Enrollment this spring dropped to 8,328 students, a loss of 602 since last semester. However, that is only 18 students less than Spring 2004.

"We're just now beginning to process the data," said Tim Smith, Director of Institutional Research and Assessment at JSU. Each semester, Smith's office takes the information compiled by the computer, after registration is complete, and sorts through it. They track how well JSU is doing in areas such as recruitment of new freshmen, transfer enrollment and ethnic diversity.

Though the overall student enrollment has decreased, students are taking more credit hours. Students are taking 3,931 more credit hours this semester than in Spring 2004.

There is no exact goal set for enrollment each semester, but an objective has been set to reach 10,000 students by 2010.

In order to reach this objective, President Meehan has directed the Enrollment Management Committee to make recommendations for improvement in student recruitment and retention.

"The program is still in its
JSU get some new grass on the field

By Jeff Pruitt
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Paul Snow Stadium will soon be covered with artificial turf, after JSU’s board of trustees approved the proposal to replace the grass in time for the 2005 football season.

JSU President William Meehan said the new renovation will “help us become more of a premier Division I school.”

The projected cost for the renovation is about $500,000. Since JSU is a state-funded school, an open-bid process for interested companies is currently in effect. “It will take four to six weeks to get the bids back,” Meehan said. “Then we’ll choose a low bidder.”

“Even with no revenue, it will take nine years to pay for it,” JSU Athletic Director Jim Fuller said. By adding the turf, Fuller says there will be more opportunities for outdoor concerts and band competitions, which will help recover the costs.

Once a company is selected, the installation will begin. It is expected to take three months. “A lot has to do with the weather,” said Fuller. “But I think it will take about ninety days.”

The added availability for student use is also important to Fuller. “It opens up possibilities for everyone,” he said. “I can’t tell you how many people we’ve had to turn down.” Fuller recalls an instance last year when intramural teams wanted to play in the stadium, but poor grass conditions prevented Fuller from permitting it. “I like the multi-use we’ll be able to provide a lot of people.”

The Marching Southerners, intramural teams, and graduation ceremonies should all benefit from the new turf, says Fuller.

Fuller adds, “This is a move to reduce the expenditure. It’s not the only reason. We want the new turf, but the main reason is that we’re gonna be

see Turf, Page 2

BCM presents Disaster Relief with proceeds

By Amanda Reynolds
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Baptist Campus Ministries President Chad Wells and Intramural Director Robert Litton presented a check for $5,808.50 to Vernon Lee, a member of the Alabama Baptist Convention Disaster Relief, during Monday’s SGA Senate meeting.

The money that the BCM has been raising on campus this semester is being allotted for water purification devices being sent to areas in the Indian Ocean devastated by the recent tsunami. The Alabama Baptist Convention is planning on sending a team overseas to show locals how to use the water purifiers.

“We didn’t meet our goal,” Litton said, “But $5,000 will help a lot.” Several campus organizations and individuals donated to the relief project. SGA President Emily Williams

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By the numbers:

Gamecock Scoreboard:
Feb. 3 Men’s Basketball @ JSU
Austin Peay 7:30 p.m.
Women’s Basketball @ JSU
Austin Peay 5 p.m.

Come support all of your Gamecock Sports!
Delta Zeta: Hope everyone is having a great week! Sister of the week is Heather. New Member of the week is Nicole. Twisted Sister goes to Erin Poole. Check out our web site, www.jaxstdeltazeta.org. Contact: Laura, lauradzlg@yahoo.com

Department of Military Science: The Military Science Department is seeking students who have 54 hours or more to attend a four-week leadership 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: Major Shackelford, 782-5601.

English Department: During the Spring aSemester 2005, the English Competency Examination (ECE) will be given at the following times: Tuesday, Feb. 15 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 16 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. Online registration dates for the ECE are Jan. 19-Feb. 9. Optional workshops for the spring ECE will be held Monday, Feb 7 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in 105 MB, and Tuesday, Feb. 8 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in 218 MB. No registration is required for the workshops. Contact: Susan Sellers, 782-5512.

Phi Eta Sigma: Fifty or more $1,000 undergraduate awards, 33 endowed $3,000 undergraduate scholarships, $5,000 graduate scholarships are available nationally to Phi Eta Sigma members. JSU members of Phi Eta Sigma are invited to apply. Local deadline for applications is Feb. 23. Contact: Rufus Kinney, 105 Stone Center, 782-5467.

Phi Mu: We would like to welcome our new Phi's, Lynnley and Stephanie! We love you! Congrats to Allison Crow on making Peer Counselor, and our Phi Mu basketball team on all their successes this week! We hope everyone has a great week and Go Gamecocks! Contact: Rachel Cleveland, jsu3736j@student-mail.jsu.edu.

SGA: Senate and Exec applications are available in the Office of Student Life. A Senate meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. in the TMB. Traffic Court will be Monday, Feb. 7 at 4 p.m. in the TMB. SGA Movie Night will be held Tuesday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the TMB. Contact: Brian Snead, 782-5495.

Sigma Nu: People go to college to get an education. Guys join fraternities to have a good time. Men join Sigma Nu to have it ALL. Join us Wednesday, Feb. 9 in the basement of Patterson Hall. Contact: Drew Wagner, 435-9809.

