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Jacksonville State University

January 12, 2006

The right man for the job

By: Aaron Tanner The Chanticleer Staff Writer

This semester, Dr. Richard Kania will bring his years of experience and ideas to his new job as the head of the Criminal Justice Department at Jacksonville State University.

"I hope to be a catalyst to change, to bring out the ideas and talents of not only myself but my colleagues as well and not be unilateral," said Kania.

With 25 years of teaching experience, including prior experience as department chair at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina, Kania is up to the challenge.

"Dr. Kania is highly qualified and we wish him well in his new position," said Dr. Rebecca Turner, Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Kania does not have a set blueprint on changes to be made in the department, but rather individual goals to help make the criminal justice program better for students and faculty. Decisions are not Kania's alone, but up to the department as a whole. This includes the goal of changing the curriculum.

"We have not had a major change to the curriculum since 1991," said Dr. Randall Wood.

If changes are made, the entire faculty will decide which classes will remain and which need to be added. Classes that are redundant or inappropriate to the curriculum are the ones most likely to go

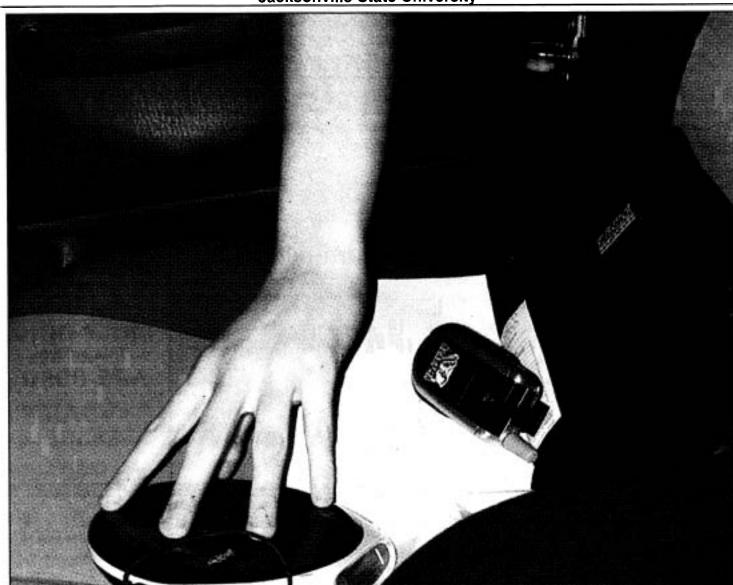


Photo illustration by: Jennifer Bacchus

Leaving your car unlocked can lead to a loss of personal possessions. UPD is helping students keep their stuff.

Hey, where'd my stuff go?

By: Jennifer Bacchus The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

You may be surprised to know that while you were in purse or CD player were in plain sight are just one of many services that Jacksonville State University's police department mentidaa endandimikii en laan

themselves and their property.

number off your computer, your stereo, so that if anything gets

model as well as any distinguishing markings.

You may ask, so what do I do if the item doesn't have a serial Volume 54, Issue 14

Senate minutes

By: Reagan Williams The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Student Bill 63:

A bill to clarify the succession order if an executive position empties passed during this week's Student Government Association Senate meeting. It dictates who will take over each position should it happen to be vacated.

Student Bill 66:

Student bill 66 appointed Senator Summer Watts as MADE committee head.

Student Bill 67:

Lynnley Clark was appointed as the STARS committee head in student bill 67.

Outdoor Basketball:

Vice President of Student Affairs Casie Sanders, speaking on behalf of the Vice President of Organizational Affairs Antonio Davis, informed the senate that the outdoor basketball court resolution has been created. It will give the decision-makers an idea of how to implement that proposition.

Blood Drive:

MADE will be hosting a blood drive through the American Red Cross on February 8 and 9 from 9a.m. to 5p.m.

STARS:

STARS has begun a new service project to help Alabama's blackbelt region with school supplies. There will be boxes placed around campus to collect basic elementary school supplies from January 16 to the 26.

Discussion:

President Mardracus "Drake" Russell, speaking for students in his classes, said that the boards in

"I need your ID, your serial

added. Classes that are redundant or inappropriate to the curriculum are the ones most likely to go.

The idea of a new curriculum will include a balance of practical and theoretical classes. This way, criminal justice majors will be able to apply technical concepts as well as use ethical reasoning in forensic investigations.

"The practical is always important," said Kania. "On the other hand, we need to make sure that any student getting a college education is getting a college education, not a trade school education. Therefore, the theoretical issues need to be addressed."

In addition to his duties as department head, Kania will teach CJ 363, Foundations of Law Enforcement, and supervise direct individual studies.

The search for a new department head began three years ago. Nine candidates applied for the position last semester. From there, the field was narrowed to four candidates, two from JSU and two from outside the university. A third candidate from outside Jacksonville State could not make it to the interview process.

When the candidates came to JSU to be interviewed, a search committee of six criminal justice faculty members interviewed the candidates and asked questions about their skills.

The committee considered leadership styles for the future of the department, curriculum planning, administration style, and criminal justice philosophy. However, the three most important qualifications were teaching style, methods of researching, and community service.

"Those are the three main areas we look at with hiring, not only hiring department heads but staff and faculty members," said Wood who, as interim department head was one of the six search committee members.

After the interview process, the candidates were given the chance to present their qualifications to faculty and students. From there, the candidate's work passed to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for further consideration before President Meehan gave the final say on which candidate was hired. You may be surprised to know that while you were in class today the police paid a visit to your car.

