

Collegiates rally for support for higher education

Public colleges and universities from across the state banded together to fight for common goal

By Bob Johnson
The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Students from public colleges and universities from across the state held an old fashioned pep rally Thursday, complete with marching bands and cheerleaders, on the steps of the Alabama Statehouse.

The students were not there to cheer their various teams to victory. Instead the common goal was to fire up members of the Alabama Legislature to encourage them to properly fund higher education.

Standing in near freezing temperatures under threatening skies, students and other higher education supporters listened to speeches from Gov. Bob Riley, Lt. Gov. Lucy Baxley and other political and education leaders. After the speeches, the students gathered on the lawn of the Capitol for a catered barbecue lunch.

"We need to make our legislators aware that cutting



The Chanticleer/Tim King

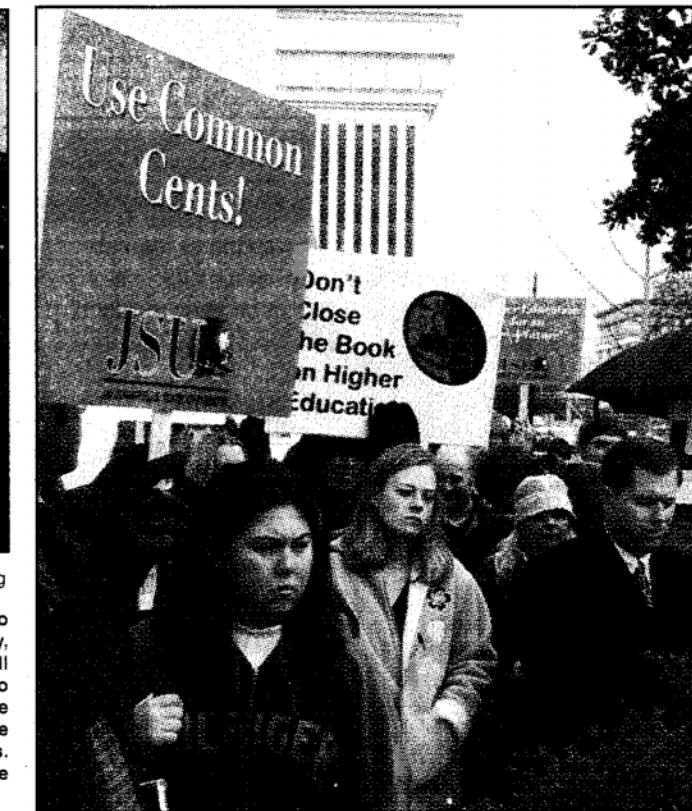
The Higher Education Partnership, which is made up of 15 universities, exists to promote the concerns of higher education entities in Alabama. On last Thursday, the partnership held its 8th annual Higher Education Day. Students from all across the state of Alabama gathered on the steps of the Alabama Statehouse to join in promoting a common goal. About 95 students from Jacksonville State University were in attendance including the JSU Marching Southerners and the JSU Go-Go Girls who performed and entertained the crowd between speeches. The Higher Education Partnership will continue to push for support and more funding for institutions of higher education.

education is bad business," University of Alabama professor Margaret Garner told the crowd at the beginning of the rally.

Between speeches, bands from Alabama State and Jacksonville State and JSU's Go-Go Girls dance team

entertained the crowd. The captain of the dance team, Tiffany Hawthorne, said the dancers braved the cold weather to make sure legislators knew where they stood on the issue of education funding.

"Higher education is very



important because it's going to allow us to get better jobs, make more money and receive better benefits," said Hawthorne, a senior from Birmingham.

More than 100 Troy State students broke away from studying for midterm exams

to join the rally in Montgomery, junior Bethany Dye of Elba said.

"We came out to remind state leaders that higher education is important. We just wanted to make sure that they know," Dye said.

Gordon Stone, executive

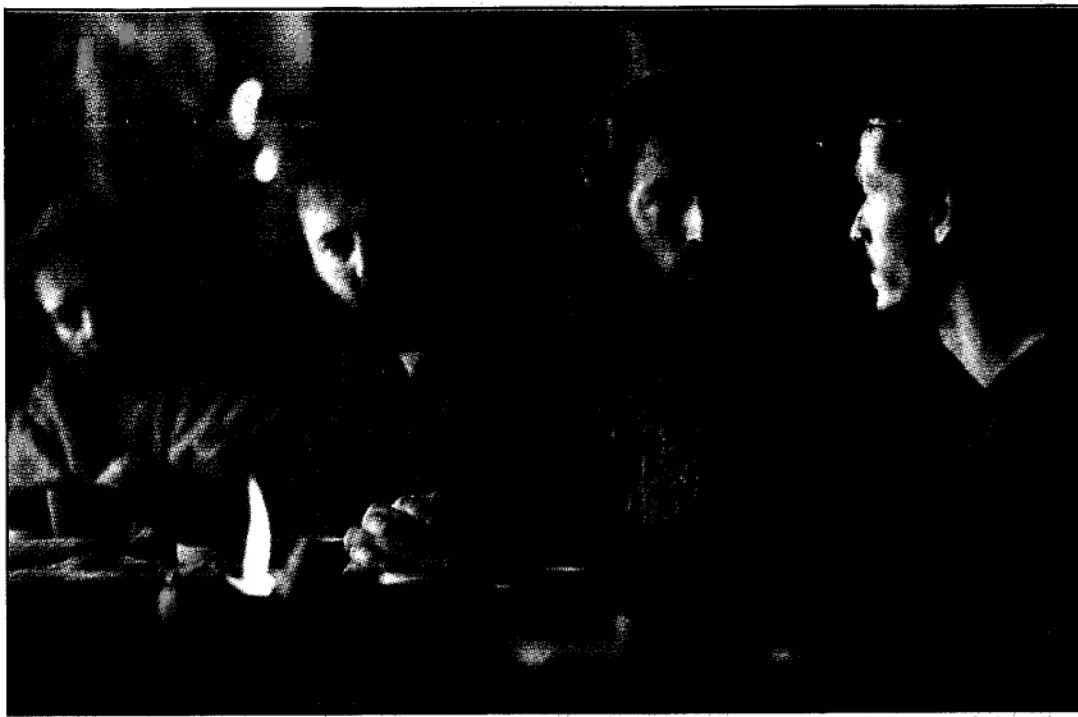
director of Alabama's Higher Education Partnership, helped organize the rally, which is held every year during the Legislature's regular session. He said one purpose is to remind lawmakers that Alabama public colleges and universities do not receive as much state funding per student as institutions in other states.

"We are still behind and that's not good enough," Stone told the cheering students. Riley thanked the students for their enthusiastic support of Alabama's colleges and universities.

"If we are ever going to build the kind of Alabama I want to build, we had better all have a passion for education," Riley said. Legislative leaders told the students that they were listening.

"We get the message," said House Speaker Seth Hammett, D-Andalusia. "We are going to do all we can to make higher education better."

Mel Gibson's film, "The Passion" opens with record numbers



Dallas Morning News/Phillipe Antonello

Jesus (Jim Caviezel) sits with the apostles at The Last Supper in a scene from The Passion of The Christ, a film by Mel Gibson. (Ide) 2004

By Audrey Hykes & Rosalind Moore

The Chanticleer Staff Writer & The Chanticleer News Editor

Over the past few weeks, local and national news has been riddled with reports about Mel Gibson's film, "The Passion of the Christ." The film, which opened Feb. 25, is now the nation's biggest box office hits in its opening week, bringing in \$117.5 million in its first five days.

According to FOXNews, the film had "the second-best five-day figures for a movie opening on Wednesday, behind last year's 'The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King' at \$124.1 million." Also, it's reported that "The Passion" took 53% of the

revenue from the top twelve movies currently showing.

However, within the past year, some critics reported that Gibson's film would not garner such success because the film is a portrayal of the last twelve hours of Christ's life, and that the film would speculate that Jews were supposedly responsible for those last brutal hours.

Over the past year, "The Passion" has caused many debates as to whether or not this film should be banned from being shown in the U.S. so as not to bring up any anti-Semitic issues.

The Anti-Defamation League has voiced the most concern in the last year, stating "if released in its present form, [the movie] 'could fuel

hatred, bigotry, and anti-Semitism' by reinforcing the notion of collective Jewish guilt for the death of Jesus."

This is because the four gospels of the Bible tell us that the Pharisees (the Jewish high priests) were the ones that handed Jesus over to the Romans and demanded for him to be crucified.

Some of ADL's concerns, based on this recorded Biblical account and therefore depicted in the film, included that "the film portrays Jewish authorities and the Jewish 'mob' as forcing the decision to torture and execute Jesus, thus assuming responsibility for the crucifixion. The film relies on

see **Passion**, page 3

Cell phone usage in debate

By The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — An Alabama legislator wants to ban drivers from using handheld cellular phones while on the road, but he isn't connecting with his colleagues on the issue.

The proposed law, by Rep. Jack Page, D-Gadsden, would allow drivers to use cell phones only if they had a headset or a handsfree device. A violation would be punishable by a \$50 traffic ticket.

The legislation is pending in the House of Representatives Public Safety Committee. The com-



The Chanticleer/Rosalind Moore

mittee was supposed to vote on the bill two weeks ago, but Page delayed it because of opposition.

"I'm afraid that bill is dead, toes in the air, beginning to smell," he said. Page said he introduced the legislation to try to improve highway safety.

"The people who are

against it are the cell phone companies. They're lined up," Page said. "They say it's just as dangerous to put your makeup on while driving. Well, yeah, it is."

Calie Shackelford, a spokeswoman for Cingular, said other activities behind the wheel, such as eating, tuning the radio or talking with others in the car, are more dangerous than using cell phones.

"Handsfree legislation does not address the broader issue of distracted driving; driver education and awareness will. However, if Alabama lawmakers believe this kind

see **Phones**, page 3

By Patrick McCreless

The Chanticleer Staff Writer

A committee meeting of SGA members was held Monday night to discuss possible changes to the meal plan program at JSU.

"Our original goal was to find a way to give students more places to eat," said SGA Academic affairs committee co-head, Johnathan Taylor.

Currently, students with meal plans can only use their meal plans, flex dollars, and other monies to eat at Jack Hopper Dining Hall or the Theron Montgomery Building Food Court.

