Gamecock Thursday Night Lights

“Gentlemen the hopes and dreams of an entire town are riding on your shoulders and you may never matter more than you do right now. It’s time” Coach Gary Gaines Permian High Panthers.
Football is king in the deep-south and no one knows that more than the state of Alabama. Tonight's season opener has all the ingredients for a major motion picture.

The game can easily be coined Thursday Night Lights in honor of H.G. Bissinger's book, which profiled the economically depressed town of Odessa, Texas and their heroic high school football team, The Permian High Panthers.

Just like Bissinger's book turned into a major film, the Gamecocks are hoping their season opener turns out exactly according to the script.

Paul Snow stadium will be the setting of a highly anticipated thriller show-down between the Jacksonville State Gamecocks and the Furman Paladins in the season opener for both teams.

The game will be televised by College Sports Television and DirectTV (channel 610) and both teams have been picked to win their respective league.

Furman (Southern Conference) comes in ranked second in the preseason Sports Network Division I-AA football poll and earned 21 first place votes and JSU (Ohio Valley Conference) is ranked 20th respectively.

The plot thickened after the Gamecocks were beaten by the Paladins in the first round of the playoffs last year 49-7.

"Furman is a tremendous challenge for us. They had a poor game when they played James Madison or they would have won the national championship," said Head Coach Jack Crowe.

JSU hopes that the home-field advantage will make the difference in the rematch. The Gamecocks replaced Paul Snow's natural playing surface with an artificial playing surface by ProGrass.

The Gamecocks also will debut new look uniforms to go with the new playing surface. The road white jerseys feature red stripes in the sleeves and the red numbers are outlined in black. The home red jerseys feature white stripes in the sleeves and the white numbers are outlined in black.

"We felt like the students our a big part of this program," said Athletic Director Jim Fuller. "The students asked for a Thursday night game so we wanted to accommodate the students."

The game marks only the third time in 102 years of JSU football that will feature the Gamecocks playing on Thursday night.

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Kick-off: Thursday, September 1st, 7pm

Paul Snow Stadium

Hope comes alive on Thursday Nights
Defend new turf in quest for three peat

“I think we are a better football team today than we have ever been.” Jack Crowe

from Defend new turf, page 1

Widely stereotyped as a “suitcase college,” the Athletic Department arranged the game to allow the students to see the two-time defending OVC champions in action.

“The game allows for the students and alumni to enjoy a great Thursday night football,” said Fuller. “Then they can enjoy their Labor Day weekend.”

“It’s huge! It gives the student body more of a chance to be involed,” said student Richard Turner. “It allows the football team to be supported like the football team should be.”

The Gamecocks
JSU returns a lot of talent from last years 9-2 team including 2005 Preseason selection quarterback Maurice Mullins, offensive linemen Rod Olds and return specialist Craig Agee.

“I think we are a better football team today than we have ever been. I think we have the capability to become a really good football team, said Crowe.

“There will be a lot of new names that will show up. I’m excited to see what some of these guys can do against someone else, because they have made an impression on us.”

One of those players will be SEC transfer Darren Williams who transferred to JSU after playing his first three seasons at Mississippi State. Williams was third on the Bulldogs team with 63 tackles and first in interceptions with four interceptions.

“He’s capable of making any play a safety has to make rather in coverage or making a play at the line of scrimmage,” said Crowe.

The Paladins
The defense will have to make plays against a team that averaged over 450 yards of offense and returns an SEC transfer of their own in quarterback Ingle Martin.

Martin passed for 282 yards and tossed four touchdowns against the Gamecocks a year ago.

“Ingé Martin is as big as a tight end and athletic as a cornerback. When you start going after him, you have to decide which one you are about to take on,” said Crowe.

“I think he’s a NFL player. He can run. You don’t think he has great speed until whoever is chasing him doesn’t catch him.”

Martin will be throwing to new receivers this year after All SoCon Brian Batton graduated. Justin Stepp and Grant Brigham will fill in and John Rust is a preseason All SoCon pick at the tight-end position.

The Coaches
JSU Jack Crowe comes into his sixth season with a 31-24 record and two OVC championships.

Crowe is 18-7 at home and the home field advantage should benefit the Gamecocks in the rematch. Crowe also has consistency on his side as he has five coaches that have been with him all six years.

Furman’s Bobby Lamb is a hometown hero for the Paladins. Lamb is a graduate of Furman and spent 13 years as an assistant for the program before taking over for Bobby Johnson in 2001. Lamb has a 24-12 record in three seasons with the Paladins.