SPJ: Please come to our meeting Thursday, Feb. 3 at 5:00 p.m. in The Chanticleer office, Self Hall, Rm. 180. Last week, Jeremy and Liz were the only two in attendance. Make it happen. Contact: Elizabeth Thurman, 782-8191.

Up Till Dawn: On Feb. 11 we will have our final event at the Gamecock Center. Starting at 9:00 p.m. and lasting till 1:00 a.m. Join us to have a blast! Food, bands, games and lots of fun! Remember, it’s all for the St. Jude’s Children. Contact: Megan Radison, 782-4492.

Zeta Tau Alpha: We hope that everyone has a wonderful week. We are proud to have three new members: Jessica Janssen, Rebecca Kelly and Lauren Pettus. Don’t forget to mark your calendar for the Big Man On Campus on March 16 at 8:00 p.m. at the Leone Cole Auditorium. Any male interested in being a contestant may e-mail Cambrey at cambrey_jordan@yahoo.com. Go Gamecocks! Contact: Natalie Shearer, 338-3230.
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.

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**Campus Crime**

**Jan. 27:** Officers arrested a female subject and a male subject for illegally removing a vehicle immobilizer (boot) from a 1997 Toyota Corolla that had received five parking violations.

**Jan. 28:** Gunshots were fired around Daughette Hall about 2:00 p.m. Officers were unable to locate the shooter(s).

Information in the Campus Crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Sally 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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**from Ayers, Page 1**

A positive impact on morale and improve efficiency. It will also help to stabilize scheduling. Dr. Smith said that the faculty is ready to return to the facilities they gave up.

The Technology and Engineering Department has outgrown its current location in Self Hall. The extra space and new labs will create better working environments for the students and faculty. Department Head Dr. Terry Marbut said the department is already preparing as much as they can. Student workers are organizing files to be moved and packing anything the department will not use before fall.

Marbut was encouraged by the architect’s willingness to discuss design elements with individual departments. He is confident the new space will be exactly what his department wanted.

The university decided to move the three departments to Ayers Hall so similar departments could be in the same building. After the move, an incoming student who is interested in a math related major can visit one building instead of four. The similar departments can also share lab equipment.

The departments have known of the coming move for about three years. Up until this point, they have mainly been meeting with architects and deciding what they wanted in their new space. Now, they are faced with moving entire departments. Offices, classroom supplies, and lab equipment must be moved. The departments must also update phone directories and websites. Each department is looking forward to the move, but they all know they have a lot of work to do before the move is finished.

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- **Call:** 782-5600
- **Fax:** 782-3048
- **E-mail:** thech@jsu.edu
- **Website:** http://www.jsu.edu/chanticleer
Baxley leads Siegelman for Demo nod

By Jennifer Bacchus
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) - Lt. Gov. Lucy Baxley leads former Gov. Don Siegelman in a poll asking likely Democratic voters who they favor for their party's nomination for governor in 2006.

The Mobile Register-University of South Alabama poll found Baxley supported by 45 percent and Siegelman by 31 percent, with the remaining 24 percent either not knowing or not answering.

When teacher lobbyist Paul Hubbert was added to the mix, Baxley led with 38 percent, followed by Siegelman with 25 percent and Hubbert with 11 percent.

"I wouldn't say she's a prohibitive favorite, but she's in an excellent position to kick off her campaign," said USA political scientist Keith Nicholls, who conducted the poll.

The survey, conducted Jan. 24-27, involved 400 randomly selected Alabamians who said they are likely to vote in the Democratic primary in June 2006. The results have sampling error margins of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

Baxley has not officially announced her candidacy, but she has said repeatedly that she is seriously considering it. Siegelman, who served as governor from 1999-2003, has started conducting "listening posts" around the state to gauge the feelings of voters.

Baxley said the poll "confirms the feedback and encouragement that I've been getting as I travel around the state and spend time with the people."

Siegelman said the poll didn't include enough black voters. He said he expects many white voters to cast ballots in the Republican primary in June 2006 if Gov. Bob Riley is being challenged by former Chief Justice Roy Moore.

Siegelman said that means black voters, who usually make up a large part of the Democratic primary vote, will be even more important in the primary, and he has traditionally run strong among black voters.

In the poll, 35 percent of those surveyed were black, and they were equally divided in their support of Siegelman and Baxley. Baxley led by a 2-1 margin among white voters.

Nicholls said the poll may not have included enough minorities, but no reasonable increase in the proportion of black respondents would have eliminated Baxley's lead.

Hubbert, who defeated Siegelman for the Democratic nomination for governor in 1990, said he was surprised to see his name in a poll about the governor's race.

"I haven't looked in that direction," he said Monday.

The poll is the second the newspaper and university have done recently on the 2006 governor's race. The earlier poll of likely Republican voters showed Moore leading Riley 43 percent to 35 percent for the GOP nomination.

Hillary Clinton faints during speech after complaining of flu

By Carolyn Thompson
Associated Press Writer

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) - Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton fainted Monday during a speech on Social Security after complaining of flu-like symptoms, but was given medical attention at the scene and went on to give another speech in the afternoon.

"It wasn't as dramatic as it sounds," Clinton said.

