.

What’s the difference? Love, real love, itself, isn’t supposed to be simply a story. It’s supposed to be the most real thing we know.

And lucky ducks that we are, our society has its very own holiday to celebrate the big “L” word. At least, it thinks it does.

But does our modern Valentine’s Day really celebrate love? Or just a titanic bombardment of emotional mushy-gushyness?

Clearly, it’s the latter. Once Christmas is over, up go the pink and red hearts, and people start grumbling that marketers push holidays too early on us, that Valentine’s Day was only invented by Hallmark, and that not having a Valentine is one February-cold self-esteem killer.

Wow. Feel the love. Our modern Valentine’s Day is curvy-cued around romance, and having that “special someone,” unless, of course, you’re in grade school, and in that case you have to give a Valentine to everyone, yes, everyone!

This holiday, then, necessarily excludes all who aren’t currently jivin’ with romantic love.

This is wrong! Refuse to put up with this discrimination! Valentine’s Day should be about real love, upper-case L “Love,” and not simply romance.

Can we maybe try to not grumble about Valentine’s Day? Can we maybe realize that this is a day when we get to tell the people we care about that we love them? Because doing so is important.

Even more important is realizing that love doesn’t correspond with our pleasure/pain society. Real love isn’t about instant gratification, and doesn’t work with the “if-it-doesn’t-feel-good-then-something’s-wrong” rationality.

Isn’t it true that we can be our most brutal and the least patient with those we say we love? Aren’t we the quickest to judge and often the slowest to listen to those we say are most important to us?

Loving isn’t a pretty and perfect science that can be summed up on a happy candy heart. Loving means surrendering to the unknown. It’s accepting the uncontrollable vulnerability of possibly feeling pain, as well as perhaps the even scarier vulnerability of letting the guard down and allowing ourselves to be loved.

We are all born into that tension and vulnerability. As an adult now, I choose to live in that vulnerability. I want to be “in love” with the people I surround myself with and things I find myself doing and studying and hoping for.

Rebuking the opportunity to do so would render my life the same as our modern Valentine’s Day: all sickly, sweet fluff and no substance.

We are pre-disposed to love. You can’t convince me otherwise. It’s all that we’re supposed to do with our lives. It’s all that gives our lives meaning.

So... shouldn’t we celebrate this word, this outpouring action verb?

I say we should. And you know what? Feb. 14 seems like a great day to do it.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I have been wanting to write a bit expressing my disdile比for some of the writings of Danni Lusk. Many articles she writes seem to be harshly judgmental and negative. I do not know if that is a requirement in journalism, to say things merely to shake and stir it up a twirl for entertainment’s sake. Regardless,

I think she is a witty writer. I just wonder if her childhood dream was to debase everything with a little individuality. Individuality is healthy, especially on a college campus. Fellow JSU students, writers or not, should not publicly attack people’s ideals or tastes in clothing. I understand a critique never hurt anyone, it just seems that is all I read of Miss Lusk’s.

To respond specifically to the article about poser punk kids, maybe someone’s uniqueness is a played out look or style to me or you; but to them it may be the one thing that keeps them feeling like someone. We all need to express ourselves more, not less. It is bothersome to me, my roomie, and friends that she seems to be full of angst or something.

Anyway, I’ll still read The Chanticleer and all. I just wanted to see if she could see that in her writing or if any of you agreed with us. Thanks and take care! I mean no offense!

Kim Sheffield

The column Miss Sheffield is referring to is one of several monthly columns called “Danni’s Edge” and can be found not in The Chanticleer, but in the October/November edition of a features publication Danni works for called The Mudcat.
Art as life itself

By Holly Tucker
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The JSU Art Department hosted its annual Juried Student Show Tuesday, Feb. 3 in Hammond Hall. The art on display was ranked from first place to honorable mentions. Categories for the juried art were 3-D Design, ceramics, drawing, design, painting, graphic design, photography and printmaking.

This showing allows the students as well as the community to come out and view what is generally happening with JSU’s Art Department and what the creativity of the students is geared towards. “We work on these pieces for some time and are really concentrated on what we are doing so I like to be given a chance to see what everyone else has been working on,” said Nicola Fantei, a fellow art student. “This gives us a chance to see the department as a whole.”

