Champions again!
By: Chad Hoffman
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

Mission impossible?

Don’t tell that to the JSU rifle team.

The team’s mission this past weekend in Martin, Tenn., was to reclaim the Ohio Valley Conference Rifle Championship - and they did just that.

Jacksonville State ripped a hole in the competition as they destroyed Murray State by 38 points.

JSU won with an aggregate score of 4671, while Murray State followed with a 4633. This was JSU’s season high, earning the team several top honors at the championship.

The Gamecocks brought home a truckload of awards. The Hall brothers, James and Joseph, led the red and white by being named to the First Team All-OVC Smallbore and First Team All-OVC Air Rifle. James was named the Smallbore Athlete of the Year, while Joseph was named the Air Rifle Athlete of the Year.

Also bringing in honors for JSU were freshman Michael Dickinson and seniors Larry Nelson and Crystal Arndt. Dickinson joined James and Joseph on the First Team All-OVC Air Rifle. He was also named to the OVC Smallbore All-Newcomer Team and the OVC Air Rifle All-Newcomer Team.

Nelson was named to the Second Team All-OVC Air Rifle, while fellow teammate Arndt was named to the First Team All-OVC Smallbore.

Head coach Ron Frost brought home OVC Coach of the Year, for the second year in a row.

The team practiced hard this week leading up to the championships and it proved to be beneficial in the end. They were more confident and knew what they had to do to win.

“I love the way the team came together and realized that we needed to win,” said Joseph. “The loss at sectionals was not what we were capable of. I loved the way the team came together and proved the fact that we are the best and we know we are.”

Everyone on the team was shooting their average score or better, a vast improvement from just a week ago at sectionals.

“We all saw what happened at sectionals and did not want that to happen at OVC’s,” said Dickinson. “I didn’t want to let the seniors down on their way out.”

The rifle team has three seniors, James Hall, Larry Nelson and Crystal Arndt, who now have two rings on their fingers and one NCAA

See Rifle, Page 2

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By: DeShunn Johnson
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

“We just loved to play the game,” said Negro League Baseball player James “Jake” Sanders, who will be inducted in the Baseball Hall of Fame later this year. “We had some of the best players that have ever played the game of baseball.”

On Monday, February 13, 2006, a piece of American history came to Jacksonville State University in the form of James “Jake” Sanders. The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity hosted the historic event.

“I felt that it was important to have him come to honor our history, especially since this is a milestone in Alpha Phi Alpha’s history,” said Alpha Phi Alpha President Antonio Davis. “I also feel that it is important because if you don’t know where you came from, then you don’t know where you are going.”

Sanders talked about his experience as a player in the Negro League in the ’50s and ’60s.

“One time our bus broke down and since no one was there willing to help, we stayed there for three days. I remember that the only food we had was cereal and to this day I don’t eat cereal.”

Sanders quizzed the students on their knowledge of the baseball history. “Did you know that Jackie Robinson was not the first African American that played professional baseball?”

By: Reagan Williams
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Executive crisis

No one applied to run for next year’s Vice President of Organizational Affairs and Vice President of Student Activities before the application deadline, so the current Vice President of Organizational Affairs Antonio Davis proposed a bill that extends the deadline for applications one week.

Student Bill 71 also clarifies what will happen if no applications are filed during the extra week. An acting officer will be appointed the Friday before spring elections by a committee of SGA officials, including outgoing and incoming officers.

The acting officer has four weeks to decide if they want to keep the position. After four weeks, the senate will vote to give the acting officer a permanent position or begin plans for a special election to find a new officer.

The current requirements to run for a SGA executive office will remain the same.

However, SB 70, scheduled for further discussion next week, may allow more people to apply for an executive office. Before, only current senators and executive officers could run in the election for an executive office. This new bill would allow justices and SAC committee heads to run as well.

Some senators are concerned that justices and SAC committee heads do not have the necessary experience to hold an executive office, since they are not directly involved in the weekly senate meetings.

The bill would also change the summer residence requirements for executive officers. They would no longer be required to live in Jacksonville over two summer months, but would still be required to fulfill their summer duties.

