

## Remembering a Gamecock winner, Tera Marie Ross

*Determined and kind; 'Tera has been compared to a bulldog on the field, but off the field she would cry if she stepped on an ant.'*

*—Jana McGinnis*

**From staff reports & Jane Little**

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Jacksonville State University Athletic Department lost Tera Marie Ross in a tragic automobile accident while on her way home to Florida for the holidays Wednesday, December 9, 2003.

Ross, 22, was a native of Cooper City, Fla., and was a three-year starter for Coach Jana McGinnis and the Gamecock softball team. She was also the president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and was inducted into the Scholar-Athlete Hall of Fame just last Saturday.

Ross was driving a 2000 Ford Explorer south on the Florida turnpike when the vehicle crossed the median and collided head-on with a north-bound 2002 Volvo freight

truck, according to Florida Highway Patrol officials.

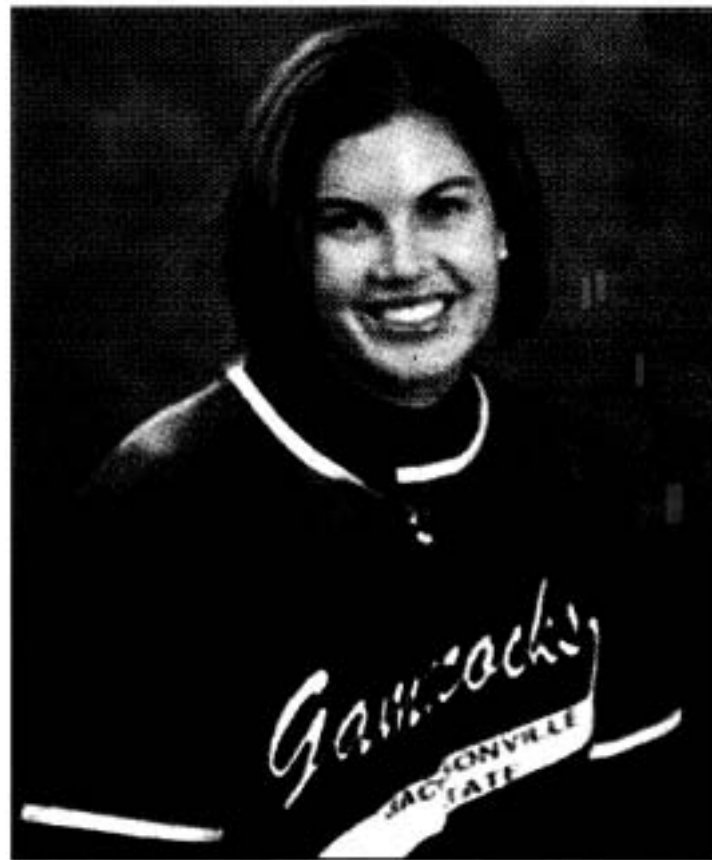
The collision ruptured one of five cases of blasting caps that were being taken from Orlando to Eglin Air Force Base on the Florida Panhandle.

Ross' brother, Zachary Ryan Ross, 20, and a fellow softball player, Kelly Melissa Raw, 18, of Oviedo, Fla., were passengers in the Explorer.

Ross earned Atlantic Sun Conference Pitcher-of-the-Week honors once last season and finished the year with a 19-6 record, 142 strikeouts and a team-best 1.17 ERA.

Raw, a freshman pitcher for the Gamecocks, earned the Orlando Sentinel's Seminole County Player of the Year for her efforts on the Oviedo High School softball team.

The following is from an article printed first printed April 3, 2003 in The



JSU Softball Player Tera Ross

Chanticleer.

"The ultimate compliment would be for a little girl to look up to me and say that she wants to be like me. Being an athlete is being a role model and the way I carry myself on and off the field is extremely important."

Everything that Tera Ross says or does not say is what she is. She is honest and modest. She does not like to talk about herself but she will talk about everyone else. She spits out numerous compliments about her family, team and coaches.

Ross is extremely family orientated. When she first arrived at JSU it was a big adjustment for her to be away from her family. She said she still gets homesick even after being away for three years. "I am so blessed and so fortunate to have two great parents and a

great family," said Ross. "I'm so proud of them."

Ross wants family to continue to be the focal part of her life. Being successful in life to her means having a great marriage, and great kids. She believes that the most important thing is to make a good contribution to society.

Ross also wants to give to society through her career. Ross is majoring in home economics education and would like to teach high school.

Ross speaks about her teammates as if they are the only ones who matter. She puts her all into every pitch she throws because she feels they return her efforts. She said this team has an inner drive and everyone is always working to get better and working for each other. She explained that every

see Tera, page 8

## Saddam captured, troops continue to rebuild

*American presence in Iraq continues to spark political debates among politicians*

**By Sudarsan Raghaven, Maureen Fan & Warren P. Strobel**  
*Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)*

ADWAR, Iraq — U.S. soldiers and special forces captured deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein without fir-

had eluded U.S. bombs and searchers for nine months, "was just caught like a rat," he said.

Saddam, who once held absolute power and had sway over billions of dollars' worth of oil, was shown in video images tired and

**By Steven Thomma**  
*Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)*

WASHINGTON — The capture of Saddam Hussein on Sunday will help President Bush as he enters his re-election campaign, bolstering his image as a

And he has to capture terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden.

But the capture of Saddam promises a trifecta for Bush.

First, it reinforces his image as a decisive leader, one of his core strengths. Second, it helps Bush per-

over Iraq. It makes it harder for front-running Democratic presidential hopeful Howard Dean to continue ridiculing rivals for supporting the war. It also undermines Democrats who argue that Bush has bungled the war.

**SGA passes resolutions to improve JSU campus safety**

**By Rosalind Moore**  
*The Chanticleer News Editors*

tured deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein without firing a shot, authorities announced Sunday, ending an era in Iraq and providing a huge psychological boost for President Bush's troubled effort to stabilize the country.

Saddam was captured Saturday in an underground hiding place at a remote farmhouse in Adwar, a town nine miles from his birthplace in Tikrit, in central Iraq. He surrendered without resistance, said Army Maj. Gen. Ray Odierno.

Odierno, whose 4th Infantry Division carried out the raid based on a tip received less than 24 hours earlier, described Saddam as "disoriented" and "bewildered" when he was taken into custody.

The former dictator, who

sway over millions of dollars' worth of oil, was shown in video images tired and bedraggled with an unkempt beard. The former dictator, who while in power didn't allow anyone to even shake his hand without going through elaborate security procedures, put up no fight as an American soldier examined his teeth and matted hair.

The capture, at 8:26 p.m. local time Saturday, is a symbolic blow for the United States against the guerrilla resistance that has killed nearly 200 U.S. soldiers since May 1, when President Bush declared major combat over, and has sabotaged the U.S.-led rebuilding effort. It will boost the confidence of Iraqis struggling to craft a

see **Capture**, page 2

his re-election campaign, bolstering his image as a leader.

Challenges remain for Bush before he can claim a broader victory in the war on terrorism in Iraq or elsewhere. He still must show the world that Saddam was harboring weapons of mass destruction. He has to end the violence in Iraq and put it on the path to democracy.

**The Associated Press**

As of Wednesday, Dec. 31, 478 U.S. service members have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq, according to the Department of Defense. Of those, 327 died as a result of hostile action and 151 died of non-hostile causes, the department said.

The British military has

image as a decisive leader, one of his core strengths. Second, it helps Bush persuade Americans that there are benefits to their sacrifice in Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere. Third, it promises a future war crimes trial that will remind Americans that Bush stood up to a murderous tyrant.

At the same time, the capture deepens the fault line within the Democratic Party

reported 52 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain, eight; Bulgaria, five; Thailand, two; Denmark, Ukraine and Poland have reported one each.

