Our news editor took a hike on Saturday. See results on page 5.

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Jacksonville State University

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Diamonds are a girl’s best friend

By: Patrick Swafford
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

When the final out of the 2005 OVC Championship Softball Tournament was recorded, Jacksonville State watched as another team celebrated a championship victory on University Field. It’s a memory from last season that JSU’s five returning seniors wish they could forget.

“To me, it was just so sick,” Becky Carpenetti said. “It was like a sickening feeling in your stomach just watching this team celebrate on your field of all places. It made me sick to my stomach.”

After finishing 42-16 overall and 24-6 in the OVC last year, the Gamecocks dropped the championship game to Tennessee State, sending the Golden Eagles to the NCAA Tournament.

“I just wanted to leave,” senior Megan Jezerksi said. “I didn’t want to watch them get their shirts. I just wanted them to have a box handed to them, get on the bus and go home. I didn’t want them walking on our field, getting our stuff. It should have been ours.”

JSU’s coach, Jana McGinnis knows a thing or two about winning. As a basketball player at Jacksonville State, McGinnis helped the team to a 98-22 record in her four years at JSU, and in 1991, led JSU to a Gulf South Conference championship and the NCAA Division II South Region title. She is one of two Lady Gamecocks to have their numbers retired. The other is her twin sister, Dana. This past fall, both sisters were inducted into the JSU Hall of Fame.

“Even though we were champions last year, we were champions that ended with a bad taste in our mouths,” McGinnis said.

JSU player Allison Snelgrove is shown standing on a field with her teammates.

“I think we are going to win the conference,” McGinnis said. “It’s nice to know that you have some of your top players returning.”

OVC Pitcher of the Year, Carly Kellam, finished with a 23-7 record and led the conference in strikeouts with 270. Kellam, a senior from Satellite Beach, Fla., will be expected to anchor a pitching staff that struck out an impressive 444 batters. 110 more than any other school in the OVC, and held their opponents to a league low .213 batting average. The 444 strikeouts were another JSU record.

Even though Jacksonville State lost two very productive offensive weapons in Melinda McDonald and Breanne Oleman, the Gamecocks return the majority of their offensive juggernaut from the 2005 campaign.

Offensively, JSU led the conference in every major hitting category except triples. Six Gamecocks hit over .300 last season, led by OVC Player of the Year Maigin Alexander’s league leading .403 average. The senior from Fairfield, Calif., also led the OVC in four other statistical categories; hits (71), doubles (21), total bases (119), and slugging percentage (.676).

“One thing that made us a championship team last year was good pitching and we had offense to go along with it. A lot of times in this game, you’ll players we have returning that we got the number one prediction,” McGinnis said. “It’s nice to know that you have some of your top players returning.”

Springtime is here and that means it is time for America’s great pastime to come to town.

The Jacksonville State University baseball team looks to capitalize on their back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference Championships and go all the way this season.

The team has been practicing hours on end and is ready for the season to get started. There is more excitement in the air than there is laughter at a comedy show.

The Gamecocks return 17 players this year and have brought in a very talented freshman and transfer class that will enable them to go the distance.

“This is the most talented team that I have ever been a part of,” says senior Jason Horn.

Jacksonville State has brought in four freshmen and seven transfers from all across the nation. This very talented group of guys will add depth to the lineup and be challenged by the coaching staff to step up and make the play when it is necessary.

“The guys that are new have brought in a lot of energy,” says head coach Jim Case. “From a work habit standpoint, they fit in very, very good. They are going to be a huge plus for us.”

Some of the top newcomers that are expected to make an impact are junior Nick Cleckler in the outfield, freshman Josh Hoyle as a pitcher and outfielder, junior Josh Miller in the bullpen, and junior Allen Rose will be fighting for the spot at first base.

Returning on the mound will be powerhouse sophomore Donovan Hand. Hand, a right-handed pitcher from Hatton, Ala., was selected as the 2005 OVC Freshman of the Year after racking up a 10-3 record and a league-low 2.60 ERA. Hand was also awarded to the 2005 Louisville Slugger Freshmen All-American team, chosen by Collegiate Baseball newspaper. The list features a who’s who of outstanding baseball talent from around the nation. He will look to lead the bullpen and improve his 90-92 mph fastball.

“I have to keep working hard and keep the pitching staff working hard,” says Hand.

Returning in the bullpen with Hand is fellow All-OVC selection Lee Drinkard. Drinkard, a senior reliever for the Gamecocks, went 7-1 with five saves in 22 relief games last year and posted a 1.77 ERA.

The entire pitching staff from a year ago returns with these two amazing pitchers. This very talented group was the strength of the team last year. The pitching staff had a conference low 4.31 ERA, and led the league with exactly 400 strikeouts.

Having eleven pitchers, plus adding four more is going to be a challenge that the coaching staff is willing to take on.

“The biggest thing for me is trying to figure out where the best place is for everybody,” says Case. “You return everybody, but that doesn’t mean that everybody returns the same as they were. So we are trying to look at who is the best guy that we have coming out of the bullpen pen and who is the best guys that we have as starters.”
Champions that ended with a bad taste,” McGinnis said. “We didn’t win the tournament. We didn’t finish and we’re focusing on finishing this year and going to what I call Big Time. That’s the NCAA Tournament.”