Predictions
With a win, JSU earns a lot of national respect and will again prove it belongs in the top 10.

With a loss, the Ohio Valley Conference will again be labeled as a one and done conference.

“Jacksonville State makes it a three-peat and loses only one game in conference play again, but also bows out in the first round of the playoffs for the third year in a row,” said Matt Dougherty, Executive Director of I-AA Football.

The Gamecocks hope to make good on the three-peat part of the comment but this year should play out differently for JSU.

The Gamecocks are a better team top to bottom this year and should make a lot of noise on the national scene.

All the ingredients are in the place. The night game, the fans and the players will be ready.

The student body is ready to strut their stuff at the game and enjoy the parties afterward. The hottest ticket in town will be at the Snow and hope comes alive on Gamecock Thursday night lights.

“Gentlemen the hopes and dreams of an entire town are riding on your shoulders and you may never matter more than you do right now. It’s time” Coach Gary Gaines
Right: Haneef Haqq and Derrick Satrunk will anchor the defense that has held 13 opponents under a 100 yards rushing in two seasons in the OVC. The defense should be a bright spot for the Gamecocks.

All pictures are courtesy JSU Alex Stillwagon and Steve Letham

Top: Preseason All-OVC Rod Olds returns to the offensive line and will provide leadership upfront for quarterback Maurice Mullins.

2005 Football Schedule

Sept. 1    Furman    J’ville    7pm
Sept. 10   UT Chat    J’ville    6pm
Sept. 17   UAB        Birmingham 7pm
Sept. 24   SEMO       Cape Girardeau 7pm
Oct. 1     E.KY       J’ville    6pm
Oct. 8     Murray St. Murray, Ky 7pm
Oct. 15    UT Martin  J’ville    7pm
Oct. 22    Tenn St.   J’ville    7pm
Oct. 29    Tenn Tech  J’ville    7pm
Nov. 12    Samford    Birmingham 7pm
Nov. 19    E.ILL      J’ville    7pm

Top: Maurice Mulline and Kenny Brown (bottom) display the new uniforms.
Just in case you were under a rock all summer...

Katrina meets JSU

By James Barcus
Chanticleer Staff Writer

If you've watched television at all in the past week you've noticed that everyone is talking about Katrina, which some have described as the worst hurricane of our generation.

The Weather Channel, along with every TV station in the East Alabama region, has relayed numerous watches, warnings, and advisories concerning Katrina, summoning back memories of Hurricane Dennis from earlier this summer. The warnings came from the National Weather Service Forecast Offices and the National Hurricane Center.

The number of advisories, watches, and warnings have increased since the National Weather Service implemented their “Modernization” plan to fine tune their procedures in tracking storms and forecasting weather. For example, According to the National Weather Service website, there were 123 Public advisories issued during Hurricane Ivan, along with 73 forecast advisories, 73 discussions, and 72 Strike Probability reports.

Hurricane Katrina, previously a category five hurricane, came ashore as a category three. The National Weather Service issued 61 public advisories, along with 30 each of Forecast Advisories, Discussions, and Strike Probability Reports.

Students here at Jacksonville State University kept a watchful eye on Katrina. When asked if the media Service] can't predict the weather, only God can," said Terry Green, a transfer student living in Centre.

Leilany Hernandez said that they cried wolf, "because we didn't get anywhere near the damage they said we were going to get."

Locally, Katrina created an F1 tornado, County EMA spokesperson, said that there were no damage assessments completed by press time.

According to Buddy Eiland, Alabama Power Spokesman, there were 634,000 outages reported in Alabama, the second largest outage ever on Alabama Power's system.

Media coverage has shifted from the storm itself to the mess left behind after the storm. With damage in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Tennessee; residents will be cleaning up for a long time.

Max Mayfield, director of the National Hurricane Center summed...
The largest concentrations ever on Alabama have occurred since then. "They [the National Weather Service] were going to get," said a meteorologist.

Locally, Katrina created an F1 tornado in the Piedmont community, causing some damage early Tuesday morning. Shay Cook, Calhoun, Tuscaloosa, and Mobile areas.

Richard Holloway, an老 $1.2 million to the Securities and Exchange Commission, was acquitted of fraud.

Currently, John Roberts is going through the nomination process, hoping to replace her.

A drama continues to play out in the tropics involving a missing Mountain Brook teen named Natalee Holloway. Jordan van der Sloot, a 17-year-old who was among the last seen with Holloway remains a main suspect.