Taylor said that they began researching other universities and especially Troy State



The Chanticleer/Malcolm Thomas

The SGA Academic Affairs committee is working to provide students with more options when using flex dollars and other money on their Studnet ID card. The process will begin by requiring mandatory meal plans to offset expenses.

University, because it is the closest university that can be compared to JSU. "We asked Troy if they liked their system, is it working...and they said yes," said Taylor.

According to Taylor, after the

committee found out how other university systems worked and how they wanted the system at JSU to work, they began setting up meetings with Jacksonville'

see **Plan**, page 2

By the numbers:

Millions of box office dollars grossed in the opening weekend of "The Passion:"

83.8

Gamecock Scoreboard:

Men's basketball:

Feb. 28 - JSU 86, Tennessee State 70
March 2 - Morehead State 82, JSU 68

Women's basketball:

Feb. 28 - JSU 85, Tennessee State 54
March 2 - ECU 65, JSU 63

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PAGE TWO

The Chanticleer • March 4, 2004

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alpha Omicron Pi: We would like to say thank you to Alpha Xi Delta for letting us use the basement of Sparkman this past weekend. Congrats to Alison Pierce for winning VPSS, all of our new senators and all the new big/lil pairs! We are very excited about all our new members. **Contact:** emily_rollins2001@yahoo.com

Alpha Xi Delta: Good Luck to our intramural softball team at their game this Monday. Sisters of the week are Lindsey H. and Amy W. New members of the week are Jennifer B. and Susie J. We are so excited about our Big/Lil revealing and sisterhood retreat this weekend! Have a great week! **Contact:** Jenny Wentworth, 435-5152.

Baptist Campus Ministries: Hey Gamecocks! Come and join us every Tuesday night for Celebration at 8:00 p.m., AGAPE lunches held every Wednesday from 11:15 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. where your first time is absolutely FREE! We also have a Bible Study that meets every Thursday night at 6:00 p.m. Come and join the fun! **Contact:** Gary, 435-7020 or gbrittn@jsucc.jsu.edu.

Beta Beta Beta: Congratulations to all our new members! Undergraduates: Sherman, Megan, Blythe, Mendie, Jennifer B., Billy, Seth, Christine, Emily, Lauren, Christy, Jennifer G., Clint, Shawna, Dustin, Bernice, Cynthia, Jessica, Taylor, Danisha, Kathleen, and Tiffany. Graduate/Faculty: Dr. Robert Carter, Jason, and Ashley. For more information on Tri-beta, contact us! **Contact:** Allison, jsu_tribeta@hotmail.com.

Counseling and Career Services: Counseling and Career Services will sponsor a "Overcoming Test Anxiety" Workshop, Mar. 4, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the TMB Room 303. If you study and know the lessons, but struggle during testing, this workshop is for YOU! It will give helpful information for you to take into the classroom. **Contact:** Linda Shelton, lshelton@jsucc.jsu.edu.

Department of Military Science: The Military Science Dept. is seeking students who have 54 hours or more to attend a four-week leadership development course this summer. The course focuses on individual leader development, group dynamics, and adventure training. Travel, meals and lodging are paid and students receive \$770. **Contact:** Captain Shackelford, 782-5601.

International Student Organization: International Week is going on now! Feb. 29 - Mar. 6. The events are as follows: Sun.- Soccer @ Germania Springs, 1 p.m., Mon. and Tue.- Silent

Plan (from page 1): Mandatory meal plans a desire of the future

administration as well as Scott Williams, the head of Sodexo Marriot Food Services. Sodexo is responsible for providing food for dining hall facilities and any events hosted on JSU's campus.

According to the SGA committee working on this project, Williams explained to the SGA that they could not do make the changes they wanted to student meal options because there wasn't enough cash flow.

"We have over 9,000 students here at JSU," stated Jessica Bobo, the other SGA Academic Affairs committee co-head. "Only around 540 of those students have meal plans."

Bobo explained that the administration could not just allow students to use their ID cards at other businesses because it would hurt the university. Specifically, Sodexo would be forced out of busi-

ness from the loss of revenue.

"So our goal has changed to a mandatory or incorporated meal plan for all students who live on campus," said Taylor.

Bobo said that right now there are around 1,300 students living in university housing. According to the committee's studies, increased revenue from those students combined with the ones who are already on a meal plan would allow Sodexo to eventually offer cheaper meal plans and increased food variety.

Bobo also said that the mandatory meal plan, whenever it is implemented, would only apply to the incoming freshmen of that year. The next year it would apply to that returning class and the new incoming freshmen. This pattern would continue until all students were under the new plan.

"So it would take a few years for this plan to implement all the way," said Bobo. But after they had increased the revenue with that many students, then the university would have to agree to student ID cards being used in the community.

According to Taylor and Bobo, then not only would JSU benefit from the increased meal plans, but also from the businesses where JSU students ID cards were used. Wherever JSU student ID cards were used, the university would require that business to give a certain percentage of every sale back to the university.

The mandatory meal plan, however, is admittedly not without problems. Currently Sodexo "doesn't have the space to seat an additional 1,000 students," said Bobo. Also, the Jack Hopper dining hall and the food court are not open enough hours to accommodate that many students.

However, it is in the 25-year building plan at JSU to have a new building constructed for the cafeteria and food services, said Bobo.

"Why don't we throw a few problems in their face to make them go ahead and allow the Caf' to be the next building that they build," said Bobo.

Another concern that had been raised and that the committee is working on is who will vote on this new plan. Taylor said that if the students did not want this plan, then the SGA was not going to turn around and do it anyway.

He said that students would

BCM

Jacksonville State
University

International Student Organization: International week is going on now! Feb. 29 - Mar. 6. The events are as follows: Sun.- Soccer @ Germania Springs, 1 p.m., Mon. and Tue.- Silent Auction at the International House, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Wed.- International House Event at 9 p.m., Thursday- Pizza Party, Roundhouse, 8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m., Friday- Game Night, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m., Patterson Hall, Sat.- International Taster's Fair at Leone Cole, 6 p.m. **Contact:** Debbie Russell, 782-5674.

JSU Library: Need something scanned? The Houston Cole Library is proud to offer free scanning services on the second floor at the reference desk. Items can be scanned for use in Power Point presentations, Web sites, and much more. Library staff can assist patrons in scanning documents and images to be printed, emailed, or saved to a disk. **Contact:** Houston Cole Library, 782-8034.

JSU Today Show: Watch JSU Today every Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. on TV24. If any communication students would be interested in gaining TV production experience, please contact Stephanie Deese. **Contact:** Stephanie Deese, 782-6187 or stephdeese@aol.com.

JSU ROTC: Two and three-year scholarships that pay full tuition and fees, partial books and a monthly spending allowance of \$300 to \$400 are available through JSU ROTC. Annual \$1000 Alumni Scholarships are also available. The department will hold a scholarship board on April 2. **Contact:** Captain Shackelford, 782-5601.

Sigma Nu: We would like to thank everyone that voted for "SuperDave" as Mr. Jax State. Brother/candidate for the week: Our Commander "SuperDave" for his ability to run without sleep and "footlong" for his achievements as candidate commander. Quote: "real friends shave each others backs." We are looking forward to the mixer with AOII next week. **Contact:** Dave Chambers, 525-6490.

Student Government Association: The SGA 11th annual Casino Night will be tonight in Leone Cole Auditorium at 7 p.m. Be sure not to miss the fun! Admission is \$5.00! **Contact:** Mardracus Russell, 782-5491.

Tau Sigma Lambda: Congratulations to our new pledges- we know you will uphold the true meaning of brotherhood and service. Good luck to ZTA with Big Man on Campus on March 8th! B4AL! **Contact:** Jason Hallberg, jmhallberg1@hotmail.com.

Up 'Til Dawn: Up 'Til Dawn is a fundraiser project created to raise money for the St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Up 'Til Dawn is currently accepting applications for the MORALE Team!! Anyone with lots of energy and a smiling face is encouraged to apply! **Contact:** Angela Martin or Cambrey Jordan, 782-8054.

Virgin Scribe's Guild: We are initiating our 2nd Annual VSG Writing Contest. There will be over \$500 in prizes in categories including writing, photography, and art. **Contact:** Shawn Bailey, 237-9840 or jsu1133k@jsu.edu.

Zeta Tau Alpha: Congratulations to our Senior Spotlight-Stephanie Deese. Thanks to Pi Kappa hi for a great mixer last night. Our annual Big Man on Campus will be held on Monday, March 8th at 8:00 P.M. at Leon Cole. Admission is \$2.00. Come and support breast cancer awareness. Go Gamecocks! **Contact:** Heather Moore, heathern16@hotmail.com

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 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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around and do it anyway.

He said that students would be able to vote directly on the plan. "I wouldn't have it any other way," said Taylor.

For right now, there are no estimates on how much the mandatory meal plan would cost. But according to Bobo, JSU is the cheapest in the state, and with a meal plan added on, Jacksonville would still be hundreds of dollars below the other universities in Alabama.

For any students who would like more information or want to discuss the idea of a mandatory meal plan, the SGA will be holding an open forum on Monday, March 8 at 6 p.m. in the TMB Auditorium.

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from **Passion**, page 1

sinister medieval stereotypes, portraying Jews as bloodthirsty, sadistic and money-hungry enemies of God who lack compassion and humanity."

Throughout history, passion plays (passion meaning "suffering") have been a part of Christianity, especially around the Easter holidays. According to the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian relations, "Passion Plays have often been theologically and morally problematic. Specifically, their portrayal of Jews collectively as killers of Christ has historically fomented hatred and violence toward Jews."

The league also said, "We call on Christian leaders, in the United States and throughout the world, publicly to affirm their churches' teachings on appropriate portrayals and interpretations of the Passion and to make these teachings readily available to the general public."

According to the ADL Web site, within this last century, anti-Semitism has slowly degenerated through better and more accurate teachings and interpretations of the gospels.

Many individuals may wonder what is so different about this film as compared to information recorded in the gospels and other passion movies like "Jesus of Nazareth" and "King of Kings."

Many factors can be attributed to the medias controversial debate about this movie. First, Mel Gibson, who is a Catholic traditionalist, is the director. He also

anti-Semitism that has been sparked by this movie. The film shows a number of Jews that are compassionate followers of Jesus, and the only ones that are not are a handful of Pharisees and people that agree with them.