See Senate, Page 2

See Baseball, Page 2
Broken promises

Do you keep New Year's resolutions?

By: Kimberly Davis
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Many students are faced with a daunting task during New Year's. A task so impossible, many students don't even make resolutions because they know they will not keep them.

Heather Bailey set a New Year's resolution to be a happier person and have more fun. "New Year's resolutions are a challenge because it puts pressure on you to change your lifestyle," she said. That pressure is the reason she broke her New Year's resolution.

Many students made resolutions to be happier, have more fun, lose weight, stop drinking, smoking, cursing or to better their relationships with God or a loved one.

No matter what the New Year's resolution, they were all faced with a challenge that required patience and perseverance to overcome.

Valerie Peil's New Year's resolution was to lose weight. Peil did not break her New Year's resolution because she is truly committed to her goal. "I believe keeping New Year's resolutions is a challenge because they generally involve work to obtain a goal."

Adrian Peoples is a senior majoring in Technology. His New Year's resolution was to do whatever he did in 2005 better this year. Peoples said that he has not broken his New Year's resolution because he is focusing on the positive and not worrying about the negative.

"I believe making a New Year's resolution is a challenge because some people set goals that are not feasible," he said. Michael Hendking's New Year's resolution was to make the Dean's list and to be inducted into the National Honor Society. He believes that he will achieve his goal by working hard and studying.

"I believe making a New Year's resolution is a challenge because it means that you have to do something out of the ordinary and adapt to a new way of life," said Hendking. "I can not stop being me."

Other students wanted to stop drinking and smoking as their New Year's resolutions. "Some people want to stop, but they never seem to stop because of the pressure and stress of life," said Peoples.

Many students make New Year's resolutions, but keeping those resolutions takes self-discipline and hard work. Without true commitment, you may be making the same resolution next year.

Rifle:

The Gamecocks were feeling good after day one. With athletic administrator Charles Ponder cracking jokes with the team to relax between relays, the guys and gals did what they do best.

"We did exactly what we wanted to do," said James. "We went out there with a mindset of winning, and that is what we did. We had a sixteen-point lead going into air rifle, and we were just coasting from there."

"Since James and Joseph are our 'power hitters,' once me and Larry finished, we knew we had it because they are not going to mess up," Dickinson said in response to their average performance on day one.

"James grabbed first place in smallbore with a score of 589, a four-point lead over second place. This may not sound like much, but, in the rifle world, everyone hopes to have a big gap like this when shooting in a match.

James holds the NCAA record in smallbore with a score of 595, which he hopes to shoot at nationals in mid-March. Joseph brought home first place in air rifle with a score of 592, one point higher than his score at sectionals.

"I knew that air was my strongest gun," Joseph said. "It could have honestly been higher."

Arndt shot a career-high 584 in smallbore on Saturday. This put her in the top five and helped the Gamecocks win their second NCAA title.

Joseph is a senior majoring in Technology. His New Year's resolution was to make the Dean's list and to be inducted into the National Honor Society. He believes that he will achieve his goal by working hard and studying.

"I believe making a New Year's resolution is a challenge because it means that you have to do something out of the ordinary and adapt to a new way of life," said Hendking. "I can not stop being me."

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Many students make New Year's resolutions, but keeping those resolutions takes self-discipline and hard work. Without true commitment, you may be making the same resolution next year.

Senate:

Constitution and Code Committee Head Chauncey Slater introduced a recommendation to remove the current prerequisite of 25 student signatures before running for a senate or executive position. After debate, the recommendation failed.

Article IX, Section 8, of the SGA Constitution Code of Laws explains the succession order if the president can no longer serve in his position for whatever reason.

Student bill 72, an amendment to Article IX, Section 8, explains the voting process if the successors are not able to fulfill the office of president. There will be a special session where members of the senate can announce they wish to be president and give an
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**Opinion and Reviews**

Got beer?

By Eddie Burkhalter
*The Chanticleer Staff Writer*

We can all sleep better now.