On or since May 1, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 340 U.S. soldiers have died - 212 as a result of hostile action and 128 of non-hostile causes, according to the Defense Department's figures.

undermines Democrats who argue that Bush has bungled the war.

"This is a real punctuation mark for the president," said Susan McManus, a political scientist at the University of South Florida.

The capture, she said, would boost Bush's standing as a leader at home and abroad while making it

see **Politics**, page 2

Since the start of military operations, 2,380 U.S. service members have been injured as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department's figures. Non-hostile injured numbered 373.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

A U.S. soldier was killed Tuesday night in the accidental discharge of a weapon in the town of Tanf on the Syrian border.

By Rosalind Moore  
The Chanticleer News Editors

Student Government Association president, Chris Cook, describes the people behind several SGA resolutions passed at the end of fall semester as "students who want and positive change for the University and the students here."

Many JSU students would be relieved to know that long before the spring semester began the SGA Campus Safety Committee passed several resolutions to improve parking and logistics, lighting around campus, and create a more student friendly and safe campus for all JSU students.

Although these resolutions are currently only recommendations to the JSU administration, Cook stated that the SGA would continue to work on these issues throughout the spring semester.

At the Nov. 24 SGA meeting the Campus Safety Committee presented several resolutions to improve some areas of the JSU community. These resolutions were passed by the student Senate and will be given to appropriate university officials for review.

The first resolution focuses on increased lighting on campus. The resolution notes that currently "lighting on campus does not support the safety and

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# Make a resolution to study this spring semester

By Rosalind Moore  
The Chanticleer News Editors

The spring semester is off to its usual start. For the past few days students have lined up in bookstores to purchase books, stood in line at the bursar's window, lugged their entire clothing wardrobe into apartments and dorms, and of course maneuvered for that last red parking spot.

Counseling and Career Services, a service provided to JSU students, deals with various issues including how to juggle the many facets involved in college life. As the semester begins new and fresh,

Counseling and Career Services encourages students to begin by prioritizing their time.

"Setting priorities is the best thing students can do to help manage their time," said Linda Shelton, a JSU counselor. "Basically you should have your fixed times like your scheduled classes or work and then you can prioritize other things."

Counseling and Career services is available for counseling on many issues and tutoring services. They have information available to help students manage their time.

Some of the important advice offered in the information



The Chanticleer/ Rosalind Moore

JSU students gear up for the spring semester as they stand in line at Jacksonville's Campus Bookstore.

includes choosing appropriate places and times to study, allowing yourself time for fun, and allowing time in your schedule for unplanned events. The information also gives

interesting advice on how to handle the rest of the world. Counseling and Career services are urging students learn to say no, avoid procrastination, and developing a relationship with your roommates about personal study habits.

"Sometimes your attitude can also affect your ability," Shelton stated. "If you have a negative attitude about a class and you are always saying 'Oh I'm going to fail' that will affect your performance."

According to Shelton, a change in attitude can go a long way in improving your perfor-

see **Study**, page 2

**By the numbers:**

Number of days until Spring Break:

**72**

**Gamecock Scoreboard:**

**Men's basketball:**

Jan. 3 - Austin Peahy 76, JSU 58  
Jan. 6 - Samford 58, JSU 48  
Tonight - at Tennessee State 7 p.m.

**Women's basketball:**

Jan. 2 - JSU 65, Birm. Southern 56  
Jan. 6 - JSU 70, Samford 68  
Tonight - at Tenn. State 5:45 p.m.

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much easier for him to tell Americans the country needs to "stay the course" in Iraq.

"There's nothing like success to make the cost seem more palatable," she said.

Greg Mueller, a veteran Republican strategist who has worked for Bush's rivals in the party, said the capture could help Bush convince Americans that he is a principled rather than political leader.

"It sends the message that he is persistent and consistent," Mueller said. "No matter what the political pres-

ures might be, no matter what the polls might say, he sticks with it."

On the Democratic side, party strategist Jenny Backus congratulated Bush and acknowledged he would enjoy at least a short-term political gain. Yet she cautioned against overconfidence.

"Both parties need to be careful about declaring political victory or loss. It may not be so great for Bush later if we're still losing soldiers over there."

She also said it could be good for her party if it ended the months-long, backward-looking debate among

Democratic presidential candidates over who supported or opposed going to war in Iraq.

The capture set off a new round of posturing and sniping over the war among Democrats on Sunday.

"I supported this effort in Iraq without regard for the political consequences because it was the right thing to do," said Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri. "I still feel that way now, and today is a major step toward stabilizing Iraq and building a new democracy."

"If Howard Dean had his way," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut,

"Saddam Hussein would still be in power today, not in prison, and the world would be a more dangerous place. If we Democrats want to win back the White House and take this country forward, we have to show the American people that we're prepared to keep them safe."

Despite his opposition to the war, Dean issued a brief statement praising U.S. troops. He said it cleared the way for the United States to bring the United Nations and NATO into Iraq "and take the American label off the war."

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new government.

But it is unlikely to end attacks on U.S. forces, particularly in the short term, officials said.

Saddam was caught with a pistol, which he didn't try to use, Odierno said.

There were no radios, computers, satellite phones or any other communication devices found at the farm, the general said. He added that he believed the insurgency had some local and regional coordination, but that Saddam didn't appear to

be orchestrating the attacks.

Two other Iraqis, believed to be Saddam's aides, were also arrested in the raid. Soldiers found two Kalashnikov rifles, a taxi and a green metal crate filled with \$750,000, all in \$100 bills.

In Washington, President Bush said, "Now the former dictator of Iraq will face the justice he denied to millions."

But in a three-minute address from the White House Cabinet Room to Americans and Iraqis, Bush also warned, "The capture of

Saddam Hussein does not mean the end of violence in Iraq."

Odierno and other officials said that while Saddam might provide information on the anti-American resistance, he did not appear to directly control the guerrillas.

There could even be a short-term upsurge in violence by his former supporters, "people who have even less of a future than they did before," said a senior U.S. official speaking on condition of anonymity.

Saddam also might provide

information on the fate of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs.

**In Baghdad, reaction to the news of Saddam's capture was mixed. Many Baghdadis said they found the way Saddam was caught humiliating. Others said they feared more violence.**

Gunfire continued into the night, much of it celebratory, but some of it released by Saddam sympathizers in Adamiya, a Sunni stronghold and one of the last neighborhoods where Saddam was seen before the fall of Baghdad on April 9.

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comfort level necessary for students to feel safe." The committee proposed that several areas on campus

parking. Other issues addressed in the resolutions focused on positioning parking lots in a manner more conducive to traffic flow and redeveloping parking lots locat-

walk to class is a necessity."

They attached along with this recommendation several areas near the Stone Center, Merrill Building, and the Theron

Cook stated that although the resolutions will be sent to the appropriate officials that action and certain changes will take a while to become effective. Cook also

## from **Study**, page 1

mance and ability in a class. A positive attitude can make a hard class seem not nearly as difficult.

One other piece of advice that Counseling and Career services offers in its information packets is asking yourself difficult questions that will cause you to take an inner look at your situation. Ask yourself questions like "What is the one task I can accomplish toward my goal?" and "Can I do just one more thing?"

These types of questions will force you to analyze if you are making progress towards a goal or if you are trying to take on too many tasks.

"It's easy to do something else," said Shelton, "You can have that social time but you still need your study time."

If you are interested in learning how you can improve your study habits or just want some information about tutoring or counseling, contact Counseling and Career services at 782-5475 or stop by the second floor of the Theron Montgomery building.

Got a nose for news?  
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for more information.

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## The Computer Cafe



The committee proposed that several areas on campus be considered for possible lighting improvement.

Lighting was of importance to the committee because they noted in their proposal they felt that lighting "should be sufficient for students to feel safe to roam about campus at night."

Other resolutions passed addressed a combination of issues regarding parking availability and layout. One resolution noted that "there are 9,031 students at Jacksonville State University and less than 4,500 student parking spaces." The resolution also addressed the numerous areas on campus not being utilized for student

traffic flow and redeveloping parking lots located at Stephenson Hall.