The Gamecocks return 11 players from last year’s squad, which set a school record for most wins in a season. This has them poised to repeat as OVC Champions.

“I think it was because of the Seniors Megan Jezierski, Christine Pierce, Malgin Alexander, Carly Kellam and Becky Carpenetti show off their OVC Championship rings.

Pitchers Kevin Elwell, Alex Jones, JT Wright, Mitch Miller and Brett Harris look to anchor one of the best pitching staffs in the OVC.

One on One with

By: Chad Hoffman
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

The Jacksonville State University baseball team is looking forward to an impressive season this year. One player that has made a significant impact on the team and that has helped them win back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference Championships is Jake Ball.

The 6’2” junior from Hokes Bluff, Ala., is the shortstop for JSU and was named to the Wallace Watch List for the 2006 season.

Before the season began, the Chanticleer went one-on-one with Jake Ball and learned that he is just glad to be playing baseball.

CS: Why did you choose JSU?
JB: The coaching staff is awesome, I like the facilities and the environment.

CS: Who is your favorite major league baseball team and player?
JB: The Atlanta Braves is my favorite team and Chipper Jones is my favorite player.

CS: What is your pre-game ritual?
JB: I went up to bat once and it wasn’t my turn. That was in high school though.

CS: Anything in college?
JB: Not anything that I can think of.

CS: How much do you bench press?
JB: 315.

Jake Ball and the entire JSU baseball team are ready for the upcoming season. They first travel to Hammond, La., to face Southeastern Louisiana this weekend.

Their first home game is Feb. 21 against Birmingham Southern. So, come on out, grab a hot dog and enjoy Gamecock Baseball.

Photo by: Jennifer Bacchus

See Baseball, Page 2

Photo Illustration by: Jennifer Bacchus
Baseball:
from page 1

Ball will primarily be at shortstop with Cory Tucker as partner in crime to turn the double plays at second base. Senior Brett Pettus and junior Richard Turner round out the infield with first base wide open for the incoming guys to fight for.

Ball, a second team All-OVC selection from Hokes Bluff, Ala., ranked close to the top with the leaders in the OVC in batting (.361), hits (82), and on-base percentage (.438).

Brain Piazza, the 5'10" junior from Rome, Ga., looks to lead for the red and white on both defense and offense. Piazza hit .313, had three home runs, and raked in a conference-high six triples. With amazing speed and an amazing arm, look for Piazza to make a significant impact in the outfield along with senior Jason Horn.

Horn had two home runs on the season last year and tied two other Gamecocks with 42 RBIs. He is arguably one of the fastest guys on the team and will give them great speed at the top of the order.

"We came to play this year," says Horn. "We are much further ahead than we have been in the past and hopefully this year we will get off to a quick start."

Jacksonville State has set its schedule and it is a very strong one. At the top of the order is Southwestern Louisiana. Then, there is are some non-conference games that include in-state-rival Troy and a dominant SEC West team, Mississippi State.

While in OVC play, there are a few non-conference games to keep the guys on their toes, including a road trip to UAB and home games against Alabama State and South Alabama.

"When you look at our conference you start with Austin Peay, and they were a team that was picked ahead of us," remarks Case. "I think that Eastern Kentucky is very good. There is a lot of excitement about having Mississippi State coming to our place. They are picked first in the SEC west and that will be a huge challenge. It is a pretty exciting schedule. We have a good mix on the schedule."

The team has set the goals. They hope to win the OVC for the third straight year and then go on to the regional, just like they did in 2004. Their ultimate goal is to do well in the regional and reach a super regional.

So, the expectations have been set high and the guys are ready to take the challenge head on. With a good group of talented guys and the mindset that they are in, it is going to be tough to stop them.

"I think there is a lot of excitement and the expectations are higher than they have been," says coach Case. "We think that we have a good chance to have a good year."

Softball:
from page 1

see a dominant pitcher, but their offense struggles for runs like Texas last year. They had Cat Osterman and still was unable to win the World Series because they couldn't produce runs."

Alexander wasn't the only JSU hitter making noise last season. Junior Daniela Fappano led the conference in home runs and finished second to Alexander in hits, total bases and slugging percentage and was runner-up to Alexander in Player of the Year voting.

While expectations for this squad are high, McGinnis isn't looking past any team in the OVC as a possible threat this season. "We're expecting a lot of good things out of Whitney Elder. We moved her to second base after Megan Jezerski got injured. She and Megan are battling for the position."

Sophomore Devan Spence is also battling freshman Jackie Jarman for Spence's starting role at shortstop.

The Gamecocks begin their season tomorrow in Auburn as a part of the Men face biggest game of the year tonight

Game against EKU could decide rank going into OVC
they’ve wanted all season long—a chance at a first-round home game in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

The 77-68 win over Morehead State on Valentine’s evening, along with a 75-70 win over Samford by Eastern Kentucky sets up tonight…the most important game of the year.