No, the bird flu thing may still be headed our way, but our leaders in Montgomery have been hard at work and have some exciting news. No more KEG BEER in Alabama! Well, almost. The Alabama Senate voted 3-0 on Jan. 17 to ban drinking keg beer anywhere other than in businesses licensed to sell it.

The bill is advertised as a way to cut down on underage drinking. Okay, we’re all for that. Well, everyone over 21 is for that, too. We primarily have a problem with people under 21 drinking large amounts of alcohol is stupid and dangerous, high school or otherwise, but this bill may not be what they say it is.

In fact, the hooch hustlers stand to make more money if the bill is passed. Keg beer is what retailers call a “loss leader.” Simply put, the profit margin by volume is much lower for keg beer than small containers. Which means if Larry and John decide to head to the field after all, they’ll likely buy MORE of the small containers.

In addition to the fatter paycheck for the distributors, the politicians who support the bill get to ride the Good-Southern-Christian-Train. Next stop, reelection city!

**Question of the Week:** How about the folks over 21 who drink and like to save money by buying beer in kegs?

**Jessica Blake**
*Freshman*

“Every time I do, I never do it. I think it was to run more. I didn’t keep it if I had one.”

**Tierra Sims**
*Sophomore*

“To concentrate more on school. Study more, go to class all the time. I think my grades improved this year.”

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**Review: Grizzly Man**

By Jason Keener
*The Chanticleer Staff Writer*

For thirteen summers, Timothy Treadwell lived among grizzly bears in Alaska. He was unarmed; he used his camera to shoot the animals he loved. He shot over ninety film: he was the star of Treadwell’s film: the same Timothy Treadwell who pursued a career in acting.

Aside from their strange behavior and love for acting, Kinski and Treadwell had very little in common. The similarities come from the way Herzog observes their unusual on-screen behavior. Whether it’s Kinski yelling profanities at an audience in his tour of Germany as Jesus or Treadwell yelling profanities at his own camera, Herzog’s audience can’t help but question the sanity of his subjects. And questionable sanity may be the true core of the film.

Herzog narrates the film himself, as he does with most of his documentaries. He makes it very clear that he does not share Treadwell’s romanticized view of nature. For him, the bears are emotionless and vicious beasts that think in the simplest terms of survival.

Luckily, squeamish viewers can relax. Aside from a still photograph of the gutted bear in question, the film contains no gore or anything else that would make it too difficult to watch.

The same year he finished “Grizzly Man,” Herzog (63 and still going strong) also finished another film, “The Wild Blue Yonder” and began yet another, “Rescue Dawn.”

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The Chanticleer

It's time for publication! We start running ads in the newsletter today.

The Chanticleer is printed on Tabloid stock and is distributed across the USU campus and weekly on campus, and seasonal basis.

The Chanticleer is the official newspaper of the Jacksonville State University. It is distributed free of charge to all students, staff, and faculty of the university.

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Hollywood ‘Souldown’

By Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Features Editor

Hollywood Showdown—a game show-like event where students competed for movie posters, DVDs and gift cards, with a DVD player as the grand prize—was held in the Leone Cole Auditorium on Feb 15.

In honor of Black History month, the event renamed itself the Hollywood ‘Souldown,’ and featured trivia from movies like The Nutty Professor, Ali, Glory and Crash.

After the introductory set of questions (asked by Rian Winther, the host, who made up all these games), four students were picked from the crowd to answer questions at the buzzers. Whoever answered the most questions out of five got to sit in radio play, almost everyone in the auditorium knew the music. People were singing and even dancing along to the tracks.

“That song brought back memories,” said Reed of Exhale (Shoop Shoop), performed by Whitney Houston, which was featured on the Waiting to Exhale soundtrack.

The third round was Name That Classic. Correct answers were worth five points, but if a player couldn’t answer, audience members could steal their seat and all their points. Four students lost their chairs and Kyle Hoff, Andrea Pruitt, Candice Hardy, Turquoise Buens and Mardracus Russell took their places.

advanced to the ‘Final Four’ with Washington, Reed and Buens.

These four competed in ‘Movie-Okies,’ where contestants sang along with songs featured in movies. The event was worth 25 points, and players were required to entertain the crowd.