No, they didn't put a boot on it because you have too many parking tickets. They just wanted to make sure you locked your door and didn't leave any valuables in sight. The little orange or yellow tags they place on windshields warning the owner of a car that their door was unlocked or that their services that Jacksonville State University's police department provides the students to keep them safe and prevent crime.

From the fall semester of 2004 through spring 2005, there were 101 theft incidents on the JSU campus. During Fall 2005, there were 34. To keep this number low, each semester **UPD** shows a program to incoming freshmen, giving them a view of the rules and regulations of campus life and listing ways for them to protect

number off your computer, your stereo, so that if anything gets stolen out of your room we have a database and any pawn shop in the world we can find that specific item," said Michelle Page, crime prevention coordinator for UPD.

So that students won't overlook any important items, UPD has a handout listing various items commonly found in dorm rooms and giving space for the serial number, how much the item is worth, its make and You may ask, so what do I do if the item doesn't have a serial number?

"We have an engraver to use on your items," said Page.

Dorm rooms are by far the most vulnerable, but off-campus residents can also benefit from these programs as well as some of Page's other recommendations, like buying battery-operated censors for windows and doors and timers for

See Theft, Page 2

President Mardracus "Drake" Russell, speaking for students in his classes, said that the boards in the Merrill Building need to be replaced.

He added that students would like to see the extra food money placed on ID cards to be available for printing costs as well as food in the cafeteria and TMB.

Vice President of Student Activities Casie Sanders would like a resolution to be made that will increase the number of smart boards in classes outside of the computer science department.



Photo by: Jessica Summe

The JSU Bookstore provides many students with textbooks.

By: Jessica Summe *The Chanticleer Copy Editor*

"I was shocked when I came back," said Heather Banholzer, a student purchasing books from the Jacksonville State University Bookstore. "I was here in '98-'99, and books were half the price they are now."

Rising textbook costs were confirmed by a government report released in July 2005. The United States Government Accountability Office's report states that textbook prices have grown at twice the rate of inflation from 1986 to 2004. When the GAO questioned publishing companies about the rising costs of books, they were told that the prices had gone up because of new supplements included with the text, such as interactive web sites and CD-ROMs.

Book buying blues

Publishing companies send college professors copies of new and updated texts, hoping that the text will be chosen for a class. Most professors pick their text and forward it to the department secretary, who sends the information to local bookstores. There is no review or approval procedure for college textbooks by the college or department.

"There's only so much goodwill in my department and I'm not going to waste it on a textbook fight," said Dr. Harvey Jackson, head of the History and Foreign Language department at JSU. "Textbook choice falls under academic freedom, but teachers are conscious about the price of the book. Nobody picks a textbook to piss off students."

Accredited majors at JSU, such as Business, Marketing,

See Books, Page 2

Home sweet dorm room

By: Natalia Beavers *The Chanticleer Staff Writer*

There are many things to consider when it comes to where you will live while attending school. Will you stay at home and commute? Will you live on campus? Or, will you get an apartment or house near by? Whatever you decide, you must take into consideration the pros and cons of them all.

The majority of students interviewed agreed that freshman year is great for living in a dorm on campus because it gives you a chance to get the full experience of college life. Students who choose dorm life are monitored and enforced by a newly revised 12-point system that was set in motion last semester.

"It's a good judicial system, and it also gives the students a chance to see how the real world works," says Andrea Pruitt, coordinator at Sparkman Hall.

Each student starts out with 12 points. For every violation they make, points are taken away. For instance, violating the visitation hours gets a two point deduction or four points (depending on the case) for having alcohol.

All 12 are taken away for fighting because of a zero tolerance policy. If a student reaches six points, they will have to go in front of the "hope board". This board consists of an authority figure and a group of selected peers. They then may be put on probation.

There are many ways a student can lose points, but they are also able to receive points back. One way is by participat-

ing in certain campus events.

Although living on campus can be restrictive, there are many pluses to this option. You get to meet a lot of people, and there's a chance to get involved with activities you never thought about before. You have more information about what's happening on campus, and you can't beat the location. The cost ranges from \$735- \$1050 per semester. Besides giving up a little bit of freedom and some privacy, many students agree the price isn't bad at all.

If you want a little more free-

dom and privacy, then you have to pay for it. Two bedroom apartments range from \$390-\$500 month per in Jacksonville. One manager said they didn't require a credit check. They had two and four bedroom apartments and they lease out each room for \$415 per month, but you still share common living areas with a roommate. Gina Hamm, of Eagle Point

Apartments, said that 90 percent of their residents are students. They do require a credit

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lost and Found: For lost items check the UPD webpage at police.jsu.edu/lostandfound.html.

BCM: Celebration every Tuesday, 8 p.m.

Alpha Xi Delta: The Sisters of Alpha Xi Delta would like to welcome everyone back to school and hope everyone has a great semester. We would also like to congratulate Amy Walker, Sister of the Week.

Contact: Charly Montague

Alpha Omicron Pi: Welcome Back! We hope that everyone had a good break! Good luck this semester!

Contact: MerHarvey@aol.com

ISO: International Student Organization (ISO) offers three \$1,000.00 scholarships to international students on the Jacksonville State University campus. Interestd students can get more information at the International House.

Contact: Zorka Kujovic: internationalstudentorganization@yahoo.com

ISO: International Student Organization is hosting a WELCOME BACK PARTY on Friday, January 13 at the International House (Basement) from 8-11 p.m.

Contact: Zorka Kujovic: internationalstudentorganization@yahoo.com

SPJ: The Society of Professional Journalists will hold the first spring meeting Thursday, Jan. 12 at 2:30 p.m. in 180 Self Hall, The Chanticleer office. Contact: Angela Reid: 782-8191 or 239-0820

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 submission for style, brevity, and clarity

CAMPUS CRIME

January 8 -

Theft of property was reported at Patterson Hall.