According to Ruetters.com, "the grass-roots and the controversy obviously helped, but when you get this big a number, it's a mainstream 'wanna-see,' and word-of-mouth is now in effect," said Bob Berney, president of the film's North American distributor, Newmarket Films.

The ticket sales continued to rise over the weekend despite rumors of anti-Semitism and gory blood scenes. Many people have already accessed the film's Web site to write that they have already seen the film multiple times, according to producer Bruce Davey, who runs Gibson's Icon Productions film banner. The site received about 54.1 million visits on last Thursday alone.

"The Passion" played on about 4,700 screens in 3,043 theaters across the United States and Canada. Davey said the movie is playing equally strongly in Australia, where Gibson was raised.

"The struggle between good and evil, and the overwhelming power of love go beyond race and culture. This film is about faith, hope, love, and forgiveness. These are things that the world could use more of, particularly in these turbulent times. The film is meant to inspire, not to offend," Gibson stated.

While some still linger in the controversy of the film, others endorse Gibson's por-

from **Phones**, page 1

of legislation is necessary, Cingular will continue to support a bill that includes all types of distractions," Shackleford said.

Shackleford said Cingular

supports a "Be Sensible" program to remind wireless users of their responsibility while driving and to promote commonsense tips for using a wireless phone without compromising safety.

Seventeen states have laws

regarding cell phone use in a car, according to a 2003 report from the National Conference of State Legislatures. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that driver distraction is a

factor in up to 30 percent of all motor vehicle crashes.

The Alabama Department of Public Safety hasn't taken an official position on Page's bill but is reviewing it, a spokeswoman said.

At least 143 people die in suicide attacks

Two Iraq cities bombed near a mosque while celebrating the Islam holiday, Shiite

By Ken Dilanian

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Near-simultaneous suicide bombings in two Iraqi cities killed at least 143 people Tuesday as they crowded near mosques to celebrate Shiite Islam's most important holiday.

Iraqi and American officials blamed the bombings, just outside revered Shiite shrines in Baghdad and Karbala, on terrorists seeking to provoke conflict among Iraq's ethnic groups and to disrupt U.S. attempts to return sovereignty to a transitional Iraqi government on July 1.

A main suspect, they said, was Abu Musab al Zarqawi, a Jordanian with reputed links to al-Qaida, who allegedly authored an intercepted letter calling for attacks on Shiites.

It was Iraq's deadliest day since major combat operations ended last May, and marked the deepening of an apparent strategic shift by insurgents, who increasingly are targeting vulnerable Iraqis rather than American

military forces.

Three suicide bombers infiltrated the crowds and blew themselves up in and around the shrine in Baghdad's Khadhimiya neighborhood, killing 58 and wounding 200, U.S. Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said. At least one suicide attacker detonated a bomb in Karbala and other prepositioned bombs went off in the crowd of worshipers, killing 85 and wounding more than 100, he said. Mortars also were lobbed in Karbala, but were ineffective, he added.

"The terrorists had this well planned out," Kimmitt said. "They wore clothing — more than likely — which would hide the fact that they were wearing explosive-vest devices. ..."

Shortly after the attacks at the Baghdad mosque, residents were mopping up pools of blood and collecting bits of seared body parts in metal bowls. Shoes and clothing lay in a pile. Bloodstains were visible on the colorful exterior of the shrine, the third holiest in Shiite Islam.

The attacks could have

been worse. Police arrested four would-be bombers in Basra, including two women wearing belts laden with explosives. There also were unconfirmed reports of car bombings thwarted in Baghdad. One attacker whose bomb failed to detonate was arrested by Iraqi police in Baghdad, Kimmitt said.

Explosions ripped through crowds in both cities between 9:30 and 10 a.m. local time. Outside the Imam Musa al Khadam shrine in Baghdad, witnesses said a small explosion was followed by a much larger one, which the onlookers said was caused by a suicide bomber strapped with dynamite.

"People screamed after the first explosion, and then the second one took the air away," said Fakhir Jabbar, 56.

A veteran of gruesome battles during the Iran-Iraq war, Jabbar said he began trying to help the injured.

"I held a leg in one hand and an arm in another," he said. In many previous terrorist bombings, crowds

accused American forces of direct involvement. Witnesses outside the Baghdad mosque Tuesday said they suspected Sunni Muslim religious extremists in the bombings, but they did blame the American military for not protecting the mosque.

Jabbar questioned why no U.S. forces were around the mosque. He acknowledged, though, that one probable aim of the attackers is to turn Shiites against the Americans.

"Yes, the insurgents want us to think like that," he said.

Kimmitt said American forces had set up checkpoints in what he called an "outer cordon," but left security near the mosque to Iraqi forces. He said U.S. troops didn't want to offend Iraqis by operating too close to a shrine in the midst of a religious celebration.

After the bombings, an American convoy summoned to aid Iraqi forces had to retreat from the Baghdad scene under a hail of stones thrown by enraged Shiites.

**The
Computer Cafe**

NEED A PHYSICAL EXAM?

who is a Catholic traditionalist, is the director. He also spat \$25 million out of his own pocket into making this film, just because according to his interview with Diane Sawyer, he had a "deep desire to let the world know the extent of Christ's sacrifice for our sins."

Secondly, Gibson's way of showing the extent of Christ's sacrifice is extremely violent and stomach turning, according to several movie reviews.

According to the New York Metro.com, writer Peter Ranier states "to say that it's the bloodiest story ever told is an understatement; rarely has so much red stuff flowed in any movie." Still other movie reviews like on in the New York Press that describe the film as preparing "viewers for a film that could be described as holier-than-thou— a movie that's as beautiful and as it is single-minded, unmodulated, and (in some ways) offensive."

Reading about the crucifixion in the Bible lets someone imagine it as they'd like to—the extent of brutal torture depends on what they make it. As for the portrayals of the crucifixion in "Jesus of Nazareth" and "King of Kings," the violence is nothing compared to Gibson's film.

In "The Passion," Jesus is beaten severely, humiliated and spat on, flogged almost to death with the cat-o-nine-tails whip and chunks of skin are ripped from his body, beaten again after the flogging, forced to drag his cross for miles, and nailed to it by his hands and feet to slowly die. And this is where the ADL expresses its concerns about the blame going to the Jews.

Currently, there have been no reports in the last week of

the controversy of the film, others endorse Gibson's portrayal wholeheartedly.

Dallas Morning News writer, Chris Vognar said, "Controversy aside, it is dramatically intense, skillfully constructed and often harrowing, in ways that should have an impact on people of any or no particular faith."

Still others like Lou Lumenick of the New York Post marveled that, "Passion is the closest we've come to a must-see movie this year, but the real question is: How many audience members will have the stomach to actually satisfy their curiosity?"

The Computer Cafe

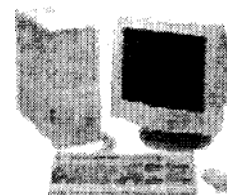
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OPINION

The Chanticleer • March 4, 2004

Violence overshadows the message in "The Passion"

"The Passion of the Christ" didn't move me in an emotionally profound way. It didn't really affect anything in me except for my stomach.

Last week's number one box office movie raked in millions of dollars for its director, Mel Gibson. Gibson is a Catholic traditionalist, meaning he believes in the pre-Vatican Catholic catechism. In other words, he is a strict and very right-wing Catholic.

Gibson said in a recent interview with television journalist Diane Sawyer that he wanted to make the movie to show people the extent of Christ's suffering for the purpose of saving humanity from eternal damnation. However, I really didn't get this message when I watched it.

The movie was supposed to stop you in your tracks and make you say, "Look at what he did for us."

It was supposed to show you how Jesus endured Hell on earth before he died. It should have made me feel like I needed to start going

to church again.

But it didn't do that for me.

I've always known what a crucified Christ looks like. I'm Catholic and in every Catholic church, there is a

crucifix hung above the altar. It's not an uncommon thing to

also see pictures or small molds depicting Christ's

By Danni Lusk
The Chanticleer
Editor in Chief



It wasn't the actual journey to his death that shocked

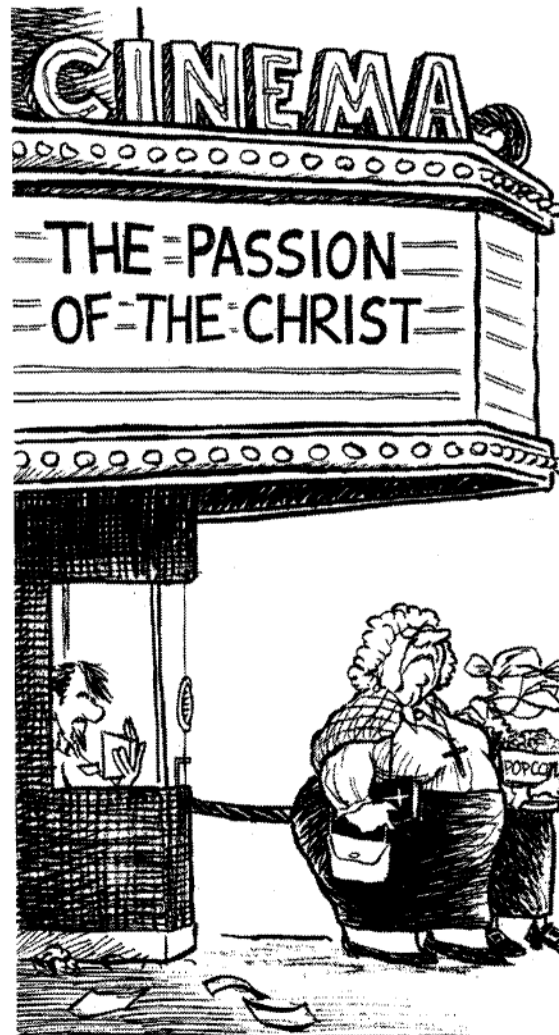
me. It was the graphic depiction Gibson chose to put on screen that made my stomach turn. It was the unbelievable amount of blood

puddled on the ground after Christ was almost scourged to death. It was the gravel from the road to Calvary sticking to his open flesh wounds when he fell under the weight of the cross onto his exposed elbow bones. It was the sound of his shoulders dislocating as the guard stretched his arms out to nail his hands to the cross.

