By the numbers:

Answer to the ultimate question of the Universe per <u>The</u> Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy

42



September 15, 2005

Jacksonville State University

Volume 54, Issue 3

Yeah, we know gas is pricey...

By: David Howton
Chanticleer Staff Writer

With the beginning of classes and gas prices rising, students who are already on a tight budget are forced to change their spending ways.

After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, gas prices have jumped to well over \$3 in some areas and over \$7, reportedly, in certain areas of Mississippi. With JSU being a "commuter college", a wide selection of the student base are affected. Students are forced to play with their schedules, trying to get all their classes in on either Monday, Wednesday and Friday or Tuesday and Thursday.

"This sucks." states Michael Smith, a drama student from Lincoln, Alabama. "I had to get a part time to job just to pay for gas. I usually just go to school and focus on that but this semester I can't."

The hike in gas prices was caused by a variety of factors including a dwindling supply, a change in economy, and the war in

Intramural 101

By: James Burton Chanticleer Staff Writer

Ahh, intramural sports. The backbone of the college recreational experience. I know, you freshmen are thinking: "What the heck is an intramural sport?"

When I started writing this, I wondered the same thing. So, I sat down with Allen Gilbert, the head honcho for JSU intramural sports. And from that meeting, Intramural Sports 101 was born.

Intramural sports are a bunch of games played by groups of people within JSU. You know, kind of like the Orientation Olympics, just not as awkward.

Each group competes in a point championship that generally lasts a fiscal year. The season end reward is an Intramural Champion t-shirt and bragging rights.

There is also an award given annually to one student from each league.

"Me and my student officials," Gilbert told me, "decide who was Sportsman of the Year." The Sportsman of the year, he went on to explain, is something like MVP, but not exactly.

"Gee whiz! It sure would be swell if I could sign up for one of these teams. How do I do it?"

Well, first you'll want to lay off the 50's vernacular. Then you and a bunch of your peeps can head on down to room 215 in Stephenson Hall. You'll fill out a registration form for whichever sport you plan to

be involved with.

"But I'm anti-social and I don't have any friends!"

That's all right too. There is a 'Free Agent' list available where you can sign up to be informed whenever a team needs an extra player.

"Who all can I expect to see participating?"

That's the beauty of it, just about anyone! Don't let the Greek symbols on the home page fool you.

"Our program is not geared toward Greeks but they are the most active group," Gilbert said. "Non-Greek groups sign on as time progresses."

"What sports am I able to participate in?"

You have a whopping selection of twelve different activities: Badminton, Basketball, Beach Volleyball, Bowling, Flag Football, Golf, Innertube Water-Polo, Putt-Putt Golf, Racquetball, Softball, Tennis, and Volley ball.

"Flag Football attracts the most participants," said Gilbert. "We'll have between 350 and 400 students."

There's bound to be something to attract the eye of any JSU student who wishes to try something new and unusual. Even I, the chronic stock car racing addict, am very tempted to try out golf. So, if you have any questions, be sure to e-mail Allen at agilbert@jsu.edu. He is more than willing to help you in any way.

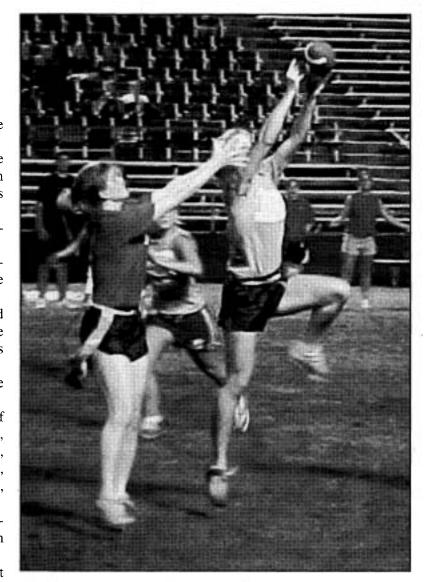


Photo courtesy of Amado Ortiz

Katie Nelson of ZTA goes up over AOPI Lindsey Holland during the sorority championship game last October. Sororities and fraternities make up the most active intramural groups, but individuals and groups of friends can also join the league.



Faculty Senate

run out of regular gas and commuters were forced to buy either premium or plus while other retailers have purchased only regular.

Signs were posted informing buyers that they must pay before they pump. With the added burden of paying for gas, the number of drive-offs has increased dramatically.

"Commuters are angry at the extra cost," says Nancy, a local gas station attendant. "I can't say that the number of pump and runs have increased here but I have heard stories about other stations where they have tripled over the last month."

Adam Niche, a business major from Arab says that he usually tries to go home every weekend. High gas prices have forced him to decrease the number of return trips he can make. Now he returns home only every other weekend.

Over the past few days, prices have begun to drop to as low as \$2.79, but that's still too high for many students. Some have made sacrifices like going out less, shopping less and some students have even cut down on their eating habits

Rumors of the federal government stepping up to assist and forcing gas companies to lower their prices are surfacing, but no action has been taken. One can only imagine what it is going to take to make the government stop the ridiculous gas prices from getting any higher.



Photo by: Michel Peoples

Alan Renfroe dishes out ice cream to a prospective S.T.A.T. member Monday afternoon at the "Ice Cream and Information" social.

Alumni House sees hope for future with a new club

By: Michael Peoples Chanticleer Staff Writer

Alan Renfroe, the Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs at JSU, has been overseeing the developmental processes of "Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow" or "S.T.A.T." for short, the newest student organization on the Jacksonville State University campus.

Tuesday, September 13, the Alumni Association introduced the new student organization with an ice cream social free to all students. The ice cream for the event was purchased from locally-owned Wrights Dairy.

The "Ice Cream and Information" social consisted of a wide variety of cool treats ranging from vanilla to bubblegum served in red souvenir cups with the S.T.A.T. name.

Renfroe and Misty Cassell spoke at the event. Cassell is a former student of JSU who now works for the athletic department in Kennamer Hall.

Cassell was also the first intern to work at the Alumni House. In 2004 she took part in the initial research that went into the forming of S.T.A.T.

The idea behind this program is to teach students some things that are not taught in the classroom, like interview skills and resume writing, in a fun environment.

Organizations like S.T.A.T. are not a new idea. Other universities have groups that are simi

See STAT, Page 3

hoping for a proactive year

By: Jennifer Bacchus
Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

Just as the students of Jacksonville State University have a senate where they can air their grievances and make recommendations to the administration, the faculty has their own organization called the Faculty Senate.

Monday, the executive officers of the group met for the first time to set the agenda for their first senate meeting, which will be held on Monday, September 19 at 3:15 in room 1130C of the Houston Cole Library.

"It was an unusual year in that we ended last year with not a lot of new stuff left on the table," said Dr. Clark Hudspeth, the Faculty Senate historian, speaking about the 2004-2005 year.

Due to the fact that most of the old business was wrapped up during the May 9 meeting, the group has the opportunity this year to have a fresh start.

Faculty Senate President Dr. Jeffrey Dodd, who is currently serving his second term as president, hopes to use this to their advantage so that the senate can become a more proactive group.

"The way it's supposed to work is that the individual faculty members either bring their problems to the senator from their department or they bring it individually to the senate," said Dodd.

The senate itself has no power to make any policy changes in response to problems that are brought to their attention, but they are able to make recommendations to the administration.

While Dr. Meehan agrees that the senate has no governmental power, the respect that the administration has for the faculty does allow them a degree of influence.