Clinton aides said doctors believed she had a stomach virus. She fell ill about five minutes into her lunchtime speech, said Erie County Democratic Chairman Len Lenihan, who was at the Women's TAP fundraiser at a private club.

Clinton left the podium and continued speaking from a chair, then said she needed a break and left the room.

Lenihan said. She returned to the podium a short time later but fainted before resuming her speech.

"She was sort of brought down gracefully," he said.

The room was cleared and Clinton was checked by a doctor who attended the event.

Clinton, 57, was smiling when she walked out of the club, general manager Vincent Tracy said. "I saw her walk out the door by herself, she smiled and said 'thank you,'" he said.

Later Monday, she delivered a speech about health care at Canisius College. She was introduced by former U.S. Rep. John LaFalce, who told the crowd that Clinton went against doctor's advice to continue her daily schedule because she was committed to talking about health care.

Clinton was to return to Washington after the speech.

During an earlier editorial, Clinton said she would not seek the presidency in 2008, hoping instead to "lay the ground work for a winning campaign in 2012.

In Texas, a poll of likely Republican voters showed Moore leading Riley 43 percent to 35 percent for the GOP nomination.

Moore supporting Ten Commandments in Supreme Court for Texas

From The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) - Ousted Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore has urged the U.S. Supreme Court not to rely on "judicially fabricated tests" and permit a 6-foot Ten Commandments monument to remain on the grounds of the Texas Capitol, where it has been since 1961.

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments March 2 in a lawsuit challenging the Texas monument and another involving framed copies of the Ten Commandments in two Kentucky county courthouses.

Moore, expelled as chief justice for refusing to obey a federal judge's order to remove his Ten Commandments monument from the lobby of the Alabama Judicial Building, urged in a brief that the Supreme Court base its ruling on language in the U.S. and Texas constitutions, not on previous court rulings on displays.

The cases mark the first time the Supreme Court has taken up the issue of public Ten Commandments displays since 1980.

In his unsuccessful fight to keep his Ten Commandments monument in the Alabama courthouse, Moore argued that the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution allows for public acknowledgment of God, such as the display of Ten Commandments monuments.

In his filing in the Texas case, Moore argues that the constitution never intended for public acknowledgment of God to be unconstitutional.

"It is time for this court to return to the bright-line test that is the very words of the First Amendment of the United States constitution," the brief says.

People go to college to get an education.
Guys join fraternities to have a good time.
Men join Sigma Nu to have it ALL.
Education Day slated for March 3. Higher Education Day is an advocacy rally held at the state capitol. The purpose is to let legislators know that people are concerned about the higher education funding. “If we want JSU to be successful, said Stone, “We have to make it successful.” Stone said that JSU “always brings a good crowd,” and encouraged students to come to Montgomery on March 3 to voice their concerns. The group plans to head out at 7:30 a.m. The rally begins at 11 a.m. followed by a lunch at noon. A Higher Education Work Day in Montgomery is set for Feb. 11. Those interested in going should be ready to leave by 8:30 a.m.

Student Senate Resolution number three reared its head during the meeting. The massive resolution revolves around what is commonly known as “Jax Cash.” Resolution three basically outlines what Jax Cash will cover and how it can be used. It also discusses what would also be enforced when and if Jax Cash is implemented. The Jax Cash will replace Flex Dollars and will incorporate more local businesses to encourage economic growth within Jacksonville.

The resolution was not voted on, but “tabled.” To table a bill means that a vote does not have to be taken. All the bill needs is a motion and a second. The reason for the tabling was the fact that the resolution is so encompassing. The Senate wanted the senators to have time to read over and fully understand the nature of the proposal. Vice President of Student Senate Alison Pierce explained the extreme length of the resolution was due to it being “a program we are starting.”

Old Tyme Photos, held Thursday in the TMB, was a success, according to Vice President of Student Activities Drake Russell. About 320 people participated in the activity. Movie Night for Feb. 8 is still tentative. The purchase of tickets for the event is about $5 and will go towards taking the Sophomore class to see the movie. Two movies for the event have been chosen: “The King’s Speech” and “The Social Network.”

SGA Day at the Girls’ Basketball game is Feb. 10th at 5 p.m.

Applications are now available for Mr./Miss Jax State and also SGA and executive applications. Anyone interested can pick one up at the Office of Student Life and turn it in as soon as possible. Anyone with questions about upcoming events or anyone interested in getting involved should contact a member of the SGA.

Senior forward Jamal Philips told a reporter that he thought to avoid censoring the free speech of members of the Rutgers men’s basketball team, “Remember, the First Amendment is more than our right to print. It’s your right to read, too.”

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**God willin’ and the creek don’t rise**

By J. Wilson Guthrie

*The Chanticleer*

*Editor in Chief*

I was sitting outside the Art department the other day, smoking as always, and talking about good times. We got to talking about fraternities and party stories, of course, came up. Then someone, I don’t even remember who it was, chimed in.

“I just don’t think that I could pay for my friends,” she said, not meaning the quip offensively.

Then I began to try to explain to her that we don’t pay for friends, we pay for a house, for utilities, for things that inevitably break and incidentals like light bulbs and insurance. It’s kind of like a club, but then not at all.