The last area of safety that was addressed was concerning the walkability of JSU's campus. The resolution began by reiterating that "the goal of the Student Government Association is to have more students walk to class."

The SGA has a willingness to meet this goal and continues to implement Walk to Class Wednesday each semester. However, the resolution stressed that "creating a safe environment for students to

Stone Center, Merrill Building, and the Theron Montgomery Building for additional crosswalks.

The recommendations are currently in the developmental stage and will be sent to Dr. William Meehan,

president of JSU; Terry Schneider, Chief of Campus Police; Pete Conroy, Environmental Policy; George Lord, Physical Plant; Tim Smith, Institutional Effectiveness; Dr. Bill Hug, faculty senate president; and Chris Cook, SGA president.

**"Dr. Meehan has always been very supportive of the SGA and he always looks after us ..."**

**• Chris Cook  
SGA president**

# The Computer Cafe

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Delta Sigma Theta:** We would like to wish everyone a great spring semester. Coming Soon! Delta Week 2004, Jan. 11 thru Jan. 17. **Contact:** Marshonntri Reid, kappabeta\_73@hotmail.com.

**National Pan-Hellenic Council:** The National Pan-Hellenic Council will have its first meeting of the spring semester on Wed. Jan. 14 at 6 p.m. in the TMB. We hope to see you there. **Contact:** Marcus Shepard, 782-7638.

**Alpha Xi Delta:** We hope that everyone had a good winter break. We are looking forward to a great spring semester! **Contact:** Jenny Wentworth at 435-5152.

**Delta Zeta:** Delta Zeta would like to wish everyone good luck with their spring semester. **Contact:** Betina Jones, 782-6240.

The Chanticleer Announcements Policy: Any JSU student organization or University office may submit items for the Announcements column. Submissions **must** be typed, and must be limited to 50 words. Submissions **must** include a name and telephone number or e-mail address to contact for further information, but this information does not count toward the 50-word total. Submissions **must** arrive at The Chanticleer offices in Room 180, Self Hall by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to the desired publication date.

The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit submissions for style, brevity, and clarity.

## CAMPUS CRIME

There were no campus crime 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 Salls Hall. These records are public documents which any individual has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe this information to be in error, please call 782-5701, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050.

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# OPINION

The Chanticleer • January 8, 2004

IN YOUR  
VIEW:  
QUESTION  
OF THE  
WEEK

“What are your New Year’s Resolutions?”

— Compiled by  
Danni Lusk  
Editor in Chief



Emily Williams  
Junior  
English

“To find a man — a real man.”



Mardracus Russell  
Junior  
Music/Social Science

## Simple solutions to the mass hysteria

*A lesson in curing the recent media-induced craze over mad cow disease and other random causes of death and destruction*

Everybody please stop what you are doing. Seriously.

It may be hazardous to your health.

Since New Year’s has just passed, I’ve made a few resolutions to save myself from imminent death. I will avoid smoking at all costs because of lung and throat cancer. No more donuts for me thanks to the threat of diabetes due to obesity. I’ve canned the consumption of caffeine for fear I might have poor circulation. And now, I’m not eating beef for fear I may go mad.

Yes, folks, it’s true. With all the recent publicity over the mad cow found in the state of Washington, one would think that every cow in America has gone mad. But it’s simply not true.

The one cow said to be a “downer” animal, meaning it was unable

to walk when it got to the slaughterhouse, was tested for the bovine spongiform encephalopathy because of a USDA rule that

spokesman for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association tried to ease the public’s concern in a recent CNN.com article, stating, “We will be on this like white on rice, the next few days.”

And the best part of the story is that the cow supposedly came from Canada. Damn Canadians and their mad cows.

The truth is, the USDA and the NCBA both say it is near impossible to get the disease from beef muscle meat or milk because the disease is only found in the brain and nerve tissue.

“Consumers should continue to eat beef with confidence,” an NCBA statement said. “All scientific studies show that the BSE infectious agent has never been found in beef muscle meat or milk and U.S. beef

By Danni Lusk  
The Chanticleer  
Editor in Chief



remains safe to eat.”

Excuse me? Did they say “U.S. beef remains safe to eat?” That’s not the message I got when I saw on CNN headline news the other day. There was a report about a 20-something in California that contracted the disease from beef she ate in England. the beef was from England, the report kept reminding viewers that she was from California as it flashed the depressing shots of her lying bed, being fed through a tube by her mother.

I don’t know about you, but the first thing that come out of my mouth when repeating this story over lunch would be,

“Yeh, and she’s from California.” Then the story continues down the line, similar to the childhood game where you sit in a circle and pass around a secret only to find that the secret has completely changed by the time it makes its round.

Thus, the American media feeds off this game and plays the role of the first person, in the circle. And you, my dear reader, are usually the last person to hear the secret.

But why would you listen to me on the subject of how the American media loves to hype things up and give too much attention to stories when I, myself, am an aspiring journalist?

The answer is simple. I am a journalist, therefore I see what goes on in the deep, dark lairs of liberal media goblins, otherwise

known as news rooms. I know how we sit at meetings and sometimes struggle to find a top story to put in each week’s paper. And sometimes, things we think the reader should be concerned about isn’t correct.

Yes, I said it. The media makes mistakes too. I think people really wouldn’t be concerned with the whole mad cow thing if the media would quit making it sounds worse than it really is.

After all, it is just one cow that has been diagnosed with the disease. And it is in a farm all the way in Washington state. And the experts say it’s a slim chance you’ll get the disease from eating the parts of the cow most people eat.

But if you want to keep worrying about it, I have a simple solution to this mass

hysteria over death and disease. I propose we all put our children in bubbles, like Bubble Boy. If bodily injury is your concern, we could tie our kids to a string and make them



Junior  
Music/Social Science

"To be more organized and to  
keep in touch with my friends."



Chris Cook  
Junior  
Political Science/Business  
Management

"To make better grades this

rule that forces automatic testing of these kind of animals. And now because of this one cow, America and the media has gone mad, convincing everyone that virtually all of America's beef is unsafe.

A



and make them walk in a single file line with helmets on their little heads.

So, with all this worry over our health. I say we all make the same resolutions I have for the new year and give up smoking, caffeine, donuts and beef. I hear tofu salads are really good these days.

# Americans must regain confidence in beef

appeared in *Dallas Morning News*  
*Knight Ridder/Tribune News*

The discovery that the mad cow found in Washington state came from Canada has caused the U.S. beef industry to breathe a wholly unwarranted sigh of relief. This crisis isn't over, and the American people shouldn't fool themselves into thinking it is.

Nobody can say for sure that the "downer" Holstein that sparked the current scare was the only one of her kind. It was a fluke that bovine spongiform

encephalopathy was discovered in this cow's tissue, and that fortunate find came only after her meat had been processed. Some experts believe the only reason BSE, or mad cow disease, hasn't been found here yet is that the government hardly has been looking for it.

The meatpacking industry has long fought congressional attempts to tighten regulation in response to the mad cow disaster overseas. Last summer, Congress narrowly defeated a ban on using sick or injured cattle for meat, with

Republican and Democratic members of Congress from farm states blocking passage. Too expensive, they said.

That's some bargain they struck. A single cow found to have slipped through the system has caused almost all of America's \$3 billion annual beef export market to evaporate in a single week.

Weigh that loss against the relatively paltry \$300 million a comprehensive inspection regimen like some European countries have would cost here. And think about the scope of the

catastrophe if American consumers, who eat 90 percent of U.S. beef, lose confidence in its safety.

The industry points to the 1997 federal ban on feeding animal proteins to cattle, a ban the industry fought, as a successful anti-BSE measure. But two years ago, the General Accounting Office discovered that the government had no way to enforce the ban or even to determine which firms were complying with it.