"Without the faculty, we wouldn't have any students and without the students we wouldn't have the faculty," said Meehan, adding that without either of those groups there wouldn't be an administration. In this way, they can achieve great things. An example of this is the way the faculty accrues sick leave. Until a few years ago, sick time could not be carried over from one year to another. Now it accumulates, allowing the faculty to use the time when they need it most.

During the 2004-2005 school year, the senate only passed three resolutions. One, passed October 11, 2004, dealt with the touchy subject of prayer at university functions. In this resolution, the senate asked that any prayers that are given on campus at a university function be nondenominational, so that they don't exclude people of various faiths.

This year, the group is eagerly anticipating a report on distance learning that is due out by the end of this month. Ever since JSU began offering online courses, many faculty members have had unanswered questions and the senate is hoping that this report will give them some much needed insight.

Each department on campus elects a senator to represent them and an executive board is elected from among these members.

Dr. Teresa Reed, who currently holds the office of vice president, hopes that this year will see an increase in faculty participation. She is also the president-elect and will become president for the 2006-2007 school year.

"I haven't come up with 'this is the crusade that I want to be on," said Reed, "although I think that that would help me persist. If I wasn't just being reactive to things that come at me."

All Faculty Senate meetings are open to the general public and they are held once a month. A week prior to these meetings, the executive officers meet in a closed session to discuss topics up for senatorial consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Campus Bookstore: Book signing at campus bookstore on September 16. Sir Douglas M. Price will be on-hand to sign his book. <u>Lapside</u>

NPHC: Cocky Showdown Stepshow October 29, 9 p.m. Pete Mathews Coliseum Tickets may be purchased NOW at the Office of Student Life, 402 TMB. \$7 for students, \$10 for all else. For more info: contact isustepshow@hotmail.com

Alpha Xi Delta: We love our beautiful new members! We are excited and looking. forward to Homecoming with PiKap! Good luck during IFC Recruitment! Go Gamecocks!

Contact: Amy Walker amy_roo@excite.com

PRO: Public Relations Organization will meet Thursday, September 15 at 3:30 p.m. in the conference room of Self hall. Contact: Kathie Vernon, 238-8625

Zeta Tau Alpha: Welcome back everyone, we hope that you are having a wonderful semester so far! We are so proud of our new Zeta ladies! Good luck to all fraternities with recruitment this week! Have a great weekend. Go Gamecocks! Contact: Natalie Shearer@hotmail.com

ISU Ambassadors: We would like to welcome everyone back to campus. Hope all of your classes are going great. Ambassadors, don't forget our meeting tonight at 5:00 in the Admissions Office. Go Gamecocks! Contact: Meyori Brown or Ashlie Holland

at ext: 5260

BCM: Celebration every Tuesday, 8 p.m.

JSU Muslims: Friday, Sermon 1-2 in the chapel. Monday, Intro to Islam Rm. 303 TMB 7-8 p.m.

For more information: www.jsumuslims.org

JSU Writers' Club: Meetings every Wednesday 4 p.m., 7th floor of Houston Cole Library

SGA improving campus life

Regina Ezell

Chanticleer Staff Writer

"I will be doing the things I care about the most," said Heather James as she **signed** up for the STARS Committee during the Student Government Association involvement meeting. James cited the reason for joining as her desire to go into the schools and help students with supplies and classwork.

On Thursday, September 8th, the SGA held the involvement meeting to encourage students to sign up for various committees. During the meeting, Jessica Firestone head of the SGA's Residence Life and Facilities stated her goals to have wireless Internet access in all the dorms and lower dorm fees. She also wants more visiting hours in the daytime.

Lindsey Crow, along with other members of the SGA's Concert Committee took surveys of music the students prefer. They will use the information to bring different groups in for concert night. Past acts have been Hootie and the Blowfish, Pat Green and Rascal

Chauncey Slater, head of Constitution and Code, set his goal to help the student body understand the significance of the constitution. It helps the students know do's and don't's of the university and how to abide by the rules.

"The reason I joined Athletic Support Committee is because I was captain of the dance team in high school," sad Tiffany Deardorff. "I wanted a way to support my team at JSU."

The next on-campus event for the Student Activities Council is Family Day on October 15th. The purpose of the event is to allow the student body a chance to invite their family to JSU. It is a day of fun and activities for adults, students and children. Face painting and teddy bear stuffers will be on-hand for kids. Sodexho is catering lunch.

J-Day will be Thursday, October 27, during homecoming week. It will be held behind the Theron Montgomery Building. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served along with drinks and cotton candy.



Photo By: Jennifer Bacchus

Students signing up to join the Cultural Affairs Committee.

mechanical bull will be avail- Activities. able for the students enjoy.

Later that night, there will be a bonfire and the presentation of the homecoming court. Organizations on campus will be encouraged to make and present their homecoming banners as well.

"It is really a day for everybody to get out and meet one another and get to see new faces," said Casie Sanders,

Games like laser tag and a Vice President of Student

Sanders and the rest of the Student Activities Council will attend the National Activities conference Council September 29 through October 2 in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

There, many entertainers from different companies who present their acts. Colleges go to see what they have to offer and JSU's SAC books many of their activities during this time.

"We are the face of JSU."

Reagan Williams

Chanticleer Staff Writer

"This meeting was just to get everyone on the same page," said Vice President of the Student Senate, Justin Lord when Jacksonville State University's Student Government Association met Monday night.

It was their third meeting of the year. The first two meetings were held in April, after the elections for the 2005 - 2006 school year.

Lord, affectionately called J. Lo, is a junior

Life Committee Head. The office of Campus Safety Committee Head was given to Tremaine Kelley in SB 41. Old SB 27 appointed Catherine Hammond as the new Chaplain of the Student Senate.

Chief Justice Brandy Pollard swore in the new senators with their pledge, promising to serve the student body to the best of their

SGA President Mardracus Russell then time to address it.

congratulated each of the 2005-2006 senators and presented them with a pin.

"We are the face of JSU," said Lord, showing his belief that the SGA has a major responsibility to the school and community.

All Senate meetings are held in the TMB auditorium at 6:00pm. The meetings are open to all students, and Lord stressed that if students have a problem, the meetings are the rousion cole morary

Katrina Animal Relief: Need cat food and dog food or money, no cans, by Friday, September 16. Contact: Angie Gidley 835-8550

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 20 words. Submissions must include a name and telephone number or e-mail address to contact for further information, this information does not count toward the 20-word total. Submissions must arrive at The Chanticleer offices in Room 180, Self Hall by 2 p.m. on the Monday prior to the desired publication date.

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

CAMPUS CRIME

September 6 -

A medical emergency was reported at the Student Health Center

September 7 -

JSU reported a violation of university drug policy at Salls Hall.

September 9 -

Eden Elizabeth Riddlespur, 18, was arrested for possession of marijuana and for being in possession of liquor at Sparkman Hall.

September 10 -

JSU reported a security violation because a door was left open at Martin Hall.

Janet V. Atkins filed a information report at Paul Snow Stadium.

September 11 -

An aggravated assault/domestic violence incident was reported was reported at Campus Inn Apartments.

Bryant Jimmy Maness filed a information report at Daugette Hall.

A medical emergency was reported at International House.

Information in Campus Crime is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Salls Hall. These records are public documents that anyone has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe any information to be an error, call 782-5701, or contact JSUPD at 782-500.

the elections for the 2005 - 2006 school year.

Lord, affectionately called J. Lo, is a junior studying finance. His job is to preside over the 35 SGA senators during the Monday night senate meetings.

Kati Richards is Lord's clerk this year. She keeps the minutes of the meeting and performs other secretarial duties.