January 7 -

A burglary was reported at Dixon Hall. Harassing communications were reported at Fitzpatrick Hall.

January 6 -

Theft of services and giving false ID to a police officer was reported at Sparkman Hall. A domestic violence incident was reported at Crow

Books (continued from page 1):

Education, Sociology, etc., choose their texts based on standards set by their accreditation asso-

ciation. "We have to be certain that every student that graduates has basic knowledge in all these areas," said Dr. Bill Scroggins, head of Finance, Economics, and Accounting within the College of Commerce and **Business** Administration at JSU. "A teacher may focus

more on one aspect of a

course, but as long as the

book they pick covers

the areas they're sup-

posed to, there isn't a

Graduating students

from the accredited pro-

problem."

grams take a test that provides feedback to the faculty.

"Every year, we go over the results and see if anything's slipping," Scroggin said. "If it is, we review and create a new class, or switch to a new text."

New texts, revised and expanded versions, are another concern of teachstudents. ers and Teachers say new texts are needed in order to teach students with the revised statistics. research, laws, and polices, but not at the rate the companies are pushing.

"Some companies put out a book each year," said Dr. Clark Hudspeth,

a sociology professor. "It's too much. I use the same book for my Intro class that I've used for years. It's a good book, it's a cheap book, and if I need the class to see something else, I'll make copies for them."

Copying supplemental works is one of the faculty actions listed by The Affordable Textbooks Campaign, a coalition of students in fourteen states dedicated to lowering textbook prices. Their website, maketextbooksaffordable.com, lists several ways for students, faculty, college administration and legislators to lower book costs for students. The main tactic for staying inside budget for students is to purchase textbooks used, early and online.

Used books at bookstores are usually \$25 less than new copies, but publishing companies and authors do not get any of the resale price for used books.

Greenfield Online, an online data-collecting company, found in a 2004 **On-Campus** Market study that students thought buying textbooks online was 'more convenient' (49%), and 'inexpensive' (52%). However, only 16 percent of students actually purchase their books

online, according to a

"I always buy books at the bookstore because it's such a hassle to get the titles from them," said Banholzer, a photography major. "Both bookstores refuse to give you the names of the books, and by the time you find out what you need, it's too late to find them somewhere else."

report.

James Potts, a computer science and business major also buying textbooks, said he saved about \$75 per book when he ordered online.

"I just ran out of time this semester," he said, "but I only have to buy three more books."

Theft (continued from page 1):

going out of town.

"Some of the kids are so careless about going home," she says about the students living in apartments on and off campus. "They'll leave the doors open."

That's why the program that UPD shows during orientation is so important. To get the students to pay attention. it's interlaced with sound files and silly cartoons. Sirens blare, shots are fired and well-known cartoon voices help to emphasize key points.

"Education, education, education," said Corporal Neil Fetner, accreditation manager of UPD. "When the freshmen come in we try to instill in them - don't leave your purse laying on the front seat, put it in the trunk; don't leave your checkbook laying in your seat or laying on the dash with the check numbers exposed - take precautions."

Jacksonville Unfortunately, State's police department doesn't always do much past orientation.

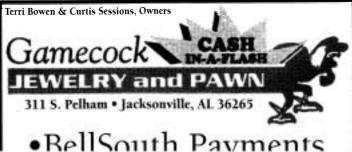
lights, especially when you are it, but, for most students, orientation is it.

> "If they miss the orientation program, I hate to say this, there isn't a whole lot that we do for follow-up and maybe we're falling short there, but in a lot of things the burden is on the student," said Fetner. "If you skip orientation the only way is to get out there and do your own research."

For those students who choose to research it, UPD's crime statistics and annual report can be found on website their at http://www.jsu.edu/depart/upd/. Parents of incoming students are also encouraged to visit the site to see the statistics and view the other programs UPD offers, such as unlocking cars when a student locks their keys inside and an escort service to take female students home at night.

"We don't escort males," said Page. "But we always tell everyone that if you decide to walk home make sure you have somebody to





cer was reported at Sparkman Hall. A domestic violence incident was reported at Crow Hall.

January 5 -

Stephan James Claitt was arrested for conspiracy to committ a crime with a controlled substance at Daugette Hall.

January 4 -

Theft of property and burglary was reported at Pi Kappa Phi House.

January 3 -

A burglary was reported at The Rock House. A burglary was reported at the Pete Mathews Coliseum concession stand. Theft of services was reported at Fitzpatrick Hall.

January 1 -

Adrian Tarvaras Peoples was arrested for the possession of marijuana at the intersection of Clinton and Gayle.

December 20 -

Harassment was reported at the Delta Chi House.

December 19 -

Jason Ian Marquis Weems was arrested for simple assault at Salls Hall.

December 18 -

An assault was reported at the Delta Chi Chapter room.

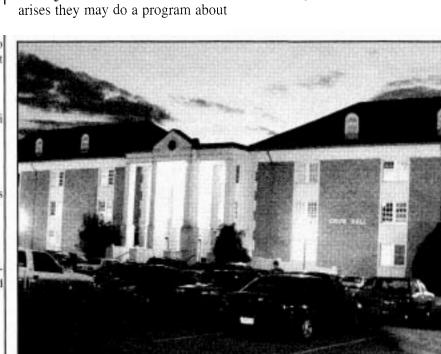
December 13 -

Norman Isdore Carrin was arrested for the sale of stolen property at the JSU bookstore.