“After putting a lot of effort into the making of ones art it’s nice to have it seen,” said Joseph Creel, an exhibiting art student. All students create their work from infancy, whether it be ceramics or drawing, no one piece is similar as each student embraces their own style.

“Target Audience” was fashioned by art student Bryan Stone. This portion consisted of a young child, crafted in ceramics, worshiping a television set as it was being fed the latest rubbish in pop-culture. “The show tonight wouldn’t be what it is without our instructors. We have such a wide range of them that expose us to a lot of different aspects and really shape us for a better grasp of what we can do,” said Stone.

Walking in, one might expect to see dabbles of ink on paper or just another mug crafted for someone’s grandmother, but the art in this showing was much more than that. Each piece was so intricately constructed and breathtaking as to make a person believe that it was no molded ceramic or once bare canvas.

Just a Hallmark Holiday or more?

By Katja Sunnarborg
The Chanticleer Features Editor

I’ve that time of the year again, when we can have an official excuse to tell our loved ones how much we actually love them and how important they are in our lives. “Love u,” “Be Mine” and “I’m Yours” are on top of every cupcake, candy or card waiting to be given to that special someone.

But maybe this day of hearts and kisses isn’t so special to us all. I have never celebrated it, since it is not a custom in Finland. We do have Valentine’s Day on Feb. 14, but it is more like celebrating your friends, than actual romantic love; besides nobody really notices this day anyway in my country.

When I was 14 years old, I started reading from the magazines about this special day and the way Americans send cards to their girlfriends, boyfriends, wifes, husbands and to those they have a crush on. It seemed like a sweet bedtime story, but I really never understood why there should be this one day during the year, when we should tell wa

Backstage at the Grammys

By Barry Koltnow
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

OutKast did win the Best Rap Album award, and Antwan

The Chanticleer / Erin Chupp

Above, “Showtime Tom,” sculpture with found objects by Judy Wright Mayer. This piece won the first place on 3-D design. Right, Amber Singer is admiring her own work called “Pink,” which received honorable mention from the jury.

Student art will be displayed in Hammond Hall Art Gallery until Feb. 20.
There was no five-minute delay backstage at the Grammys. It was all live, and occasionally even interesting.

The specter of the Janet Jackson breast-baring incident loomed large over the backstage area, especially when media types brought it up every two minutes. The media loves breast-baring incidents.

Here is a sampling of what the winners were saying backstage, including what they thought of Miss Jackson and her Super Bowl flash.

Christina Aguilera’s dress was cut all the way down to there, and she said it took quite an effort to make sure that there were no accidental flashes of body parts. She wouldn’t give details of that effort.

“Us girls have our little secrets.” As for the controversy that has consumed the nation in the middle of a war, Aguilera said it needs “to be put to bed.” She said she couldn’t understand why people were “still

Bob Dylan

Live at Philharmonic Hall, 1964

Review by Nick Mackay
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

There was a time, long ago, when folk music actually meant something. Halloween night, 1964 perfectly encapsulated that time. That night a 23-year-old folk prodigy from Greenwich Village in New York City, lead a band of disheveled gypsies and bohemians uptown to the Philharmonic Hall for a concert on All Hallows Eve. That young man was Bob Dylan.

Much like today’s world under the “orange alert” of the Bush regime, 1964 certainly

was a time that was a changin’. JFK had been assassinated less than a year earlier, civil rights workers were being murdered in Mississippi, a Russian President was being overthrown by his own people. Communist China was letting off its first atomic bomb and President Lyndon Johnson was escalating the American war efforts in Vietnam with a congressional blank check. Things looked dire indeed.

So, with hope and adoration, the youth of the time turned to one of their own, and Dylan happy to take the role as a generation’s leader, obliged. The Halloween concert from 1964 is a perfect example of the power Dylan was beginning to rapidly command.

Opening with “The Times They Are A-Changin’”, a light-hearted Dylan jokes and strums his way through 17 of his early classics. Between songs the crowd gushes, screams out requests and hang on Dylan’s every word. Less than a year later he would alienate a large majority of these fans by performing an entire set electric at the Newport Folk Festival. But that was, and still is, Dylan’s strength as an artist; he is unaffected of change.