It was a message of violence that I got from the movie, not a message of redemption.

My fear concerning the movie because of the violent message I got from it is that people who don't know much about Christ's sacrifice will leave the theatre more shocked than impacted by it. The movie doesn't do a very good job of showing any of Christ's life outside the 12 hours prior to his death. I can remember only seven flashbacks by characters in the movie that showed any of Christ's life outside these 12 hours.

It's this lack of context that I think made me focus more on the violence than the message it was intended to deliver.



HOW WAS I
SUPPOSED
TO KNOW
'LET'S GO TO
THE MOVIES'
MEANT WE'D
ACTUALLY
SEE ONE
THIS TIME?!

BEELER '04
KRT CAMPUS

Handicapped accessibility a big problem on campus

Amendment to define marriage is hypocritical, unnecessary

By Malcolm Thomas
The Chanticleer Managing Editor

DSS helps a lot of people. DSS works well for the blind and the deaf yet they don't do much for the people in wheel chairs. There are not enough elevators on campus, and the few that are around don't work worth very well.

It is appalling to know that most of the places around here are not accessible for people that have to use wheel chairs and scooters to get around.

Don't get me wrong, DSS does a lot of good for many people, but it seems DSS doesn't do a very much good to the people that have trouble getting to class because of the barriers in their way.

What if there really is a fire somewhere? My friends Julie Ann and Latoya are going to get burned just because people, in general, are to inconsiderate and self centered. I don't want to see them get burned so take the stairs.

Another thing that gets to me is people won't help the folks that are in wheel chairs out. We, as a whole, are very inconsiderate. Granted they may not want help, but at least offer to help them out. What if we were put in their position?

What would you do? Probably do nothing but complain about how hard things are for you. Most of us do that anyway. You don't know how hard it is for them, neither do I. But we do need to think about it.

Another thing that gets to me is that most people won't hire, much less give any recognition to those in wheel chairs because most people think that handicapped people think with their legs and not their brains.

It is absurd that the students and faculty at JSU are so inconsiderate and so self-centered that they won't take the stairs every once in a while. Why not say "Hey, how's it goin'?" Make somebody smile every once in a while. Hell, why not just help them out instead of smoking out side when you see them struggling to open a door.

You, as well as I, need to be aware that nobody is any better than anyone else. Truth be told those people that have to use wheel chairs are better than I will ever be. I can say that with confidence because, despite all odds, they are at school doing what they have to do to be the best they can be.

One more thing that urks me is that red phone on the

first floor of Bibb Graves. People that are disabled people have to call and ask for everything. Wouldn't it be more logical for the state, or whom ever is in charge of the money, to put in an elevator rather than re roof Bibb graves or pay big bucks to the politicians who do about as much as a two-year old child does. We need to take some of that money that we pay the governor and all those mediocre politicians and put it towards something that will benefit everybody. I don't get anything out of the thousands we pay those idiots in Montgomery.

I personally think that the state of Alabama and JSU could stop spending money on extraneous renovations and spend it to make people's lives a little bit easier. I would like to thank everybody that talked to me when I was writing this story, thank you for the eye opener. I hope this column opens many more people's eyes.

By Megan Matthews
The Seattle Times/NEXT

The debate about whether to create a constitutional amendment to limit marriage to between a man and a woman has hit me hard, delivering a sucker punch that has left me reeling. I feel sick, sad and disgusted that the argument would even receive enough legitimacy to be discussed at a national level.

Now how, precisely, are we protecting marriage by saving it for the Britney Spears and Bill Clintons of the world? Divorce rates are through the roof, starter marriages have become a cultural phenomenon, and no one I know is getting hitched for the sake of procreation, even though it's being defined as the purpose of matrimony by some in the religious right.

After all, marriage should not be a means to an end (children), but a gift unto itself.

As a straight woman, I could technically get married any time I feel like it. I can visit the courthouse with the man of my dreams, or I can pick the Joe I met last week who's kinda hot and who would be fun for a year or two.

How is that any more palatable to people than a pair of women who have been faithful for decades? When I hear about a couple

getting married after 51 years of fidelity, my heart sings. They are role models to me; their sexual identities should not detract from the shining example of devotion they embody.

And how hypocritical of conservatives to scream that the government better "stay out of my life!" when it comes to guns, taxes, the environment, education, retirement funds ... anything, apparently, except issues that conflict with their unique moral perspectives.

Judges aren't activists when they try to post the Ten Commandments on their front lawn, or when they work to overturn Roe v. Wade, but heaven forbid they make the perfectly logical argument that "separate but equal" is nothing more than discrimination masquerading behind a veil of semantics!

If civil unions were really equal, we should junk "marriage" altogether and let the former term cover everyone regardless of sexual orientation.

But no one likes that, do they?

What frustrates me most is that religious organizations have no place meddling in the civil arena. After all, even if the entire nation legalized gay marriage, churches could still refuse to perform matrimonial rites for them. That's one of the advantages bestowed by the

separation of church and state.

Consequently, I resent hearing that my Church has been lobbying for this amendment when they are protected already. Couples aren't going to beat down the Holy See's door demanding to be married when they can celebrate in civil courts that welcome their presence.

On a personal note, I have decided I most likely will not be married by the Catholic Church when the time comes, even though I've been a Catholic all my life. It breaks my heart, but I can't quietly accept the Church's efforts to make even non-Church goers abide by the faith's moral code.

Being religious shouldn't be about throwing your weight around or using "God's will" to dominate the socio-political landscape.

What's happening in San Francisco, by the way, isn't scary or awful. It's remarkably routine, quietly hopeful.

Gay marriage is not some chimera lurking at the nation's door. It is a new beginning, a chance to demonstrate that everyone does receive equal access to our culture's most celebrated rites.

Other countries have welcomed same-sex marriages with grace, and they seem better for it. I look forward to the day when we can follow their lead.

THE CHANTICLEER

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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.

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

Features

The Chanticleer • March 4, 2004

Neal lectures about Jane Austen

By Erin Chupp

The Chanticleer Photo Editor

It was drizzling outside, but the 11th floor of the library was full of charm, when Feb. 24, The Friends of Houston Cole Library invited Dr. Patricia Neal to speak on one of our favorite novelists, Jane Austen.

According to her biography, "Neal, former Honors Director at Spring Hill College in Mobile, concentrates on British literature of the 18th and 19th century and has traveled to English locales significant to Jane Austen, Charles Dickens and John Ruskin."

Neal had time to speak about each of Austen's books. In the introduction she demonstrated how, "I can carry in my hand all of the finished novels Jane Austen wrote." Many readers and "Janeites," those that are totally committed to Jane Austen, think that the novelist

wrote too few books during her life. However, Neal said that with six siblings at home she finds it amazing that she even had time to finish her six novels.

Neal's lecture was titled "Jane Austen: Parlor to Trenches to Silver Screen." Her lecture focused more on Austen's path as a writer, not her personal life. She mentioned that her sister burned a lot of her personal letters and other documents after her death, because she did not want anyone digging up information about Austen or prying into her life after she was no longer here.

One of the things Neal finds most charming and fascinating about Austen is her characters in the novels. They were not created as television stars act today. She said that her dialogue between normal people and everyday situations is intriguing. It allows the reader to draw conclusions, recognize options and follow the thought process

of characters in her novels.

It was the simplicity in characters that gave the English soldiers something to talk about in the trenches of warfare. The trenches were miserable during WWI and a lot of men were stuck together night after night and up to their knees in mud. Stuck together, they had to learn to get along with each other and Austen became a topic of conversation.

Author and war officer Rudyard Kipling wrote a story called "The Janeites." It detailed the lives of the soldiers in trenches who were encouraged to read Austen's novels. They were said to provide stress relief and basic human social interaction skills.

Neal said that some of the movies poorly portrayed the settings of Austen's novels with things like the wrong period style dress, although, she was especially fond of Hollywood's "Emma" starring Hugh Grant,



The Chanticleer/Erin Chupp

Tabatha Wade, a JSU student and Dr. Patricia Neal talking about novelist Jane Austen after Wade's lecture of Austen titled "Jane Austen: Parlor to Trenches to Silver Screen," organized by the Friends of Houston Cole Library.

rather than the BBC version. Neal commented how watching the actors, one can really see the awkward silences and uneasiness that Austen wrote into her novels and characters.

Tabatha Wade, a senior

English major at JSU, was in attendance with her grandmother, Katie Stancil. Wade enjoyed the lecture and the talk she had with Neal afterwards. "It was

see Austen, page 6

Lets talk about the Passion

By Katja Sunnarborg

The Chanticleer
Features Editor



Once again the Oscar awards have been distributed to the lucky winners and we can start looking out for new movies that might or might not make it to the Oscars next year. All the movies coming out this year should feel lucky that there will be no more "Lord of the Ring" sequels coming out, however there is this movie that has been talked about all over the media for the past couple of weeks, "The Passion of the Christ."

I haven't seen this movie yet; I tried to last weekend with some of my friends, but it was sold out everywhere. No wonder it has made \$120 million in five days, since people are doing just about anything to see this movie. It is all over the news, talk shows, newspapers, magazines, radio and you name it. It has been characterized anti-Semitic and controversial so far, and one channel went as far as to say this movie has the power to heal people miraculously. Not sure if that really has happened yet, but the truth is this movie has caused lot of anger within different groups of people.