Washington went first, singing along to Color Me Badd’s I Wanna Sex You Up. Reed gave an energetic rendition of Rapper’s Delight by the Sugar Hill Gang. Buens got the always-popular Lady Marmalade and Patterson did his best to imitate LL Cool J while rapping Mongoma Said Knock You Out.

The winner of the round was
questions out of five got to sit in one of the eight director’s chairs across from the buzzers. The questions could take the form of audio clues or movie stills. Students were asked to name movies or identify characters and actors. The first two students to sit in the director chairs were Chris Lundy and Krystle Bell.

The third group ended with a four-way tie. Each student had correctly answered one question and the fifth question was answered by an audience member.

All the participants started banging on the buttons before Winther even finished asking the question.

“You’re gonna’ break my thing!” Winther said before identifying a student.

“I just guessed,” said Shanda Cleveland, won the tiebreaker, after taking her seat with the others.

Antonio Davis and Raynard Cargill took the fourth and fifth seats.

“You have to think real quick up there,” said Cargill.

The sixth round needed another tiebreaker, which Marketta Hart won.

“I don’t know that movie,” moaned Mardracus Russell while at the podium in the seventh round. “Ask me about the news, I know about the news.” Marathomtri Reed won the round.

As Russell, who went up three times, returned to his seat, he reasoned why he’d not advanced to a chair. “I know, I know,” he said. “I get too excited.”

Norwood Patterson got the last chair.

With all eight director chairs filled, the game moved to the next round, Movie Tunes. Song clips were played, and a student had to name the movie associated with the song. Each question was worth five points. If the contestant didn’t know the answer, the person in the next chair had a chance to steal the points.

Since songs featured on movie soundtracks get heavy Russell took their places.

“I feel like a superstar,” said Russell.

Next up was How’s Your Memory, where students were quizzed on a background detail in a movie clip. Audience members could still steal seats, but only Russell went back into the audience.

“I’ll have to steal someone else’s seat,” he said.

Russell’s loss was Cargill’s gain, as he had lost his seat in the third round and was now back in the game.

Round five was Finish the Line, another round that had audience members jumping out of their seats and shouting out answers.

“I got my first seat back. I feel very good,” said Patterson as he stole back the seat he had lost in the third round.

Fred Washington also stole a chair during the round. “I got 27 points,” he said, counting his point coupons inherited from his predecessor.

All points were counted, and the four players with the least points had to go back into the audience. Cargill and Patterson tied, so they went back to the buzzers to name a movie from a screenshot. Patterson won, and the winner of the round was determined by audience applause, and Reed got the 25 points.

The final event was Race to the Snack Bar. The final four had to fill up plastic tubes with popcorn from bowls on the floor, but could only use their mouths.

At this point, I have to confess to another reporter indiscretion. I didn’t write down who won this round because I was laughing so hard.

But the game was over. When all points were totaled, Buen got fourth place and won a DVD. Patterson was third and won a 3-pack of DVDs, while Washington, the second-place finisher, got a Best Buy gift card. Reed won the entire thing, and took home a DVD player for her efforts.

“The worst part was the popcorn,” Reed said afterward. “I don’t even like popcorn.” Reed plans on giving the DVD player to her nephew.

“This is fun to do unless it’s a crappy audience,” said Winther. “They [the JSU audience] were fun and into it. They knew a lot of it. I was worried people wouldn’t get half the stuff because I changed the questions for Black History Month. But

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Senior night split: men win, women take a loss

From staff reports

JACKSONVILLE - LaKrisha Brown scored 21 points and grabbed 17 rebounds to lead three players in double-figures as Morehead State claimed an 82-75 win over Jacksonville State to move the Gamecocks into a two-way tie for the final spot for the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

Morehead State (13-12, 9-9) moved into a tie for fifth place with Eastern Illinois with the win, while the Gamecocks (10-15, 8-10) are now tied with Murray State for seventh place. Eastern Kentucky sits in ninth place, two games behind JSU and Murray, with two games left to play.

TaeNisha Johnson finished with 21 points for Morehead State, while Anita Smith-Williams added 13 points and seven rebounds for the Lady Eagles.