December 6 -

Edward Earl Ingram Jr. ws arrested for the possession of marijuana with intent to sell at the Theron Montgomery Building.

Information in Campus Crime is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Salls Hall. These ecords are public documents that anyone has the right to examne under Alabama state law. If you believe any information to e an error, call 782-5701, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050.



State's police department doesn't that it you decide to wark nome

walk with you."

Photo by: Jennifer Bacchus

Crow Hall is one of the many residence halls on the JSU campus.

Home (continued from page 1)

check, but if the student doesn't have sufficient credit, their guardian may sign for them.

always do much past orientation.

Throughout the semester if an issue

Hamm says most students choose to come to Eagle Point "for freedom and independence".

Shavon Peters weighed the prosand cons of living on campus and living off campus and she chose to live off campus because it's "less chaotic." She says she has more freedom and more security. Since she doesn't live too far from cam-

pus, she says about \$15 dollars in gas will last her for the entire week.

make sure you have somebody to

So there you have it. Living on campus can be a great experience and it's a lot cheaper. But, you have to sacrifice some freedom and privacy. If you want to live off campus to get that freedom and privacy you long for; provided you or your parents have sufficient credit, you may do so. You just have to pay more for it, but that's how the "real world" works.



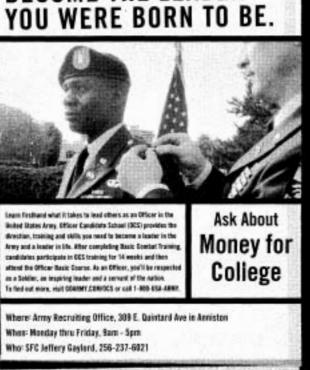
The Chanticleer

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Single copies are free from newsstands. Unauthorized removal of multiple copies will be considered theft and prosecuted as such.





AN ARMY OF ONE

LETTERS POLICY

The Chanticleer welcomes letters 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: chantynews@yahoo.com.

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous, detamatory, or submitted anonymously. Letters may be edited for style, brevity, or clarity. The Chanticleer 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.

THE CHANTICLE

Serving Jacksonville and the University community since 193-

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FEATURES Thirst for Answers

By Eddie Burkhalter *The Chanticleer Staff Writer*

The whole country is divided into red and blue. Some believe your place of birth or the way in which you were raised determines which primary color you'll be. Some say it's just a question of taste, plain and simple. What both can agree on is that red is taking heat on college campuses across the country.

This month, the University of Michigan banned red from its campus. No, they didn't forcibly remove all the Bush voters; we're talking about the other red, Coca-Cola.

In a press release by the University of Michigan's Coalition to Cut the Contract with Coca-Cola, a student-run activist group, they state that after more than a year of student campaigning, the University of Michigan has temporarily suspended University purchasing of Coca-Cola products effective January 1, 2006.

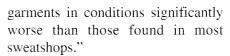
They claim that Coke is unwilling to cooperate with a third party review of alleged human rights violations in Asia and South America. Violations they believe led to the deaths of ten union just sign a petition, make some banners and order up some Pepsi machines, right? Maybe not.

In yet another unscientific survey of JSU students, ten out of ten hadn't heard of the allegations against Coke. Even after learning of them, not one said they'd be willing to give up "Big 'Red."

" I don't think my buying habits affect a multi-billion dollar company,

But the Coalition didn't do it alone. It was the "Boot the Bell" campaign that began in 2001 and spread across college and high school campuses alike that gave the coalition the push it needed.

But what about the independent third-party assessment by Cal Safety. Coke said they found no instance of anti-union violence in it's bottling plants.



Cal Safety was the registered monitor for the front shop, D&R.

In a statement taken from attorney Julie A. Su during the May 18, 1998 hearing before the subcommittee on oversight and investigations, she states, "The failure of Cal safety to find abuses in this case is one of the

most widely cited examples of the shortcomings of the private monitoring industry."

Clara Hardie, a member of the University of Michigan's Coalition to Cut the Contract with Coca-Cola, says that Coke has "asked all parties involved in the Miami court case (against Coke) to sign an inadmissibility agreement (that no evidence found in the independent audit will be used against them in the court). "This move alone proves they are guilty of something," Clara states.

Coca-Cola denies any wrongdoing, and in its press release says, "The Coca-Cola Company and our bottlers have investigated the claims regarding human rights abuses in Columbia and found no evidence to support them. We will continue to work to ensure that our company and our bottling partners operate under the highest standards in Columbia."

Red or Blue, guilty or not, it seems that college students are taking an interest in the world outside their own campuses. And it's a big world

Jacksonville Brother's Bar Thursday Jan. 12, 2006 Vinvl Suite Friday Jan. 13, 2006 Vintage Stone/ McPherson Struts Saturday Jan. 14, 2006 Highwater. Monday Jan. 16. 2006 Open Mic Nite w/ Tedder Tuesday Jan. 17, 2006 Eliot Morris Wednesday Jan. 18, 2006 Ladies Nite w/ DJ Crash

WLJS

concert

calendar

Gadsden

Second Street Music Hall Friday Jan. 13, 2006

Electic Voodoo

Birmingham The Nick

Thursday Jan. 12, 2006 Redbelly Band/ Craig Wedren/ Amy Miles Friday Jan. 13, 2006 Year and a Day/ Bishop Don/ Lauderdale/ Obliviaxe Saturday Jan. 14, 2006 CD Release- Taylor Hollinsworth/ The Whigs/ Vesper Wednesday Jan. 18, 2006 Planeside/ Xonestray Workplay Thursday Jan. 12, 2006 Craig Carothers Saturday Jan. 14, 2006 Gabe Dixon Band/ Jesse Payne Band Zydeco Friday Jan. 13, 2006 Runaway Coal Train/ The Greencards

Saturday Jan. 14, 2006



deaths of ten union leaders in Columbia.