Dennis Rader closed 10 open murder cases in Wichita, Kansas, when he confessed to being the BTK Killer.

After a two-and-a-half year absence, the United States shuttle program was taken off the brains. Continued worries about falling foam during takeoff, however, have grounded the program again until further modifications are made.

And last, but certainly not least, we must mention the London bombings. Global mass transit went on high alert as one successful attack rocked the city, followed two weeks later by an unsuccessful one.

Thankfully, no attempts have occurred since then.

Hope you've enjoyed your summer wrap-up. Here's to a great year!
"We’ve got to get this ready for Thursday night. We’re gonna go over this in short segments until we get it right. Another hour then we’ll take a break."

One time... at band camp...

When you look back on your college years, you don’t always remember the lessons you learned in your biology or history classes. You think about the experiences you had with your friends and classmates. You recall memories about the trips across country, your first college shopping spree, the hours you spent in the news room and if you’re like 200 plus students at JSU, you think about band camp.

Known as the “Marching Southerners,” JSU’s marching band isn’t something to be taken lightly. Students and instructors spend countless hours practicing, trying to perfect their art. This pursuit of perfection begins almost immediately after the football season ends.

...to be continued next week

"Horns up to the camera. That’s it. Everybody say cheese!"

Photos by: David Howton and Jessica Summe
Share your space, but live on your own.

Get everything for your dorm room at Walmart.com and still afford tuition.
Out with the old...

David Howton  
Chanticleer Staff Writer

As Jacksonville State University slowly but continuously remodels its campus, one multi-million project ends and another begins.

The renovation of Ayers Hall was completed in July, ending more than three years of work. A New York company who, after review, gave JSU an “A” rating for projected growth granted the $8 million bond.

The JSU Board of Trustees chose Chorba Contracting Corporation of Gurvansville to head up the reconstruction process.

Due to federal guidelines, before the renovation could begin, asbestos and other harmful materials had to be removed. This process, the first of many, began in May 2002 and was finished later that summer.

The building was basically rebuilt from the ground up; with the inside being completely “gutted,” according to on-site supervisor David Stout. The President’s Capital Projects Report states that the “Final Inspection for the building was conducted July 15.” A few items remained to be completed at the time, but were quickly finished.

With the completion of Ayers, it is now possible for the departments of Mathematical, Computing and Information Sciences and the Department of Technology & Engineering to be in the same building. Since they often use the same equipment, this is beneficial to both departments.

The Psychology Department also moved back into Ayers. Dr. Allen Smith, head of the Psychology Department, is relieved the process is complete so things can finally get back to normal.

Dr. Martha McCormick, head of MCIS, enjoys the new offices but can’t wait until everything is moved in. When asked if she felt the combined environment would affect the student’s movement on campus, she replied, “Freshmen and sophomores probably won’t feel the change as much as juniors and seniors will. Juniors and seniors have a lot of projects that require them to work together. Professors will enjoy the change because they won’t have to move around and students will benefit more because their professors will have more accessible office hours.”

They want your name and they’ll take your credit

Jennifer Bacchus  
Photo By: Jennifer Bacchus

In addition to the availability of professors, Dr. McCormick is excited about the new research and computing labs stating, “now we have an actual room for these labs instead of them being located in the back of a classroom.”

While some teachers are faced with the problem of last minute furniture arrival, the consensus seems to be one of excitement and pleasure.

Math majors, who previously lived a nomadic lifestyle on campus, will now have the added convenience of having all their related courses in the same building.

Soon after the completion of Ayers, work on Luttrell Hall began. JSU required all the staff to be completely out of the building by August 23. After all professors moved out of Luttrell, students and teachers were allowed to search through the building and pick up items they might find useful including desks, chairs, paintings, books, and book shelves.

Crews are currently removing the buildings wiring and beginning the pre-construction work. The demolition will cost an estimated $188,000 and should begin within the next 30 days according to Dr. Clint Carlson, Vice President of Administration and Building Affairs. Taylor Corporation of Oxford is in charge of the demolition.

In addition to the building upgrades, JSU has recently upgraded its computer system. The upgrade proposal was created by the Information Technology Steering Committee.

The reasons for the upgrade are: 30-35 year-old software and a loss of “institutional memory”. The people who created the system are either leaving JSU or retiring.

The committee is proposing the use of the Banner system. This system is used in several other major universities including the University of Alabama, UAB, Auburn, and Montevallo.