As a matter of fact, when I tried to explain what I get out of being in a group of guys like that and paying money to said organization, I got a little confounded. If you know me then you know I don’t talk that well.

But the point to this is that I love my fraternity. There is not much that I wouldn’t do for them as they for me. And that goes for all the Greeks that I know.

This is a stupid cliche, but the best way to explain it is that you can’t. You just have to experience it.

**

Heavier things have been on my mind this week too. I have reached that pinnacle in my college career, where I just don’t know what to do.

It seems like now would be the point where I am coasting, where I am doing nothing but finishing up a few loose ends, preparing for a career in what I have been doing for years. That is just not the case though.

According to a good friend at my “other” job, this is all quite normal. He says, yes it’s normal to feel insecure in what you have chosen as a life path. And gave me great advice: take it one goal at a time.

**

My deer hunting season ended just like it did last year: J-0, deer-about 26. That’s the number of days that I hunted this season with no results. I didn’t even see a deer. I saw about four squirrels and got scared to death by a turkey.

So now I will concentrate on hunting those elusive Thanksgiving-fowl beginning in early March. Through February I will be content with smaller varmint hunting and something else I love: fishing.

But remember all you empty-freezer-having hunters, a wise man once said, ‘A day spent hunting/fishing is better than any day spent working.’

**

Don’t forget, ladies and gentlemen to start looking for Chanticleer’s baseball section that will be out sometime near the end of February or the beginning of March. This is something that we do every year in support of our athletics department and we would love the support of the local business to help us out with it as they do every year.

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**Survey on free-press says...**

By Patrick McCreless

*Managing Editor*

So, I was cruising the Internet a few days ago when I came across an article that caused me a little distress.

Well, “a little distress,” may be misleading. A better description might be that it scared the living out of me. Please, allow me to fill you in.

In a recent poll conducted by the University of Connecticut, 112,003 U.S. high school students were asked what they thought on the First Amendment, or more specifically, on the freedom of the press. The survey showed that one in three students thought that the press ought to be more restricted. And if that was not enough (and I truly wish that it had been), a full 36 percent of the students polled actually thought that the press ought to be banned. That means a great deal to me, much more than political ideologies or religious philosophies.

But maybe I’m just being overly dramatic. I mean, so what if a significant percent of our up-and-coming student population believes that the government should dictate how we think and express ourselves. What is the big deal? Well, I’ll tell you.

The big deal is that having the freedom of speech is the single most important requirement for an effective democracy, or in the United States’ case, an effective republic.

To quote Thomas Jefferson, “...were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to choose the latter.”

Just imagine what it would be like to live in a country unable to speak your mind on liberal issues like opposition for the war in Iraq or even conservative issues like war-funding. The threat of fighting terrorists, a much greater threat to our freedom has been hiding in the shadows. And that threat is ignorance. Being uneducated, or worse still, uninformed, can do nothing but spell doom for any democratic government.

Basically, what I’m trying to convey is that our public educational system has really dropped the ball when it comes to the First Amendment and its importance to our society. When a large portion of students in this country don’t know or understand the basic concepts that allow our government to function properly, something is terribly wrong.

I for one can attest to this lack of understanding because it wasn’t that long ago that I was a high school student. When I think back, I can not recall a single class where the First Amendment’s importance was discussed. It was that way for most of us, including myself. Fortunately, the situation has improved in my experience as a high school and college student, but there is still too much work that needs to be done to improve our students’ understanding of the First Amendment and its role in our democracy.
And another New Year's Resolution Bites the dust

By Elizabeth Thurman
The Chanticleer
News Editor

Although my New Year's resolution was to put away my bitterness towards the opposite sex and major holidays, the most dreaded day of the year is fast approaching. The only thing worse than suffering through the glorified day of looove is suffering through it alone.

We've all been there. One minute, you're immersed in a seemingly perfect relationship, picking out baby names and shopping for groceries together. You've got cutey little nicknames for each other that sound vaguely edible (e.g., Honey, Sugar, maybe even Cupcakes), and you spend Sundays lounging in your own filth, watching TBS movies and eating Coop De Ville.

Then, all of a sudden, WHAM! You get hit with a swift right hook out of virtually nowhere. "WE NEED TO TALK." Words that no one ever wants to hear. Although these words are usually prefaced by weeks of subtle hints from your significant other, something always prevents us from seeing it coming.

As a serial dater, I've picked up a thing or two when it comes to dealing with the demise of a relationship, sometimes self-imposed, sometimes not. None of these lessons ever came easily, mind you. I've dated enough of the wrong guys to last a lifetime and then some. But I've also dated a couple of good ones, especially recently.

So when the baby names have to be archived, and the dinners are no longer for two, how does one proceed? When the sound of other couples using their nicknames makes you nauseous, and Sunday becomes a day for self-soothing instead of channel surfing and greasy, unhealthy food, where do all the lonely hearts go?

My infinitely wise mother always says, "Maintain your dignity, no matter what." I try to remember this when faced with a monstrous breakup, but it's much easier said than done.

Keeping that in mind, I've compiled a list of actions, behavior patterns, and speech patterns to avoid at all costs when suffering through the post-break-up period. Hopefully, by choosing NOT to adhere to these social tragedies, you'll emerge mended and with dignity intact.