"You have to give Morehead State credit," said JSU head coach Dave Dagostino. "They came in here and really played well. I thought they attacked the boards and that was the difference in the game."

Morehead State held a decisive 54-38 advantage on the boards, including 19 offensive rebounds that led to 20-second chance points. The Gamecocks did finish with a season-low nine turnovers, while forcing 17 Lady Eagle turnovers.

The first half saw five lead changes and four ties as Morehead State built a 42-37 lead at the intermission. JSU freshman Ashley Boykin kept the game close in the opening 20 minutes by scoring 19 points, while senior Ann-Marie Healy added 12 points and seven rebounds in the opening half.

With Morehead State holding a 46-41 lead with 17:35 left, the Gamecocks battled over the next eight minutes to take a 62-58 lead on a pair of free throws by LaTonia McKinney with 9:42 remaining.

The Lady Eagles answered to tie the game at 67-67 on a Brittany Black free throw with 6:07 left and MSU would never trail again. Morehead State outscored the Gamecocks 15-8 over the final six minutes for the win.

Boykin led the Gamecocks after scoring a career-high 29 points on her 19th birthday, including 4-of-4 from behind the arc and 7-of-7 from the free throw line. Ann-Marie Healy added 16 points and seven rebounds, followed by 14 points from Rebecca Haynes and McKinney added 10 points.

Senior Walker Russell recorded his second double-double of the season by scoring 15 points to go along with 11 assists to lead four players in double figures in a 79-74 win over New Orleans on Senior Night at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Russell, a 6-foot guard from Pontiac, Mich., dished out seven of his assists in the first half and turned the ball over only twice to pace the Gamecocks (13-12, 10-8 Ohio Valley Conference) in his final regular season home game. JSU downed the Privateers (7-18, 4-9 Sun Belt Conference) for its 19th win in 22 games against non-conference opponents at Pete Mathews Coliseum since the Mike LaPlante era began.

Jacksonville State forced 17 turnovers and committed only nine and shot 50 percent from the floor, 40 percent from 3-point land, to hold on to the win.

"New Orleans is a team that has been through a lot of adversity," LaPlante said. "They have had a lot of opportunities and have been in a lot of games that they have had a chance to win. The difference in the game was turnovers. We had more possessions than they did, and that proved to be the difference. This was a good quality win for our team."

The Privateers shot 55 percent from the floor and were 4-of-8 from 3-point land, but the Gamecocks' 12 steals proved too much for them to overcome. JSU converted the UNO miscues into 18 points, while New Orleans scored just seven off JSU turnovers.

JSU junior Harold Crow scored a career-high 17 points in just 21 minutes to lead the Gamecocks in the scoring column. Senior B.J. Spencer and junior Courtney Bradley each added 16 points.

UNO's Shawn Malloy led the Privateers charge with a career-high 21 points and 10 rebounds, making him one of two New Orleans players with a double-double. Nathaniel Parker scored 13 and pulled in 11 boards in just 22 minutes.

The Privateers stormed out of the gates in the first half, scoring the game's first eight points and was able to stretch the lead to as many as 10 twice, but an 11-2 JSU run cut the advantage to one with 7:07 on the clock. Less than two minutes later, a three-point play by Crow gave JSU its first lead of the night at 27-26. The two would exchange the lead twice more before JSU took a 40-36 lead into the locker room at the half.

UNO pulled to within one early in the second half, but JSU scored the game's first eight points and was able to stretch the lead to as many as 10 twice, but an 11-2 JSU run cut the advantage to one with 7:07 on the clock. Less than two minutes later, a three-point play by Crow gave JSU its first lead of the night at 27-26. The two would exchange the lead twice more before JSU took a 40-36 lead into the locker room at the half.

UNO pulled to within one early in the second half, but JSU answered with a 7-0 run to stretch it to eight with 13:47 to play, the Gamecocks' largest of the night. UNO struck back with a run of its own to tie the game at 59 with 7:23 on the clock, and it finally reclaimed the lead with 5:36 to play at 63-62.