The low bidder in this project is Sunguard SCT at the cost of $11.4 million over the course of ten years.
In the past two years, there have been five reports of identity theft on the campus of JSU. Investigator Mike Denton with the Jacksonville Police Department calls this type of crime the “fastest growing crime in America.”

Stalking the identity of another person has never been harder, but, with the popularity of the Internet over the past decade, it has become easier than ever to commit this type of crime.

Making the victimization worse is the fact that the crime has no boundaries. A criminal can get personal information on people that don’t live in the same state they do; or even in the same country.

To help the public understand the risks involved with identity theft and how to avoid being a victim, the U.S. Department of Justice has established an easy to remember system you can use to minimize your risk.

Just remember the word “SCAM.”

S: Be stingy. Don’t give your personal information out to anyone unless you trust them. As a college student, you will be bombarded with credit card offers and telephone solicitations. Make sure you trust the company and don’t give out personal information over the phone – especially not a cell phone.

C: Check your financial information regularly. One of the easiest ways for a criminal to steal your information is to take it from bank and credit card statements. Watch these items closely. If one doesn’t arrive when expected, call the company and have your account watched. Credit card companies and banks lose money when identity fraud occurs, so they should be willing to help you prevent it.

A: Ask periodically for a copy of your credit report. In order to check this, go to www.annualcreditreport.com, call (877) 322-8228, or mail a request to Annual Credit Report Request Service, PO. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA. 30348-5281.

M: Maintain careful records. Even though financial institutions are required to keep copies of your transactions for at least five years, you should keep records also. This is so that if you dispute a transaction, you will have complete records to prove your side of the issue. This is especially useful in cases where someone has forged your signature.

In addition to these steps, Investigator Denton recommends having your Social Security number removed from your driver’s license.

You should also pay close attention to e-mail notifications.

Many crooks use e-mails claiming to be from financial institutions. Often, these e-mails claim someone has been trying to access your accounts. Ask your bank and credit card companies what their policies are concerning e-mails. Most will never e-mail requests for information.

If you ever feel your identity may have been stolen, there are steps you should take immediately. First and foremost, file a police report.

After you have notified your local police, contact the fraud department at one of the three major credit bureaus. These are Equifax, Experian and Trans Union. Use them to place a fraud alert on your file. This will keep new accounts from being opened.

Next, review your accounts. Using the new credit reports, close any accounts you didn’t open as well as any accounts that you feel were tampered with.

Visit www.fico.org for a downloadable pamphlet if you need more information.
Chanticleer staff gives dubious advice to students new and old

It's the first issue-lying to you just seems wrong...somehow

By: The Staff of The Chanticleer
Your Chanticleer 2005-2006 Staffers

We at The Chanticleer thought it might be just a little too early to throw around our opinions on things here at JSU, so we thought, "Why not tell everyone our thoughts on life in general?"

So, here we are - a rag-tag group of writers, giving you advice on life, love and any other thing that comes to mind.

Angela Reid: News Editor
When I was asked to provide you, our loyal reader, with my words of wisdom, I immediately thought, "I've locked my keys in my car three times in one week. I'm late for everything. I can't make decisions. What kind of advice could I possibly give?"

But as I wondered and wandered, I realized that maybe some of you are just like me - the kind of person who leans over to pick up your chapstick and everything in your purse falls in the floor. Maybe some of you, the people who have trouble deciding which way to drive home, can benefit from my hard-learned lessons of life.

1. Parking really isn't that bad. You can walk. Get over it.
2. Don't try to use your JSU Student ID to buy food if you don't have money on it, especially if you don't have cash with you.
3. Don't take a 300 level elective for "fun" your freshman year.
4. Don't wear sandals in below freezing temperatures.
5. Easy teachers are not always the best teachers.
6. Take a jacket everywhere.
7. Don't leave the top down in your Jeep Wrangler if a hurricane is coming.
8. Make friends. You will need them - especially when that hurricane is on the way.

And above all... if you ever work for The Chanticleer make sure you get a lot of sleep Monday night and have afternoon classes on Wednesday.

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Chanticleer make sure you get a lot of sleep Monday night and have afternoon classes on Wednesday. Have a great year.

Jeff Pruitt: Features Editor

When asked to write this column by my esteemed editor-in-chief, I felt a slight rumble slowly rise in my stomach and up into my chest causing me to drip to my knees and scream out in pain. Turns out it was only gas.

Still, the idea of writing this editorial is a little unnerving to me. Not so much the words of welcome, but the thought of having to give advice.