Let’s set the stage. Going into tonight’s game, JSU sits alone in fourth place, one-half game ahead of Austin Peay and a full game ahead of Eastern Kentucky. An EKU victory tonight would pull all three teams into a deadlock, and Eastern Kentucky would benefit the most from that tie. However, just behind the Governors are Tennessee State and UT-Martin.

JSU (12-11, 10-7 OVC) got a huge win over Tennessee Tech last Saturday, avenging a January 12 loss at Pete Mathews Coliseum. On that January night, Milone Clark crushed the JSU defense in the paint, scoring 21 points and being a force inside. This time around, the Gamecocks shut down Clark, holding him to 2-of-7 from the floor and eight points.

“I don’t know if you remember, but it was the Tennessee Tech game that I pulled my starters in the last eight minutes of the game,” JSU coach Mike LaPlante said. “Since that time, we’ve been much better defensively.”

Senior Walker D. Russell scored a game-high 19 points while two Gamecocks pulled down double doubles in the win against the Golden Eagles. Courtney Bradley scored 16 and pulled down 11 boards while Anthony Wilson had 11 points and 12 boards.

Tuesday night’s game against Morehead State looked like it would end up more like a Valentine’s Day massacre than anything else, but became an efficient act in consistency.

Jacksonville State shot 50 percent from the floor in both halves of the game, 16-of-32 in the first half and 9-of-18 in the second.

Five Gamecocks racked up double digits, led by B.J. Spencer’s 19 points. Spencer, who set a new school record for most 3-pointers in a game, was 5 for 11 from long range.

Courtney Bradley was once again big inside for JSU. Bradley recorded his second consecutive double double with 14 points and 10 boards.

Bradley was once again big inside for JSU. Bradley recorded his second consecutive double double with 14 points and 10 boards.

JSU took their time, passing the ball around and creating wide-open shots for their shooters. One of those shooters, Tim Lewis, came off the bench and hit all five shots from the floor. Lewis had 12 points in 18 minutes of play.

“We’ve got a team full of shooters,” Tim Lewis said. “Sometimes you’ve gotta turn down a semi-contested shot to get your teammate a shot.”

On defense, JSU stifled Morehead’s offense, picking up 15 steals and forcing a total of 19 turnovers.

After the game, LaPlante was already focused on the upcoming war on Thursday night and feels that the student body of JSU can play a major role in the game.

“Whoever cares about basketball and cares about JSU, we need them to come on out and get behind this team,” LaPlante said. “They deserve it. They’re playing very, very well and would love to have that student support and that school support to get behind them and hopefully push us over the top.”

If you’re only going to attend one game this season, tonight is the night. Not only is this the biggest game for JSU in terms of conference standings, but six seniors—Brad Peters, Carlos Lumpkin, Wilson, Russell, Lewis and Spencer will play their final conference game inside Pete Mathews Coliseum. Tip-off is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
Cadet Stephen Smith plots points on the map for Team 2 during the land navigation competition Saturday in Oak Mountain State Park.

It's been a cold, wet day

By: Angela Reid
The Chanticleer News Editor

We started out talking on a cell phone, walking on a paved road, eating beef jerky and looking for a white and orange flag in the woods about a football field off to the left. “This isn’t so bad.” I think, “I can handle this.” It’s almost freezing and it’s wet, but I have my waterproof, weatherproof, fleece lined jacket. I’ll be ok.

Now let’s fast forward about half an hour. I’m 15 yards behind Cadets John Miles and Jonathan of them. I’m one of the few civilians. A speck of sky blue in an ocean of green camo, I try to blend in but it’s impossible. I decide to follow along and pretend like I know what’s going on and where I’m going.

The cadets line up, by school, around the perimeter of a large field for their first formation. After some basic instructions and a safety briefing over a megaphone, the teams from each school are dismissed in order, Team 1, Team 2, then Team 3.
(L to R) Jonathan Dickson, Christopher Bunt, Michael Miller, Richard Pugh and Joshua Matthews return from their three-hour search to place second at the competition.

Not your “normal conference-type thing’’

By: Jessica Summe
Chanticleer Features Editor

The 2006 On The Brink Writer’s Conference was held at the Houston Cole Library on Feb. 11.

The conference, sponsored by the JSU chapter of English, brought Southern writers together to read from their newest novels, meet local readers and writers, and sign books for their fans.

The theme of this year’s gathering was Life’s Too Short to Drink Bad Wine, which encouraged several of the speakers to talk about their experiences with moonshine.

The morning session included readings from Clyde Bolton (Stop the Presses! So I Can Get Off), Sonny Brewer (The Point of Tolstoy Park), Pat Cunningham Devoto (The Summer We Got Saved), and Beth Ann Fennelly (Tenderhooks). The afternoon session consisted of Frank Turner Hollon (The Point of Fracture), Suzanna Hudson (In the Dark of the Moon), Yoshilyn Jackson (Gods in Alabama), and Theron Montgomery (The Procession). All of these books, and some other works by the featured authors, were available for purchase thanks to Jake Reiss of Alabama Booksmith.

“I’ve been invited by the committee several times in the past,” said Montgomery, while waiting to sign copies of his book. “I got my Master’s here. I grew up here, so it’s nice to be back. I think it’s the most outstanding public school conference in the state. They keep fine-tuning it, watching the details, and improving it every year.”