Several songs stand out in the two CD set. Dylan’s talent for the narrative in a story is extraordinary. “Who Killed Davey Moore?” predates “Hurricane” as the story of a boxer who died needlessly in the ring. The following song, “Gate of Eden” is introduced by Dylan as “a love song.” It was a popular Dylan number at the time, and the minimal nature of the song is highlighted by the sparse backing; a guitar and a voice, which sit starkly against the backdrop of the hushed crowd.

The following song, “If You Gotta Go, Go Now (Or Else Stay All Night)” with its now-or-never seduction, features a piece of witty, pre-song banter from Dylan. “It’s Halloween. I’ve got my Bob Dylan mask on.” The song, at the time, was unknown even to the most earnest Dylan follower. The first verse drew laughter and applause from the crowd; “I’m just a poor boy baby, looking to connect. But I certainly don’t want you thinking that I ain’t got no respect.”

The rest of the album finds Dylan slipping from wounded romantic (“It’s Alright Ma, I’m Only Bleeding”) to weary troubadour (“Mr. Tambourine Man”) to the nasal voice of a generation (“A Hard Rain’s A-Gunna Fall”). Less than three months later Dylan would enter Columbia Records’ Studio A to record “Bring It All Back Home” and the following year he would release the mostly electric “Highway 61 Revisited.” An album that still stands up next to the best albums ever released. This concert, which featured an appearance from perennial folk favorite Joan Baez, stands as the beginning of Dylan’s metamorphosis from youthful poet to serious musical visionary.

We don’t have a Bob Dylan in today’s generation, and that’s a shame. We need a person to represent the youth, their views and their passion. The closest thing to our Bob Dylan is a white rapper from Detroit, which is not necessarily a bad thing. But, if nothing else, this live concert reminds us that you don’t need huge tattoos and a pose to be a bad-ass and shake up the system. All you need is a guitar, a harmonic, and a soapbox to stand on.

OutKast did win the Best Album award, and Antwan “Big Boi” Patton said he was shocked but pleased with the recognition. “We picked that little piece of iron up,” he said of the Grammy.

Is there anyone cooler or smoother than Tony Bennett? We don’t think so. He caresses the microphone like a pro, and he always addresses female reporters with an endearing “sweetheart.” He also knows some stuff.

When a reporter with a British accent suggested that Bennett had won “only” 11 Grammys, Bennett quickly responded that the correct number was 12.

The British journalist begged to differ, but Bennett wouldn’t budge. “It’s 12,” he said firmly, but without a hint of ego. “But the book says 11,” the annoying journalist insisted. “Are you counting the lifetime achievement Grammy?” Bennett asked.

Big Boi, left, and Andre of Outkast pose with their Grammys at the 46th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California, on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2004. Outkast won the Best Album award, and Antwan “Big Boi” Patton said he was shocked but pleased with the recognition.

see Grammys, page 6
Beating Around the Bush

By Corey McDaniel & Bryan Stone

from Grammys, page 5

Amy Lee of Evanescence was asked backstage why 50 Cent joined them on stage. “I expected him to win,” she said, “and I guess he did, too.”

Rocker Dave Matthews had to face the inevitable question about the Jackson incident, almost unavoidable. Over the next few days, pay close attention to newly inspired career options from approximately four months ago will resurface. Over the next few costly miscalculations. Remain cautious.

from Art, page 5

taking shape in a form that is life itself.

“This juried show gives you an idea of what some of the JSU’s art department in a good light, according to him, the program at JSU is as progressive as any in the southeast. One secret to the success of the JSU art department is its accessibility. According to him, the art department is as progressive as any in the southeast. One secret to the success of the JSU art department is its accessibility. According to him, the art department is as progressive as any in the southeast. One secret to the success of the JSU art department is its accessibility. According to him, the art department is as progressive as any in the southeast. One secret to the success of the JSU art department is its accessibility. According to him, the art department is as progressive as any in the southeast. One secret to the success of the JSU art department is its accessibility. According to him, the art department is as progressive as any in the southeast. 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to face the incendiary question about the Jackson incident, and he admitted that he was surprised that you were surprised.