First of all, I could be a complete idiot for all you know. Besides that, you don’t need my advice or anyone else’s advice. Listen to yourself. You’re right most of the time. For those times when you’re not right, admit it and move on. Everything else will fall into place...Maybe.

That being said, good folks here at The Chanticleer want to welcome you back to school. We hope you enjoy what we have to offer this year. If you do, let us know. If you don’t, then definitely let us know.

Jaclyn Cosper: Copy Editor

For all you students, new and old, a good idea is to cut class only when you have to. It never fails that on the day you cut, you miss something that is very crucial that can affect your grade.

So if you have to miss, make sure it is for a good reason. Trust me, it will save many a headache.

David Howton: News Reporter

After many, many years here at campus, I am slowly beginning to consider myself the Van Wilder of JSU, so to you, my fellow students, my words of wisdom are...probably not what you’re thinking. I wasn’t allowed to go there...

My advice to the student body is don’t take on more than you can handle. Challenge yourself but don’t overwhelm yourself. Keep calm and realize that life isn’t about being so serious all the time. You are in school to learn but you are in college to live and let live.

In 40 years you won’t remember what the inside of a leaf looks like (unless you’re into that kind of thing).

That’s not just for football; it’s every sport. Besides being two-time conference football champs, we also have an outstanding soccer and volleyball program.

In closing, just have fun. Dennis Miller said it best when he said, “Of course, that’s just my opinion. I could be wrong.”

Jessica Summe: Feature Reporter

Those of you who know me are aware of my um, ‘blonder’ moments. So when Jennifer’s all, ‘We’re doing an advice column,’ I immediately thought ‘Oh crap.’

(These of you that know me know that’s a lie. I prefer much stronger language than that.)

And while I cannot give you lovely readers practical, obviously useful advice since that would make me a total hypocrite, I will list some of my more entertaining moments so you don’t fall into some pitfalls and traps that I did.

1) Do not give a bouncy ball to drunken people. While amusing, it leaves some very interesting bruises that are hard to explain away. Actually, any kind of ball (or Frisbee, Jennifer Bacchus) indoors is usually a

Afternoon classes are the BOMB: sleeping in is ALWAYS a necessity - especially after those 2 a.m. nights.

I love key rings that hook onto things: I swear, it’s the only way I haven’t lost my keys yet. And most people can hear me coming a mile away.

Jumpridges will soon become jewelry: I have a turquoise blue jumpdrive that I practically wear as a necklace several days a week.

Tell the housekeeping crew here at JSU how much you appreciate them EVERY chance you get - they are the only thing standing between us college kids and the sty we could be existing in.

Lastly, write to me and give me your thoughts. Being the editor comes with significant power and tons of responsibility. I am here to serve YOU, the JSU student. If you aren’t OK with what you see in these papers let me know. I also love compliments, if you like what you see let me know that too.

Thank you for your attention, I hope we serve you well this year.
Jessica Summe
Chanticleer Features Writer

“Uh, god, I’m so hungry. We’re just running through this and I haven’t had a chance to get some real food.” Natalie tells me Wednesday afternoon. The other two girls who stopped to talk to me nodded in agreement.

Formal Recruitment, popularly known as Rush, is not for the weak.

“This is my first time doing sorority recruitment,” says Eddie Banks-Crosson, the Assistant Director of Student Life. “It’s a tremendous amount of work, and these ladies have just thrown themselves into it.”

While Monday is move-in day for those girls attending recruitment, Tuesday is the first official day of rush. Tuesday and Wednesday, Values Round and Philanthropy Round, are ‘open’, the rushees get to visit all five sororities and decide which ones might suit them. These little meet-and-greets are held all across campus, and can be a bit unnerving at first.

“You walk in and it’s like you’re on display at the zoo or something. Everyone’s looking at you, and you can’t remember anyone’s name,” Natalie added. “But they’re all really nice about it.”

At the Parent Orientation meeting on Tuesday, parents get an overview of the sororities and ask the Panhellenic Council about any concerns they might have. There are very few doubts about their daughters engaging in Greek life.

“The sorority would be good for her since she’s so far away from home,” said Stella Schuler, whose daughter, Katie, has moved from California to attend JSU. “We found JSU online and thought it was the perfect match. I’d feel better with her having a support group here in case anything should happen.”

Allen Voyles, whose daughter Melissa is rushing, perks up when I tell him the sororities she’s interested in. 

“I’ve eliminated two, definitely. Even though [the sorority sisters] aren’t allowed to talk to you outside of the parties, you can still tell if they like you or not.”