“My husband and I have a special fondness in our hearts for this conference,” said Fennelly, whose husband, Tom Franklin, attended the conference in 1999 for his novel Poachers. “This is where it feels like it really got started.”

Alabama Booksmith also secured 20 or 30 copies of Fennelly’s newest work, Great with Child, which Fennelly herself did not have copies of yet.

“I was shocked to see them on the table,” she said. “I got one to send to my mother.”

Hollon, who attended the conference in 2000, is a practicing lawyer in Fairhope, Ala. His 2003 novel Life is a Strange Place is being made into a movie starring Lake Wilson.

“It’s going to be called Barry Munday,” said Hollon. “They’re filming it in LA, but I’m hoping to sneak in a play a part. It probably sold the least of my novels, but that’s one Hollywood wants to make a movie out of.”

“I had read Sunny’s and Pat’s books,” said Mary Bottcher, a retired high school guidance counselor attending the conference. “I bought Clyde Bolton’s book and picked up Beth’s book after hearing them speak today.”

DeShunn Johnson, who bought Gods in Alabama and The Summer We Got Saved, said, “I felt like it wasn’t a normal conference-type thing. It was very enlightening and a fun time.”

Photo By: Angela Reid

Campus Crime

February 1 - Lamond Mayer Jr. was arrested for driving under the influence and the possession and eradicating marijuana at Hwy21 and Clinton St. Anthony John Jernigan Jr., was arrested for the possession and eradication of marijuana at Hwy21 and Clinton St.

February 2 - A minor in consumption of alcohol was reported at Sparkman Hall.

February 3 - The theft of a purse valued at $20 was reported at the Houston Cole Library. A trespass warrant was issued at Dixon Hall.

February 4 - An abandoned vehicle was reported at McGee Hall. The theft of a laptop and a Visa debit card was reported at Dixon Hall. An abandoned vehicle was reported at the Delta Chi parking lot.

February 7 - Christopher Devin Giles was arrested for three counts of illegal possession and use of a credit card at Stone Center. The theft of a LG cell phone was reported at Hammond Hall. A theft was reported at Jacksonville Place Apartments. A burglarly was reported at Forney Hall.

February 9 - The theft of a Compass Bank check card was reported at Daugate Hall.

February 10 - Breaking and entering a vehicle was reported in the parking lot of Self Hall. Harassment was reported at Panel Apartments.

February 12 - Criminal mischief was reported at the Delta Chi Fraternity House. Criminal Mischief was reported at Dixon Hall.

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 782-5050.
Close encounters

JSU field school staff member Renee Morrison gives children first-hand experience with animals

By: Audrey Hykes
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

What would you do if you woke up one morning, looked out the window and saw a dinosaur? Yes, a dinosaur, and a living one at that, about eight feet long and maybe 200 pounds.

Or maybe there’s an emu, which looks like a small ostrich, running around lost.

After lassoing it by the leg, what would you do?

What if you happen to see a falcon swoop down into rush hour traffic to catch a mouse, and a truck hits it? The falcon falls to the side of the road, wings spread and barely moving. It’s still alive, injured badly, and needs help before it dies. Who do you contact to help this bird, since it would be extremely dangerous, not to mention illegal, to attempt to help the bird yourself?

Renee Morrison, coordinator of the Jacksonville State University Field Schools, gets these kinds of calls all the time. Well, except the dinosaur was not a real dinosaur, but an escaped tegu, a giant lizard.

Morrison says that the field schools provide many educational demonstrations and shows for children from K-12 and the general public. One of their most well known projects is the live animal program.

“[It is] not a rehab and rescue program, so to speak,” said Morrison, “but it is a collection of live animals that have either been born in captivity, or are wild animals that have been injured and can’t be released into the wild because they can’t function on their own anymore.”

With these animals, the program is able to provide educational demonstrations for about 30,000 people every year.

Morrison says the animals are especially influential for the young children. Many of them don’t know much about animals or they have the wrong impression about certain species, such as the snakes and birds of prey. The program gives the kids an up-close-and-personal encounter with these wonderful animals.

“You can talk about a snake, or an eagle, but if you have a live bird of prey that they’re able to actually look at and make eye contact with, it brings the message to a closer place in their heart,” says Morrison.

This way, the animals continue to serve an important role since they are no longer able to function in the natural world.

The field schools work with other organizations to do rescue and rehabilitation work including the Alabama Museum of Natural History, Alabama State Parks, the United States Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Alabama Wildlife Center at Oak Mountain and other partners.

One of their most specialized rescue animals is a Harris hawk named Ariel. The field school has a federal permit to care for birds of prey and use them for educational purposes, but they needed help to rescue and rehabilitate Ariel, who had been neglected by a Louisiana falconer.

“She locked eyes with me that day we went down,” says Morrison, “and it was just like she knew that she was going to someone who would take care of her, and that she was going to get a better life.”

Ariel now works with the Field Schools and is presented in about 12 programs each year.