A couple of days before "The

Will sing for money

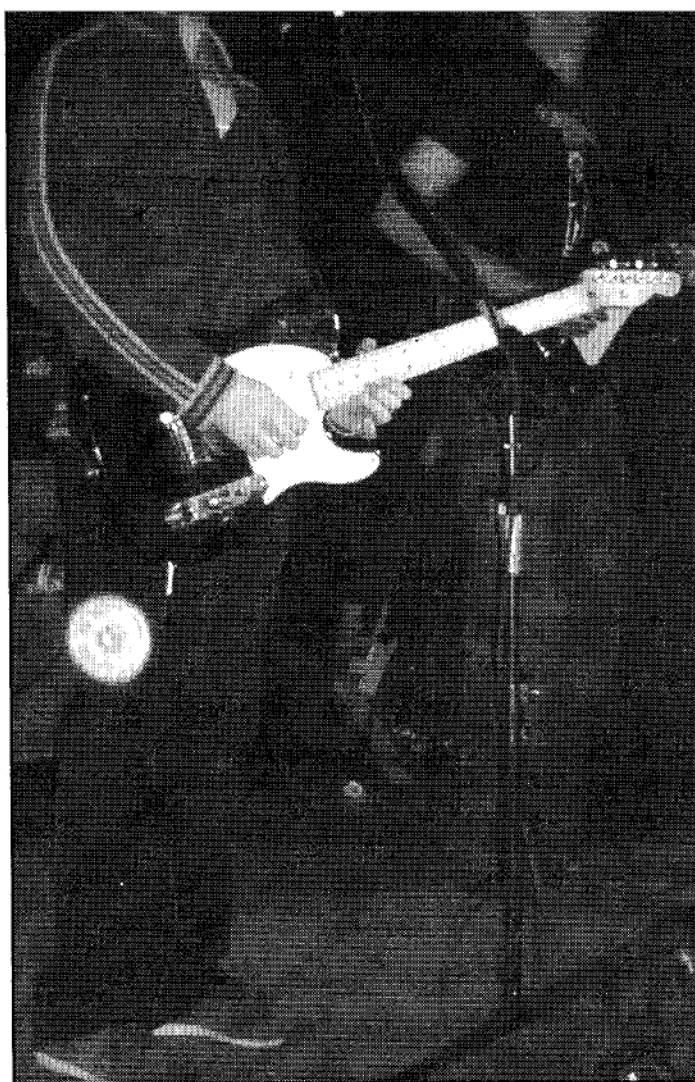
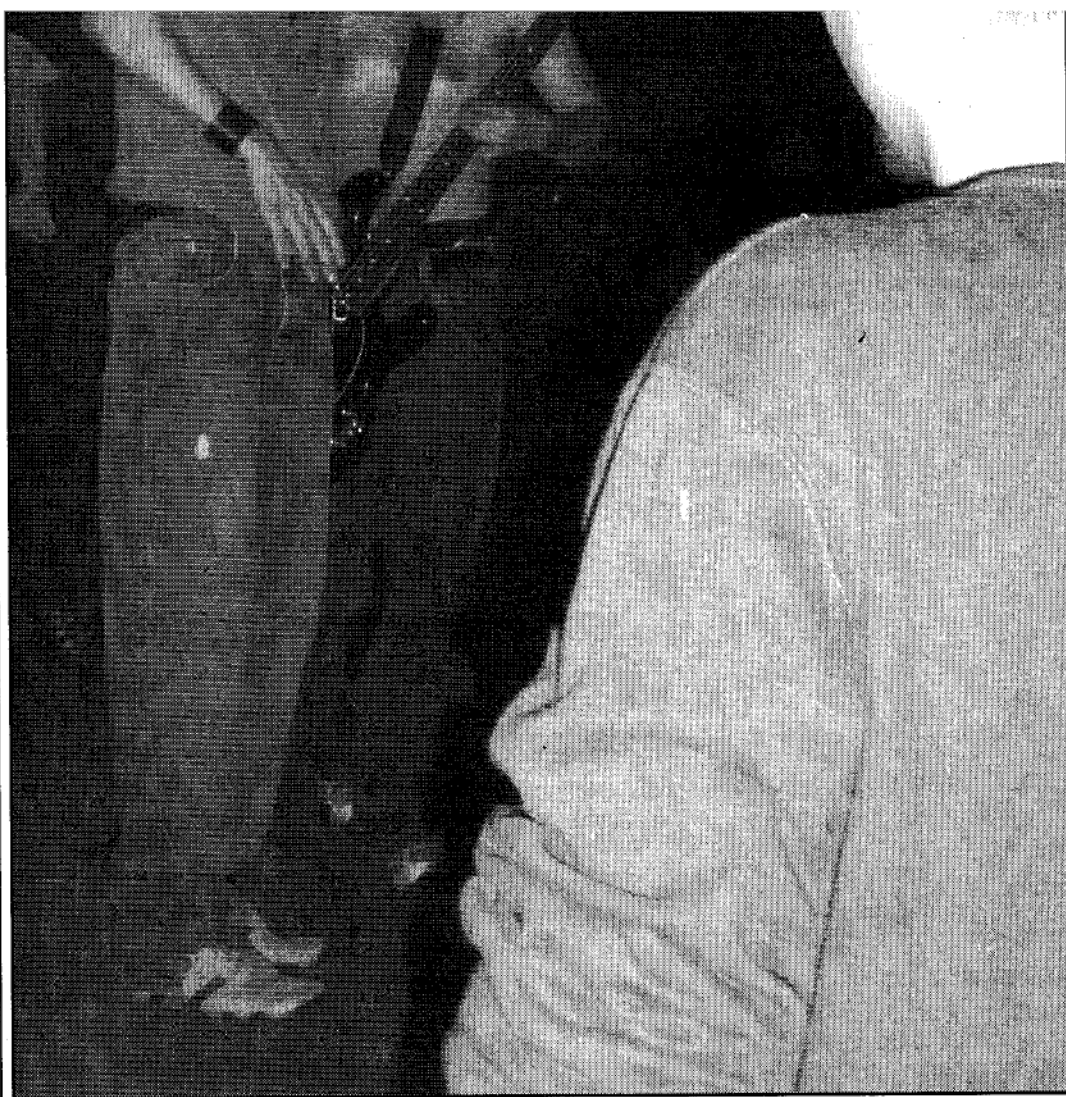


Crazy Anglos (l) and All Tomorrow's Parties (below) were just two of the bands that performed at Friday and Saturday nights' 92J Benefit. The benefit raised a little over \$800 for the radio station, according to Jordan Brewer, 92J music director.

The money raised from the benefit will be used to print t-shirts and other promotional materials, as well as buy new CDs for the station's collection. "I was happy with the turnout we had," said Brewer.

"This is something I've been able to grow since my first semester as program director," he said. "It's sad because it's my last time to have my hand [in planning] the benefit."





people.
A couple of days before "The Passion of the Christ" came out, I happened to catch Mel Gibson, who directed this film, on Jay Leno one night and to me he seems like a very smart man. It was his passion to make this movie and according to him, all the signs for making it where there. Because he pretty much paid to make the movie himself, he had the decision power as well, and the movie looks like he intended it to look like. It was his creation and knowing some of his past movies like "The Patriot" and "Braveheart," he has been careful to set the known facts straight, so to me it seems this movie can't be that misleading as it has been said to be.

Personally I think all this extreme talk about the movie has helped tremendously to reach the \$120 million figure. It seems like all this extra talk about controversy and anti-Semitism is a clever publicity trick. This way the movie will turn out to be a box-office hit, or as we have witnessed, has already turned out to be so.

But I am also one of those people who do not care if it is all planned or not, because I very much want to see this movie eventually. Not because it is Mel Gibson movie or because it is so much talked about, but because of the story it is portraying. When I was little, I used to spend my Christmas mornings watching movies about the birth and life of the Christ. To me this is just another way of telling that story, but now for my adult eyes.

In the end people want to see this "controversial" and "anti-Semitic" movie that might heal you. But they also want to see it, because they believe. There is this faith for Christ and his story that everybody wants to see as pictures in front of their eyes. It is easier to imagine if you have something to go by. It is the importance of this faith and the life of the Christ that makes those big numbers happen; to assure us further that our faith is right.

Kanye West

The College Dropout

★★★★

Review by Nick Mackay
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The king is dead. Long lives the King. When Jay-Z announced, upon the release of last year's "The Black Album," that he was hanging up his microphone for good, it was like Michael Jordan retiring from basketball. Jay Z was the Michael Jordan of hip-hop.

Like Jordan's final game winner for the Bulls against the Jazz, "The Black Album" was not Jay-Z's best work, but it was a fitting finale; a game win-



Courtesy Roc-A-Fella

ning swish at the end of a stellar career. Let's just hope Jay-Z doesn't have any comeback-for-the-Wizards aspirations.

In the wake of Jay-Z's retirement his own record company, Roc-A-Fella, has released an album worthy of its founder, Kanye West's debut "The College Dropout." Listen to "The College Dropout" and you will know the king is dead. Long lives the King.

Known in hip-hop circles as the master producer behind Alicia Key's "You Don't Know

My Name" and Talib Kweli's "Get By," West has long been considered an up-and-comer along the lines of Pharell Williams of The Neptunes. This solo release reveals another thing about West, he has some serious lyrical game, maybe not Mike Jordan like, but for his rookie effort, definitely LeBron-like.

The album opens with the playful "We Don't Dare" which combines the pop sensibilities of A Tribe called Quest with the ghetto-smoke of Jay-Z's own "Hard Knock Life" record. The main line, "Drug dealin' just to get by/Stack your money 'til it gets sky high" simultaneously glorifies drug dealing, and makes it child-like. This is not a great thing morally, but the beat is so playful you would think West's drug dealing buddies passed out Juicy Fruit instead of crack.

Track 4, "All Falls Down" is

discourse on "Single black females addicted to retail." Women in West's world are only looking for playas, and West is only too happy to oblige. "I went to Jacob with twenty-five thou before I had a house and I'd do it again 'cause I wanna be on 106 and Park pushin' a Benz," West stammers with no conscious. However, he's still a step of his contemporaries because he admits, "I got a problem with spending before I get it/we're all self conscious, I'm just the first to admit it." And he is.

"Spaceship" is a neo-soul slow jam of silky proportions, while "Jesus Walks" is a pounding anthem which boldly decrees, "We at war with racism. We at war with terrorism. But mostly, we at war with ourselves." It's gritty like a New York sidewalk and it has all the operatic elements of P-Diddy's rip on "Kashmir," but

it's also the first gansta joint to name check a line from "Happy Gilmore."

A friend of mine picked up this album last week when we were shopping in a local store. Two hours after returning home form the record store my friend rang me and insisted I listen to track 8 at once. I did, five times in a row. "Never let me down" recycles West's own beat from Kweli's "Get By," and the rhymes are stellar from guest Jay-Z and West himself. But when the piano backbeat breaks down and West tells the backing gospel choir to "Take 'em to church" the layered harmonies combining with the bongo backbeat make this almost too pretty to be gansta-rap. Almost.

"The College Dropout" is the first great hip-hop album of 2004, and it will take a lot for anybody out there to knock this new kid off his block. Michael is gone, long live LeBron.