The Parliamentarian, Rachel McCombs, makes sure that the rules are followed during the meetings.

President of the SGA, Mardracus "Drake" Russell, spoke very fervently about the Jacksonville State University Hurricane Relief Project.

During the past two football games, they collected funds for what they are calling the "Quarter 'n' up" program. Together with Dr. William Meehan the SGA has started a committee aimed at helping with the aid of Hurricane Katrina's survivors.

"It [fundraising] isn't going to stop after a week," said Lord.

Russell also spoke of the tailgate party that the SGAs of UAB and JSU will be hosting together at the football game this Saturday. It will begin at 3:00pm at Legion Field.

The two associations will work together to raise money to aid the people of New Orleans.

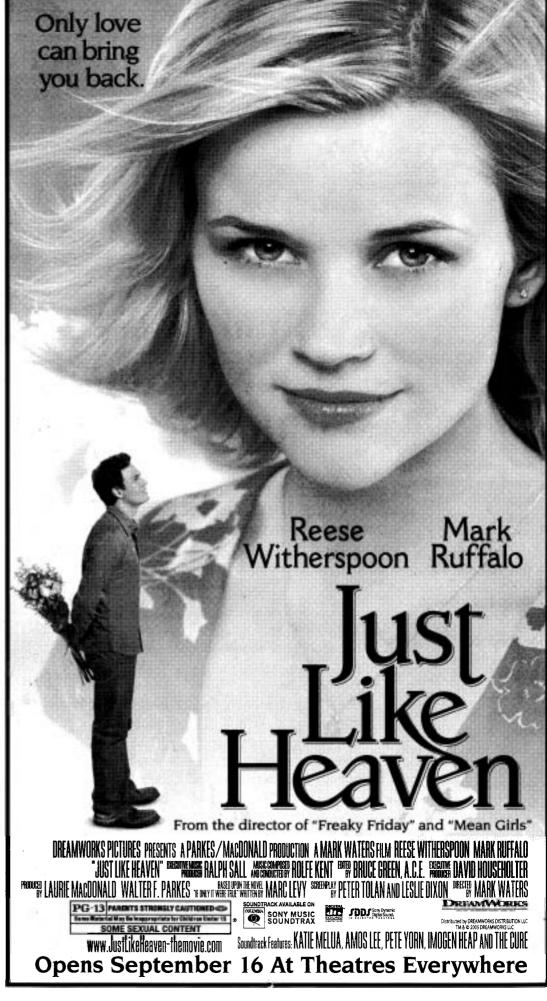
Russell also reminded the Senators to keep their academics up, and he applauded them for their part in welcome week, "the numbers for attendance were dramatic." Lord and Russell, however, cited some members for not fulfilling their duties during welcome week.

In the middle of the meeting the SGA had a photo op in front of Bibb Graves.

When they reconvened, they presented the student bills for the meeting. Old business included SB 14 and SB 27 that remained from last month. Student bills 31 through 38, excluding SB 36, officially inducted new senators. These seven students were appointed over the summer since there were not enough people to fulfill the positions. Bills 39 through 41 inducted new committee heads.

Emily Rollins officially resigned as the acting Director of Publicity for the 2005 - 2006 term with SB 36. In her place, Raynard Cargill, last year's Director of Publicity, took over the position.

Kati Richards was designated as the MADE Committee Head in SB 39. SB 40 appointed Jessica Firestone as the Residence



STAT will help students plan for their futures

lar. JSU's S.T.A.T. tries to improve on this concept by giving its members a mentorship program.

Current JSU upper classman will have the chance to be mentored by JSU Alumni, giving students a chance to meet prominent Alumni in their field of study as well as prominent Alumni of other fields.

Lower classmen are mentored by upperclassmen that will pass on knowledge that may not be known about the school.

Renfroe calls it "establishing a life network." He added that the program is "also giving Alumni more connection to the school and students." These networks may prove helpful to members after graduation because, in today's job, world having a degree doesn't always get you the job.

S.T.A.T. is a student organization but will also be recognized officially as a chapter of the Alumni Association. Being both a student organization and an alumni chapter means

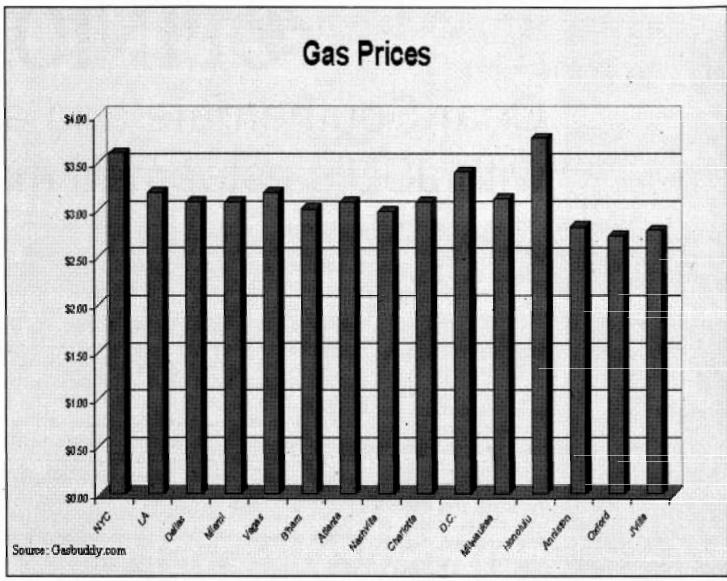
S.T.A.T. members will participate in both student functions as well as some alumni functions.

The democratically elected president will hold a seat on the Alumni Board of Governors, just like the other 20 Alumni chapters. "The alumni are thrilled about the idea of being able to sit down with a current student," said Renfroe. This will give students more knowledge of what it means to be Alumni.

"Due to S.T.A.T.'s being in its inaugural year we will only be allowing 30 members to join this year. In future years this may change to allow more but I can't yet say," said Renfroe.

As of the 12th of September, S.T.A.T. has 14 members, which leaves room for only 16 more. Applications are being accepted until the 16th of September. There is a \$20 application fee to join which will be refunded if you application is no accepted.

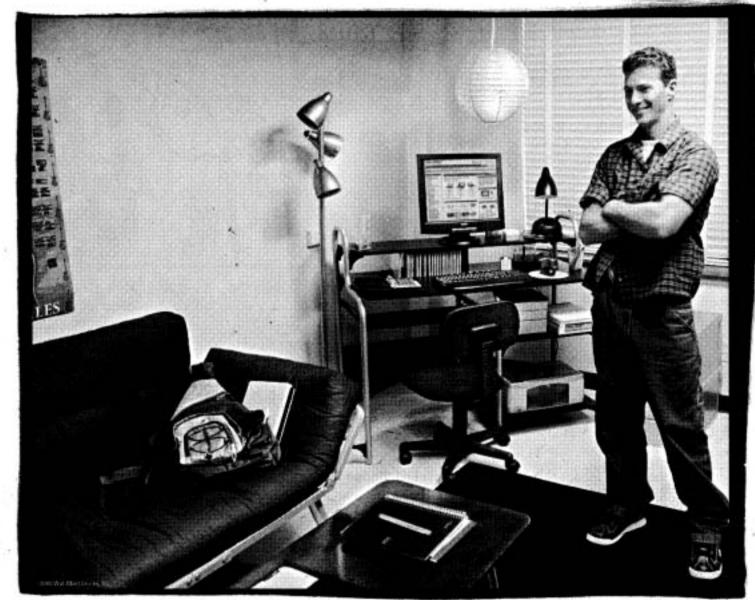
The first meeting of S.T.A.T. will be September 27 at 4:30 p.m. at the Alumni House.