They aren't alone. Nine other campuses did the same, and gave M big red the boot. The th largest of these is New York University, with more than 50,000 students.

Coca-Cola cries fowl. In an official press release, Coke says the allegations against their business in Columbia are false. It states that, "A workplace assessment conducted in Columbia by Cal Safety Compliance Corporation, a respected, independent third-party found no instance of anti-union violence or intimidation at bottling plants."

No matter, this is the **South**. **Coke** is king, right? In a recent unscientific survey of **twenty-five** random students, half said **they use the Coke** machines on **campus** three **to** six times a week.

Our university **holds** an exclusive contract with Coca-Cola.

When asked what drink **they'd** like to see added to the existing **selection**, Mountain Dew, a Pepsi product, was the most common answer. So let's all so I wouldn't change them," said Graduate student Clarence Blalock.

Coke says the same thing. In the Los Angeles Times, a Coke spokeswoman is quoted as saying, "It is very unfortunate. The actual volume in terms of sales is small but it is the larger issue of our reputation."

So we all seem to agree that nothing we can do will make a difference.

Don't tell that to the folks at the Coalition of Immokalee workers. In March of 2005, their boycott of Taco Bell ended when the company accepted demands for a penny a pound increase in the price they pay for tomatoes, according to a Coalition press release. While a penny a pound doesn't seem like much, the increase will nearly double the yearly wage of the Florida farm workers.

According to a 1997 report by Clark University sociology professor titled *No Sweat: Fashion, Free Trade, and the Rights of Garment Workers,* "On August 2, 1995, a multiagency task force led by the California Department Industrial Relations raided a fenced seven-unit apartment complex in El Monte, California.

What they found was one of the most horrendous U.S. sweatshops in modern times....The workers, most of them women, had been held in virtual slavery behind fences tipped with razor wire and forced to sew world outside their own campuses. And it's a big world out there.

DOES

Photo illustration by Eddie Burkhalter

Most JSU students polled said they would like to see Mountain Dew, a Pepsi product, added to the Coke machines around campus. However, JSU has an exclusive contract with Coca-Cola.

YOUR BAND ROCK? CALL JEFF AT 782-8192 Saturda's Jan. 14, 2006 Father Peter AKA The Shortbus Alabama Theatre Sunday Jan. 15, 2006 Die Fledermaus BJCC Thur. Jan. 12-Jan. 15, 2006 Birmingham Broadway Series-- 42nd Street

Atlanta

Smith's Olde Bar Thursday Jan. 12, 2006 CX-1/ The Hopsing Project Friday Jan. 13, 2006 Mandorico/ Alan Yates Band Saturday Jan. 14, 2006 Blueground Undergrass/ The Squirrelheads Sunday Jan. 15, 2006 The Samples/ Bradley Cole Smith Band Wednesday Jan. 18, 2006 Becoming Wheels/ Actress/ Josh Graff Variety Playhouse Friday Jan. 13, 2006 Donna The Buffalo Saturday Jan. 14, 2006 Moonshine Still Wednesday Jan. 18, 2006 Raul Midon The Masquerade Wednesday Jan. 18, 2006 Less Than Jake The Fox Theatre Fri. Jan. 13-Jan. 15, 2006 David Copperfield Tues. Jan. 17-Jan. 22, 2006 Cats Earthlink Live Friday Jan. 13, 2006 Holy Hip Hop Showcase Saturday Jan. 14, 2006 Holy Hip Hop Awards **Phillips Arena** Sunday Jan. 15, 2006

Aerosmith/ Lenny

Tuesday Jan. 17, 2006

Kravitz

Bon Jovi





Old habits die hard

By Patrick Swafford The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Bulldogs bite back

It's funny, really. I had this column finished about a week ago, but I saw something Monday morning that inspired me to change things up.

I was driving down Forney Avenue, headed to my first class, and I saw members of the volleyball team running together. Yeah, I know, Amado's last column talked about that also, but that's the irony of it all.

Some things never change.

That being said, meet your new sports editor, me. I'm the one that has been given the task of replacing a guy who has seen some of the most important moments in JSU athletics over the last several years, our former sports editor, Amado Ortiz.

To be honest, I've been working on this column for about three weeks now. I wanted to find just the right words to say this time, but I've found it hard. There's so many people to mention, but such limited space.

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the man that started me down the path that I'm on, the new managing editor of the Jacksonville News, who until recently was the sports editor of the Anniston Star, Jimmy Creed. Words can't express how this guy has helped me grow as a writer. You can never forget the people that helped you, and Jimmy was the guy that opened the door for me.

I've also got to show some love to my friend, Amado. I was kind of disappointed when he never said goodbye

By Patrick Swafford *The Chanticleer Sports Editor*

When an opponent like Samford has a shooting night like they did Saturday, it's hard to pull off a win. J. Robert Merritt scored 32 points, as the Bulldogs defeated Jacksonville State 90-69.

The 32-point performance was the second highest in Merritt's career and his seven 3-pointers tied a career mark as Samford avenged a 62-61 loss to the Gamecocks December 8.