1. DON'T write a letter professing your undying love. There's a shock period that you go through after a breakup during which nothing makes sense and rational thought is impossible. You think, "If they only knew exactly how I feel, this would not be happening." WRONG. A written document of one's rambling, nonsensical sob story only serves to make you feel worse when the letter goes unanswered. You look like a fool, and once you do get over the girlfriend/boyfriend, you cringe when you think of how desperate you once sounded. I've been guilty of this one. Luckily, I've had friends honest enough to come from becoming a professional offender.

2. DON'T drive-by. Cruising past your recently estranged love's house will not make you feel better. Even though you tell yourself you just want to see if any mysterious cars are parked out front, what do you do when you realize that he/she is in fact seeing someone else? This only sends you into a fit of rage, definitely compromising the healing process.

3. DON'T drink your sorrows away. Go out with your friends if you must. Lock your cell phone in a safe and throw away the key! Midnight confessions of love, lust, or otherwise cosmic attraction will never be received. This phenomenon is called "drunk-dialing" and it's not a pretty picture. It's a fatal blow to your ego and it's counter-productive to the getting-over-someone phase. Again, I stress: voicemail, and text messages are just as incriminating as a letter.

4. DON'T get back together with the person. I'm definitely guilty of this one. Any relationship that I've ever been involved in always goes for the second and third rounds before I realize that a KO was inevitable from the beginning of the match. Why do we do that? Do we really believe that someone's fatal flaws will have vanished within a few short weeks or months? Trust me, the same things that bother you the first time around will only be magnified the second and third.

5. DON'T immediately jump into another relationship. Again, I am a repeat offender. It's okay, even desirable, to be by yourself. Jumping from relationship to relationship is disastrous. Especially when you've done it so often that you call your current boyfriend/girlfriend by the wrong name. Yes, I've done it. More than once. There's no lie or explanation that can get you out of that, believe me. I've tried.

In short, being in a relationship is tough. Getting out of one is tougher. Getting over one can seem like a fate worse than death. But chins up, single young persons. Valentine's Day ain't so bad. Buy yourself some chocolates, sleep all day, do what you have to do to get through it.

But, please, by all means, refrain from starting a letter-writing campaign to your favorite ex or enjoying one drink too many so that a text message to someone who dumped you sounds like a fine idea. Feb. 14 is not a day to rekindle a flame that quit burning for a reason, and it's not a day to make yourself look like a fool. Go out with your friends. Laugh. Remember: living well is the best revenge.
By Holly Smith
Chanticleer Features Writer

The Grand Opening ceremony began last Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. Michael Ahlschwede directed Hardcorps, the JSU PepBand, in a performance for a crowd of Wal-Mart associates and representatives, Jacksonville Mayor Johnny Smith and other city personnel, JSU ROTC, and several hundred shoppers. Ahlschwede said that after Manager

Another customer, Amber Gaither, tried to shop at the Supercenter, but was deterred by the vastness of the store, the extreme number of shoppers, and not being able to find what she needed quickly. She complained, “There were too many people standing in the aisles talking. I couldn’t get around them to find what I needed, so I left and went to station on every corner.” Wal-Mart’s Murphy USA gas brand can generally beat out the competition by up to 10 cents per gallon.

The Supercenter has already had a positive impact on the community. The opening of the new store created 300 jobs. The consumer will also benefit from Wal-Mart’s low prices and the

Never fear, Super Wal-Mart is finally here

The employees working on opening day of the Jacksonville Super Walmart carried smiles and gave out cake, umbrellas, magnets, and shopping list notepads among other things.

By Erin Chupp
The Chanticleer Features Editor

Please forgive me, as last week’s cat fiasco was definitely more story than opinion. But then again, I suppose it’s my space to write in. I read a news article this week on www.cnn.com about a guy in New York who agrees with this idea.

Joe Tamargo is 31 years old and his “space” is his body. And it is here that he writes whatever he wants. Currently his right arm reads “Save Martha! It’s a good thing. SaveMartha.com.” However, it’s not only current, it’s permanent; it is forever tattooed on his body. Even though the Martha issues will vanish from the evening news, the artwork on his arm may only fade.

Why? Well, Tamargo is basically a prostitute for companies willing to seek unconventional methods of advertising. Between the two companies now inked on his right arm, he made a little more than $1,000. He doesn’t have to do any work, he just has to have some done on him.

Tamargo thinks this way of advertising is a step above companies giving out tempo-
Lager shoppers appeared in droves the morning of January 26 to welcome the addition of a Wal-Mart Supercenter to Jacksonville. In what has been described as a mad dash comparable only to the day after Thanksgiving, customers rushed in to find a variety of new services, including an eye center, Regal Nails, a tire-lube express and a full grocery section.

Rumors of a Supercenter opening in Jacksonville have been circulating for years. Brandon Morris, a Wal-Mart Jacksonville employee of more than five years, says this store has been in serious planning for at least a year, maybe two. “We broke ground in August,” Morris said. “When we began setting it up on December 6, only the freezers were in place; the floor was empty.” Morris says after a week of unloading trucks and putting out shelving, they were ready to begin stocking merchandise. To assist with this and to set the floor plan, Wal-Mart sent corporate representatives from the Store Planning Division, which specializes in opening new locations.