Moreover, there are loopholes in the law, including the appalling fact that it remains legal for factory

farms to turn calves into vampires, feeding them the blood of slaughtered cattle, which can't be guaranteed to be BSE-free, as a "milk replacer." No wonder neurologist Stanley Prusiner, who won the Nobel Prize for discovering what causes BSE, believes that mad cow is more present in the U.S. beef supply than we know.

This isn't a time for consumer panic. But more important, it isn't a time to kid ourselves that the health and regulatory status quo is acceptable. To do so would be, there's no better word for it, mad.



Terry Casey  
Director of Student Life

"Not to procrastinate and to help  
Emily Williams find a man."

## THE CHANTICLEER

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

### LETTERS POLICY

The Chanticleer welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typed. Letters may be hand-delivered or sent through campus mail to our offices in Room 180, Self Hall, or to the mailing address at left. Letters may also be e-mailed to: [jsu\\_chanticleer@hotmail.com](mailto:jsu_chanticleer@hotmail.com).

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous, defamatory, or submitted anonymously. Letters may be edited for style, brevity, or clarity. The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to desired publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Rebutals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.



# Features

The Chanticleer • January 8, 2004



The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie

Ethan members Rob Bruce (left) and Ethan Baker perform at the New Year's Eve celebration at Brother's Bar in Jacksonville.

## Local rock band 'Ethan' looks ahead

By Danni Lusk

The Chanticleer Editor in Chief

Since 1995, the Jacksonville band called Ethan has performed its jazz/funk/rock music for hundreds of fans over the years. They played to a crowd of 35,000 in May at the New Orleans JazzFest with names like Ben Harper and Robert Randall. They were then voted number one performer

times for people to classify you into a specific genre?

**Rob:** That's the best and worst thing about this band. I think we all love different styles of music and we all have different tastes. It seems the corporate world have more trouble with that than we do.

**Chanticleer:** Did you ever encounter any troubles with that when you were signed

Smith's Olde Bar for Chris.

**Chanticleer:** So what is the biggest show you've ever played?

**Ethan:** JazzFest in New Orleans was the biggest with 35,000 people there. We opened for Robert Randolph, Ben Harper, Los Lobos, and a few more.

**Tim:** The part I liked more about it was there wasn't a backstage area, there was a



## This year I'm keeping mine

By Katja Sunnarborg  
The Chanticleer  
Features Editor



Once again we made it through another year and we can look forward for another one. Why is it, that every time the year changes, for many, it has the meaning of new possibilities? We make New Year resolutions, promise ourselves that this time they will last through the whole year. It really doesn't matter what happened last year or the year before, because this one can really have the **meaning** of new beginning.

I hardly ever make resolutions, because over the years I have noticed how impossible it is for me to keep them. During the first few weeks I'm able to go along with my resolutions and then something happens and by the time we live through February I don't even remember what my resolutions were. It gets frustrating and eventually I have stopped making any.

Whatever we promise that we will change this year, we promise quietly inside, so that nobody would know if in

Randall. They were then voted number one performer at the JazzFest on a New Orleans radio station Web site.

They are also no longer under a contract with Distillery Music Group, the company headed by Travis Meeks of Days of the New, which released their latest album "Entropy Boy" into the national market in October 2002.

Then in November 2003, Andy Curtis, the band's saxophone player, decided to leave the band for personal reasons.

With all these changes, Ethan Baker, Rob Bruce, Gary Chumney and Tim Cloud sat down with *The Chanticleer* for a few questions about what they've been doing lately and what is next.

**Chanticleer:** What I like best about your shows is that every one is different. I think that's partly why you have so many fans around here. How are the fans everywhere else?

**Rob:** Different groups of people tend to enjoy different parts of our show. We have all these different incorporations of styles and people are just sitting there listening to us. Then we have the jam band kind of people that get up there and start dancing. Like when we played JazzFest in New Orleans, we had everybody captivated. We have so many different elements of song styles that there is really something for pretty much everyone.

**Gary:** We've got bikers that love us down in Dothan. We've always got your various amount of "head"-Phishhead, Deadhead, Panichead. We're a hit in China. (laughs) There's just all walks of life that really dig us.

**Chanticleer:** Do you think that makes it difficult some-

encounter any troubles with that when you were signed under a record company?

**Ethan:** Yeah. We got a couple speeches about that, but I mean, we're basically a rock band. There's elements of jazz, funk and all this other stuff that's out of the rock-n-roll box that you hear on the radio right now. You know, people always come up to you asking, "What kind of music do you play?" And I say, "Well, it's rock and funk and ..." and then finally you just wanna go, "It's good music. Now shut up and sit down and listen." (laughs)

**Chanticleer:** Are you guys still signed with that label?

**Ethan:** No we are free agents. We're actually shopping around right now for a new label. It wasn't a bad experience but it was an ordeal.

**Rob:** What happens when you give up control of your music to someone else that really doesn't know what they're doing with your type of music and thinks they do, it gets quite difficult emotionally for you and economically for the company. They're trying to do good, but they're not really listening to their artist and that sort of shot them in the foot.

**Chanticleer:** Did they ever try to change your music style?

**Rob:** Much to our displeasure at many points. Again, it's a control issue and we all know what we want and we will do whatever we can to make it work the way we want it.

**Chanticleer:** Where have been some of the places you've been playing lately?

**Gary:** We're about to open up in New York for Chris Whitley, a new age blues slide guitar player. We're also opening up in Atlanta at

about it was there wasn't a backstage area, there was a backlot with trailers. We pulled around to the back with this bus and security everywhere. We go over to the air conditioned trailer and on the doors it says "Los Lobos," "Ben Harper," then "Ethan," and "Robert Randolph." That was just fantastic.

**Ethan:** The best part about that show was we didn't have to carry our own stuff. For the first time ever in our career, we actually had roadies. We were just doing our normal thing and carrying our own stuff in and they were like "Stop, give me that. What are you doing?" So then we're just standing around like "What do we do? We don't have anything to do but play now."

**Chanticleer:** Do you have any really funny road stories?

**Tim:** We were at this place in New Orleans called the Rock 'N Bowl where it's a music venue and a bowling alley. There's a private party going on. There's this really long stairwell you walk up to where the band plays and as we're walking up we see boobs and more boobs. About six or eight women just walking around naked with stilettos on up there.

**Ethan:** We were all in the van and when we pulled up standard procedure is Gary goes in and checks with the club owner to see where we load in and all that. So we're all hanging out in the van listening to the radio and Gary comes running back. His eyes are huge and he says, "Come upstairs right now. You are not going to believe what's happening." So then we go up and all this crazy stuff is going on. Then about 45 minutes to an hour goes by and I guess its time for open bowling and all of the sudden this church youth group comes in.



The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie

Guitarist Rob Bruce plays at the New Year's Eve celebration at Brother's Bar.

There's these kids going "Mommy look!" and all these women rushing to put their clothes on. It was great.

**Chanticleer:** About how many shows do you do a year?

**Tim:** About 120 a year usually. This year it's been about a hundred though. Not as much as we want it what we want it to be.

**Chanticleer:** So what are you working on now?

**Ethan:** We're working on some new demos and we have a live album. A live recording that we did a couple of months ago at Brother's. So we're gonna release that in February and in the meantime, rehearse and record some new demos and hopefully get started on a new album. We have most of the material for it, but just not the money for it right now.

**Chanticleer:** Where will the live album be for sale?

**Gary:** It's with a company called Out-of-our-trunk Records. (laughs)

**Ethan:** We're just doing it as a sort of a bootleg thing for our fans that have been supporting us. They have been begging us for a few years to do a live recording so since we've put out a couple records, we figured it was

time.