Share your space, but live on your own.



All furnishings pictured are from Wal-Mart.



HP Laptor



Bedding

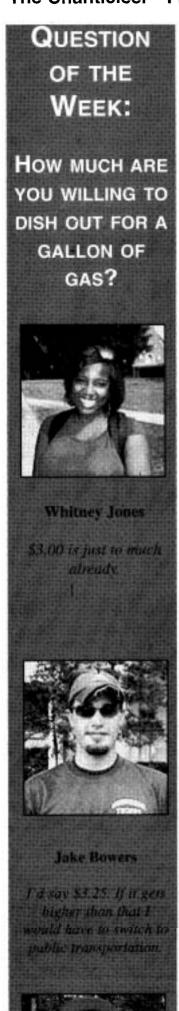


Storage

Get everything for your dorm room at Walmart.com and still afford tuition.

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₱PINION

Dear Southerners and all those affiliated with JSU's esteemed marching band:

By: David Howton Chanticleer Staff Writer

Let me start off by saying, to all those I may have offended with my last article on the Marching Southerners, I do apolo-Being a former gize. member of a marching band, I understand that band members are sensitive about certain subjects and, apparently, I have forgotten what areas are touchy and what aren't. I have relearned each of these areas over the past week.

I would like to take this time to go step by step, touching on each of the complaints that have come to my attention.

First of all, the glaring mistake about Spirit going to Japan and Great Britain. After speaking with a friend of mine, who is a former member of the Southerners, information was mixed up. He was a member of the DCI band "Cavalier" and not Spirit. I did not realize this mistake until it was too late. It was an honest mistake.

and, as a human being, I can guarantee you that every human being at one point in their life will make a mistake.

To all those in the great sorority Sigma Alpha Iota: you ladies rock. Please don't take my lack of coverage of you as an insult. I tried to touch on several subjects throughout the article and was well past my limit with what I had. I meant no disrespect and I can assure you that it will be made up in due time.

To those of you who were offended with my comments about members of the band playing poker, I did not get my information on that from your website. I didn't say at any time that "ALL" members of the band play poker. I said "many".

It's common knowledge around JSU that many band members play poker. Last year at Sigma Pi's Sam Spady Week poker tournament, a large portion of the 32 players were affiliated with either the

Phi Mu Alpha.

I have connections (friends) who play poker with many of you and that's where I got this information. I had more, but mentioning where the games are held and that some times currency is involved just seemed wrong and, after all, I was only trying to help the visibility of the band.

As I mentioned before, I am a former member of a marching band and I may have let my brass bias lead me to talking about the greatest section on earth . . . the Trumpets. Many of you are thinking "What else?" right about now.

I admit that I did get a lot of my information on the band story online at your website. I apologize for having to work 70-80 hours a week to pay for my education. I apologize for no one being on campus during Labor Day. I apologize for only spending four days walking around band practice, climbing to the top of the Marching Southerners or tower and taking pictures

being in their offices to take phone calls or interviews, even though Mr. Bodiford did call me back no one would care. You and left a message.

To those who think that I only speak to hear myself speak, you're half-right. Ok . . . Ok . . . You're completely right! How many journalists do you know who do everything without having their name attached? That's why God invented the "Byline" . . . for us selfish people.

I mentioned the movie "Drumline" because I am a movie lover. I love to go to theaters with friends and spend a few hours not worrying about tuition increases or the 20-page paper I have due next week. When doing a band story, the first two "band" movies that came to mind were. of course. "Drumline" and Holland's Opus" . . . Enough said.

Controversy sells. If it wasn't for controversy, people like Jim Rome, Stephen A. Smith, Rush

and I apologize for no one Limbaugh and Howard Stern would be a blimp on the map. No one would know who they were and can't please every person every time you do an arti-

> For those of you who are interested in trying, the Chanticleer is always excepting applications and to those who have already filled them out, welcome to our team. We are sure that you will be able to better our outlook on JSU

> To those who liked the fact that we are covering the band, know that we are going to be doing that more often. This year, and hopefully years after this, we plan on covering a lot more JSU stories. We plan on looking into what makes JSU the friendliest campus in the south.

> In closing, to everyone who has a problem with what or how I say something, my response is simply, thanks for reading my article. Have a great day.

George makes yet





Clarence Jackson

I would have to say that anything over \$2.00 is to much.



Romaine Lunceford

I don't have a vehicle. so I really don't care However I om getting stred of people complaining about, but still are driving to class.

another boo-boo

Jaclyn Cosper Chanticleer Copy Editor

It never amazes me what President Bush will do next. Prior to Hurricane Katrina I was a die hard Republican. Now I'm like...umm...well... please. I'm almost ashamed of my political preference.

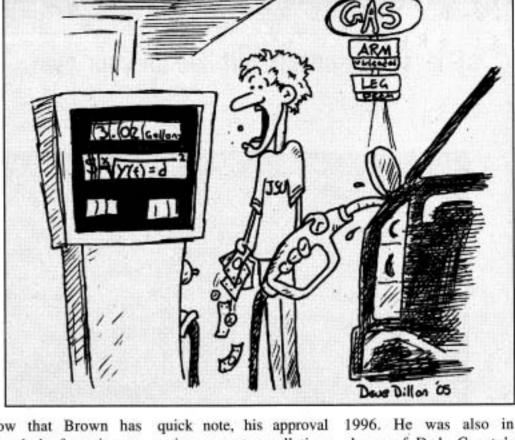
For those of you who don't know, Michael Brown, the director of resigned FEMA. Monday. However, that is not what I am writing about. My beef is; why in the world would Bush appoint someone to be the director of an emergency management organization with no emergency management training. That is like expecting nothing to go wrong when giving the car keys to an infant and telling him to go get milk. How stupid do you have to be to not think there will not be a problem?

The fact that we are just now hearing that Brown has no experience in this field angers me even more. But of course, leave it to

the government to cover everything up. Nothing out of the ordinary there, now

Another thing that has me scratching my head is that five head officials of FEMA also have little or no experience in emergency management. In fact they only got their job by helping out with the Bush campaign. I say, "Screw college, give me a piece of that action!".

Okay, I will admit that with the past hurricanes Brown, a.k.a. Brownie (I wonder why), has done a good job handling the cleanup. In fact when Bush first visited the ruins of New Orleans he said, "Brownie, you're doing a heck of a job." This just happens to be very funny to me because the President is not saying a word, good or bad, about Brown now. Both he and Brown have tried to keep media attention on the crisis itself, not on the lacking experience of emergency management officials.



Now that Brown has resigned, the focus is now on the President and the rest of the government. While Bush is taking responsibility for the slow reaction to the disaster, he is not being taken very seriously. As you may recall this is the man who was the President during September 11, the one who lead us into a falsely reported war with Iraq, and now is having to defend himself for his poor reaction to Katrina. Also, a the Florida Everglades in

ratings are at an all time

With Brown resigning, Bush has now appointed David Paulison as the new acting director of FEMA. Fortunately, this man has experience. Among other qualifications he has had a career as a firefighter and Security since December certified paramedic, he was among emergency workers responding to Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and the ValuJet crash in

charge of Dade County's emergency management office. He led FEMA's emergency preparedness force from 2003-2004, and has been in charge of the U.S. Fire Administration, a division of FEMA, and the Department of Homeland 2001. Obviously he is more than qualified. Lets just hope that he won't wind up with his head in the sand.