Customer Mary Grace Green says she is “ecstatic about the new Supercenter because the old Wal-Mart made our town look bad.” She has shopped there almost every day since it opened, including twice on opening day. Green says the new store is much more convenient. She can save time by being able to buy everything she needs under one roof. For her, the main reason to shop at Wal-Mart is to save money. “From now on,” Green says, “I will only buy the Wal-Mart brand food items because they are cheaper and are just as good as any of the other brands.”

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He also predicts that two of the gas stations will close. He jokes that while “most places have a church on every corner, Jacksonville has a church and a gas station on every corner.”

By: Erin Chupp
Chanticleer Features Editor

Ryan once thought his busiest time in life was when he was taking 16 hours one semester, working part-time at Martin’s and trying to add in free time to hang out with friends. Now temporarily living in Kandahar, Afghanistan, he works 10 to 17-hour days and his “free” time is spent watching movies on his laptop or reading in order to keep his mind off missing home. Once in college, now in Kandahar, trying to find a new normal.

“It’s almost like you have a new life,” said Ryan Kirk of the F Company 131st Aviation Regiment out of Birmingham. “Your tentmates are your family, the guys in your section are your co-workers and the Sgt. Major is like the father that you’ll never be able to please.”

Preparing for a war he never knew he would enter, Ryan first went to basic training and AIT (Advanced Individual Training) where he learned the skills of an aircraft electrician. He then attended Gadsden State, taking basic classes and eventually graduated from Ayers Technical College in Anniston as a massage therapist. He received his license to practice in August and was deployed with his National Guard unit the following January in 2004.

Ready to begin his new career and life free from projects, quizzes and finals, Ryan said he was stunned to receive his orders to go overseas. He was driving down the interstate, received a phone call stating his orders and was told not to tell anyone except for immediate family if necessary.

College students may call home once a day or once a week, or perhaps even once a month. There are phone cards, but if there is an emergency, you’ll never be able to please.

Ryan Kirk helps a young orphan girl pick out clothes in Afghanistan. He does not know her name, so he refers to her as "little angel."
long distance telephone services and automobiles keeping them in contact with their family. Like many others, if Ryan wants to call home, he either goes without sleep for the night or takes a quick power nap. To reach someone at his house in Alabama, he waits until it is midnight in Kandahar, however he has to keep in mind that he rises every morning at five.

Ryan keeps a regimented daily schedule, but recently he had the opportunity to go on a humanitarian mission project. His unit adopted an orphanage and took items that were sent to them by a couple churches from around the Birmingham area.

When he first arrived to the orphanage, he said he could not believe how many kids were all over the place. “Most of them were very poorly dressed, and it was absolutely freezing that morning,” Ryan said. “It seemed as if the older the child, the more clothes they wore. There were little three or four-year-old boys walking around with no shoes on the cold, rocky ground, and all their clothes were like tailored bed sheets. They all smelled like smoke and their hands were black with soot.”

Ryan said that because of the language barrier, he could not exchange names with any of the children, but they were all very good at communicating with the soldiers. “If you had candy and they wanted some, they would point to the tips of their tongues. If they wanted shoes, they’d point to their feet. If they needed a coat, they’d grasp their shirts. And if they wanted to say ‘thank you,’ well, that was evident from the smiles on their faces.”

Clothes, toys, school supplies and food were sorted in a large courtyard. Ryan helped about fifteen little girls find shoes and clothes that fit. There was one item all of the children went crazy over, “It was insane how everyone else’s kids went over it not much else. “So I left there wondering which was worse,” Ryan said, “having parents that can’t provide you the bare necessities or being cared for without a family. It was kind of gut-wrenching.”

After a year away from the life he thought he was going to have after college, Ryan said, “I made a lot of friends, gained views of the life and the world from many different perspectives and did some pretty cool things that I may not have done otherwise.” He hopes to return the States mid-April. However, he has one concern about the country from which he has been parted. “A lot of people back home feel they are taking up for the troops when they protest and bash Bush. but instead it’s rather demoralizing. The last thing a soldier needs is to come home from a foreign war and have his own people bash everything he’s been working so hard to achieve for the past year.”

A young boy in an orphanage in Afghanistan. He received clothes and toys donated from churches in Birmingham.

Chili Dip

2 cans Chili with no beans, large;
1 pound Cheddar cheese, shredded
1 cup Sour cream
1 cup Picante sauce
Mix until cheese is melted. Return to microwave if needed.
Add sour cream and picante sauce (I use hot). Mix well.
Serve with nacho chips or plain corn chips.

Chili Dip
Horoscopes

ARIES: (March 21-April 20)

There are some romantic developments in the works for this week. A partnership may work nicely for you, and money dealings should be sound if you put your trust in reports from experts. Any close alliances are now in a positive mode; work with them.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21)

You will probably take the initiative in a business-financial situation early in the week. However, this could be a time of win some and lose some. A new chapter will open soon in your life concerning a family member or property interest. Don’t act impulsively.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21)

Both your interests at home and monetary gain are linked this week. Personal plans may cut into work time, but you are currently pretty organized and will be able to cope with a number of interests. Travel plans for later in the year arouse deep interest in you.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23)

You will no doubt need to strive very hard to keep your head above water this week - try to look at it as a positive learning experience, a lesson to be learned. Communication between you and a special person will become more meaningful in the near future.