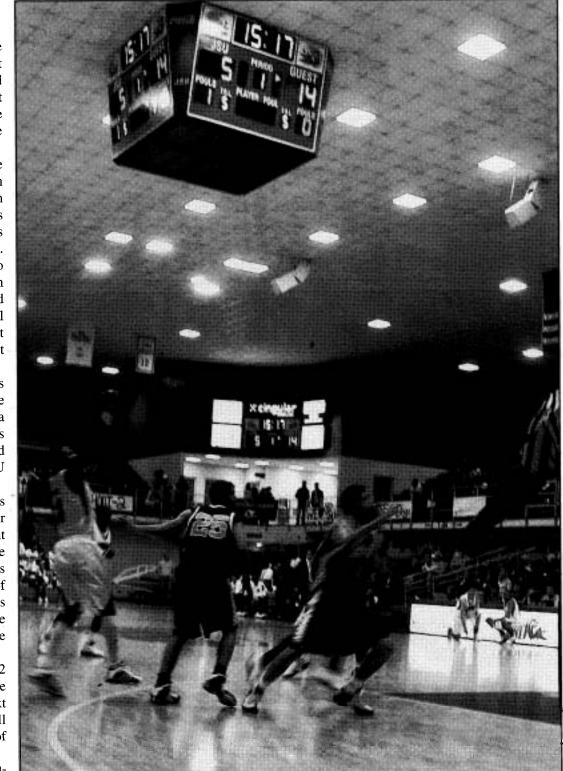
The Bulldogs jumped out to an early lead, but three's from JSU's Anthony Wilson and Walker Russell helped to pull JSU ahead 20-18 with just over ten minutes in the first half.

That's when Merritt took his game to another level. The 6'6" senior from Oklahoma City hit back-to-back shots from behind the arc that started an 18-3 Samford run that JSU would never recover from.

"He got one freebie versus transition one time, then after he made that shot, he caught fire," JSU coach Mike LaPlante said. "We had guys right up on him the majority of the time, but obviously his ability to knock down those threes was the difference in the first half."

The Gamecocks (5-6, 3-2 OVC) tried to answer, but were held scoreless through the next 4:45 of play when Russell knocked down a 3-pointer of his own.

"When we got down by double-digits. I thought we started



check for most of the second half.

"When they're playing with a double-digit lead, they're a totally different team because they can really be patient with the shots they're gonna take," LaPlante said. "You get down ten or more to those guys it just changes the whole game." Samford made those

samford made those changes by setting up good looks at potential 3-pointers, but quickly went inside with back door passes that caught the Gamecock defense off guard.

"They were making shots and it got us off balance thinking we should close out to the 3-point," JSU guard Walker Russell said. "We closed out to the 3-point and they were back dooring. They just played better than us tonight."

If there was any doubt that this was Merritt's night, he silenced it, along with the home crowd, by getting the rebound on his own shot not once, but twice in five seconds before Travis Peterson buried a 10-foot jumper to put the Bulldogs up by 17.

Merritt used that series of events to complete the double double with 10 rebounds.

The Gamecocks will be in action again tonight against Tennessee Tech at Pete Mathews Coliseum. Tip-off is 7:30 p.m.



was kind of disappointed when he never said goodbye in his final column, but I wasn't surprised. Amado has never been one to focus on himself. To be honest, the word humble is an understatement when you talk about that guy. Since he's not one to talk about himself. I'll do it for him.

The day we released the final issue of last semester, Amado and I had lunch at the TMB. He and I really didn't talk much about the paper or the job, but more about the experiences. It's been said that a sports writer is only as good as the teams and events he or she covers. In that sense, Amado has been nothing short of a success.

In his two years behind the desk, Amado has seen OVC championships in football, baseball, softball, tennis, and volleyball. He's also seen the rifle team come just shy of an NCAA Championship. All the credit goes to the athletic department for the success during that time, but as far as this paper is concerned, one set of eyes has seen it all.

I know how he feels now. With the volleyball team bringing home a little hardware, I got a taste of just what it feels like to cover something special. That's just one championship, though. With the way JSU's athletic programs have gone as of late, there are probably more great moments ahead.

The rosters of every team on campus will change from time to time, as will the staff of The Chanticleer. However, there will always be another game to cover, another match to watch and another championship to enjoy. You, as the students, will be there cheering for your home team and as long as I'm behind this desk, I'll be watching.

"When we got down by double-digits, I thought we started to force it offensively," LaPlante, B.J. Spencer takes aim at a jumper early in the first half. said. "The guys are meaning well, but I thought they became impatient and tried to get it all back at one time. We got a little **impatient** with our shot selection."

Merritt's hot start gave the Bulldogs a comfortable 16-point lead at half-

time.

Jacksonville State came out firing in the second half, determined to cut the lead to single digits. A 3-pointer by Russell with 17:46 left in the game put the Gamecocks down 10, but Merritt Photo by: Jennifer Bacch

quickly answered with the last of his seven threes to end the threat.

With a comfortable lead, the Bulldogs slowed the tempo of the game down drastically, keeping the Gamecocks' speed and quickness in

		1.1.2.2	a constant
	Samford	5-1	9-4
us	Murray State	5-1	8-4
	Austin Peay	4-2	9-5
	Tennessee Tech	4-2	9-5
	Tennessee State	3/2	4-7
	Eastern KY	3.3	6-7
	JSU	3-3	5.7
	UT Martin	3-4	6-7
	SE Missouri	3-5	6-8
	Eastern Illinois	1-5	2-10
	Morehead State	0-6	1-11

Gamecock family reunion

By: Chad Hoffman The Chanticleer Sports Writer

The Jacksonville State student athletes finally had their time to hang out and socialize as one big Gamecock family. On their return to school, the Student Athlete Committee Advisory

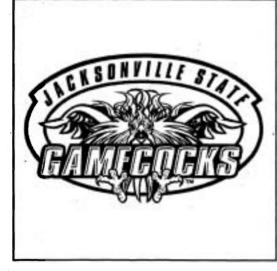
(SAAC) had a social for the student athletes at Leon Cole Auditorium on Thursday, January 5.