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The Chanticleer

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LETTERS POUCY

The Charticleer welcomes latters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typed. Letters may be hand-delivered or sent through campus mail to our offices in Room 180, Self Hall, or to the mailing address at left. Letters may also be e-mailed to: chantynaws@yahoo.com.

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

JSU 2005 drama season opens with Shaw

By: Lori Lawson Chanticleer Staff Writer

"Would you like to see me cry?" Brian Seitel jokingly says as he auditioned early Wednesday night for a part in the George Bernard Shaw play, Arms and the Man. The comedy will be the first play of the season for the JSU drama department.

Emotions were running high. Some of those auditioning were very comfortable, like old pros at work, while others were very nervous. At 6:55 p.m., 10 people sat in "the black box," the room where auditions are held, but by 7 p.m. the room was filled with an overwhelming 30 people. All auditioning for a part in this play. Out of the 30, only eight would get a part.

"Thirty people auditioning for a straight play with a fairly small cast is excellent," director Dr. Wayne Claeren commented.

About half of those who came to try out were either freshmen or recent transfer students. Among them was Eden Riddlespur, who acted in high school, but was nervous because this was her first time trying out for a ICI I meaduation

sition," as Claeren puts it, and who let their personality come through the character are appealing.

Seitel usually plays the villain in the more dramatic roles he has held and is trying out for the comedy because he wanted to approach something differ-

Arms and the Man is an epic poem in the old tradition of Homer, written be George Bernard Shaw in the time leading up to Word War I.

The JSU drama department always likes to begin their season with either a well-known playwright or a well-known play.

In this Shaw comedy, the hero, Bluntschli is known as the "Chocolate Crème Soldier" because he carries chocolate in his cartridge belt instead of ammunition. He is a professional soldier who has begun to see the silliness of war.

The heroin, Raina, is a dreamy romantic character who will be played in this production by Lauryn Brook, a freshman majoring in English Language Arts.

"Acting is my passion," said Brook "When I wake



Photos by: Jennifer Bacchus

Cocky and our "Cocky for a day" hanging out on the steps of Bibb Graves Hall. Being a mascot is hot, sweaty work as Toni found out.

By: Toni Shippey Chanticleer Staff Writer

Last Thursday, for an hour and a half, I felt like the most popular person on campus. Not because anyone knew me personally, but because I had the chance to masquerade as our beloved mascot. Cocky. My accomplice was one of



first time trying out for a JSU production.

"I got my roommate to come along with me for encouragement and moral support. Riddlespur said. She was unsure what to expect, unlike Seitel who, has done about 12 plays here at JSU and is now a graduate student.

During the auditions, students were asked to get up and perform a specific part chosen by the director.

"Even though they don't get to read from all the characters, I'm considering you for several characters," said Claeren.

As Claeren watched the auditions, he was looking for an actor or actress who most resembled the character as he saw them in his mind's eye not only physically, but also emotionally.

Performers who have "a certain flare, a certain dispo-

"Acting is my passion," said Brook. "When I wake up in the morning I can't imagine myself doing anything else. I found love for it."

Justin Ridgeway, who was talked into auditioning for this play by another drama major, will play her hero, Bluntschli.

"He's very old school. He uses his sense of humor," said Ridgeway of his character. "No matter what's going on, he'll find something [humorous] about it."

Arms and the Man opens October 20 and runs through October 23. Tickets are \$5 for students and military personnel and \$9 for general audiences. JSU faculty and staff as well as senior citizens can get their tickets for \$7.

For information, contact the JSU drama department at 782-5623.

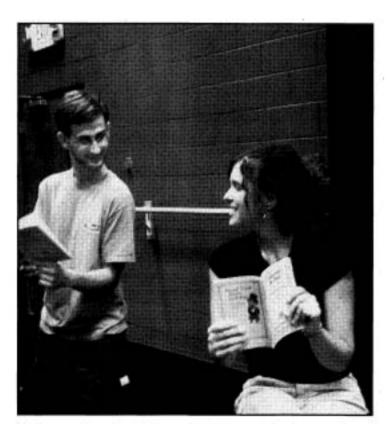


Photo by: Lori Lawson

Steve Diblasi (Sergius) and Jessica Sandborn (Louka) practice for their parts in Arms of the Man.

querade as our beloved mascot, Cocky. My accomplice was one of the real Cockys, Marcus Shepherd. This is Marcus' second year and, because he is a senior, it will be his last. There is another person who proudly represents JSU as Cocky, sophomore Teyana Benson. This is Teyana's first year as Cocky.

Whenever Cocky is seen around campus the only thing most people really notice is how energetic or goofy he acts. It is not only an act though; it is a lot of work.

The suit is not the most comfortable thing to walk around in; I had to adopt a different type of waddle to keep from tripping over the feet, which still happened quite a bit.

I also had to stare out of a mesh covering in the mouth to see, so I was constantly looking down while trying to see up.

Last, but not least, is the fact that inside the suit it gets very HOT! Marcus tried to warn me as he helped me prepare, but I shrugged it off. Contrary to what most people would assume, the weather does not have much to with that. I think no matter what the weather is, the person inside is going to sweat quite a bit. We had a good laugh over how drenched I was at the end when all I had done was walk around campus living it up. Just imagine what it is like for them when they are running around doing their antics during the various sports games.

"I enjoy bothering and attacking people, that is the fun part of the job," said Shepherd. "The worst part is when I am in front of a lot of people and can't find a place to remove the head to get some air or take a drink."

Laughing about it now, Shepherd remembers a time when he was in a parade and had to ride the whole way without a break and afterwards had to stay around to meet and greet.

"There are some tough times but



when you enjoy it, you enjoy both the good and the bad," he said about the experience.

I learned many interesting things both about being Cocky and the real work that goes into it. There is some tuition assistance involved, though not as much as I had originally thought. Only 25% of tuition is covered. They are looking into increasing that in the future, though.

When the cheerleaders go to camp there is also a camp held for mascots. It is a three-day camp where they work on the different aspects of being a college mascot.

Many different schools send their mascots there. Marcus got to meet mascots from schools like Auburn, Michigan State and LSU. They prepared a skit to perform for the cheerleaders at the end of camp.

Camp isn't all fun. They have to stay in their suits for eight hours a day. They also go over the rules and regulations that mascots have to follow. These are things like, if opposing mascots are going to play fight it has to be discussed beforehand and agreed upon, or the fact that mascots may not be human at any time. They also have to keep moving at all times. The next time you see Cocky out, watch him; no matter who is in the suit, they never stop moving.

Besides being the most well known person on campus, being a college mascot can help advance a person into that type of profession. A former Cocky, LaSandra Nash, is currently doing her internship at Walt Disney World in Florida. They came to JSU for her tryout and may be coming back in the spring for Marcus to tryout. He is unsure of his plans, but is seriously considering it.

Cocky tryouts are held annually, but not too many people have made it out lately to them. The tryout consists of a minute to a minute and a half themed skit put to music. If anyone is interested in learning more about this you can contact Michelle Alford at 782-8345. After my experience as Cocky, I told Marcus not to be surprised if I just show up next year for the tryout! I had a great time!