**Chanticleer:** Are you looking to get another member after the loss of Andy?

**Ethan:** Not right now. The chemistry that we have is something we worked on for a long time. We've gone through members. That whole process of getting to know someone, all their quirks and everything, is not just something we want to go through. The parts Andy played will be very much missed but we're just gonna work with what we have right now. Not to say that anything couldn't happen. But we're not gonna go out and actively search for someone else.

**Chanticleer:** How have the fans reacted to the way you sound now?

**Rob:** It's quite strange the crowd's reaction to our four-piece because it seems like they're giving a new response to our sound. We've had a lot of people, industry executives included, tell us that there is too much in our music, that there's too much going on. And now, without Andy, our sound is a lot more simplified and probably easier for a lot of people to get. •

promise quietly inside, so that nobody would know if in the end we were not able to keep our promises. It is easier to keep our faces in front of other people, if they don't know that we only lasted a week until we stopped going to the gym, started smoking again, gained weight instead of losing it or whatever resolutions we made.

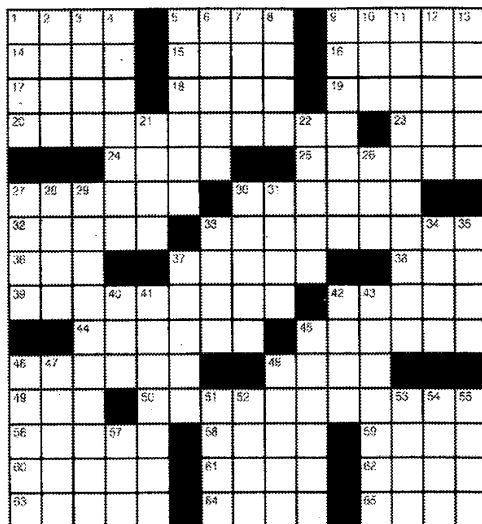
Yet it is calming to think that every year we can start all over again as if we were a new and improved person. Each year has the possibility of peace in it, or love, success, happiness, weight loss, or anything that we really want deep inside. We never know what really happens, and maybe that is why we like to look back and hope that some things would change from the last year. There is no guarantee, only hope.

My resolutions, if I would make any, would have something to do with being a better person. Maybe work harder, graduate, get myself in shape, to be happier and that way make other people happy as well, and all the other things that I will quietly say only to myself. Yet why do we always ask more from ourselves, as if we haven't worked hard enough so far I know there are some things I could do differently, but would that make me any better?

I saw a cartoon the other day on a newspaper where a cat reads a note of what New Year resolutions he has made for this year. In the paper it reads, number one: remember to be lazy. After reading the note, the cat utters, "Man that will be hard." Now think about it; maybe those resolutions that we think are the easiest to make, are the ones that are the hardest to keep. I wish everybody a New Year they wish it would be and remember to be lazy!

# Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Ocean extract
  - Rosary unit
  - Zodiac scales
  - Maui feast
  - Killer whale
  - Lotion additives
  - Valhalla VIP
  - Small amounts
  - Unskilled laborers
  - Avifauna fan
  - Place-kicking prop
  - Nevada city
  - Drinking vessel
  - Capital on the Hudson
  - Navy builder
  - Banquet salute
  - American raptor
  - Comfort from an RN
  - Wine containers
  - Himalayan gazelle
  - Nudity
  - Signs
  - Certain monastery
  - Religious leaders
  - Real-life model for "Citizen Kane"
  - Two of a kind
  - Chapel Hill inst.
  - Shell seeker
  - Big name in cell phones
  - Fired
  - Part of ADC
  - Cloudless
  - Ballerina garb
  - Nastase of tennis
  - Out of \_\_\_ way
  - Book after Joel
  - Monopoly card

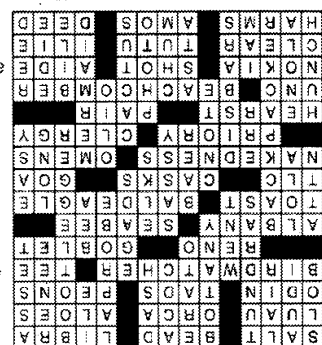


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01/08/04

- DOWN**
- Mess maker
  - Autobahn auto
  - Den
  - Permafrost regions
  - Plant science
  - Muse of poets
  - Aussie hard-rock band

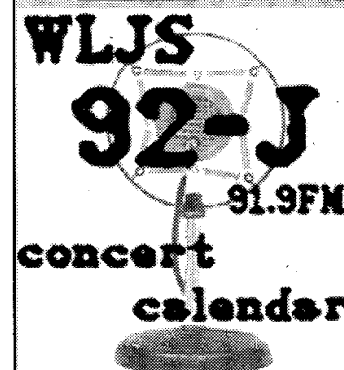
- Solutions**
- 100-yard race
  - Blanket for the beachers
  - ...de-France
  - Prohibition figure
  - Zellweger of "Chicago"
  - Something of value
  - Departed
  - By Jove!
  - Arthur of "Maude"
  - Abbr. on an envelope
  - "Damn Yankees" siren
  - Hiker
  - Impudent
  - Part of BPOE
  - Heavyweight champ of 1934
  - Drawn-out
  - Undemanding
  - 10 sawbucks
  - Goof up
  - Expets from the legal profession



- Hodgepodge
- Davy Jones' girlfriend?
- Desert plant
- Intuition
- Gay
- Snapshot
- Nora's pooch
- Pai
- Ill temper
- Adams or Falco
- Marsh grass
- Descartes' conclusion

# Beating Around the Bush

by Corey McDaniel & Bryan Stone



## Jacksonville/Local

- 1/8/04 Radio Daze – Brother's Bar
- 1/14/04 DJ Crash – Brother's Bar

## Birmingham

- 1/09/04 Willie Heath Neal – The Nick
- Bright Eyes – Zydeco
- 1/10/04 All Tomorrow's Parties, Lume and Model Citizen – The Nick
- Todd Snider – Zydeco
- 1/12/04 Greyhounds – The Nick

## Atlanta

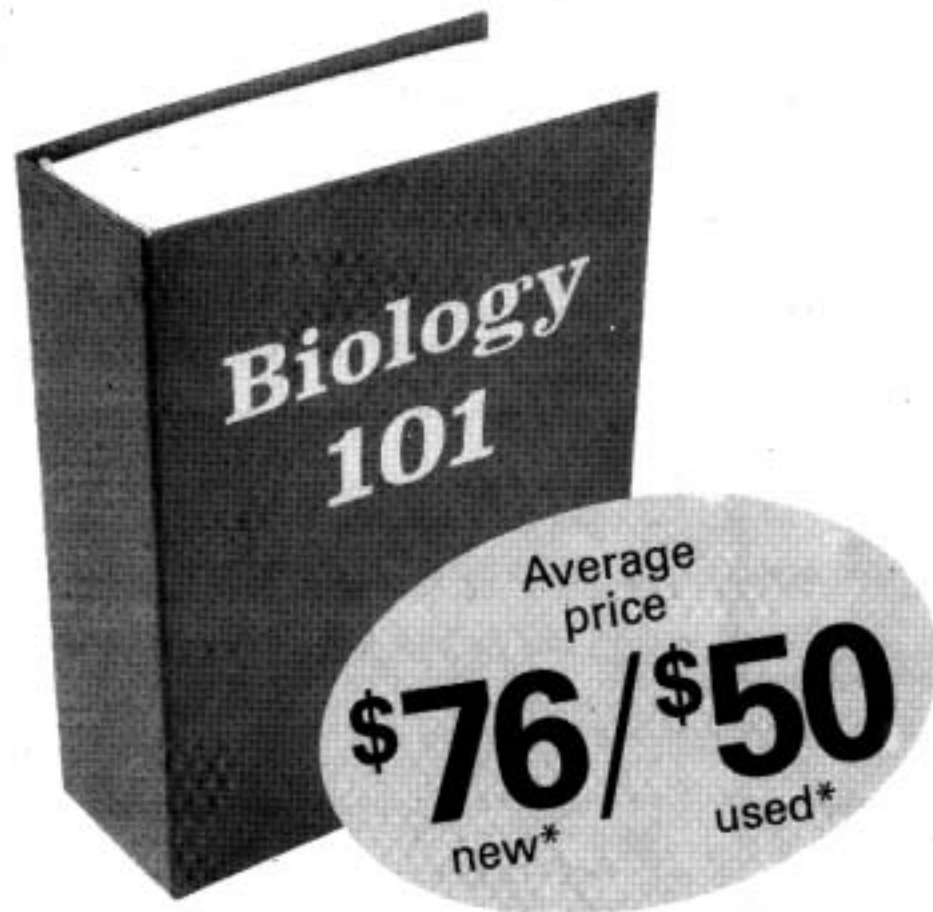
- 1/8/04 Artimus Pyledriver – Echo Lounge
- No River City – Smith's Olde Bar
- 1/9/04 Exactus – 10 High
- 1/10/04 Cigar Store Indians – Smith's Olde Bar
- 1/14/04 Spam and T-Model Ford – Smith's Olde Bar
- Andrew Bird – The EARL