The field school also helps to protect, rescue and rehabilitate animals that are not federally protected, such as rabbits, opossums, deer, and small birds. Morrison says she has been known to bottle-feed and hand-raise baby possums, then carry them around in baby slings until she can find homes for them or release them back into the wild.

The live animal program has become so significant, according to Morrison, that the Field School will soon break ground for a new $7 million facility, including a space for animal housing and habitats.

Morrison has been working in this field for the past 20 years. She graduated from JSU as a biologist. From there, she went to Puerto Rico to do endangered species research, then came back to Alabama to work with the, Anniston Museum of Natural History for 10 years in conservation and live animal programs. Since then, she has been running the JSU Field Schools, and says she has the best job on campus.

Her favorite part of the job is doing live animal presentations for children.

“At first sometimes there’s a fear factor there, but once they overcome that fear factor, that child is just sold on conservation and environmental protection forever,” she says.

If you ever come across an unusual situation involving wildlife, or you need to report an injury, she encourages people to call her office at (256) 782-5697. You can also call Dan Spalding or Steven Faughn at the Anniston Museum of Natural History, (256) 237-6766. They are able to help with emergencies in five counties.

Renee Morrison’s son, Jo, pets Ariel, a rescued hawk, who appears in 12 field school programs a year.

Senate Minutes

By: Reagan Williams
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Resolution: President of Organizational Affairs Antonio Davis completed a resolution that reported that during Monday’s Faculty Senate meeting the parking issues around Sparkman and Ayers halls were addressed. Resolutions have been drawn, but no agreements have been reached.

STARS:

Tomorrow, students from the Student Government Association are going to Montgomery to prepare for Higher Ed day. They will join students from other colleges to make banners.

JSU Star:

Over 200 pints of blood were donated during last week’s blood drive.

Ambassadors:

JSU Ambassador applications are due March 1 in the Visitor's Center.

Resident Assistants:

Applications for resident assistants are due March 1 in the Office of University Housing and Residence Life.
Spotlight on Center Stage

By: Tricia Mantooth
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

On February 4, JSU’s winter-guard, Center Stage, claimed first place in both the preliminary competitions and finals of a regional competition in Atlanta, Ga. Center Stage did so well at this competition they have been offered a chance to move up to a higher class.

If you’re wondering what in the world I’m talking about, venture to the Stephenson gym on a weekend night and you will come in contact with the most modern form of performance.

If you’ve seen the colorguard perform with the Marching Southerners, you’ve noticed the rifles, sabers, and flags being tossed into the air. This group consists of many of the same people, the same equipment, and the same modern dance; only it is performed on a basketball court in lieu of a football field.

Center Stage has been rehearsing almost every weekend since the end of October and they’ve already had to change their show due to music licensing difficulties.

“Center Stage is a family,” said Nicole Cross, a second year participant. “You don’t know what the feeling is until you’ve experienced it yourself. It’s the reason I came to JSU.” Cross believes that Center Stage is the best thing that’s ever happened to her.

Last week’s regional was held at North Springs High School. In the prelims, Center Stage received first place with a 78.4, an outstanding score for the beginning of the season.

Scores are generally lower in finals, but the guard earned first place again, receiving an 80.6, beating the second place finishers by 4.2 points.

The guard looks forward to performing at Winter Guard International April 6-8 where they might be competing with groups from England and Japan.

Center Stage is directed by Rodney Bailey, who also teaches English and oral communication at JSU. They practice on Friday and Saturday nights between 6 p.m. and 12 a.m. and on Sunday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

This group lives for their audiences, so go watch a run-through of the show about 15-30 minutes before each rehearsal is over. You just might be impressed.
Many people have no idea what goes into a regular play—the long days and frantic nights of memorization, blocking, character development, costuming, props, set building and decoration, lighting, sound, publicity, and a zillion other elements have to come together flawlessly to even get a show on the stage.

Make that play a musical, and you increase the difficulty factor by ten.

"We have good working relationships with the art and music [departments] here," said Dr. Wayne "Doc" Claeren, the director of Crazy for You. "We’re lucky—that’s usually not the case. A lot of schools usually have trouble between departments."

The music department and the drama department have been working on Crazy for You since November, when Jeremy Storall, Teresa Stricklin, and Claeren all sat down and watched students audition for two days before Thanksgiving break.

"Occasionally we’ll get someone with a lot of training, but that’s rare," Claeren said. "Auditions are open to anybody."

But a musical isn’t a musical without music, supplied by volunteers from the JSU music department.

"A lot of the students here are music majors, here for leadership or scholarship hours," said Jeremy Storall, the conductor. This is his second year doing the musical. "They’re very well trained and experienced. It’s easy to put them together," he said.

Crazy for You runs from February 16-19, and 23-26. Sunday matinees are at 2 P.M., all other shows start at 7 P.M. Tickets for students and military are $8, JSU personnel and senior citizens are $10, and adult tickets are $12. The Box Office can be reached at 782-5648.

That was my first mistake.

While a team from another school follows us from point to point, Miles and Greene give me a crash course in using a compass and shooting an azimuth. Yes, I did say "azimuth." That should have told me I was in over my head.