Jacksonville Brother's Bar

Thursday Sept. 15, 2005 College Nifes DJ Ogre Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Northbound Mile 8 Jacob Probus (6-8 p.m.) Saturday Sept. 17, 2005 Through the Sparks Monday Sept. 19, 2005 Open Mic Nite Tuesday Sept. 20, 2005 Jacob Probas Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005 Ledies Nite w/ DJ Crash

Gadsden Chestnut Station

Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Poptart Monkeys Saturday Sept. 17, 2005 Drivin' N' Cryin' Dash Rip Rock

2nd Street Music Hall

Friday Sept. 16, 2005 James Armstrong Saturday Sept. 17, 2005 Walter Jr. Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005 Renee Austin

The Nick

Thursday Sept. 15, 2005 Wes McDonald and The Fizz Nonhbound Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Severe, Madrid Saturday Sept. 17, 2005 Leaderdog, Rockets to Ruin Victim of Thought Sunday Sept. 18, 2005 Paul "Wine" Jones, Model Citizen, Nowhere Squares Monday Sept. 19, 2005 Michael Graves Tuesday Sept. 20, 2005. Nebula, The Mass. The Thieves Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005 The Posies, Deathray Davies

Zydece Thursday Sept. 15, 2005 Farmer's Daughter Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Drivin' N' Cryin' Southern Bitch

Richard Swift

THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE

By: Jeff Pruitt Chanticleer Features Editor

Director Scott Derrickson believes The Exorcism of Emily Rose may be the first ever courtroom horror film.

That may or may not be the case.

The problem with "Emily Rose," though, is that combining the two different genres doesn't necessarily make for a good movie,

Granted, they were obviously trying to make a different type of exorcism film than its predecessor, "The Exorcist," and that's commendable. But, if you've seen the previews then you're probably expecting to see a different movie than the one they actually made.

The reason being is that there are some long, unexpected courtroom scenes that tend to drag on and make the movie flat and boring in spots.

They are the types of scenes that are a totally unrealistic portrayal of a courtroom where the witness is allowed to go on an emotional tangent for five minutes without interruption, but when the next question is asked, the opposing attorney stands up and yells "objection, your honor" and, amazingly, it's sustained.

Erin Bruner, the attorney who defends Father Moore. Played by Laura Linney(), this self-proclaimed agnostic is used to take the audience on a parallel journey with her to answer that question.

Away from the courtroom, the movie is more interesting.

There are some scary moments, especially the exorcism scene. I don't want to give it away, but when Emily's demons begin speaking through her and telling of the bodies they have inhabited over the years, it's hard not to pay attention. It's the best scene of the movie.

Also, 3:00 a.m., the "witching hour," will not be the same for a while. If you happen to wake up at exactly that time, then you're going to be in for a long night.

Although not great, some of the performances are good; most notably. Jennifer Carpenter (Emily Rose), Tom Wilkinson (Father Moore), and

The setting is effective as well. The cold, dreary, winter conditions mirror the isolation and fear felt by the characters and Rose's family home, a Victorian-style house serves as an ideal, although cliched, location for a pos-

Simply put, Beitthemeans

Rocks

By: Jeff Pruitt

Chanticleer Features Editor

From the first time I saw them this summer to their most recent show Brother's Bar September 10th, this quintet from Birmingham, AL has never failed to impress

Luckily, it seems like I'm not the only one.

At a recent music conference in Orlando, FL, a couple of the band members met Warren Haynes of Government Mule. He listened to their album, Shotgun Radio, and liked it enough to offer the band an opening slot at two upcoming shows. They will be appearing at the Alabama Theatre on 17th November in Birmingham and November 19th at the Tabernacle in Atlanta.

If you've listened to Government Mule, they are undeniably southern rock. So is Beitthemeans, But, with a little twist.

They are much heavier and more straightforward with limited guitar solos and they have a punk sensibility that gives their songs a sense of immedia-

Comprised of Jeff



Photo courtesy of Beitthemeans

From Left to Right: Hendon, Wilson, Jones, and Kelley

"Cain and Abel" is one of my favorites. Starting out with the line, "Squeeze my trigger," the band explodes into the song with a reckless abandon that reminds me Nirvana and the Pixies.

Another highlight is band is really good. "Devil's Rope." With a melancholy guitar intro, the song talks about how "the rich get for free and the poor, they give everyday."

Although powerful, the

songs are still melodic. The lyrics range from anger to sadness and Hendon and Jones' soulful delivery give them an enduring quality.

If you get a chance to see Beitthemeans live, I highly recommend it. This

They will be playing at The Alley Cat in Atlanta on September 16th and on October 14th they will be The Nick Birmingham.

Have you ever wondered which fraternity is the best on campus?



Drivin' N' Cryin' Southern Bitch Saturday Sept. 17, 2005. Father Peter Matthew Devine's Incester Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005 Theory of a Deadman

Thursday Sept. 15, 2005 Blue Merle Saturday Sept. 17, 2005 Reed Waddle w/ 13th Street Special, Luce Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005 Mike Doughty

Verizon Wireless Music Center Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Coldplay

Smith's Olde Bar Thursday Sept. 15, 2005 Conner Rand Friday Sept. 16, 2005 The Goords Tuesday sept. 20, 2005 Michelle Lewis

Variety Playhouse

Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Lizz Wright Sanirday Sept. 17, 2005 Jump Little Children Tuesday Sept. 20, 2005 Mike Doughty - Band Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005 Leo Kottke

The Tabernacle Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Keller Williams Tuesday Sept. 20, 2005

The Coca-Cola Roxy Theatre Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Obinuary, Napalm Death,

Dead to Fall Saturday Sept. 17, 2005 Rehab, Family Force 5. The Movement Monday Sept. 19, 2005 Angels of Music Tuesday Sept. 20, 2005 Doves, Longwave Wednesday Sept. 21, 2005

Cowboy Mouth, Carbon Leaf,

Phillips Arena

Siephen Kellogg

Friday Sept. 16, 2005 Motley Crue Tuesday Sept. 20, 2005 Paul McCartney

Chastain Park Amphitheater Friday, Sept. 16, 2005 Journey

Fox Theatre

Tuursday Sept. 15, 2005. Sunday Sept. 25, 2005 Phantom of the Opera

ly, it's sustained.

Ov vev!

On trial is Father Moore, Emily's priest. Through a series of flashbacks, her story is told, including her possession and the exorcism that attempts to rid her of six demons.

It seems like the goal of The Exorcism of Emily Rose is to make the audience question their individual belief in the existence of demons.

This is partly done through the character of cliched, location for a possession.

So, if you like traditional horror films, you probably won't be a big fan of The Exorcism of Emily Rose. But, if you're interested in the combination of two genres, specifically horror and courtroom drama, then this might appeal to you.

Personally, the mixing of the two genres left me wanting for one or the other, but certainly not both.

Comprised of Jeff Hendon (guitar, vocals), Jones (guitar. vocals). Casey Wilson (bass), and Nathan Kelley (drums), this foursome combines lyrics that tend to be dark and foreboding with a tight, powerful rhythm section and an allout guitar assault that makes for a great live performance and an equally good debut album.

Shotgun Radio, availatwww.beitthemeans.com consists of 13



We don't. We know we are.

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RUSH SIGMA NU

Sigma Nu was awarded the JSU President's Gold Cup in April of 2005 during the annual Greek awards ceremony.

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PORTS

Vanderbilt is Something is in the Wat...Turf!!

hot! Can they keep it going?

Amado Ortiz The Chanticleer Sports Editor



I am going to try something a little different this year. I have been walking down the halls and students have been screaming my name, Armando! Armando! Who do you like this week."

After going through all the fan letters and the emails. I have picked the three games I have got the most questions about

I would give out free information in the past but now I am going to just write my list of winners in my column. I will give advice on three games and then I will have to say "no comment" to takers in the hall.

Upset alert

Watch the Bruins of UCLA win a good contest against Oklahoma out in Los Angeles. Even though Las Vegas has the Bruins favored by a touchdown, this will be a big win for the program. UCLA will force Oklahoma to run the ball and Adrian Peterson has got to get something going on the ground to give Sooner quarterback Paul Thompson a shot.