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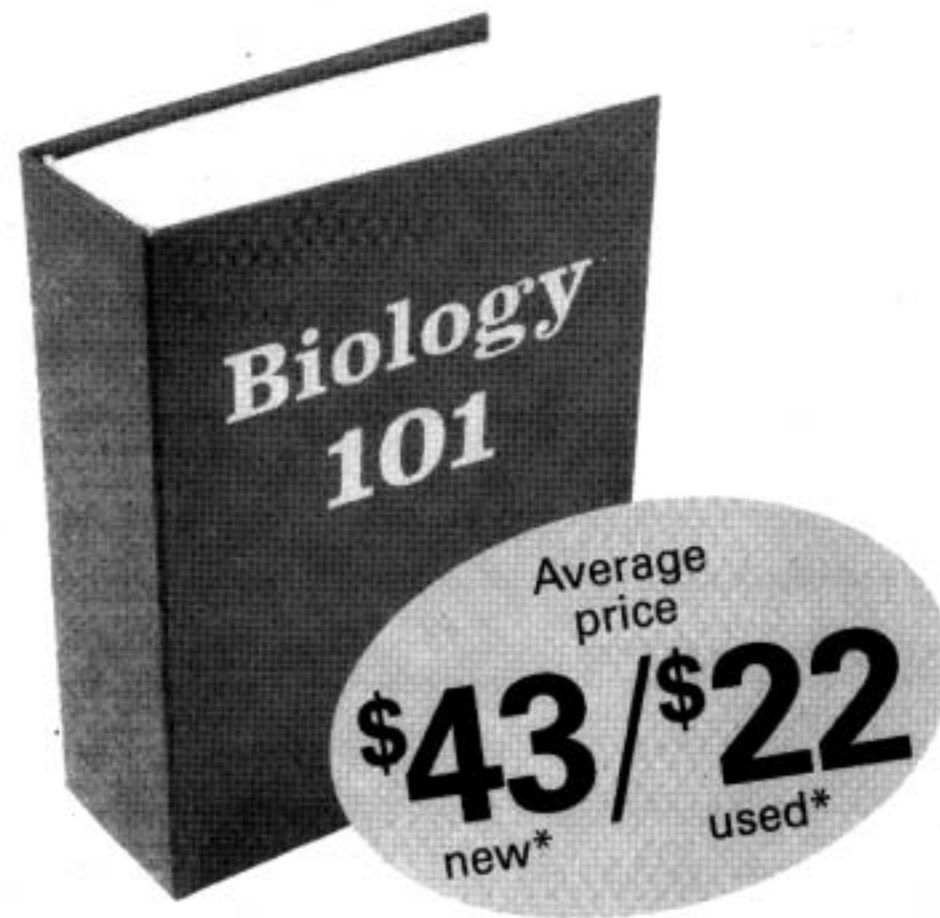
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From **Women**, page 8

Coupled with a Jackson State turnover, JSU junior Nina Bliss nailed a jumper and took the lead, 52-50.

The Gamecocks retained the lead until Hawthorne hit one-of-two free throws to tie the game at 68 with 1:00 left. With the game tied at 70, Hawthorne came through again with the three-pointer at the buzzer to win the game. Embry had a career-high 25 points in the loss, while Nye added 12. Freeman ended the night with 11 points, all in the last ten minutes of the game.

JSU then returned home to play the Troy State Trojans, the only JSU squad to play the Evil Empire this year so far. JSU made sure that Troy remembered just who the Gamecocks were after a 79-62 whipping. Game high honors went to Freeman, who scored 24 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. Carlisle also had a double-double with 16 points and ten boards. Embry added 14 points and Kat Fues had a career high five assists.

The Gamecocks ended the break at home against Birmingham-Southern, and avenged the earlier loss by a 65-56 margin. They extended a 29-28 halftime lead to the final margin. Freeman again scored over twenty points with 25, and again posted 10 rebounds. Carlisle added twelve points, while freshman Courtney Slaughter hit on 3-of-5 shots, 2-of-3 from the three, to score eight.

The Gamecock women return to the court today at Tennessee State.

# Men split over Christmas holidays

By **Michael Vaughan II**  
*The Chanticleer Staff Writer*

The holiday break brought an opportunity for the men's basketball team to work on some things, and they did so against an impressive lineup of opponents pulling out wins against Tennessee Temple, a NAIA-championship team from last year; Savannah State, a tough road game and against Alcorn State at home. The losses came to a tough Ole Miss team and Alcorn State, both on the road, and to Austin Peay at home, the pre-season OVC pick to win the conference.

The first game of the break was at home against Tennessee Temple from the NAIA ranks. The visitors made it a close game in the first half, but JSU pulled out an easy win 84-58.

JSU only led by a two-point margin with 6:24 left in the half before the Gamecocks ended the half on a 16-8 run, as the bench scored 27 of the Gamecocks' 46 points in the half. Carl Brown led the Gamecocks with ten first half points.

JSU blitzed out in the second half, as they looked to slam the door. The home team scored the first 12 points of the half, which was part on a 26-5 run that finished off the Crusaders.

For the game, Brown paced the Gamecocks with 14 points, and was followed by Trent Eager, James Denson,

Walker Russell, and Emerson Brown, all four of whom had 11 points. Brown also led the Gamecocks with seven rebounds, as JSU out-rebounded the visitors 46-31. JSU also won the fast break game, as they scored 16 fast break points to zero for the Crusaders.

JSU rode that win into Lorman, Miss. to play the Alcorn State Braves from the SWAC. With :18.7 remaining in the contest, Dion Callans converted two clutch free throws to give Alcorn State its first triumph of the season, 70-68.

With the win Alcorn snapped its five-game losing streak, while giving head coach Sam West his first career victory. Meanwhile, the Gamecocks fell to 4-3 on the season.

In the first half, Jacksonville State jumped out to a 13-5 lead before the Braves went on a 14-2 rampage over a span of 4:00 in the early going of the first half.

Forward Brian Jackson got the run going with a three pointer from the left wing, while Trey Johnson connected on long balls during the stretch.

Jacksonville State responded with a brief spurt to take a two-point lead on a couple occasions before Alcorn closed out the first half on an 8-2 run to take a seven-point advantage into the break.

JSU ripped a 13-0 run to capture their first lead since leading 28-26. JSU would even-

tually earn a four-point cushion before another spurt by Alcorn State gave the Braves the lead for good.

Yet another Jackson trifecta at 5:44 put Alcorn ahead, 64-62. A hook shot by Abdou Diame allowed JSU to knot the game at 68 at :45, but Callans sealed the deal at the line to give Alcorn the win.