WLJS 92-J 91.9FM concert calendar

Local

- 03/04/04 Blankety Blank - Brother's
- 03/05/04 Course of Nature - Brother's
- 03/06/04 Clay Broome - Brother's
- 03/10/04 DJ Crash - Brother's

Birmingham

- 03/04/04 Course Of Nature and Frickin' A - The Nick
- 03/05/04 12 Stones, Big Dismal, Grits, Pillar and Skillet - Alabama Theatre
- 03/06/04 The Codetalkers Feat. Col. Bruce Hampton - Zydeco
- 03/08/04 Straight Line Stitch - Cave 9
- 03/09/04 Southern Culture On The Skids - Zydeco

Atlanta

- 03/04/04 As Summer Dies - 10 High
- Starrunner - Andrews Upstairs
- 03/05/04 Denali, Laguardia and Murder By Death - Echo Lounge
- Graham Colton

J List

Check out the "J" List every week for a list of stuff to do from J to Z.

Today

- ISO Pizza Party @ Round House 8:30 p.m.

Friday

- ISO Game Night @ Patterson Basement 6 p.m.

Thursday

- SGA Casino Night @ Leone Cole 7 p.m.

Saturday

- International Taster's Fair & Talent Show @ Leone Cole 6 p.m.

Monday-Tuesday

- SGA Blood Drive @ TMB Auditorium

Tuesday

- SGA Movie Night, "Gothika," @ TMB Auditorium 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

from **Austen**, page 5

very good," she said. "I thought it was interesting to learn that Austen didn't hob-knob with any other literary authors."

Wade began reading Austen's novels at the age of 12, beginning with "Emma." She said she read the book, then watched "Clueless," a contemporary movie translation of the novel, and then she saw "Emma" with traditional dialogue from Hollywood.

Wade got the opportunity to play the part of Elizabeth during the lecture dialogue. For a short time in the afternoon voices of characters came from different parts of the room, and selected members of the audience were transformed into some of their favorite, real characters.

Beating Around the Bush

by Corey McDaniel & Bryan Stone

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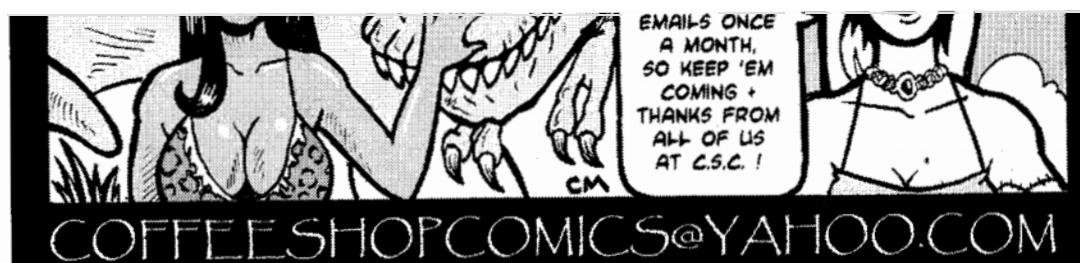
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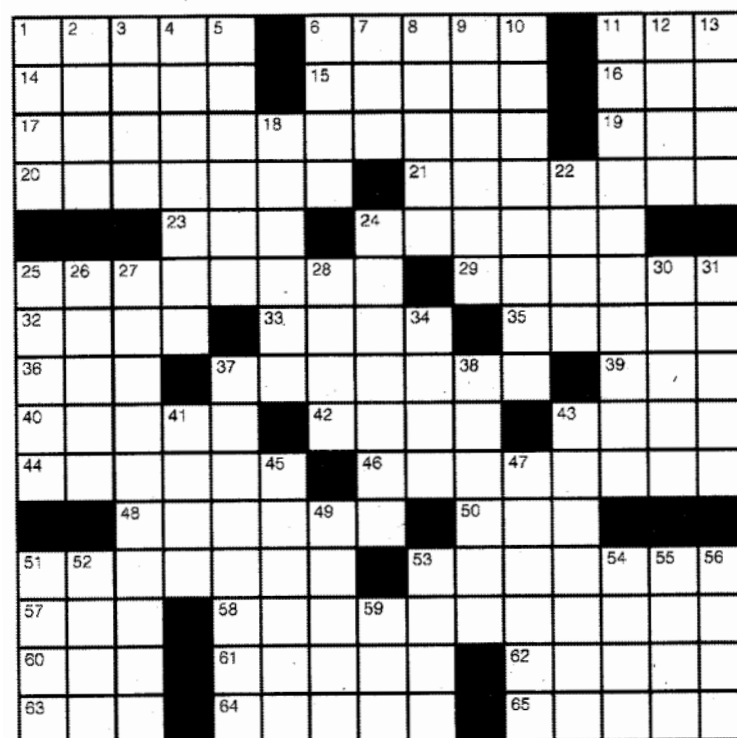
Lounge
Graham Colton
and Guster -
Tabernacle
03/06/04 Paperstreet, The
Taste and Union
Drag - 10 High
Hoobastank,
Linkin Park,
P.O.D. and Story
Of The Year -
Philips Arena
03/08/04 Primus -
Tabernacle
03/09/04 Les Baton Rouge -
Echo Lounge
03/10/04 Grant Lee Phillips
- Echo Lounge
The Jealous Sound
- The EARL



Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Barbecue tool
- 6 Texas shrine
- 11 Way cool!
- 14 In the know
- 15 Cheech of "Nash Bridges"
- 16 Self-image
- 17 Home improvements
- 19 Mystery writer Grafton
- 20 Bullets with trails
- 21 More frightening
- 23 Before, before
- 24 Followed obediently as a dog
- 25 Hair clasp
- 29 In a reasonable manner
- 32 Comply
- 33 Leander's love
- 35 Blakley of "A Nightmare on Elm Street"
- 36 Certain mil. base
- 37 Hogwash!
- 39 Inmate
- 40 Aromatic compound



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03/04/04

Solutions



DOWN

- 1 Fruit pastry
- 2 One in debt
- 3 Anna Sten role
- 4 Comestibles store
- 5 Unsparring

- 6 Qtys.
- 7 Chou En
- 8 Got out of bed
- 9 Chops up
- 10 Not paid by the hour
- 11 Abodes
- 12 Chills and fever
- 13 Active person
- 18 Singer Franklin
- 22 Nevada city
- 24 Melodramatic behavior
- 25 Cosby kid Lisa
- 26 Make ashamed
- 27 Limitations
- 28 Relate
- 30 Director Sergio
- 31 Streisand film
- 34 Draft classification
- 37 Fellow church members
- 38 Satellite of Jupiter
- 41 Conger and moray

- 43 Meal in a tortilla
- 45 Finger Lake
- 47 Speechifies
- 49 Tease
- 51 Metric wt.
- 52 Castling piece
- 53 ___ gin fizz

- 54 First chancellor of reunified Germany
- 55 Gender-biased suffix
- 56 Brit. decorations
- 59 Chapel Hill inst.

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST - R

(1:00 4:00) 7:00 10:00

Starsky & Hutch - PG13

(1:45 4:20) 7:10 9:15

Hidaigo - PG13

(1:30 4:15) 7:05 9:30

Twisted - R Ashley Judd

(2:00 4:30) 7:15 9:15

The Passion of The Christ

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From **Women**, page 8

wouldn't look back.

A lay-up by the Tigers made the score 30-16 with 4:44 left in the opening stanza, but Jax State closed the half with an 11-0 run to go into the locker room ahead 41-16.

In the second half, the Gamecocks maintained a lead of at least 23 points and led by as many as 37. After a steal and a lay-up by Nye, the senior quickly picked up two more points by stealing the in-bound pass for an easy bucket, all in :03 of the game. The basket gave JSU its largest lead at 74-37 with 7:03 left to play.

Nye commented on the record after the game, saying "It was so much sweeter to do it in front of my family and friends. Shooters go into a slump every now and then, but you have to fight through it when the game is close."

The Gamecocks look to be singing some Queen songs this week. They hosted No. 6 seed Eastern Kentucky on Tuesday. If they made the Colonels "bite the dust," as they split the two games in the regular season, they'll travel to Nashville, Tenn. On Friday to play the winner of the game pitting No. 7 seed UT-Martin and No. 2 seed Tennessee Tech on Friday, where they hope to sing "We Are the Champions."

Cocks take two, improve to 3-4

By **Amado Ortiz**

The Chanticleer Staff Writer

JSU used homeruns by Winston Pearson and Bobby Hicks to win the series 2-1 over Middle Tennessee State and improve their record to 3-4.

JSU 2 MTS 1

Senior Bobby Hicks started the weekend series against the Blue Raiders by sending one deep over the Rudy Abbott outfield fence for a two-run shot. Hicks finished the night 2-for-4 at the plate with a first-inning single to go along with his homer.

The two runs proved to be enough for the win thanks to the pitching of Bobby Wynns (1-1), who picked up the victory after going six shutout innings and allowing just two hits with seven strikeouts. Wynns leads the pitching staff with 15 strikeouts.

JSU 2 MTS 8

Middle Tennessee connected on 12 hits and scored three first-inning runs en route to an 8-2 win over the Gamecocks on Saturday. Middle Tennessee jumped out early by scoring three runs in the top of the first inning. A bases-loaded balk by JSU starting pitcher Danny Andres (0-2), followed by a two-out double gave the Blue Raiders a 3-0 lead.

That would be enough cushion for MTS pitcher John Williams as JSU couldn't find the answer to

Williams who spotted the fastball well and mixed in a curveball and a good change-up. The Gamecocks had only seven base-runners all day, as Williams did not walk a batter. Only two JSU runners reached third, one in the first and the other in the fourth.

The Gamecocks avoided the shut-out with a pair of runs in the bottom of the ninth thanks to Matt Ruckdeschel's single up the middle to score Bret Pettus. An RBI groundout by Johny Prosser scored Ruckdeschel from third base for JSU's final run of the game. Ruckdeschel led the Gamecocks by going 2-for-4 for the game with a pair of singles.

JSU 5 MTS 3

Jacksonville State scored twice in the second and the sixth and got an insurance run in the eighth, preserving a 5-3 victory over Middle Tennessee and a series victory Sunday at Rudy Abbott Field.