The event was to help bring the student closer athletes together and for them to mingle with others from different teams. Since the athletes are all so busy during the school year, this was one opportunity for them to get to know one another and to branch out to make more friends.

The athletes are not only here to compete on the field or court for the Gamecocks. Most importantly, they are here to gain an education. This is stressed to the student athletes throughout their career by coaches, family and friends.

This night was for just for them and to let them relax and have a good time with one another.

The night began with athletes slowly coming in and seeing who from their team was at the social. They seemed to sit with their respective team and not talk to many others. As the night drew on and mingling began to take place, some danced on



the dance floor while others caught up on old times, talked about the upcoming season and even discussed graduation.

Most teams were represented in some way. The two teams most noticeably not represented, however, were the men's and women's basketball teams. They were at Austin Peav competing for JSU. For other teams, like

softball and cheerleading. coming to the social was mandated by their coaches. Others that came included football, baseball, rifle, cross country, track and field, volleyball and women's tennis.

The turn out for the event was a little smaller than the SAAC had anticipated, but

> overall it was a success. The SAAC sent out invitations to each team before the Christmas holidays in an attempt to make it a little more personal for the athletes. Several athletes could not stop talking about the opportunity to be able to talk to others from each team. Some had complications with their class schedule conflicting with the time of the

event.

The evening wrapped up around 9:30 p.m. with the final song and many saying goodbye to friends they may not see for a couple of months. The committee thanked everyone there for coming out.

The SAAC is a committee compromised of two athletes from each sport, along with two cheerleaders and train-



Photo by: Chad Hoffman

Cross country's Matt Morgan dances with softball's Kelly Raw

ers. They meet once or twice a month at Kennamer Hall.

The committee participates in community service projects, along with all other Ohio Valley Conference schools. They organize events for the student athletes to participate in throughout the year and are there to assist student athletes with any problem that may arise.

Since you've been gone

By Patrick Swafford The Chanticleer Sports Editor

What? You didn't think this university totally shut down while you were enjoying the winter break, did you? Come on, people. Don't get me wrong, your friends at The Chanticleer hope the holiday season was good to you.

For those of you that went home for the break, we didn't expect you to drive back and forth between wherever you were and Jacksonville to catch a few basketball games, although the loyalty and dedication to JSU probably would have made Coaches LaPlante and Dagostino happy.

That's why your friends at The Chanticleer are here slaving away over a hot computer in the basement of Self Hall. We're here to fill you in on what you missed since the first of December.

After dropping a 97-70 beat down on Tennessee Temple on December 1, the men's basketball team fell to Delaware State and their ball control offense, 73-62. From then, the Gamecocks entered OVC play with wins at Samford and Tennessee-Martin to improve to 4-2 overall.

The Gamecocks lost their next two, falling on the road to Mississippi State and at home to OVC rival Murray State, but rebounded from the loss to defeat Southeast Missouri State by 10 just before Christmas.

An away game at Auburn on New Year's Eve was a test of survival, and I don't mean JSU's. The Tigers escaped with an 87-83 win over JSU, but only after a comeback in the final minutes of the game.

Finally, the Gamecocks got back into conference play with a 95-82 loss at Austin Peay.

Courtney Bradley had 23 points in only 28 minutes of play due to foul trouble. Anthony Wilson and B.J. Spencer contributed with 16 and 14 respectively.

While things are going well for the men's team, the women have struggled with the loss of senior point guard Cobie Carlisle due to injury. The Lady Gamecocks defeated Kennesaw State on December 5, but have failed to put up another win since.

Now that you're caught up to speed on the sports currently going on, there are a few things that happened with our fall sports teams that you need to know.

Unless you've been hiding under a rock, you should already know that the JSU volleyball team won the OVC

championship for the first time in school history and was included in the field of 64 the NCAA teams in Tournament for the first time ever. However, the trip was a short one as they fell in three straight games to eventual Final Four team, Tennessee.

Finally, several Gamecock athletes brought home some hardware during the break.

Abbey Breit capped her 2005 season by earning honorable mention All-America honors by the American Coaches Volleyball Association.

The sophomore middle blocker from Louisville, Ky led the conference in kills on her way to wrapping up Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year honors as well.

Football's Rod Olds and Clay Green were named to the Don Hansen's 2005 Football Gazette NCAA I-AA All-America team.

Olds, a senior center from Panama City, Fla., lead the Gamecocks with 119 knockdowns and 19 pancake blocks on his way to a first team All-OVC selection as well.

Green finished the year second in the nation in all-purpose yards with a school record 186.2 per game and rushing for 1,352 yards during the 2005 season.

By Patrick Swafford The Chanticleer Sports Editor

If you've been to a JSU basketball game this season, you've seen DeAndre Bray. It's hard to miss the 5'6" point guard running up and down the floor. The energy the guy plays with is nothing short of exciting, and Bray provides a spark of energy to the team when he comes off the bench. The Chanticleer had the chance to sit down with the freshman from Atlanta, Ga. and find out what drives him on and off the court in this week's edition of "The Third Degree."

CS: We know how fast you are on the court, but just how fast are you?

DB: I really haven't been timed, but I could probably run a 4.3 or 4.4 [40-yard dash].

CS: You ran cross country and played tennis in high school. If you weren't playing basketball, which would you rather do? **DB**: Cross Country.

CS: Why Cross Country?

DB: I love running. I had asthma when I was little, so it worked out my lungs. I've been doing a whole lot of running since I was five.