The two teams would exchange it twice before a pair of Russell free throws gave JSU a 72-71 advantage, one they would not relinquish. JSU connected on nine of its last 10 free throw attempts to seal the win.

The Gamecocks close the regular season next week with a two-game road trip that will pit them against Eastern Illinois on Thursday and Southeast Missouri on Saturday.

Women's OVC Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>OVC Overall</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>16-2</td>
<td>20-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samford</td>
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<td>17-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Tech</td>
<td>12-7</td>
<td>17-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin Peay</td>
<td>10-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>JSU</td>
<td>10-8</td>
<td>13-12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9-9</td>
<td>11-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT-Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Illinois</td>
<td>5-13</td>
<td>6-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morehead State</td>
<td>3-15</td>
<td>4-21</td>
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As of: 2/22/2006

# Overall record does not reflect one conference win by forfeit

*Overall record does not reflect one conference forfeit imposed by the OVC

Men's OVC Standings

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Overall record does not reflect one conference forfeit imposed by the OVC

Softball off to great start

By: Chad Hoffman
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

Jacksonville State softball’s 6-1 start for the season mirrors last season.

In game one of the War Eagle Classic, the girls faced 20th ranked Auburn. On the mound for Auburn was All-American pitcher Holly Currie.

The Gamecocks were prepared for a tough game, as Currie only allowed 1.95 runs per a game last season.

The first two innings were scoreless and JSU pitcher Carly Kellam struck out five batters; however, she

Pitcher Christine Pierce took the mound ready to win her first game of the season. With the help of the defense and her 66-mph pitching, the Bisons never had a chance.

In the top of the third inning, JSU capitalized on Lipscomb’s six errors and opened up a 5-0 lead.

Lipscomb only scored one run which came in the bottom of the fourth.

The Gamecocks scored four runs off four hits in the top of the fifth.

Sophomore pitcher Amy Brown came in to relieve Pierce and added the icing to the cake. Brown sent the Bisons running back to the bench as the Gamecocks lugged them in just

game. JSU shut out the Bears, 5-0, to improve to 3-1.

The ladies came right back on the field and faced Furman.

Both teams were scoreless until the sixth inning. Pappano scored for the Gamecocks as Paladin pitcher Jessica Mathis threw a wild pitch.

JSU took second place in the tournament going 4-1.

This past Tuesday, the Gamecocks traveled to Jackson, Miss., to face Jackson State in a double header.

JSU improved its record to 6-1 and extended their winning streak to six with a sweep over the Tigers.

The Gamecocks shut out the
five innings, 11-1. “Pierce did a good job challenging the hitters in the inside,” said McGinnis.

JSU looked to knock off Middle Tennessee the next afternoon. The game was close and the ladies had to step up and prove themselves. Tied at 2-2 going into the seventh, both teams were eager to win.

Pierce, in relief of Kellam, had the chance to give her team their second win of the season. She retired the side and gave her team what could have been the last bat of the game.

Middle Tennessee would not let the Gamecocks past first base and sent the game into extra innings.

With the international tiebreaker rule in effect, the eighth was scoreless. The ninth proved to be the same for Middle Tennessee.

The Tigers came back to the plate and scored a run. She hit a single against Mercer on Sunday and third base, giving Auburn a 2-0 lead.

With the international tiebreaker rule in effect, the eighth was scoreless. The ninth proved to be the same for Middle Tennessee.

The Gamecocks drew first blood in the first inning, leading to an Auburn run. Four batters later, Currie singled to center to earn another RBI, giving Auburn a 2-0 lead.

When JSU went to bat, Auburn would not let the Gamecocks get close. The Tigers came back to the plate and scored on a single to right field and a wild pitch, making it 4-0.

The lone JSU score came from a home run hit by first baseman Lauren Horwath.

The Tigers added one run in the final three innings to claim the win over the Gamecocks, 7-1.

“Carly was very sharp for the first few innings,” JSU coach Jana McGinnis said, “but she let the two runs scored frustrate her and it affected the rest of her innings.”

“A good team will respond,” McGinnis told the team after the loss to Auburn. “When you are beaten, you get back up and wipe the dust off and go again.”