JSU then traversed the state of Alabama again, this time visiting Savannah, Ga. to face the Savannah State Tigers. Denson scored a season-high 16 points to lead four Gamecocks in double-figures as Jacksonville State claimed a 71-58 win over Savannah State to up their record to 5-3. The Gamecocks took an early lead of 16-10 on a lay-up by Brown with 12:50 remaining, but Savannah State scored the next 10 straight to take a 20-10 lead with 8:55 remaining. The teams would basically trade baskets as neither team led by more than three points for the rest of the half as they battled to a 33-33 tie at the intermission.

JSU was trailing 37-33 with less than 18 minutes left in the game, but used a 25-6 run to break open the game and then held off a late Savannah State rally for the win.

Denson and Eager combined to score the first 17 points in the run. JSU held its largest lead of the night when Josh Perry scored on a dunk with 11:01 left to give the Gamecocks a 58-44 advantage. The Tigers used a 14-0 run to cut the lead to 61-58 on

a basket by Ajmal Gordon with 3:23 left, but Savannah would not score again.

The Gamecocks then ventured to Oxford, Miss. for a game with Ole Miss. JSU was tied at 28 at the half, and were as close as 47-46 with only 5:48 left in the game, but were outscored 17-10 down the stretch as Mississippi pulled out the hard fought 64-56 win.

Denson led the Gamecocks with 18 points, as Russell and Perry added six points each. JSU did out-rebound the Rebels 28-25. Eager and Denson led JSU in rebounds with five each. JSU then returned home with revenge on their mind as they hosted the Alcorn State Braves, the same squad that they lost to only two weeks earlier.

This time was vastly different, as Alcorn didn't hit a field goal until their 17th attempt, by which time they had lost over 9:00 of the first half, and were trailing 20-2, as they went on to lose 74-41.

JSU built a 22-point lead at the intermission, 40-18, which was the fifth time JSU held an opponent to less than 20 points in the opening half in Coach Mike LaPlante's four year run at the school.

The Gamecocks continued to dominate the Braves in the second half, leading by as many as 35 points over the final 20:00.

JSU was "en fuego", hitting on 13-of-22 shots over the second half and finished the

game with 27 fast break points, while limiting Alcorn State to just two transition points.

The Gamecocks forced 21 turnovers, while dishing out a season-best 18 assists. James Denson again led the Gamecocks in scoring with 16 points, while Russell finished with 10 assists to be the first JSU player to have double-digit assists on the season.

The Gamecocks then played in their first ever OVC basketball game, as they hosted the Austin Peay Governors. The two teams battled back and fourth over the first six minutes of the game, but a 23-4 run sank the Gamecocks as Austin Peay pulled away to the 76-58 win.

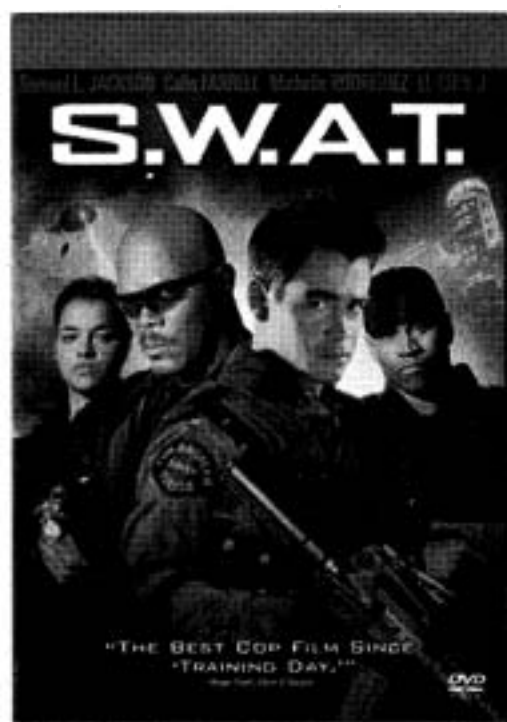
The loss dropped JSU to 6-5 on the season, and 0-1 in the conference, marking the second straight loss in the opener of a new conference, as they lost to UCF in the TAAC opener in 1996.

Brown's 14 points paced the Gamecocks and Watson added 11. Austin Peay finished the game with a 43-32 advantage on the boards, including 14 offensive rebounds the Gavs converted to 17 second chance points. Two of JSU's top three scorers, Denson and Eager, average 23 combined points per game, but were held to a total of four by the stingy Governor defense.

JSU returns to the court today in OVC play this week in Nashville against Tennessee State today.

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# Sports

The Chanticleer • January 8, 2004

**Something I wish my Granny had never told me**

By  
J. Wilson Guthrie  
The Chanticleer  
Sports Editor



I was supposed to put up Christmas lights Thursday, Dec. 10. I was supposed to get up early, but I chose to sleep in. I was supposed to eat lunch with my Grandmother, like I usually do on weekdays, but I was just going to run in and grab the mail because of the late start that I got on the lights. As I walked out the door, she said, "Oh, I forgot to tell you that one of the softball players died." My heart fell out of my feet.

I didn't want to think the worst. I really didn't, but the first thing that crossed my mind was 'please God don't let it be Tera.'

Tera Ross was the reason that I loved fast pitch softball. And if you were to ask anyone that I have talked to in the months that have passed since the season was over they will tell you the same thing.

I had just had a conversation about her over Thanksgiving. And I told my favorite story about her too.

During the Alabama game last year, Tera got popped with a ball. Softball pitchers are much closer to the plate

# JSU loses pitcher to tragedy

Senior Gamecock Tera Ross killed in fiery crash while travelling home to Florida during holidays; freshman Kelly Raw badly injured

From Tera, page 1

one knows their role and executes it.

"I can't say enough about our team," said Ross. "There are no superstars. Everyone plays their role, wins the game and goes home."

Ross' teammates seem to feel her contribution is equally irreplaceable. "Her demeanor on the field is so important," said senior Allie Simons. "She is a gamer, she comes to every game ready to play."

Tera turned down many other scholarship opportunities at large schools. Mississippi State offered her a full ride and she proudly told them she was coming to JSU.

She said that the coaches were one of the main reasons she chose JSU. When she first spoke to assistant coach Mark Wiesner they hit it off immediately. She said it was like talking to a long lost best friend.

Coach Jana McGinnis inspires Ross and drives her to be a better player. Ross commented that she is always fair and honest and is always looking out for our best interest. "Coach is the most competitive person I have ever met,

any problems choosing Ross to come here either. "Tera is a big part of why we have won 28 games this season," said McGinnis. "She is a great role model for young kids, a loyal teammate and a good person."

It is inevitable Ross is an extraordinary person. She is sweet and nice, but if all you knew of her was on the mound you would have an entirely different opinion. When Ross steps onto the field she changes.

*"The ultimate compliment would be for a little girl to look up to me and say that she wants to be like me..."*