Rushees get their first invitations Wednesday night. While they can receive invitations from all five sororities, they are only allowed to attend three sororities’ Theme Rounds on Thursday. Some girls will receive four or five invitations, and will have to choose between sororities. Most girls will get one to three invites back. A few won’t get any. They have been cut.

“[When a girl gets cut, it’s not like we’re being snobs or anything. The girls pick the sororities they want, the sororities list the girls they want, it all goes into a computer, and the computer matches everybody up,” says Jennifer Jones, a Delta Zeta member. “We’re not sitting in a room, going down a list, and saying ‘Oh, I hate her.’ It’s a mutual match. Kind of like online dating… but that’s a really rough comparison.”

Rushees read that book [Pledged] and think that’s all there is to Greek life,” said Rebecca Sellers, a Phi Mu sister. “The media has this negative image of us; that all we do is drink and party, and we’re not that. So many of us have roles on campus and jobs and still manage to get everything done. We work really hard, and we love what we do.”

While Greek life may be the answer for most of the girls attending recruitment, some find they aren’t comfortable with it.

“I couldn’t be myself around them. I couldn’t relax,” one girl who dropped tells me. She made it through the two invitation rounds, but got cold feet on Friday when it came time to sign her Preference Card (the final step where the rushees list the sororities they want the most). “I wasn’t happy, and they don’t deserve to have the wait seem so long or hot. This continues until the doors of the roundhouse burst open and a stampede of girls in brand-new letter shirts rush outside to begin their Greek life.

Masses of girls laugh and hug while parents wander into the crowd to find daugh ters. Loads of pictures are taken, and the insanity continues for a good twenty minutes until everyone gets sorted out. There are a few outbreaks of tears because some girls didn’t get their first choice, or friends ended up in different sororities, but they quickly adjust to the situation and pose for pictures with their new sisters.

“She’s tired, but it all worked out. It’s been a great week, but now she can focus on classes and school and why she’s really here,” said Robert Ball, whose daughter, Laura, came out of the roundhouse with her new sisters. 
Allen Voiles, whose daughter Melissa is rushing perks up when I tell him the sororities monitor their member's grades and they all have a GPA requirement.

"I always have concerns, being a dad... I just don't want her to bite off more than she can chew," said Voiles.

Incoming freshmen must have a minimum 2.7 GPA. Sophomore and junior rushers need at least a 2.5.

"That's actually where the majority of the cuts come from," Jennifer Conner, of Alpha Omicron Pi, confides to me. "We're looking for quality people who'll be an asset, because when we graduate, they're the next leaders."

Tomorrow's leaders are today's ducklings, however, trailing along behind their Recruitment Counselors as they visit the different sororities across campus. They may be hungry, but spirits are high, despite the fact that they have to walk from building to building in the stifling August heat.

"I'm really excited. We're all just going on adrenaline," said Megan Hudson, who was clever enough to bring along flip-flops to change into for those walks. "I already got invited back to one sorority."

Jones, a junior, tells me she rushed because she wanted to be more active on campus and Greek life seemed the way to do it.

Greek life is all about involvement. Despite being only a tenth of the JSU population, Greeks have a huge voice. Besides the ever present 'Go Greek' signs, the fraternities and sororities almost directly feed into the SGA and several other campus organizations. They also maintain an average GPA of 2.6 (All Greeks, Spring 2005), attend chapter meetings and gatherings, and do charity work for organizations such as Second Chance Women's Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, Choose Children, and many others. Last year, the JSU Greeks gave a total of $23,000 to charities.

"People watch MTV's 'Sorority Life and sororities the most). "I wasn't happy, and they don't deserve to have someone who has to be fake around them. If I had stayed, it wasn't going to turn out right. I'm not going to do anything this semester and just get used to the academics."

While the weekend came early for those who dropped or were cut, Friday afternoon, Bid Day, was the highlight of the week for almost sixty young ladies.

While mysterious events (accompanied by random bouts of hysterical, happy screams) unfolded within the Roundhouse, friends and family waited outside on the quad to support and congratulate the newest "sisters" on campus.

"Well, I definitely want to know what sorority she got, but I also need to get her TV out of my car," laughs Rachel Carlisle, who was waiting for daughter Katie.

While we wait, the active members of the various sororities clap, cheer, and recite chants about how wonderful their group is. They can't be too competitive with each other, though, since they all take turns, but it brightens everyone up and doesn't make them feel left out.

But aren't you guys tired?

"Oh, we're all a little sleep-deprived," she laughs. "But that's not unusual for us."