Just 35 minutes later, JSU was facing former Atlantic Sun foe, Lipscomb.

The Bisons took the field first and the Gamecocks attacked. Daniela Pappano hit a double to left center and sent Horwath across the plate for the first run of the game.

In the seventh inning, leading to an Auburn run. Four batters later, Currie singled to center to earn another RBI, giving Auburn a 2-0 lead.

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Gone in five seconds
Basketball teams come down to the wire

By: Patrick Swafford
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

There are so many things that can happen in less than five seconds. Hearts can be broken, careers can be ended and lives can be lost.

Games can be lost, too.

Ask Jacksonville State’s women’s basketball team what can happen in five seconds.

With the score tied at 77, Eastern Kentucky’s Laura Shelton drove hard to the right side of the basket and was blocked by JSU’s Ann-Marie Healy. LaTonya McKinney picked up the loose ball and drove down the court, finding a trailing Rebecca Haynes for the go-ahead lay-up with five seconds on the clock to give the Lady Colonels an 11-point lead with 4:42 left on the clock.

The Gamecock defense once again stepped up and held EKU to only four points, free throws by Shelton, during the final stretch.

“This basketball game we would not have won in December,” Dagostino said. “We’re a whole different ball club, right now. It’s the most mature young team you’ll ever see.”

Youth prevailed for the Gamecocks. Freshman Ashley Boykin led JSU with 20 points while Haynes and Healy each scored 14.

Ask Jacksonville State’s men’s basketball team what can happen in five seconds. For them, the answer is more gut wrenching.

With five seconds left in the game and the score knotted at 71, Eastern Kentucky’s Matt Witt set up an isolation play to go one-on-one with JSU’s Walker D. Russell.

Russell, who had stolen the ball from Witt and scored the game-tying bucket on EKU’s previous possession, was called for a foul that drew a chorus of boos and chants of “zebra” from the hostile crowd inside Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Witt hit one of his two free throws with 1.3 seconds left to give the Colonels a 72-71 win.

The win gives Eastern Kentucky the tiebreaker, should the OVC’s final standings require it. It also kept JSU from scoring a little payback after an 86-78 loss to the Colonels on January 19.

“Out of all the games, I really wanted revenge on them,” said Dorian Brown. “When you get us early in the season, I knew we couldn’t beat them. Now that the team is more like an oiled machine, I thought we should have beat them.”

While the game stayed close through the first four minutes of play, Eastern Kentucky pulled away on a 16-4 run that put JSU down by 12 with 12:15 to play in the half.

JSU pulled within six with 12 seconds to go, but Witt buried an off-balance three at the buzzer to send EKU to the locker room with a 42-33 lead. Witt scored 19 points on the night.

The Gamecocks struggled to get back into the game early in the second half, cutting the lead to as few as six, but EKU’s sharp shooting guards seemed to find a way to bring the lead back to double digits.

With eight minutes to play, a very tired Eastern Kentucky team held on to a 66-57 lead. The Colonels missed key opportunities to increase their lead when Witt air-balled two straight three-point attempts. Brown recorded two blocks during this stretch to go along with his 17 points.

Witt fouled Russell after a jumper with 1:33 left to send JSU’s best free-throw shooter to the line. Russell converted the three-point play to make it 71-69.

With 45 seconds to play, Witt pulled down a rebound off an Anthony Wilson miss and slowly took the ball up-court. Russell got a hand on the ball and took it away, electrifying the crowd with the game-tying bucket.

“We just wanted to get stops,” Russell said. “I was lucky enough to get a steal and tie the game up.”

With an extra foul to give, JSU would use it with five seconds left in the game, forcing EKU to reset their offense and score in the game’s final breath.

One year ago, JSU’s weakness was the depth of their team and their inability to physically outlast a team. Last Thursday night, LaPlante was praising a very different JSU squad.

“They [EKU] couldn’t stop us,” LaPlante said. “If you add five more minutes on the clock to this game, we might win by twelve. They were tired. The only chance you give them is to foul them.”

Baseball gets shut out in home opener

By: Jennifer Bacchus
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

Jacksonville State baseball had a disappointing start to their season, culminating in a shutout during their home opener Tuesday night against Birmingham-Southern.