The Gamecocks got clutch hitting from the bottom of their order, including four of the team's eight hits from the eight and nine spots in the order. JSU took the lead in the second after Robby Goodson led off with a double. One batter later Winston Pearson belted a fastball clearing the left field wall for a two-run homer and a 2-1 Gamecock lead.

The Gamecocks busted the game open in their half of the sixth thanks to a walk, a

throwing error and a hit batsman. The Gamecocks added an insurance run in the eighth and JSU closer Robby Goodson recorded his second save of the season. Goodson struck out the side in the eighth and another in the ninth, to pick up his second save of the series with two scoreless innings.

C.R. Palmer (1-1) got the victory, working six innings and giving up one run on four hits with six strikeouts.

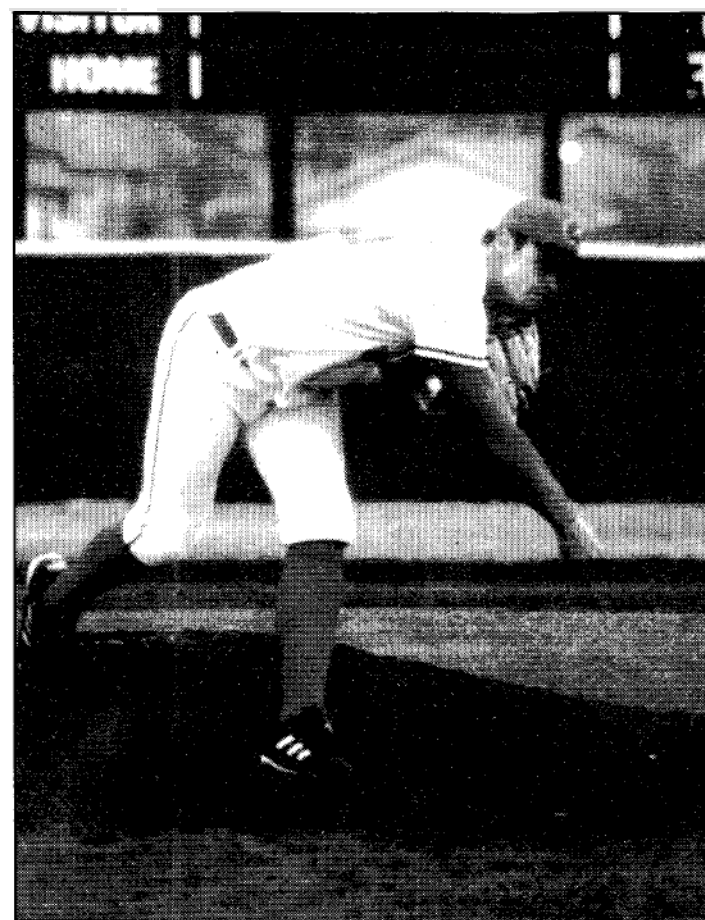
"You can never be really happy when you have a 3-4 record, but I think we have benefited from playing good teams early in the year," said Case. "Middle Tennessee is a very good team. They are well coached and have talent in all areas of the lineup. I believe that playing this type of schedule early will pay dividends for us down the road."

WEEKEND PREVIEW

The Gamecocks travel to the University of Louisiana Monroe for a three game series against the Indians. ULM is fresh off winning the Holiday Inn and Suites/Citgo Classic.

The Indians outscored the opponents 36-15 and pounded out 43 hits while compiling a .402 average for the classic. ULM beat 2003 College World Series participant Southwest Missouri St, OVC member Eastern Illinois and Kansas State for the classic.

The Indians love to run the bases as they have stole 17 of



The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie

C.R. Palmer, a team captain, pitched the Gamecocks to a victory earlier this week. JSU's game was rained out Tuesday, but they will return to action Wednesday, weather permitting.

19 bases against opposing teams. Junior Outfielder Glenn Jackson leads the team with nine steals on nine attempts. Jackson pep starts the Indian offense with a .515 BA, has scored 15 runs and 17 hits on the season.

Jackson's on-base percentage has forced good pitches to Preseason All-Southland Conference first baseman Ben Jones who has took advantage by batting .350 with 15 RBI's and 3 home-runs.

Probable starters for the

weekend will be Preseason SLC pitcher of the year Matt Green, a power style pitcher, who has recorded 15 strikeouts in as many innings and a 3.52 ERA. Senior Justin Lensch will throw a good change up and has a 1.46 ERA with seven strikeouts in 12 innings. Ryan Schwabe has movement on his pitches and claims a 2.55 ERA with 15 strikeouts in 17 innings.

First pitch will be Friday night at 6:30, 3 on Saturday and 1 on Sunday.

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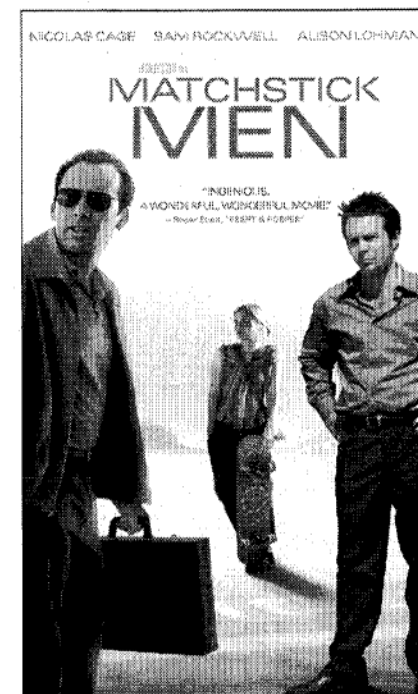
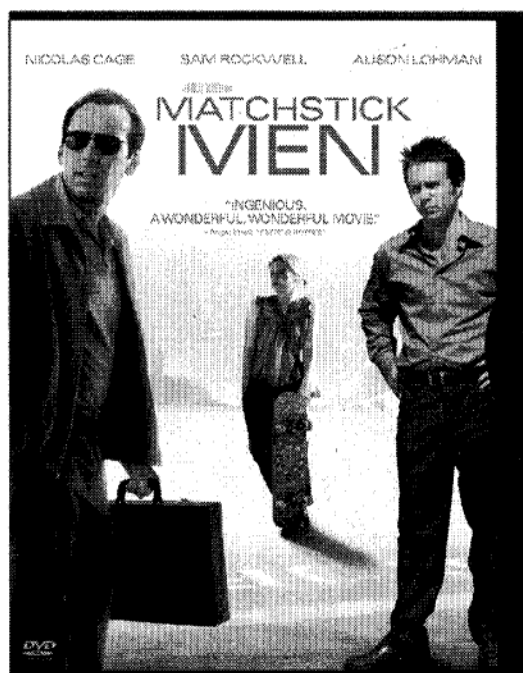
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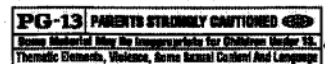
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Sports

The Chanticleer • March 4, 2004

Why we don't need ESPN to tell us how bad we are

By
J. Wilson Guthrie
The Chanticleer Sports Editor



I can't wait until football season starts. I am sick and tired of not having anything to do.

I have never really liked basketball. I don't enjoy watching it and the officiating, in my opinion is too subjective. Too many things that are so borderline and are not called and things that are borderline are called, just bothers me.

It makes things worse when everyone is talking about the trades that have been happening. I just want to be able to sit down on Sunday and Saturday and watch a good football game.

But anyway, I just had to get that out. So I was watching ESPN again, which is where I get most of my ideas for my column. They are doing a multi-part series about sex and athletics. Boy has Janet gotten more for that flash than she ever bargained for.

Sex has been a part of athletics since the beginning. What are cheerleaders other than eye-candy for the players?

And who is ESPN and other sports mediums trying to appeal to? The 18-34 year old male demographic. And what are 18-34 year old males?

Cocks get The Pete for tourney

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

The women's team came into the week with a different version of the Righteous Brothers' classic in their heads, but theirs went "You've lost that winnin' feelin'." They managed to change the station this week to classic rock, as wins over Samford, Savannah State and Tennessee State had them singing "Sweet home Alabama."

The ladies started the week against Samford on Tuesday, and both teams came out determined. No team took a lead larger than six for the entire period, as the teams combined for a horrendous shooting performance. The two teams managed to hit only 17-of-52 shots, with Samford actually hitting ten to JSU's seven. JSU actually did not hit a field goal for the final 6:46 of the half.

The Gamecocks had the half-time lead, however, due to a 16-

of-18 performance from the charity stripe, as Samford was fouling everything in sight. The game was 32-26 in the Gamecocks favor at the stoppage of play.

The two would resurrect themselves somewhat in the second half, as JSU would hit for 14-of-26 shots, as they managed to get the lead into double digits on a couple of occasions. They weren't quite as efficient from the line in the second half, but it was enough to secure the 69-62 win.

Shanika Freeman again led the scoring attack with 16 points and seven rebounds. Cobie Carlisle followed with a dozen points, while Kelly Nye hit for 11 points, three assists and three steals. JSU out-rebounded the Bulldogs 41-29.

Jacksonville State would then place four players in double figures to take an 76-57 victory over Savannah State on Thursday in Tiger Arena on the SSU campus. It was Senior

Day for the Tigers, but the Gamecocks made it bittersweet.

JSU jumped out to a 18-9 lead and increased it to 27-14 with 9:25 on the clock. The Lady Tigers cut the lead to six on two occasions in the first half, the last coming at the 2:34 mark, when Stephens made a jump shot which made the score 33-27.

Jacksonville State led 38-29 at the half.

The Gamecocks held a double-digit lead the entire second half and SSU could get no closer than 10 points. JSU led 57-46, with 7:13 on the clock and expanded it to 21 points (74-53) with 49 second remaining when Nye hit a free throw.

The final five minutes, SSU held the Gamecocks to just one field goal, a 3-pointer by Heather Shepard with 2:52 left. Down the stretch, JSU connected on 12 of 16 free throw attempts.