“I’m surprised that it’s (still) shocking that a breast can be seen on something other than a National Geographic special. (Breasts) were here before there was entertainment. Everything that it (the Jackson scandal) has overshadowed, it shouldn’t have.”

Matthews, who picked up his award in a pre-telecast ceremony, performed the Beatles song “I Saw Her Standing There” with Sting, Vince Gill and Pharrel Williams.

The bouquets raise money for museum operations, noting, “These noses were included in a dozen museum volunteers started assembling the bouquet components four weeks ago.

The bouquets raise money for museum operations and cost $25 each, plus $5 for shipping. In true clown fashion, a letter is enclosed with the bouquets, noting, “These noses were picked especially for you.”

NEW YORK - About 100 skirt-wearing men paraded through Manhattan’s Upper East Side to call for an end to the tyranny of slacks.

“We’re not transvestites, homosexuals or cross-dressers,” marcher David Johnson told the New York Times for Sunday editions. “We don’t want you to call us Jean or Sally. We’re men. Men who want the right to wear a skirt.”

The male bird is always the pretty one, not the female,” one participant, 27-year-old Chris Taylor, told the Times. “Why can’t the male human being dress with style and color?”

Professor Price is progressive as any in the southeast. One aspect that is the most incredible here is that there are more full professors teaching the students than you would get at most college level institutions and that gives students a chance with a more hands on technique at lower level classes.

“Art is everything you touch. It is all around us constantly, from the crumpled bed we awake from in the mornings to the uniquely designed toothbrushes and cars we use each day. Art is not only in the exhibits but it is also a continual basis of people behind the scenes.” Gee said.

FEBRUARY 14TH: Hey Mercedes and Wheat - Cotton Club
FEBRUARY 14TH: Edwin McCain Band and Will Hoge - Coca Cola Roxy Theatre
FEBRUARY 15TH: Graham Colton - Smith’s Olde Bar
FEBRUARY 16TH: Gossip - Echo Lounge
FEBRUARY 17TH: Apartment 26 - Flaw and Life Of Agony - The Masquerade
FEBRUARY 18TH: The Everythers and The High - Strung - Echo Lounge
FEBRUARY 19TH: The Novelists - The Emporium
FEBRUARY 20TH: The Bitter Ends - The Warehouse
FEBRUARY 21ST: The Allman Brothers - The Spectrum
FEBRUARY 22ND: The Flaming Lips - The Orpheum
Men need cure for road woes

By Mike Vaughan II
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State began a four game road swing this week, with games against Austin Peay and Tennessee Tech. Neither was good for the visitors, as JSU was swept by scores of 84-72 to Austin Peay and 101-86 to Tennessee Tech.

APSU jumped out to a 23-11 lead to open the game and led by as many as 23 points in the opening half, 49-26, with 1:16 left in the half before JSU scored the last four points of the stanza.

The Governors shot 61.3 percent in the first 20 minutes to build a 49-30 lead at the intermission. Austin Peay shot a season-high 70.6 percent, hitting 12-of-17 from the field, in the second half and led by as many as 29 points. Maurice Hampton’s free throw gave the Govs a 77-48 lead with 6:19 remaining, but the Gamecocks outsored Austin Peay 24-7 over the final six minutes for the final margin.

JSU’s Abdou Diame finished with a career-high 15 points and four rebounds in 24 minutes of action to lead the Gamecocks, while Scott Watson scored 12 points.

“Austin Peay established themselves early and they just don’t make a lot of mistakes to let teams back in the game,” said JSU head coach Mike LaPlante. “They are a very good team at home and when you get in a hole, it’s tough to battle back.”

Jacksonville State then went to Tennessee Tech to play the third place Golden Eagles squad. It didn’t go as smoothly as they would have liked, as they dropped a 101-86 decision to drop them to 11-11 and 4-7 in the OVC.

Tennessee Tech jumped out to an 11-point lead, 27-16, at about halfway through the first half, but the Gamecocks rallied to take a 35-33 lead after Eager sank a pair of free throws with 1:35 left to cap a 19-6 run. The Golden Eagles would score the next four points to build a 37-35 lead at the intermission.