Butterfly Stitch ready to spread their wings

Jeff Pruitt
ChanticleerFeatures Editor

Since forming only seven months ago, the Atlanta-based band Butterfly Stitch has come a long way in a short time. The trio of Jen Lowe, Sonia Leigh, and Vanessa Olivarez, along with drummer Jim Hodgson, plays a self-described mix of "Americana, rock, bluesy, and soulful music with heady verses and catchy choruses."

The group performed at Brother's Bar here in Jacksonville on August 25. "I'm not just saying this, Brother's is one of our favorite places to play. We really like coming here," said Jen Lowe, rhythm guitarist and percussionist. Butterfly Stitch also played the 92 J Benefit show in July and this last visit to Jacksonville was one of a series of shows they recently completed with acclaimed Los Angeles singer-songwriter Adrienne.

Curve Magazine proclaimed her as "the new indie starling" and Performing Songwriter said Adrienne is "a ball of emotion, intensity, and attitude."

"The tour with Adrienne was amazing. She is such a great musician and songwriter. Having her around is a joy and an inspiration," Lowe said.

Along with their busy tour schedule, the band is also hard at work in the studio with producer Greg Lee. This will be their first full-length album and the
Michael Simmons  
Chanticleer Features Writer

311 has traveled a long up hill road to attain the stately status that it has in the music community. They have been ever changing and growing from their first gig, opening for Fugazi in 1990, to their latest album, Don’t Tread on Me, that hit stores August 16.

Don’t Tread on Me is 311’s eighth studio album. After a decade-plus span of jamming, the band still has the same rock-reggae-funk-hop sound that has always projected. This release marks a maturing and an almost completely perfected melding of the band’s most basic sounds.

The first track shares the same title as the album. This is fitting because it sets the tone for the entire CD. The opening stanza, sung by Nick Hexum, says, “Before you’re pointing at me/ There is a possibility/ You better turn that thing around/ Nothing’s come easily/ So don’t you tread on me/ Cuz I will knock you down.”

It’s as if 311 knew this might be one of their most critically reviewed albums to date. Especially since their last CD release was a premature “greatest hits” album.

Overall, Don’t Tread on Me is light, bouncy, and easy on the ears. That is, with one exception, the song “Solar Flare,” a bass and drum driven number that begs to be played.

When I first listened to the album in its entirety, I couldn’t get past this track. I ended up playing it three times before moving on to “Waiting”.

Don’t Tread on Me is an essential album for any 311 fan, defining a large step in 311’s evolutionary process toward perfection.

Band: Butterfly Stitch, Continued

The first six songs will be released as an EP in October.

Their current release, “Live at the Loft,” was recorded at The Loft in Columbus, GA, and showcases the band’s unique individual talents and how they come together on stage to create an inspired live show.

Olivarez’ voice is exceptional and her ability to create an emotional response from the audience lends itself well to the ballads. “Miami,” a bitter-sweet song about Lowe moving to Florida as a child is a good example.

Other songs such as “Roll in the Hay” and “Slide Right In” showcase Leigh’s guitar playing. Her playful, raspy voice compliments her bluesy style well and it gives the songs an authentic feel.

Lowe’s strong background vocals are evident on “Roll in the Hay” and “21,” the closing song. Here, her percussion playing stands out and creates a nice groove that the audience seems to enjoy.

The “Live at the Loft” CD is available at www.boomboomperc.com. There is a link to the Butterfly Stitch web-site there also.

Their next live show will be Sept. 9th at the Jungle in Atlanta and they will be returning to Jacksonville on Sept. 23rd to play Brother’s Bar.
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**SPORTS**

**Volleyball picked second in the OVC**

**By Patrick Swafford**
*The Chanticler Sports Writer*

“I came back because this team is so great. It was nice to know that everybody gets along,” said Kim Hallbach, fifth year senior.

That’s the attitude of all twelve members of JSU’s volleyball squad right now. In fact, very little has changed since last season.

Rick Nold is back for his fourth season as JSU’s head coach. All twelve members of the team have returned to improve on a 21-9 season. The only thing that has changed is the experience of this team.

“It’s very small things that are going to help you win,” Nold said. “By having that experience and having gone through that and having everybody back to go through it again, I think that’s where it can help us a lot.”

Experience and team chemistry will be a major advantage for the Gamecocks this year, but in addition to that, they have two players that were named to the OVC’s preseason all conference team. Shari Weyer and Abbey Breit.