## • Tera Ross

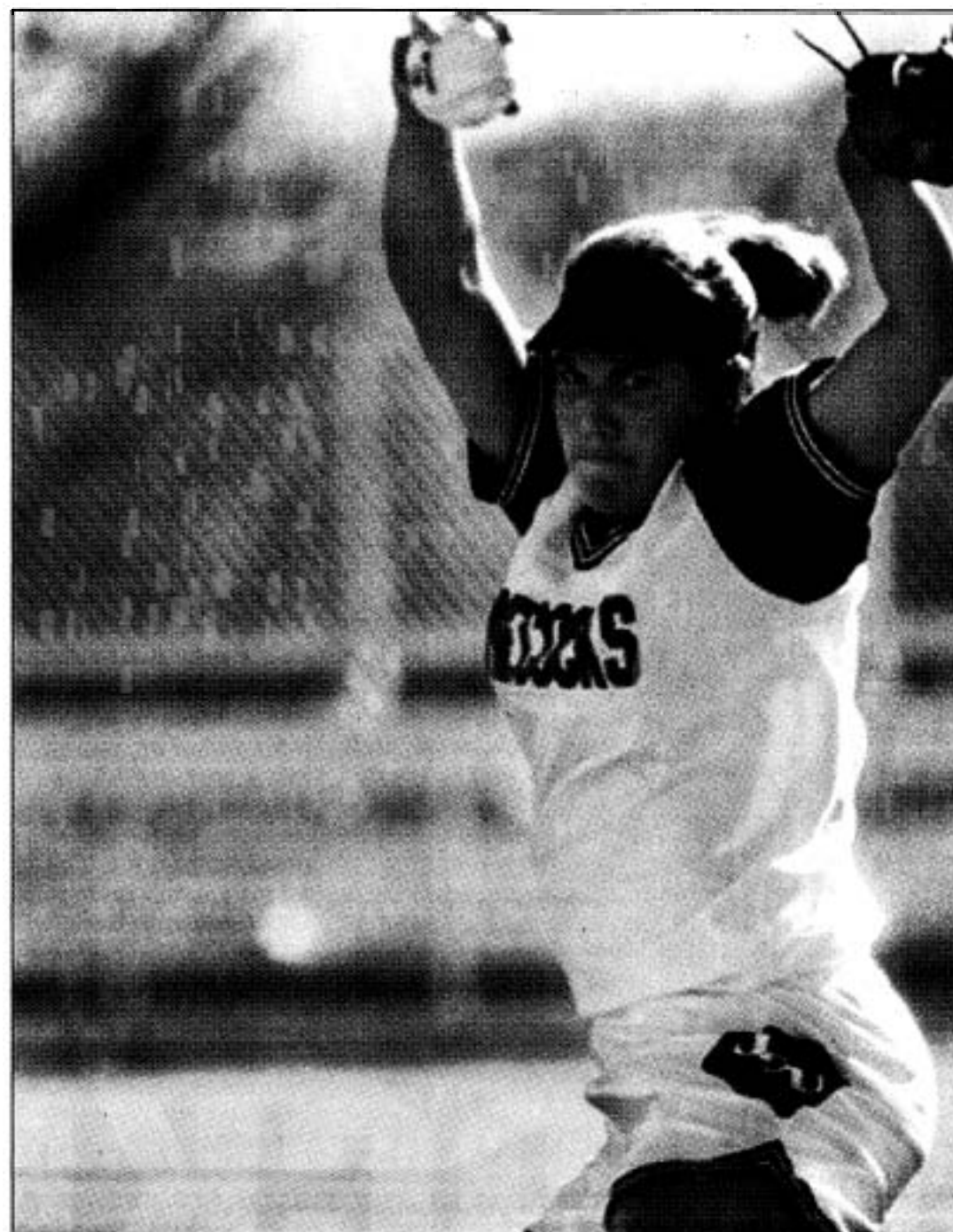
"Tera has been compared to a bulldog on the field, but off the field she would cry if she stepped on an ant," said

McGinnis

She said it is an instinct thing. She gets her game face on and believes that no one will hit off of her. Teams fear her and so they should.

"Sometimes I hear other teams saying not to mess with me," said Ross. "I even scare myself sometimes."

Ross has the double personality that a good role model athlete should have. She is a ferocious competitor on the mound and a moral young



100. During the Alabama game last year, Tera got popped with a ball. Softball pitchers are much closer to the plate than baseball pitchers and sometimes it's hard to duck the ropes that players hit.

Tera didn't duck in time that day. She got hit dead center in the chest with a ball that I will estimate reached speeds of about a million miles per hour.

She was already pissed off and had that mad stare that I hear she only got while playing softball. In as many times as I saw her off the field she was always smiling.

But anyways, when the ball hit her it sounded like a thud. You know those thuds that you hear in sports when that part of the players body could have really gotten hurt. And we heard this horrible sound that made me almost sick to my stomach.

We were in the press box she was on the field. So that sound traveled about another million feet.

So now that I am sick, I see her not miss a beat, go for the ball and make the play at first.

I was astounded. That is one of the most amazing sports moments that I have ever witnessed. It ranks a close second to the first time I walked into Legion Field to see the Tide play and heard the Alabama fight song in person.

That is my favorite story to tell. What I usually leave out is that after the game I talked to her and my interview was interrupted by a little girl. She was asking for Tera's autograph. It was so very sweet. Tera took the time to talk to her too, she didn't just shrug her off.

We all lost a friend and a great person that night. She did touch a lot of people in her all too short life.

mented that she is always fair and honest and is always looking out for our best interest. "Coach is the most competitive person I have ever met, but also the most caring," said Ross. "Our team is like a family and any problems we have we can always talk to our coaches about anything."

The coaches did not have

Ross has the double personality that a good role model athlete should have. She is a ferocious competitor on the mound and a moral young woman off the field. Ross has the winning combination, which is essential for the 2003 softball team to continue to be successful.



# Memories



## Gamecock women just above .500 during break

By Michael Vaughan II  
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State's women's basketball squad had a happy holiday break, as they picked up two huge wins over rivals and went 3-2 on the break, defeating Troy State, Birmingham-Southern, and University of Alabama Birmingham, while falling to Birmingham-Southern and Jackson State.

The first game took place in the Magic City, as the women traveled to the Birmingham-Southern Cougars. Three Panthers scored in double figures as the Birmingham-Southern extended its school record 13-game winning streak with the 65-55 win. JSU jumped on top early with a jumper from Ashley Clay and the

Gamecocks held on the advantage until the 8:29 mark in the second half.

A turn around jumper from Ricka Spears gave the Panthers the lead for good at 49-48, although JSU would battle back to tie the game two more times before the contest was over.

Jacksonville State spread its lead to as many as ten at the 4:21 mark in the first half on a free throw shot from Freddricka Embry and the Gamecocks held a 33-26 advantage at the break.

JSU's Shanika Freeman tied it at 49 with a free throw, but Spears again gave the Panthers the lead with another jumper on a pass from Stacey Anthony.

Cobie Carlisle hit a shot from the left wing to knot the score again at 51, but a trey from freshman Britni Ballard with 4:30 to play extended

Birmingham-Southern's lead to three at 54-51. A turn around jumper from Brooke Gentsch pushed BSC up by five at 3:40.

The Gamecocks continued to threaten as Freeman hit a jumper at 2:55 to pull JSU within three at 56-53. Tashia Holston knocked down a shot at 2:32 to make it a one-point game, but a defensive rebound and coast-to-coast layup from April Walker put BSC back up by three with 1:42 left to play. Freeman led all scorers with 21 points, was 9-of-15 from the field, and led JSU with 10 rebounds. Carlisle was JSU's second-leading scorer with nine.

JSU held their home opener on Dec. 13, against in-state rival UAB. Classes were out, so not many attended, but those who did, saw a great game that fea-

tured three ties and twelve lead changes. The last change was in the home team's favor as JSU pulled out the 73-66 win, only their second ever against the Blazers.

JSU's win was even more special due to the fact Freeman sat out the game due to a suspension. JSU shot over 50% for the first time in the season, while holding UAB to only 37.7% on their shots.

Embry led the Gamecocks with 19 points and eight rebounds, while freshman Nina Bliss scored 12 points on 5-of-6 shooting to earn the OVC newcomer of the week award. Carlisle finished just short of a double-double, with eight points and a team-high nine rebounds.

JSU then hit the road again to visit the Jackson State Tigers in

Jackson, MS. Jacksonville State fought hard, but a three point basket late in the game sank the Gamecocks 73-70.

JSU led the Lady Tigers the first 10:00 of the game, until Jackson State tied the game at 18 with Lindsey Dukes' second three-pointer of the half.

Both teams then combined for a total of ten missed shots to start the second half. Carlisle hit a jumper at the 16:30 mark to break the streak of misses.

Carlisle, who is also JSU's third leading scorer and second leading rebounder, had four personal fouls at the 12:00 mark, as did freshman Ashley Clay. With a five point Lady Tiger lead, senior Kelly Nye sank her first three-point basket of the half and her fourth of the game.

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