Tennessee Tech held a 46-45 lead before going on a 24-6 run over the next seven minutes to push the lead to 19 points after a pair of free throws with 10:02 left.

The Gamecocks would pull to within nine points, 90-81, after Walker Russell scored on a lay-up with 1:57 left, but JSU could get no closer. TTU sank 6-of-9 from the line over the final minute for the final margin.

For the game, Eager tied his career-high with 30 points, followed by 15 by Walker Russell and James Denson recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Tennessee Tech shot a blazing 61.8 percent in the second half, hitting 21-of-34 from the field. The Golden Eagles finished the game hitting 57.9 percent for the game.

While the Eagles were hot, JSU shot 39.7 percent from the field for the game, its worst shooting night since hitting just 38.3 percent at Mississippi Valley State on the fourth game of the season. The Gamecocks had been making a run, and the door was officially slammed.

The Golden Eagles became the first team to score 100 points against JSU since February 9, 2000, when Jacksonville University claimed a 100-96 triple overtime win over the Gamecocks.

“We just gave them too many

JSU slips on road to ‘the dance’

By Mike Vaughan II
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State hit the road this week riding game, which came as JSU was making a run, and the door was officially slammed.

Shanika Freeman again led the Gamecocks in scoring with 22 points and 11 rebounds, while

Baseball tops in OVC preseason
Jacksonville State hit the road this week riding the momentum of a six-game winning streak and a tie for first place in the conference. ESPN even had the Gamecocks as a No. 15 seed in their NCAA forecasting. After some highly questionable officiating in the two games, JSU ended the week in a tie for second after a pair of losses, to Austin Peay 76-67 and to Tennessee Tech 71-68.

The first game of the week saw the Gamecocks battle the Governors of Austin Peay in a battle for first place. JSU let an early lead slip away for a 76-67 loss. JSU would build a lead of 8-1 before Austin Peay finally hit a field goal at the 14:22 mark of the first half. At one point, Austin Peay had only hit 2-of-19 field goal attempts. JSU took their largest lead of the game at 19-7 after Kelly Nye came in and sank consecutive three point baskets.

A 12-3 run would narrow the gap to only three, but Cobie Carlisle got hot and scored five straight points to up the lead to 27-19. The half rolled around with JSU leading 31-25, as they never trailed in the first 10 minutes of the second half. JSU shot 12-of-28 in the half, compared to the Governors 9-of-36. The Governors started the half on a tear that saw them tie the game at 35-35 after a 10-4 run. The 14:55 mark saw Austin Peay take their first lead, as the Governors outscored the Gamecocks 20-7 in the first ten minutes of the second half.

JSU cut the lead to one, at 45-44, but a foul on Fredrika Embry led to an immediate technical foul on Carlisle, and the Govs hit all four free throws to regain a five-point advantage. This seemed to deflate the Gamecocks, as they would begin to get called for frustration fouls. A disputable intentional foul was called at :25 left in the game. The women caught the road bug from the men dropping tech 71-68.

The women caught the road bug from the men droppingJSU's five spot in the poll, followed by Samford and Tennessee Tech in sixth and seventh place, respectively. Murray State, the 2004 OVC Tournament champion, was selected eighth, while another reason I never like that day. Even if I was with someone, something would come up and we wouldn't end up spending it together.

Not to mention the commercialism of the Hallmark Holiday. I think that men should get the day off from work/school because we are always the ones spending money, God help our souls if we don't.

So buy your roses, candy and what ever else she wants guys, just don't forget to tell her you love her.
From Women, page 7

five-point home advantage, after a TTU 12-2 run. JSU proved they weren’t going anywhere, however, as they ended the half on a 5-0 run, with all five scored by Freeman, as the two teams went to the break tied at 35-35.

The tie would stretch to 41-41 before Tech went on a 10-4 run, aided by three free throws. JSU closed to within four at 53-49 with 9:03 remaining, but the Golden Eagles went on a 7-0 run in two minutes, as five of the seven points came from the charity stripe, a place taking on a new meaning in this game.