LEO: (July 24- August 23)

This week will start a moderate trend in which your best traits and talents will be intensified, and your self-confidence will soar. Give renewed consideration to a financial matter involving others. This may be a case where diplomacy pays off.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23)

You are feeling attractive this week and that feeling is communicated to everyone around you. Naturally, you will get your share of attention as a result. Although you enjoy romance, it is more likely that you are presently being pursued, instead of doing the pursuing.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)

Have confidence in your hunches or intuitive flashes this week and follow through on them when the timing is right. Keep your eyes set on your ultimate goals and it will be easier to achieve them if you take it all just a step at a time.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)

Try not to become involved in another's financial dealings - the outcome may be much worse than you could have ever thought. Taking stock of yourself and how you intend to achieve specific goals should be part of your self-analysis - quiet time will help.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21)

Your week is a bit hectic with problems arising with a family member. Harsh words may be exchanged over future plans - let things cool down a bit before you start the discussions back up again. Be alert for an educational opportunity within your reach.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20)

A new romance is just around the corner, if you are looking for it. Work is really the name of the game this week, and if you try to get out of it, you’ll no doubt land in an even more restrictive setting. Make the best of a rather dreary day.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19)

Your love life, pleasurable or creative interests, and fun matters involving children will be featured this week, providing you discard negative thoughts and feelings. Your charm and powers of persuasion will help you win an important business deal.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)

A number of diverse interests will be highlighted this week. Domestic matters, possibly concerning children, improvement of property and innovative career concepts may keep you busy. It’s time to turn on the charm if you are seeking progress at work.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are in tune with the sexual potential all around you. People will notice a new vibrancy about you and want to be with you more. If you are looking for love, you could quite easily connect with someone, probably a very passionate partner.
Finally the last football column of the year

Jacksonville State and UAB have signed a one-year agreement to play football during the 2005 season at Legion Field. JSU Athletics Director Jim Fuller announced on Thursday, Jacksonville State and UAB will play on Sept. 17 with kickoff time tentatively set for 6 p.m. and it marks the first meeting between the two schools in eight years.

The in-state matchup will be the fifth meeting between the schools but the first since the 1997 season when the Blazers prevailed, 34-16. The series is tied at 2-2 with JSU winning in 1994 and 1995. The Blazers defeated the Gamecocks during the 1996 season, 24-17, in UAB's first season as a I-A football participant.

"We are pleased that UAB has been willing to negotiate this game," Fuller said. "We have been looking to add a I-A opponent to our schedule and I think the fact that UAB is willing to do this is very, very significant. I think the fan base for both universities will be excited about this game, and I think there will be a very wholesome atmosphere around the game."

"One of the things that excites me about this game is that there are a lot of ties within the staffs to both schools. Coach Crowe is a graduate of UAB and Watson and I worked together on two different staffs," he said.

Both programs will enter the 2005 season coming off successful campaigns last fall.

Jacksonville State, which will be entering its sixth season under head coach Jack Crowe, has made two straight trips to the NCAA I-AA play-offs. The Gamecocks finished with a 9-2 record in 2004 and captured their second straight Ohio Valley Conference Championship.

JSU has put together an overall record of 17-6 the past two seasons and a 14-2 mark in OVC play.

UAB finished second in Conference USA and earned its first bowl invitation in program history, playing in the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl. Since becoming a football-playing member of Conference USA, the Blazers have finished as league runner-up in three of those six seasons. In addition, UAB has the third-best conference record among league schools over the last six years.

"This game continues a friendly rivalry between two state schools that goes back to the early years of UAB football," said Brown. "We're continuing a series that's been played for years, and because of how close the two schools are, this is something that both UAB and Jacksonville State fans are going to be excited about."

"From a personal standpoint, I've got so many friends over there, and any way that we can help our program, and at the same time, help the people at Jacksonville State, I think that's a good thing," said Brown.

Brown spent two years at Jacksonville State, serving as the Gamecocks' offensive coordinator during the 1976 and 1977 seasons.

The full 2005 JSU schedule is expected to be announced in the coming weeks.

From Staff Reports

I can't believe this is the last football column of the year. It is finally here. There is just one more game we have to preview and I will give the pick of the year.

This game is for all the marbles. It actually has a chance to be a really good game with both teams having good defenses. But it will be the same old story with the same old ending.

Can we say BIOW -OUT?

The Super Bowl has plenty of the drama as usual. The made for TV dialogues and the superstar as usual are all over the media.

Here is the skinny so you can sound good at your local superbowl party. For all the female readers of my column, pay attention to the next couple of lines.

All you need to know is the Patriots are going to win. Bottom-line, Sign the check, and warn whoever has to start singing to start getting in tune because the Patriots are going to win.

"Why or how can this Yamado guy be so confident," said the tired English major. (Who will probably be reading the Chanticleer for sentence fragments for the third time in a row, instead of watching the football game.)

Well it is simple. You just have to know how to win the

Gamecocks manhandle Reinhardt

The men's basketball took care of business at the Pete on Monday night and started a new streak of their own. JSU beat Reinhardt by a final score of 73-62 in front of the home crowd.