In the most basic terms, an azimuth is the straight line you want to follow after you’ve determined what direction you need to go with the compass. Greene decides our next logical point is at the top of a hill, but I still say it’s a mountain. It doesn’t seem so bad until Miles and Greene start running. They say you don’t have to hurt so long going up if you run. I decide walking is still a good strategy for me.

Even with my new compass knowledge, we still use a good bit of terrain association. We don’t have the road or the stream anymore, but we do have the contour lines on the map. The lines tell us about the terrain by their shape and how close they are to each other. If the lines are very close together, it indicates a steep incline. If there is a small circle in the middle of several lines close together, you know you are at the top of a hill.

After I catch up to them and catch my breath, Miles and Greene explain what strategies the other teams could be using. For example, when a team is close to the flag, they fan out to cover more ground. This makes it easier to spot the small flags in the middle of the woods. They also said that they would have chosen to walk instead of run even if they were competing. With three hours to search for flags, running full speed at the first of the competition will make the rest of the day much harder.

Other strategies include finding the most distant flag first, then working backwards or simply circling the nearby lake and picking up every flag possible.

Whatever the strategy, every member of the group must back before time has elapsed. Though we still have time according to the official clock, we decide it’s time for our search to end. I am not interested in racing officers or breaking some rule of the competition, I laughed. All day. But our conversation is quietly interrupted when I take off running to the front of the field to snap a picture.

Even with a scoring discrepancy, JSU’s Team 1 with Joshua Matthews, Jonathan Dickson, Christopher Bunt, Michael Miller and Richard Pugh, won second place out of 47 teams. An impressive victory.

So after a barbecue lunch with two different groups of cadets, sitting in the van while they trade MRE contents and wait for the scoring to be completed, I began to understand even more of what they were talking about.

During the last formation, I stand in the back and talk with Master Sergeant James Beard about my military misconceptions that had been corrected during the day. Instead of worrying the entire day about how to address officers or breaking some rule of the competition, I laughed. All day. But our conversation is quickly interrupted when I take off running to the front of the field to snap a picture.

Even with a scoring discrepancy, JSU’s Team 1 with Joshua Matthews, Jonathan Dickson, Christopher Bunt, Michael Miller and Richard Pugh, won second place out of 47 teams. An impressive victory.

Thread of the Week:

What is your favorite video game?

Jennifer Eastwood
Senior

"I played Duck Hunt—my favorite."
though they try to convince me to turn back, they also tell me I'll have a better idea of what the other teams are enduring if we find another point. My curiosity takes over. I ask to find one more point and to use the compass to find it instead of terrain association.

As the teams return, I stand in the parking lot and listen to army stories. Somewhere between the acronyms, the abbreviations, and the “hooahs,” an all-purpose army word that can mean just about anything and can be used in any sentence, I start to make sense of the next mountain, when my sister asks me if I had fun with the ROTC, what will I answer? “Hooah,” I’ll say, “Yeah. Hooah.”

Marcus Johnson,

Freshman

“Malden 2006. I eat, sleep, and breathe football.”

Carmen Briggs,

Senior

“Wheel of Fortune. I kick ass at it. My goal is to go on the game show one day.”
Hot Shots

James and Joseph Hall share a unique bond as brothers and teammates

By: Liz Hendricks
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

The shooting communities up and coming stars and the 2008 Olympic hopefuls are right in our backyard. They may even be the cute guys who sit in front of you in class. These All-American, National Team members, and all around badass shooters are the Hall Brothers and they just happen to be on the JSU rifle team.

Growing up, James, Joseph and Jonathan Hall wanted what any boy living in a small town in rural Georgia would want; a B.B. gun.

Unfortunately for them, their mom was anti-gun. She grew up around guns all her life, and as an adult, she understood that meat was available at Kroger’s. Since people no longer had to hunt to survive, Creasia Hall found no reason for her boys to need a gun.

Their father, Joe Hall, felt differently. He wasn’t a hunter, but grew up learning gun safety as a Boy Scout and felt it was important for the boys to be able to learn how to properly handle a gun.

Their mom finally caved in, on one condition; the boys would have to take a hunters safety course and after completion of the course, would be allowed to have one B.B. gun to share between the three of them.

"When we went to the range Milan, and Japan just to name a few.
They played soccer and baseball, swam on a local swim team, and even tried wrestling, but it was the competitiveness of rifle that drove the Halls to succeed at the sport.

"Because we started rifle at the same time, we were more competitive," says James. "Shooting, we could always compete together. It was more family oriented."

A few years later, and over a dozen scholarship offers later, the boys found themselves at JSU. James was the first to come to JSU in 2002 followed by Joseph in 2004. Jonathan just signed his Letter of Intent in November and will begin attending JSU next fall.

James says he chose JSU because of the location. "It's a small school and I'm from a pretty small town," he says. "I'm getting everything out of Jacksonville that I would like to."

Joseph had eight full scholarships offers but came to JSU for the team.

"I knew my brother was here," says Joseph. "That was my main reason for coming. I just couldn't see myself going to West Point."

As for Jonathan, he says he liked the fact that JSU was close to home and fell in love with the campus. His brothers had an influence in his decision to come to JSU but it wasn't a deciding factor.

James and I are like celebrities," says Joseph.