Again, the Gamecocks ran, tying the game at 4-64 with 2:06 left, and Tech didn’t hit a field goal in the last 4:06 of the game. The generous officials saw that they would get their scoring opportunities, however, as Tech scored on 7-of-8 free throws over the last 1:36 to escape with a three point victory.

The Gamecocks dominated the stats. Points in the paint were 30-16 in the Gamecocks favor. JSU’s bench outscores Tech’s by a 32-14 margin, but the only glaring deficits were from the line and in second chance points, where the Eagles held a 14-6 advantage.

Freeman only scored 18 in the game, but again grabbed 11 rebounds. Slaughter kept up her good play with 11 points, while Carlisle, Embry and Nye each scored nine points.

Soccer signs five players for defense

From staff reports

JACKSONVILLE - Size, speed and athleticism were the goals addressed by the 2004 Jacksonville State soccer recruiting class.

Three months after wrapping up an 11-4-5 2003 season and a berth in the Final Four of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, Jax State head coach Lisa Howe said she thinks the addition of five players signing National Letters of Intent can help the team achieve an even higher level of success in 2004.

“We had three important goals for our 2004 recruiting class and these signees helped us achieve them,” said Howe.

High School: Rockwall High School
Quoting Howe: “Caroline’s speed and her ability to use her left foot will help our team. She also will be one of the tallest players on the team, which will help us in a physical conference.”
Name: Tashana Rogers
Position: Midfielder, Forward
Hometown: Douglasville, Georgia
High School: Chapel Hill High School
Quoting Howe: “Tashana is a versatile player who will help us because of her speed and quickness. She is very fast both on and off the ball.”
Name: Jessica Scerbo
Position: Defender
High School: Rockwall High School
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From Baseball, page 7

Clint Carroll (junior/Tuscaloosa, Ala.) finished the 2003 season with a .344 batting average, 32 hits and 11 RBI. Pitcher C.R. Palmer (senior/Douglasville, Ga.) went 7-5 with a 4.67 ERA in 79.0 innings of work and ranked third on the squad with 60 strikeouts in 2003.

The 2004 OVC baseball season gets underway February 12 with conference play starting March 27. Jacksonville State will open against SEC power Alabama at home on February 18.

For the best baseball and softball coverage of the year check out The Chanticleer next week!
class and these signees helped us achieve them,” said Howe. The new players will help our team because they add size and athleticism in the more physical OVC. We have improved our offensive capabilities and have more depth at the defender position. Most importantly, we have improved our team speed.”

Defenders Anna Goolsby, of Evans, Georgia, and Jessica Scerbo, of York, Pennsylvania, will add depth to a Gamecock team that led the OVC in several defensive categories.

Jax State also adds the services of midfielders Laura Jennings (Allen, Texas) and Caroline Seitz (Heath, Texas). Tashana Rogers, of Douglasville, Georgia, also comes to the team with the versatility to play midfield or forward.

The incoming class will join a JSU team that finished third in the OVC standings a year ago and returns several key players. Returning for the Gamecocks will be first-team All-Conference standouts Kristen Fleeger, Breanne Milne and OVC Defensive Player of the Year Amanda Stephens. Second team All-Conference honorees set to return include Joanna McGaughey and Tiffanie Stewart. Another postseason honoree set to return for Jax State will be sophomore Dausha Hudack, who was named to the 2003 OVC All-Tournament team.

Name: Anna Goolsby
Position: Defender
Hometown: Evans, Georgia
High School: Evans High School
Quoting Howe: “Anna is going to give our team more depth as a defender. Her speed and size will more dominant in the Ohio Valley Conference.”

Name: Caroline Seitz
Position: Midfielder
Hometown: Heath, Texas

Name: Jessica Scerbo
Position: Defender
Hometown: York, Pennsylvania
High School: Dallastown High School
Quoting Howe: “Jess is our most versatile player for 2004. Her ability to play defender and midfielder will help our team right away.”

Name: Laura Jennings
Position: Midfielder
Hometown: Allen, Texas
High School: Allen High School
Quoting Howe: “Laura will be a great impact on our team from the start because of her abilities to score goals and her involvement in the offensive attack.”