CS: Why did you choose JSU? **DB:** This is a good school. I feel like I'm a good fit on the team, and it's not too far from home. **CS:** What is your favorite sport, besides basketball?

DB: I play every sport, so I've just got to choose. Cross Country isn't a professional sport, so I'll say football.

CS: Who's your team?

The Third

Degree

With

DeAndre Bray

DB: Atlanta Falcons. CS: Who do you model your game after?

DB: I'd say Jason Kidd, right now. He's like a passer. He gets everybody involved, you know. He plays defense. He don't shoot too many shots, but he gets everybody involved.

CS: What's your pre-game ritu-5 al?

DB: I just make sure I take a shower to wake myself up, get some lotion on and concentrate. Then just listen to music, stretch and dribble a lot to get my reflexes going.

CS: Tell us your favorite basketball story.

DB: Oooh, I have a lot.

CS: Then give me a good one. **DB:** I was playing AAU ball. We were down like 18. Everybody don't know that I can shoot, but I can. I just take a lot of shots. I just started stealing the ball on the presses and just shootin' threes. Wherever I stole the ball, I just shot it from there. I was just hitting them left and right and we won the game.



CS: What's your favorite movie? **DB:** Money Talks. **CS:** What is your favorite quote? DB: Do the little things that count to win. CS: If you could meet any famous person, alive or dead, who would it be? DB: I'd meet Spud Webb. CS: What are you afraid of? DB: Really, nothing. CS: Oh, bullcrap. **DB:** Not really. CS: What's in your CD player right now? DB: Anything hype. I like music that'll make me move fast. **CS:** Like what? DB: I got a lot of Lil' John stuff in my MP3.

CS: What do you do when you're not on the court or studying?

DB: Probably playing video games.

CS: What's your favorite game? **DB:** Any type of strategy game. CS: Tell the readers of The Chanticleer something the wouldn't be able to find out anywhere else.

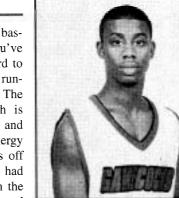
DB: Well, I just started kinda growing a little bit. My ninth grade year, I was like 5'0".

CS: How tall were you when you graduated high school? **DB:** About 5'4", maybe 5'5."

While DeAndre may be the smallest guy on the court, his game makes up for it. To see more of DeAndre and the rest of JSU Basketball, they will be in action tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum.



A case of the "Mundays"



By Patrick Swafford The Chanticleer Sports Editor

You can think of all the bad puns in the world, including the headline of this story, but Samford's Alex Munday is no joke.

The Bulldogs' leading scorer this season scored 21 points, four shy of her career high, as the Bulldogs pounded Jacksonville State 82-46 Saturday night.

The Gamecocks (2-11, 0-6 OVC) struggled to find the net, shooting a dismal 27 percent for the game, including 4-for-26 from beyond the arc.

The 46-point performance is tied for third worst since Dave Dagostino took over as JSU women's coach in the 2003-04 season. The worst came at the hands of thirdranked Duke last season, 99-36.

"I haven't been a part of a game since I took over that we shot **so** poorly," Dagoastino said." "I thought they [Samford] shot the ball extremely well in the first half. We had hands in their faces and we forced them to shoot over a body. They just made good shots."

The Gamecocks set up the shots they wanted, but were unable to execute. The misses pilled up fast and JSU soon found itself down by 12 at the half.

Munday torched the Gamecock defense in the second half, scoring 13 of the Bulldogs' first 16 points while helping to increase a 12-point halftime lead to 2 in less than five minutes.

"We held her in check in the first half, but her presence in there allows others to get open. She may not be hitting the shot or making

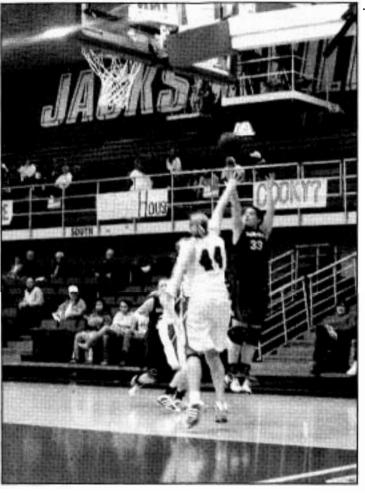


Photo by: Jennifer Bacchus

¹¹ Samford's Alex Munday hits a long-range jumper

the scoring pass, but her movement draws attention. She's going to demand attention wherever she goes on the court," said Dagostino.

While Munday led the charge in the second half, the Gamecocks went cold. After an Ashley Clay jumper with 19:25 left in the game, JSU missed its next eight shots.

Samford's accuracy from the entire floor was deadly. The Bulldogs hit an impressive 51 percent from the floor for the game, but it was their accuracy in the second half that put JSU away. The Gamecocks could only manage 22 percent, hitting only seven shots during that time. Jacksonville State is not only trying to recover from the loss of senior point guard Cobie Carlisle's injury, but was also dealing with the loss of inside scoring threat Ann-Marie Healy.

"We shot poorly from the perimeter tonight," Dagostino said. "Not having a post presence hurts because you want to go inside-out, but tonight we went outside and farther outside."

The Gamecocks will be in action tonight against Tennessee Tech at Pete Mathews Coliseum. Game time is 5 p.m.

OVC Standing

Samford 5-1 Tennessee Tech 5-1 Morehead State 3-2 **UT Martin** 3-2 SE Missouri 4-3 Eastern Illinois 4-3 Austin Peav 3-3 3-3 Eastern KY 3 Murray State 3.4 0-5 Ō. Tennessee State JSU 0-6 2

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