You can bet that the boys don't let it go to their head. Although extremely talented, intelligent, and down right cute, the Hall brothers are humble, easy to talk to, and single. For now, Joseph says his girlfriend is Ursula...his gun.

Back home, Mrs. Hall continues to be proud of her boys.

"That's an understatement, to say the least," Mrs. Hall.
The Hall brothers are a great asset for the team.

Head Coach Ron Frost says the Hall brothers are a great asset for the team.

"JSU really got lucky when the first Hall brother came. That was four years ago," says Frost. "It was a great chain of events... all of them are coming here now."

With the help of James and Joseph, JSU had their highest standing ever last year, finishing number two in the country; they missed claiming the national championship by only one point. JSU also won the OVC Tournament for the first time last year.

Coach Frost says one of the good things about having the Hall's on the team is that competition drives competition. With James and Joseph being equally matched, they're constantly driving each other.

"It gives their teammates something to compare themselves to," says Frost. "Something to strive for."

The rivalry between the brothers that started when they were young still thrives today.

"I love it when James beats me," says Joseph. "Cause it makes me work harder to beat him."

The rivalry between the brothers that started when they were young still thrives today. They were young still thrives today.

Joseph says that he's never shot anything besides a piece of paper with a target smaller than a thumbtack. Shooting a deer would be like "shooting a Mack truck."

The Hall Brothers had a unique childhood. Because their parents chose to home school, they had lots of time to focus on their sport.

"I've never been hunting a day in my life," says Joseph. "I don't really have the urge to sit out in the cold and shoot something."

Joseph says he's never shot anything besides a piece of paper with a target smaller than a thumbtack. Shooting a deer would be like "shooting a Mack truck."

The Hall Brothers had a unique childhood. Because their parents chose to home school, they had lots of time to focus on their sport.

"I've seen more countries and gone more places by the time I was 18 than most people read about," says Joseph. "We're not your typical home schooled children."

The Halls have competed throughout the United States and abroad in places like London, Australia, Korea, the Czech Republic, Munich, to name a few.

"Unfortunately I was only third best in the country," he says. "But we're going 2008 for sure!" He says about himself and his younger brother, Jonathan.

Joseph is strictly a hammer. Proud of his world Olympic dreams may become a reality before their older brother James. He will graduate this year with a degree in Computer Integrated Manufacturing and start work on his master's this summer.

"Joseph is strictly Olympics," says James. "I would like to go to the Olympics, but I want to get school out of the way first."

Joseph's other goal is to become an eight-time All-American. Meaning he must make All-American, all four years, in both shooting events (air rifle and smallbore). He is well on his way after his freshman year, winning both events in the OVC and being named the NCAA's and OVC's freshman of the year.

During the summer, James and Joseph teach a civilian marksmanship program, traveling around the country to camps, teaching children the proper way to shoot guns.

"In the shooting community times to be proud of her boys. "That's an understatement, to say the least," Mrs. Hall said. "I'd be proud of them whether they were shooting or not."
From Staff Reports
JSU Athletic Department

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. – Senior Emily Christian notched her eighth double-double of the season with 28 points and 13 rebounds, and freshman Meagan Lyons scored 17 in the second half to lift Tennessee Tech to a 75-61 Ohio Valley Conference come-from-behind victory over Jacksonville State Thursday night.

Tech, which trailed by as many as eight points in the second half, improved to 17-6 overall and remained in first place in the OVC standings with a 13-3 league record.

JSU had its six-game winning streak snapped and slipped to 9-14-17-9 OVC.

“Our kids came in here and battled the top team in the conference,” said JSU head coach Dave Dagostino. “We have a very young group of players and they played nose-to-nose with a very good Tech team.”

The Gamecocks were on fire to open the contest, hitting from inside and outside on a 10-0 run to take an early 14-5 lead. Rebecca Haynes hit back-to-back 3-pointers and Courtney Slaughter scored two baskets.

Tech cut the lead to 16-12 before Jax State pushed the lead back to nine points on two more baskets by Slaughter and a 3-pointer from Ashley Boykin for a 25-16 lead, but Christian scored eight straight for TTU to cut the lead to 25-24 with 6:12 left.

The Gamecocks built a six point lead after Boykin sank three free throws after Tech head coach Bill Worrell received two technical fouls and was ejected from the game with 4:08 left in the half. Jax State held a 34-28 lead at the half, as Christian scored 19 points in the half for Tech.

In the second half, JSU pulled on top by eight points, 40-32, but the Eaglettes used a 10-2 run capped by a 3-pointer from Jana Reece to tie the game. After Courtney Slaughter’s 3-pointer gave the visitors another three-point lead, Tech took their first lead of the second half on a layup from Lyons to give TTU a 47-45 advantage.

With Tech holding a slim 60-57 lead with 4:46 remaining, Lyons scored 10 straight points over the next four minutes to seal the win. Tennessee Tech finished 25-of-36 from the free throw line, while the Gamecocks were just 10-of-17.

Christian had 28 points, 13 rebounds, four assists, two steals and two blocked shots, while Lyons had 17 points, all in the second half, and Reece finished with 10 points.