Don't look at Oklahoma's 17th ranking and think the Sooners will win because the unranked. **Bruins** are Oklahoma is having some serious offensive problems. UCLA by three.

By Amado Ortiz The Chanticleer Sports Editor

There was just an uneasy feeling about the game. The scenario was brewing for an upset at Paul Snow.

The Gamecocks were fresh off losing on the last play of the game in a huge upset bid of the #2 ranked Furman Paladins. Coach Crowe mentioned the week before that there would be more athletes on the field against UT Chattanooga than against Furman.

The Anniston Star talked all week of the D1 transfers that are now playing for the Mocs. The thoughts in the air of the Gamecock faithful all said, "We are going to kill the Mocs like last year."

Something just didn't feel right about the game.

The Gamecocks took the opening drive of the game 81 yards and pounded it in on a Clay Green run. Brett Rushing missed the PAT and the Gamecocks led 6-0.

Something just didn't feel right about the game. The Mocs answered by driving 78 yard and punched it in on a Eldra Buckley run. The PAT was true and the Mocs led 7-6 and looked very convincing on offense. Something just didn't feel right about the game.

"I think we're suffering at heart from losing another tight football game. I think it

creates a real test for us; a tremendous test for our leadership," said Coach Crowe

Rushing would add a 41 yard field goal to take the lead for JSU 9-7 and the atmosphere started to peak as the Gamecock defense looked up for the challenge.

The first half ended at 9-7 but during halftime the crowd learned Furman was losing 27-0 going into the third quarter to Western Carolina.

That had to be a (typo). Furman couldn't be losing. Something just didn't feel right about the game.

The Mocs would open up the second half with a touchdown to lead 14-9 but the Gamecocks would answer on the next drive with a Maurice Mullins 40 yard touchdown to Tauren Rhetta.

The PAT was no good and the Gamecocks only led 15-14. The Gamecock would settle for a field goal after having first and goal from the nine yard line off some brilliant runs from Daniel Jackson. The lead was 18-14 and something just didn't feel right about the game.

Devin Phillips intercepts a Moc pass on the next drive and Paul Snow erupted in cheers.

JSU had a fourth and one with a little over three minutes remaining. Clay Green was stopped for a no gain and the Mocs took over on downs with 67 yards standing in the way of matching their win total of last season at two.

Something just didn't feel right about the game.

Antonio Miller scored on a two-yard run with just 10 seconds remaining as Chattanooga claimed a 21-18 win over-Jacksonville State.

Two straight games ended with a loss on the last play of the game.

"I didn't expect the game to end this way. It was just laying out there from the beginning that there was no consistency between offense defense,"said Crowe. "It just didn't seem like it was tied together. I don't know what our consistency rate was, but we should've had more than eighteen points."

PREVIEW

The Gamecocks travel to historic Legion Field in Birmingham Alabama to take the UAB Blazers at 6pm.

UAB (Conference USA) is 1-1 and nearly pulled off an upset of the Tennessee Volunteers.

Darrell Hackney leads the way for the Blazers and is a very big body in the backfield.

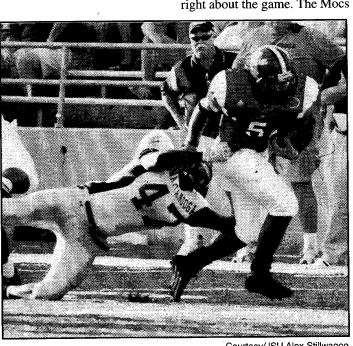
"We're about to turn around and face a better quarterback and wide receiver and a better running back than our last two opponents," added Crowe. "They have a quarterback of NFL caliber. They have a solid offensive line and wide receiver core."

Coach Crowe is a graduate of -UAB and earned a B.S. in Chemistry. UAB coach Watson Brown has JSU ties also by coaching for JSU Athletic Director Jim Fuller in 1976-77. PREDICTION

The Gamecocks will learn from the last two weeks and become a better football team down the stretch. JSU will have to put a lot of points on the board to beat UAB and it is tough to stop Hackney once he gets it going.

"We've had two close football games that was decided on practically the last play of the game and it's very hard to accept that we're not better."

If JSU can keep Hackney under wraps, they could pull out an upset in the end. Let Hackney have his way and the Gamecocks will have a long day but the OVC approaches and starting out 0-3 plays no part in the conference championship.



Courtesy/JSU Alex Stillwagon

Clay Green runs for some tough yards

Gamecock Spotlight of the Week

By Brandon Weems The Chanticleer Sports Writer and the rest of the Gamecocks. friends at the beach.

strong point for McCaughey water and hanging out with my team was a family.

CS. What do you enjoy doing CS. If you had one chance to you get when you were OVC championship.

CS: What kind of feeling did

mind, she will help lead the Gamecocks in a shot to win the UCLA by three. **Blowout Line**

The time has come for Florida's Chris Leak to handle the pressure of the media and the Gator faithful. Former coach Ron Zook received all the blame for Florida's inconsistency last year and was finally fired with Leak flying under the radar.

I am a believer in the Urban Meyer Legend and Florida will take care of business in the swamp. UAB exposed the Volunteer offensive line in the season opener and watch for a switch at quarterback early in the game. Coach Phillip Fulmer will go back with Erik Ainge after Rich Clausen throws some early picks. Florida by more than five. Must see game

Ole Miss at Vanderbilt is my must see game of the week. Vandy has raised some eyebrows after beating Arkansas last week and Wake Forest the week before. I have to do some research or call the Vanderbilt athletic department to find out the last time the Commodores started the season 3-0. Vanderbilt has got all kinds of things messed up. The Arkansas Southern Cal line is so high no one is giving Vandy a pat on the back.

I am going with the "cover"dores because when things are hot, you have got to stay with it. Forget all the nonsense about the good thing about Vandy is that they have everybody back and the bad thing about Vandy is that they got everybody back. Vandy by four.

Stay away game

Alabama at South Carolina is a must stay away game. The reason: Too early to tell. The Gamecocks gave Georgia all they wanted and the Crimson Tide has yet to prove it can win in the fourth quarter on the road with the scholarship limitations.

The Chanticleer Sports Writer

In a sport that is continually on the rise, Joanna McCaughey looks to finish her soccer career on a great note in 2005.

The game of soccer requires a lot of mental and physical focus along with the knowledge of the sport. McCaughey has been able to show these aspects of the game.

In 2004, McCaughev recorded 17 starts for the Gamecocks. She led the team in goals (6), shots (37), and points (12). McCaughey is not only successful on the field, but also in the classroom as she posted a 3.95 G.P.A. during high school. The Chanticleer was able to get up close and personal with the senior and kick it around.

We found that TEAM is a

and the rest of the Gamecocks. CS: What do you enjoy doing during your free time?

McCaughey: I enjoy surfing and snowboarding with my friends.

CS: What is in your CD player right now?

McCaughey: Actually, I have an I-pod. I enjoy listening to music that helps me get pumped up for the soccer game.

CS: Who is one person in your life that you look up to?

McCaughey: I look up to my

CS: Why do you look up to your mom? McCaughey: My mom is

from every aspect in life. CS: What is one thing you miss the most about Sarasota,

always available to help me

friends at the beach.

CS: If you had one chance to do anything in your lifetime, what would it be?

McCaughey: I would really like to travel all around Europe. CS: What is your favorite quote?

McCaughey: My favorite quote is, " To always give 100 percent.'