“I think any coach will understand when you talk about someone being a go-to player. Everybody knows they’re gonna be the player to get the ball. It takes a special attitude to handle that. I think that’s one thing they both have,” Nold said. “They know we’re going to push the ball to them, and they handle that very well.”

While Weyer and Breit’s personal achievements are outstanding, the entire team has bigger plans for this season.

“We’re gonna win conference, that’s our ultimate goal. We know what we have to do, we just have to make sure we get there,” said Breit.

Breit, a 5’10” middle blocker from Louisville, KY finished her freshman year second on the team with 383 kills, 3.42 kills per game and 4.26 blocks. She also led JSU in blocks with 99. Her performance last season earned her all-OVC honors.

Weyer, a junior from Ferdinand, IN led JSU in kills with 417 last season and has averaged 3.29 kills per game in her two year career, the most by any player in school history. The 6’4” middle blocker also finished third in the conference with a .339 attack percentage.

“We’re already a team and we’re just working towards one goal and everyone’s focused on that,” Weyer said.

Even though this team will look to dominate their opponents offensively, Nold still sees room for improvement on the other side of the net, especially from his two key players.

“We weren’t as good of a blocking team as I thought we could have been and it really starts with them since they block in the middle.” Nold said.

The Gamecocks, who open at home on September 13, will get a major test of their weaknesses when they face Eastern Kentucky and Eastern Illinois, the other top competitors for the OVC title, in October.

The Gamecocks began the 2005 season with a 3-2 loss to Mercer on Saturday, dropping the final three games of the match after jumping out to a 2-0 lead.

Errors were a key factor in the loss, its first season-opening loss under Nold. JSU had 25 service errors and a combined 26 attack errors in the third and fourth games that opened the door for The Bears.

Big defensive plays helped Mercer defeat The Gamecocks in the fifth and final game, despite a .542 hitting percentage.

Breit led the Gamecocks (0-1), nearly recording a triple-double with 21 kills, nine digs and eight blocks. Senior Suzi Terrell contributed with 20 kills and senior Krista West had 15 digs in the loss.

JSU will play next in the Georgia State Invitational on Friday in Atlanta, when they face Wright State at 3 p.m.

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**Look what happened after you left**

**By Amado Ortiz**
*The Chanticler Sports Editor*

The Jacksonville State softball team wrapped up the 2005 season as the Ohio Valley Conference regular season champions and runners-up of the O’Reilly OVC Softball Tournament.

Although the Gamecocks fell just short of an NCAA bid into the national tournament, they finished with the best record in the OVC, and leading in nearly every statistical category in the conference.

JSU earned the right to host the 2005 OVC Softball Tournament after clinching the regular season title. Tennessee Tech defeated the Gamecocks in the title game, 6-2.

The Golden Eagles were later defeated in the first round of the national tournament by the Georgia Bulldogs.

Although the team was disappointed for losing the tournament, head coach Jana McGinnis remarked that the season was “one of the best I’ve ever been a part of.”

“Last year’s team was one of the hardest-working teams we’ve ever had. They want to get better, and it’s good as a coach to see that they want to be better,” McGinnis said.

JSU made major improvements both offensively and defensively in the 2005 season by outscoring opponents an average of 6-3. Maiglin Alexander, the OVC Player of the Year, led the team with a .403 batting average and 71 hits. Junior Daniela Pappano led the conference with 14 home runs, while Breanne Oleman broke the JSU record for career RBI.

The freshmen on the Jacksonville State squad accounted for one-third of the team’s total offense this year, combining for 174 hits, 17 home runs, and 96 RBI.

Carly Kellam, the OVC Pitcher of the Year, finished with a 23-7 record and a conference-leading 270 strikeouts. Christine Pierce, who was another new addition to the pitching staff, recorded a team-best 2.07 ERA.

“Our pitching staff was the most improved part of our game from last year, and it’s now one of our strengths,” said McGinnis.

The 2005 JSU team may be best remembered for breaking the school record for longest win streak in softball. From April 9 to May 12, Jacksonville State compiled 17 consecutive wins. During this time, the Gamecocks outscored their opponents by a total of 125-26.

“At the end of March, the team came together and decided to play well,” said McGinnis. “The biggest point as a coach this year was to see this team become a team.”

Jacksonville State finished with a 42-16 record, with just four losses in Ohio Valley Conference play.
Andres Amores helped the Men's tennis team to an OVC Championship.

Freshman Donovan Hand was named to the All Freshmen Louisville Slugger team and helped lead the baseball team to an OVC Championship.

The woman's golf team also brought home an OVC Championship.
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