Slaughter scored 19 points to lead Jacksonville State, while Haynes added 17 points and eight rebounds. Ann-Marie Healy finished with eight points and 11 rebounds.

“Most of our mistakes tonight was due to inexperience,” said Dagostino. “But, we have four games to make some improvements and close the gap before we will face Tech again.”

Jacksonville State will have a week off before returning to action next Thursday night against Eastern Kentucky. Tip-off is set for 5 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

OVC Standings

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<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>OVC</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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<td>Tennessee Tech</td>
<td>14-3</td>
<td>18-6</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Tennessee State</td>
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As of: 2/15/2006

University of the South shut out Cock Rugby

Chris Wills (left in a picture by Jessica Summe) attempts to run the ball down the pitch. Seconds later, he was clotheslined by a member of the University of the South rugby team.

After watching the Purple Haze score five points in the first minute of the game, the boys of Cock Rugby struggled against both the elements and a more experienced, bigger team.

Cock Rugby lost the game 20-0, with Sewanee scoring three tries, one conversion and a penalty kick.

“We did better than I thought we would,” said Coach Mike Trowse. “We’re still playing football, not rugby and making silly mistakes. We’ve got a long way to go, but next spring we’ll be pretty good.”

“It was a clumsy game,” said University of the South Coach Brian Stringer of the miserably cold weather and soggy field.

“Both teams played very well under the circumstances,” he added.
Samford defeats JSU men and women

Sophomore Bernardo Bachino (pictured at right in a photo by Liz Hendricks) won a hard fought match against Samford’s Renan Silveira in last Wednesday’s match of non-conference play.

Despite Bachino’s efforts, Samford came out victorious 4-3 over the men and downed the women’s team 7-0. Bachino and Silveira could be heard yelling at each other in Portuguese between games.

“We usually play in Brazil together,” says Bachino. “We are mates. Last time I lost against him, so it was good.”

Both teams will be in Macon, Ga., today where they will take on Mercer at 1:00 p.m.

Men’s Results
Samford 4, Jacksonville State 3

Singles competition:
1. Robertson (JSU) def. Misner 3-6, 6-4, 6-2
2. Bachino (JSU) def. Silveira 6-3, 0-6, 6-4
3. Miletic def. Rybertt (JSU) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3
4. Grant def. Unkenholz (JSU) 6-1, 4-6, 6-3
5. Vaccarin (JSU) def. Weaver 7-5, 7-6
6. Griffie def. Pazzoltan (JSU) 6-2, 6-2

Doubles competition:
1. Silveira/Weaver def. Bachino/Rybertt (JSU)
2. Misner/Grant def. Robertson/Pazzoltan (JSU)
3. Griffie/Bryce def. Unkenholz/Vaccarin (JSU)

Women’s Results
Samford 7, Jacksonville State 0

Singles competition:
1. Jackson def. Dushter (JSU) 6-7, 7-5, 10-8
2. McMiler def. Higgins (JSU) 6-2, 7-5
3. White def. Lombardo (JSU) 6-1, 6-4
4. Warren def. Abbey (JSU) 6-1, 6-1
5. McKey def. Lopes (JSU) 6-7, 6-1, 7-5
6. Dyar def. Barnes (JSU) 3-6, 6-2, 6-1

Doubles competition:
1. White/McKey def. Dushter/Higgins (JSU) 8-3
2. McMiller/Jackson def. Abby/Lopes (JSU) 9-8
3. Warren/Baker def. Lombardo/Barnes (JSU)

JSU Rifle falls short of NCAA dreams

By: Chad Hoffman
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

The Jacksonville State University rifle team competed in the NCAA sectionals this past weekend in Oxford, Miss., on the University of Mississippi campus.

The results are not yet final, however, the Gamecocks, having lost the last three matches before going into sectionals, feel as though they will not compete at nationals because of the low shooting scores posted by the entire team. Senior James Hall feels as though the team mindset was there at sectionals, but they were not there as a team.

“I feel that we could have done better than what we did,” said Joseph Hall. “We shot strong, but it wasn’t the strongest that we have ever shot.”

Jacksonville State fell just one point shy of the national title last year behind the United States Military Academy. This year, however, is a different story. The Gamecocks will not be traveling as a team to compete at nationals.

Meanwhile, James and Joseph are preparing to go to nationals and compete individually in air rifle and smallbore, respectively.

At sectionals, Joseph shot a 591 out of 600 to take first place in air rifle. This was one of Joseph’s better air rifle scores and he feels as though he did very well.

“I felt very confident in individuals this weekend,” said Joseph. “My air rifle score was strong. I felt very good going into air rifle and I was very pleased with my score and the turnout.”

James shot a 590 out of 600 to capture first place in smallbore. James seems to have stepped it up coming from a 583 just one week ago, to shooting a 590 this past week.

“I believe that I went out there with a mindset of winning,” said James. “My air rifle score was 584, one point under my goal. I knew going into this event that I needed to shoot a better smallbore score because that is what I want to compete with at nationals.”

The Gamecocks will be closing out their long season this weekend. They are looking to prove themselves as they travel to Martin, Tenn., and compete in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament for their final meet of the season.
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