CS: I understand you also participated in volleyball at high school. What was this experience like?

McCaughey: My position was outside hitter, we upset the number two team in the state of Florida, and won Jacksonville Bolles in back to back seasons.

CS: Why did you choose to attend JSU?

McCaughey: I made a visit up McCaughey: Well, I miss the here one time and I felt like the

What kind of feeling did you get when you were named to the Ohio Valley all-tournament Conference team in 2004?

McCaughey: Being honored in the tournament was a great feeling for me.

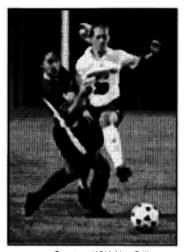
CS: As a senior, what do you want to accomplish this year? McCaughey: As a senior I want to go out strong and accomplish one of our main goals as OVC champs.

CS: What is one thing Chanticleer readers need to know about you?

McCaughey: It is not about the me, it is about my team.

The JSU soccer team in preparing strong for the OVC conference this year which gives them great potential to be a successful team. With the concept of TEAM set in McCaughey's

Gamecocks in a shot to win the OVC championship. Gamecocks will be in action back at home on September 16, at 7P.M. The team will be challenging Mercer.



Courtesy/JSU Alex Stillwagon

Cross Country runs wild

FL?

By Staff Reports The JSU Athletic Department

The JSU men's cross country team, fresh off a runnersup finish at last week's Sewanee Invitational, captured the thirteen-team title competition at the UAH Charger Invitational on Saturday.

Junior Josphat Waweru (26:18) won his second straight individual title to lead the Gamecocks while sophomore teammates Ashenafi Arega (26:24) and Ryan McKay (26:39) finished second and fourth respectively.

Other finishers for the Gamecocks included Stephen Calvert 11th at (27:28), Quadrell Stephens 20th in (28:17), Matt Morgan 31st in (28:55) and Jason Butler 36th at (29:14).

JSU tallied 37 points while the University of West Florida finished second with 53 followed by host UAH at 86.

"Our guys ran particularly well today, said head coach from our top three, but our four through seven guys picked it up a notch today and ran more like we expect them

The JSU women's crosscountry team found the going a little tough at UAH finishteams.

"We knew we would have our hands full today as we were without some of our key personnel, but I think the girls will tell you that we were off as a whole compared to last week's effort (third place at Sewanee)"

Sophomore Sarah Caine led the way for the Lady Gamecocks with a 12th place finish (20:17). First year student Amberlynn Mattice finished 22nd in (20:52) and sophomore Shelbee Roberts was 31st at 21:28.

Olivia Watson finished

33rd in 21:34, Whitney Pruett finished 52nd in 22:29, and Steve Ray. " We expect it Latosha Taliaferro completed the scoring at 54th with a 22:33 clocking.

> Host UAH won the team title with a score of 42 points with West Florida at 69 and Carson Newman third with 122.

Both squads return to ing fifth in the field of fifteen action next weekend at the University of Alabama's Crimson Classic. The men's five mile race at 9:00 with the women's 5000 meter to follow at 9:45.



Soccer picks up first win in overtime 3-2

By Staff Reports The JSU Athletic Department

Joanna McCaughey guided in her second goal of 2005 on a corner kick assist from Daniela Malta to help lift Jacksonville State to its first win of the season, downing East Tennessee State 3-2 in overtime. McCaughey's goal came seven minutes and 40-seconds into the overtime period.

"It was a well deserved win," JSU head coach Julie Davis, after winning her first match at JSU. "We came out and collectively played well today to win. We did a good job on defending today and ran a very organized offense that we've been working on."

Never leading in the match, ETSU's Meghan Morris scored with seven seconds remaining in regulation and forced JSU to its second overtime of the sea-

"For us to win this game today, in overtime, took team

work," said Davis. "ETSU is a very respectable team, but we worked hard and left no doubt we were the better soccer team today."

JSU jumped on the board first when Ashley Smith scored on an assist from Courtney Moore at the 17:48 mark. The Smith goal gave JSU the early lead and held through the first

The Bucs would tie the game just over 14-minutes into the second half on an unassisted Emily Fulcher goal.

The Gamecocks would regain the lead at 2-1, when Liz Hendricks assisted Courtney Moore on a goal at the 62:50

"This win gives us a new start to beginning our season," Davis said. "We will use this to help propel us into conference play in a couple of weeks."

JSU is set for two home matches beginning Friday at 7 against Mercer and Sunday against Southern Mississippi at

SPORTS

There's no place like home...

By: Patrick Swafford Chanticleer Staff Writer

Someone once said, "There's no place like home."

The JSU Volleyball team made their long awaited return to Pete Mathews Coliseum Tuesday night and efficiently dispatched Tennessee-Chattanooga in three straight games.

"It's so nice to be at home," said Emily Withers. "You feel relaxed and comfortable. I love it."

The Gamecocks held off the Mocs to win the first game 30-27, while late JSU runs buried UTC in the final two games, 30-22 and 30-23, improving their home record since joining the OVC to 22-4.

"Getting back home is always great," said JSU Coach Rick Nold. "I thought we had a great crowd. The girls really need that. They thrive off the big crowds. They get excited. You look at our hitting percentage and they were just really playing aggressive."

The Gamecocks (3-4) attacked UTC at every opportunity from the beginning, keeping The Mocs on the defensive throughout all three games. The Gamecocks were led by middle blockers, Shari Weyer and Abbey Breit, with 15 kills while Withers had 41 assists. Weyer also led the team with an impressive .583 attack percentage. In all, The Gamecocks punished the Mocs with 61 total kills and a .344 attack percentage.

The first game set the tone for the Gamecocks as they finished with a .400 attack percentage and 22 kills, but defensive miscues helped the Mocs stay in contention.

"We actually switched our defense last

night," Nold said. "We switched a few people around to different spots, so there was a little confusion, but it was also a lot better in terms of people making the digs when we needed them to."

On defense, JSU's all time leader in digs, Kisha West contributed with ten and also had one kill.

In the second game, everything seemed to just go right for the Gamecocks. The Gamecocks allowed UTC (5-3) to get as close as 16-16, but the momentum swung in favor of JSU as Breit scored three of the final eight points.

"That's what we're looking for from her," said Nold. "When she hits that way, she's going to be very effective and open things up for everybody else."

The third game was almost an exact duplicate of the previous game. Katie Moyers made huge contributions on offense on her way to an 11-kill performance.

"We did a lot better in the third game and it progressed as the match went on," said Breit. "We've got a lot of room to work."

Momentum seemed to be on the side of JSU until everything stopped for a moment. Late in the third game, Weyer went down with a knee injury, but early reports indicate nothing serious. Instead of letting up after Weyer's injury, the Gamecocks wasted little time in finishing off UTC.

"One thing I'm very happy with is that we didn't let down as a team," Nold said. "That's something you always worry about."

Despite the rough start, including an 0-2 showing in Miami last weekend, Nold isn't concerned with the 3-4 record.

"We needed to be in this position," Nold said. "Not that we needed to be 3-4, but we needed to get to where we are really challenged. If we don't make that next step, somebody's going to beat us. So far, we haven't been making the steps up. That's something we're learning."

The Gamecocks return to action in Cincinnati, Ohio tonight. On Friday, they will match up with Cincinnati, Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and George Washington. They will take on the host and make their return to Pete Mathews Coliseum on Friday, September 23 at 7 p.m.



Both photos Courtesy/JSU Alex Stillwagon

Above: Senior Kisha West prepares for a dig attempt. West had ten digs in the win for JSU.