JSU bounced back after their heartbreaking loss to E. Illinois on the road 66-63. The Gamecocks didn't score until 17:11 in the half but then came alive and scored on their next four offensive possessions to jump ahead 10-5.

But before the Gamecocks could pull ahead Reinhardt had turned the tables and taken a 11-10 lead. Reinhardt continued to make three of four shots to jump ahead 4-0.

The Gamecocks came back to take a 7-4 lead. Reinhardt answered with a 7-0 run to put the Gamecocks up by one. If that wasn't enough Anthony Wilson made sure everyone knew JSU had come to play after slamming home a dunk to put the Gamecocks up by two with six minutes left in the half.

The first half was very tough and hard fought, and JSU would come out leading 31-28.

At the beginning of the second half Reinhardt came out hustling and took the lead but would never lead by more than two in the second half.

JSU and Reinhardt continued to swap baskets and keep the game close. Almost halfway through the second half Walker Russell made a beautiful inside pass to Tim Lewis for an easy

Phillip Cruce
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

to hit a shot clock beating three to put the Gamecocks up by one.

The Gamecocks would eventually take a six-point lead and put the nail in the coffin with a three-point play by Wilson.

Reinhardt kept it close most of the game but JSU was just too strong in the end. JSU would add to their lead and go on to win by a final score of 73-62.

Spencer led the gamecocks in scoring with 17 points. Wilson was right behind with 15 points and five boards while Russell finished with 14 points eight assists.

Tim Lewis came off the bench with a double-double scoring 13 points and bringing down 10 rebounds.

Don't forget to come out and
Amado Ortiz
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The clock is winding down, 03:02:01 buzzer and BJ Spencer makes it before time runs out. Guard BJ Spencer has brought his instant offense all the way from Starkville, Mississippi.

Spencer first took his skills to Bevill State Community College before landing at Jacksonville State. Spencer averaged a cool 41 percent from behind the arc at Bevill and has averaged 31 percent as a Gamecock.

“BJ has a knack to score,” said head coach Mike Laplante. “I know he will be a fan favorite.” Spencer has lived up to the hype averaging 10.8 points a game and doing it on the boards as well averaging 3.7 rebounds.

BJ is definitely bringing life to the Gamecocks with his buzzer beaters and rim shakers. Chanticleer Sports had a chance to catch up with the sharp shooter from Starkville to see if we could get him to shoot us straight.

CS: How did you decide to come to Jacksonville?
BJ: At my Junior College, there was four or five seniors that we were leaving so when I came on my visit to the campus, I felt like I could belong here. It was a real family atmosphere.

CS: How has the season been so far?
BJ: We have been through a lot of adversity this season but we have remained as a team. We are going to play real hard and we are not out of it yet. We can still meet our preseason goal and get into the middle of the pack of the OVC. We can definitely still make the tourney.

CS: Describe your role on the team?
BJ: First is Defense and second is rebounding. I also feel like I have to knock down some open looks I get.

CS: Who is your favorite pro player?
BJ: Allen Iverson because he has no conscience. He can start out the game by missing his first ten shots and he still has the confidence to still be able to shoot. That is the life of a shooter because eventually you will get hot.

CS: What is in your CD player right now?
BJ: The Diplomats because they get me ready for the game.

CS: When you are not playing basketball, what are you doing?
BJ: Playing video games and watching TV.

CS: What is your favorite quote?
BJ: Hope for the best, Prepare for the worst.

CS: What is the one thing the Chanticleer readers must know about you?
BJ: I am down to earth and I just try to be me.

For more insight on BJ, come check him out at the Pete but stand far away because BJ could catch on fire.

Spencer shooting going en fuego

Haynes leads as Gamecocks fight back

Jacksonville State’s Rebecca Haynes (Birkdale, Australia) has been named the Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week as announced by the league office Monday.

Haynes, a 6-2 junior, averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds last week, while leading the Gamecocks to a 1-1 record. She was 9-of-15 from the floor and 5-of-9 from the 3-point line.

Haynes recorded her second double-double of the season with 13 points and 11 rebounds in JSU’s win over Eastern Illinois, 68-59. She also dished out a season high six assists versus the Panthers.

The win improves the Gamecocks to 7-10 overall and an even 4-4 in Ohio Valley Conference play.

JSU enjoyed an 11 point advantage at the halftime buzzer and led by as many as 16 at times in the second half.

“We handled the ball well tonight and played the best 40-minutes of half court defense than we have all year long,” said JSU Dave Dagostino. “With a loss coming of the bench with a double-double scoring 13 points and bringing down 10 rebounds.

Don’t forget to come out and support JSU tonight as they take on Austin Peay at 7:30pm. — Tim Lewis came off the bench with a double-double scoring two points.

By the way, the Eagles are a big one and your big players have to play big. The Patriots men on their first day of class.

I expect to have some high fives from the guys and some blow kisses from the girls all next week.

It is a tough job but somebody has to do it.

By the way, the Eagles are a good football team and is not a fluke that they are in this football game. This just isn’t going to be their year. Strike up the band and open the salsa and chips because the Patriots are coming. (I had to put that in there for all my history majors that read the column.)

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