The men went on the road to Hammond, La., opening weekend and took only one of the three games they played. The Panthers of Hammond defeated the Gamecocks in the final game.

Saturday’s scheduled game was rained out, so the teams played a double-header on Sunday.

During the first game, JSU played a running game, said Case. “They only got one hit the rest of the way.”

With the score tied at two going at the top of the third inning, JSU stole the show.

Nick Cleckler, Richard Turner and Bert Smith each made it home for the game, said Case. “We stole several bases in that game.”

Tuesday night saw the Oldsmobiles take the lead on a double-header finale against the Panthers of Birmingham-Southern.

BSC capitalized on their eight hits of the evening and the walks JSU allowed, bring
They racked up four runs over the first four innings. In the bottom of the fifth, the Lions answered back. They scored two runs in both the fifth and sixth innings then tied the game in the bottom of the seventh.

Louisiana did a very good job of the short game and pressuring with bunts and then got a couple of big hits and were able to come back and tie the game in the seventh inning with two outs, said Case.

In the eighth inning, Tony Suarez took home and the 6-5 win for the Lions.

“We just didn’t execute defensively. We were in the right places, we just didn’t get it done,” said Case of the team’s losses over the weekend.

The third game was a different story. “They scored two in the first and then we pretty much shut them down,” said Case.

JSU’s Eric Beck stretches out to get a Birmingham-Southern runner out at first. “I’ll be feeling that tonight,” Beck said.

Richard Turner and Eric Beck enough time to get in. Horn then capped off the 6-run inning for JSU by making it home a short while later.

During the rest of the game, the Gamecocks kept SELU scoreless while they racked up an impressive 14-2 win.

“We were very offensive, we did a great job with our

Track tunes up for OVC Indoor

By: Jennifer Bacchus
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

Happy birthday, Sarah Caine. A little more than a year after Caine set the school record for the mile run, she broke it. Besting herself by 7.62 seconds on her birthday at the LSU Twilight Invitational.

“She ran almost a flawless race,” said track and field head coach Steve Ray.

Caine is currently ranked third in the mile run in the Ohio Valley Conference, and Ray sees the potential for more.

“I think she can go farther,” he said. “I think she thinks she can go farther.”

The team didn’t enter every event at the meet, choosing instead to work on events where they needed seed points for conference. Despite scaling back their entries in this meet, though, the team still managed to break two more school records.

“We’ve broken nine school records this indoor season a total of 15 times,” said Ray. “I think we’ll break some more this weekend. Probably in the same events.”

In addition to Caine’s 5:10.53 mile run, Nolinda Garner snatched another spot in JSU’s record book, running the 60 meter hurdles in 9.05 seconds. She’s also the current record-holder for the 55-meter hurdles.

Caine and Garner weren’t the only swift-footed Gamecocks at the meet. Lesley Binning took first place in the 3,000 meter run. The LSU Invitational was the last indoor event for the regular season. This weekend, they will travel to Nashville for the OVC Indoor Championship and Ray is looking for the best showing in JSU’s history.

“We get fifth place and forty points, we may stop and buy a trophy on the way back,” he said.

Last year the team took sixth place with 36 points. Of course, he’ll be doing it with a team that’s still banged up.

“Asha’s ranked number one in the conference in the 60 meter dash right now,” Ray said of Gibson, the current JSU record-holder for the 55 and 60-meter dashes. “But, dangit, her hamstring is so messed up I just hope she can hold it together for seven more days.”

Ray also knows that a good showing at conference can translate into much-needed recruits for next year.

“We’re allowed four entries in each event at the conference meet. We have no pole vaulters, we have one girl running the 400. We have two girls in the throwing events where we need four,” Ray said. “If you look at the teams that are gonna’ finish first, second, third, they’re gonna’ have four entries in every single event.”

The team already has a few verbal commits for next year that Ray hopes to sign when April rolls around.

“I don’t want to be a middle tier team in this conference,” said Ray. “We want to get to where we’re knocking on the door for third place within a year or two.”

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