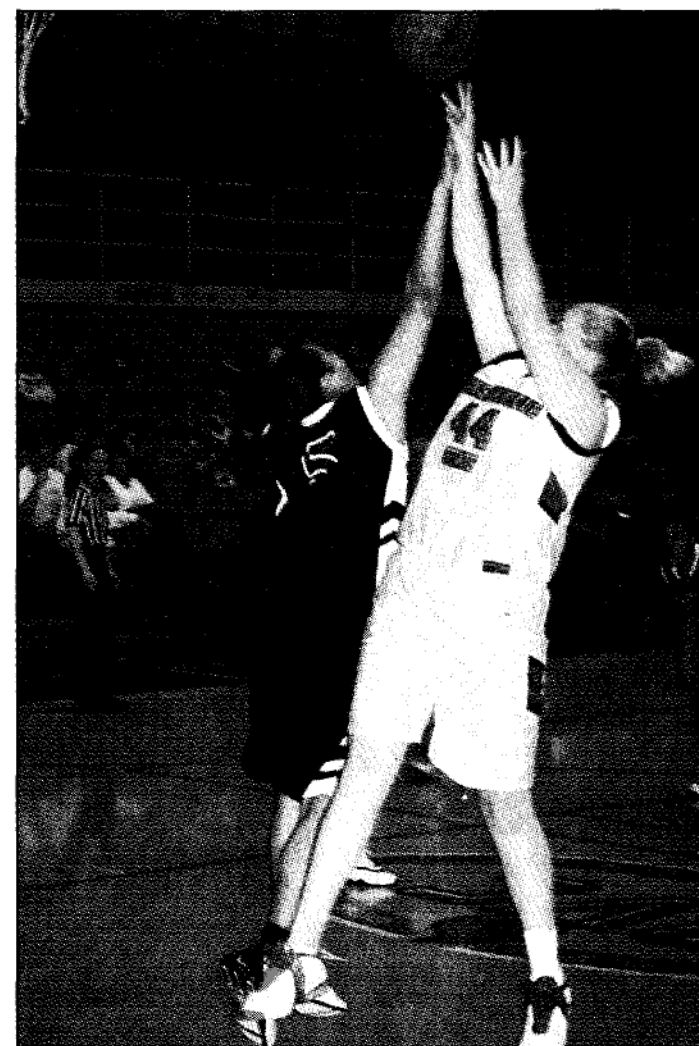
Freeman led the Gamecocks (17-9) with 19 points and 12

rebounds, followed by Freddrika Embry and Carlisle who scored 14 apiece and OVC rookie-of-the-week Courtney Slaughter who ended the game with 10 points.

The finale against Tennessee State would mark the final game for the huge Gamecock senior class... well, ok, just Kelly Nye. She made the game

memorable, however, as she took a three and drained it at 17:58 of the first half to set the new JSU record for three point baskets made. The big shot by Nye began a 23-3 run by the Gamecocks as JSU took control of the contest early and they

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The Chanticleer/J. Wilson Guthrie

Above: Ashley Clay posts up over an Eastern Kentucky player. The women were knocked out of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament at home Tuesday against the Lady Colonels. This was the Gamecocks first trip to the OVC tournament in

are 18-34 year old males? Horny. To sum them up in one word, they are horny.

And how better to attract horny men than by showing them scantily clad women, that even on their best day, the men would not have a chance with.

But that is what is great about men. Men have a chance with any woman that they see. All they need is a good look at a woman, then late at night, it's fantasy time!

And women don't get mad. You are just as bad as we are. One of my friends says the only reason that she watches football is to see "Tom Brady's ass." We are becoming a sex driven society, if we weren't already.

So do we really need ESPN of all people, who by shows Anna Kournakova every chance that they get, to tell us how horrible we are for exploiting women? NO. I look at women. That's what most men do and the ones that don't are either gay or lying. Not that being gay is bad thing, that's just the way things are.

And I don't think that it's exploiting women anyway. Guys we were born naked. It can't be that bad. Everyone has either a penis or a vagina and everyone has breasts. GET OVER IT. Your parts are not special and neither is anyone else's. It's cool to see Jesus in arguably the goriest movie ever, but a breast at the Super Bowl, where there are already cheerleaders wearing things you could see in Playboy, is bad. What is this world coming to?

I would rather my unborn son/daughter look at porn than I would them see the Passion, but that's neither here nor there. Sex is a part of sports, just as it is every other part of our life. Get over it, that's how you got here, your parents had sex. They bumped uglies, did the nasty, what ever you call it, they did it. And unless they have talents I don't have or are kinky like that, they were naked. It's not that bad.



knocked out of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament at home Tuesday against the Lady Colonels. This was the Gamecocks first trip to the OVC tournament in as many years.

Left: The Gamecocks set the defense in preparation for the EKU Lady Colonels bringing up the ball. Freddricka Embry led all scorers with 25 points on the night as JSU came up two points short after missing a three with less than 5 seconds to go in the game.

Softball sweeps state rival UAB

By Michael Vaughan II
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The JSU softball team had a very light week, only playing on one day. They did manage a double header that day, however, and swept UAB to up their record to 8-1.

Game one saw the Blazers start quickly, as a two run homer highlighted their half of the first inning. JSU responded in the bottom half, as Melinda McDonald led off the game for the Gamecocks with a solo blast to cut the lead to 2-1.

UAB (1-8) would stretch the lead to 4-1 the next inning as a hit batter and an error helped to plate the pair. Again JSU roared back in the third, as Daniella Papanno went opposite field on a pitch for a three run "jack".

The fifth inning saw JSU lead for the first time after Breanne Oleman ripped a two-run homer to right, scoring Janae Bonin ahead of her.

That 6-4 Gamecock lead would be trimmed in the next stanza as UAB's Sara Christophel singled in a run. They also scored in the top of the seventh on a solo homer by Kris Lara. This made JSU bat in the home half of the seventh, where the Gamecocks could do nothing.

The game would go to extra innings, where the Blazers notched a pair of runs on three consecutive singles. That gave UAB a 8-6 lead heading into the home part of the frame.

UAB couldn't handle success, however, as three Blazer errors contributed to JSU scoring three times in the inning to win 9-8. McDonald doubled to score Lauren Rutledge for the first run. Becky Carpenetti was walked in to tie the game at 8-8. McDonald then scored off an error on a comebacker to the mound to end the game.

Breanne Oleman recorded the win in game one to up her record to 4-0.

The second game saw UAB fall again, this time 5-2, as JSU scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the first, and they wouldn't trail in the contest. A Rachael Countryman homer in the third inning gave JSU a 3-0 lead.

After UAB trimmed the lead to 3-1, UAB would come close to taking a lead, but a beautiful Sam Gutierrez catch just short of the fence saved three runs.

Breanne Oleman would again take the win, as she rose her record to 5-0. UAB's Erica Mascarenas took the loss to drop to 1-5.

The Gamecocks play three opponents this week, as they play Lipscomb this Saturday, Alabama A&M on Sunday and Birmingham Southern on Tuesday. The game times are 1p, 2pm and 5pm, respectively, and all contests are at home on University Field.

Men take first-time trip to tournament

By Michael Vaughan II
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

JSU wrapped up the regular season in a big way this week, as they began to hear bluegrass music, heralding their first-ever trip to the OVC tournament, where they will visit Morehead State. They still had business to take care of this week, however, and finished strong with wins over Samford 71-51 and Tennessee State 86-70.

Samford would take a 9-4 lead, before JSU woke up in a big way. The Gamecocks went on a 9-0 run over the next 3:00 minutes to take a 13-9 lead.

The run would ultimately stretch to 24-3 as JSU seemed to break the game open, but the long range game for the Bulldogs came through right before the half, as they hit two three pointers in 1:09 to cut the halftime deficit to 28-22.

The second half featured a 12-8 Samford run to cut the lead to two points with only 13:23 left in the game. A wacky Bulldog possession cut the lead to 41-40 at the 9:06 mark, but JSU would twist the dagger again.

JSU would start the run at 8:53 with a Trent Eager layup, and it covered 4:100 of game time, to end with a Josh Perry free throw. The run was 12-0, and not only gave JSU a 53-40 lead, but left only 4:43 for the methodical Bulldogs to catch up.

Not only would they not catch up, they gave up nine

unanswered JSU points in the last minute to give the game to the home team.

Some of the team numbers in the game were staggering. Samford committed 17 turnovers to JSU's 8. The Gamecocks had eight steals to the Bulldogs' one, and JSU outscored Samford off turnovers 26-9.

Walker Russell led the individual numbers with 18 points and four assists. Scott Watson would add 15 points and 4 "dimes". Eager ended with 15 points and 6 rebounds, while James Denson would tally 13 points.

Tennessee State served as the season-ender for the Gamecocks, as it was Senior Night for Denson, Eager, Perry, Watson, and Emerson Brown. Those players would hit for 53 of the Gamecocks 86 points in the 86-70 win. The win guaranteed the Gamecocks would finish no worse than .500 for the second straight season.

Again, the visitor had a lead at the beginning, as the Tigers led 9-8. The Gamecocks, again, went on a huge run of 22-9 to give them a big cushion, this time leading 30-18. The Tigers managed to trim the gap to 39-30, but JSU would go on a 12-5 run to end the first half, and took a 51-36 lead into the break.

The 51 points scored in the first half was a season high for the Gamecocks, and was aided by the team shooting 66.7 percent from the field, and 9-of-13

from the three point line. JSU also outscored State on the fast break 20-0 in the half.

The Gamecocks would take a 63-42 lead in the second half, and go into cruise control. This turned into a scary ride, though, as the Tiers would score a run of 20-4 to cut the gap to only five points, 67-62, with 8:02 left. The Gamecocks woke up, though, and would pull away again on free throws and good defense.

Two Gamecocks would record their fourth career double doubles. Eager accomplished the feat after scoring 17 points and grabbing a team-high 13 rebounds. Russell would follow with 15 points and ten assists. Watson recorded 14 points on 4-of-7 from beyond the arc, and Denson finished with 12 points and four assists. The other seniors, Perry and Emerson Brown, finished with eight and two points apiece.

The OVC tournament begins this week, as Tuesday saw #8 seeded Tennessee State travel to #1 Austin Peay, #5 Samford visited #4 Eastern Kentucky, our own #6 Jacksonville state went to #3 Morehead State, and #7 Tennessee Tech went to #2 Murray State. The winners of those games play again tomorrow in Nashville, Tenn. If JSU defeated Morehead State, which will be difficult since JSU is 0-4 all time against MSU, they will play the winner of the Tennessee Tech/Murray State game at 8pm.