A little flooding hasn’t dampened David Zeigler’s spirits. As the director of the Jacksonville State University McClellan Center, Zeigler is responsible for the building that now houses programs from both JSU and Gadsden State Community College.

Before a joint $8 million renovation project by JSU and Gadsden State, the building served as a training center for the Army’s Military Police Corps.

Just before Christmas, a faulty sump pump beneath the building’s auditorium allowed water from an underground spring to rise, causing damage to the carpeting just in front of the stage.

“I graduated in this auditorium back in 1979,” Zeigler said.

JSU drama department students and technical director David Keefer have been busy installing new rigging in the 445-seat auditorium. After its completion in two weeks, the center will use the space both for JSU and GSCC functions, as well as a source for generating revenue.

Most of the programs that moved from JSU are non-traditional services. JSU’s Office of Continuing Education moved into the second floor of the McClellan Center. The program had been housed in Curtis Hall, which will soon be turned back into a dormitory.

In addition, JSU’s In-service Education Center moved into the McClellan Center. The program works with existing teachers throughout the summer, providing them with additional training.

The Institute for Emergency Preparedness had its first graduating class at the McClellan building in December. Students can take courses in public safety communications and 911 professions from around the world in this one-of-a-kind program via the Internet.

JSU’s Archeological Resource Laboratory also resides at the center.

Gadsden State also offers online Public Safety Telecommunications and Emergency Management Services at the McClellan Center.

Large rooms filled with hospital beds and medical equipment look more like the set of ER than college classrooms, but it’s all essential in the training of the future paramedics and ambulance drivers.

With year-round classes, the busiest part of the building is leased by the Northeast Alabama Police Academy. The halls are lined with plaques and photographs of previous graduating classes.

In one particular classroom, a wall had to be torn down to accommodate the growing class size.

“Pretty soon, there will only be two police academies in the state and this will be the premier one,” Zeigler said.

Parking has been a problem at the center, so plans were made to tear down a building across the street to make room for an additional 92 parking spots. Demolition of the building has been slowed, however, because it was found to contain lead.

The students can transition from junior college right into a four year institution,” Zeigler said.
Before a joint $8 million renovation project by JSU and Gadsden State, the building served as a training center for the Army’s Military Police Corps.

### Senate minutes

**By: Reagan Williams**  
*The Chautiicleer Staff Writer*

**Student Organization Presentation:**  
Philip Goodman, a junior at Jacksonville State University, presented a slide show during Monday’s Student Government Association Senate meeting to one day achieve a more “student friendly commons building.”

After touring Kennesaw State University’s student commons he noticed some things that could enhance JSU’s commons.

Goodman surveyed 56 random students and asked them a few questions about what they would like to see in our commons. The results suggested the need for wireless Internet, 24-hour computer labs, a lounge area, a coffee shop and a student organization center in the Theron Montgomery Building.

New restaurants were also requested. Arby’s was the number one choice followed by McDonald’s.

“It’s something to work towards,” Goodman said, after giving a detailed layout of what the student organization center could be like.

He proposed the second floor should be devoted to campus organizations and the Academic Center for Excellence should move to the third floor. He also suggested this organization be given their own physical space in the form of cubicles in what is now ACE.

Giving organizations a place to call their own would give them visual representation and would develop networking between organizations.

**NSSE:**  
The National Survey for Student Engagement, intended for freshmen and seniors, will be occurring this semester. It is intended to collect information about students’ encounters at JSU. It has been implemented at 560 universities. Students will be receiving information in their JSU mailboxes.

**Basketball Bucks:**  
The student organization with the most spirit and attendance at certain basketball games will be given a cash prize of $125. The dates are January 26, February 2 and February 16.

**SGA Election Applications:**  
SGA election applications go out January 30 in the Office of Student Life, room 402 TMB. To hold an executive position you must have been a senator for at least two semesters.

**Ambassador Applications:**  
Applications for JSU Ambassadors will be available February 1 in the Visitor’s Center.

**Interfraternity Council:**  
The IFC will begin its spring recruitment next week. For applications see the Office of Student Life, room 402 TMB or contact William Dowdy.

**Panhellenic Open House:**  
A panhellenic open house for female students interested in joining a greek organization will be held on January 31 at 5 p.m. in Sparkman Hall.

**Collegiate Legislature:**  
Nineteen students from JSU will be attending Collegiate Legislature on February 2-4 to learn more about the workings of the Legislative Branch.

“I feel it is a stepping stone,” said SGA President Madracus “Drake” Russell, “for students who want to be involved with the SGA.”

**Board of Trustees Meeting:**  
A resolution was passed at the Board of Trustees meeting on Monday for the addition of a new art building to the site of the recently demolished steam plant.

**Faculty Senate:**  
At the Faculty Senate meeting on Monday, faculty members expressed concern about the lack of parking around Sparkman and Ayers Halls. They stated that too many students are parking in faculty parking.

**Senator Statie Hill** shared that there is a safety concern for women who live in Sparkman. She said that students are forced to park in the back of the building where the entrances have been closed, and there are too many trees and bushes.

**STARS Committee Head, Senator Lynley Sparkman**

**Still under construction**

By Jennifer Bacchus  
The Chautiicleer Editor-in-Chief

When Jacksonville State University’s Board of Trustees met on Monday, the main topics were buildings to be torn down or repaired, the glossy new 2005-2006 Fact Book and how the education departments would adjust to the new Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative (AMSTI).

“In regard to our roofing problem, that continues to be a point of contention,” said Dr. William Meehan. “On rainy days, unfortunately, it leaks.”

The university has been in litigation with Standard Roofing over the various problems and a waterproofing consultant has inspected the buildings and will be making repair recommendations.

Building 3181 at McClellan will have a new parking lot sometime in the next six months, as soon as Building 3160 can be taken down. This project will be mainly funded by a $392,826 grant that Gadsden State Community College received.

JSU also has a few buildings they hope to add to the campus in the near future. The board took another step toward the addition of a new art building by passing Resolution 501, stating their intent to issue tax-exempt bonds in order to finance the project.

The building will be constructed on the site of the recently demolished steam plant.

The lobby of the Gamecock Football Field House will be named the Loring White Lobby in thanks to Loring White, a generous supporter of JSU.

Dr. Cynthia Harper, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies, and Dr. William Carr, dean of Graduate Studies, gave a presentation to the group on AMSTI, a new program designed by the state to improve math and science teaching methodologies.

JSU has recently been named an AMSTI inservice school and, within the next few years, will be altering its curriculum to adjust to the requirements of the initiative.

“As far as AMSTI is concerned, we aren’t sure what the new changes will be until we become more involved in AMSTI. I know there will be strategies and techniques that my staff will learn once they go through the AMSTI training,” said Dr. Harper.

The department recently revamped its curriculum for the next five years to reflect the requirements for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. For AMSTI, the curriculum changes won’t be in the content of the courses, but in techniques that the prospective teachers will use to train their students in math and science.

“It’s going to be a different approach to teaching math and science. It’s going to be hands-on,” said Harper. “Kids aren’t just going to sit and listen. They’re going to experiment.”
Announcements

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

BCN: Celebration every Tuesday, 8 p.m.

Alpha Omnicron Pi: We hope that everyone has a great week. Good luck to our intramural this week.
Contact: Meredith Harvey at mer@aol.com

ISO: International Student Organization (ISO) offers three $1,000.00 scholarships to JSU students on the campus. Interested students can get more information at the International House.
Contact: Zorka Kujovic: internationalstudentorganization@jsu.edu

Funny Fotos: January 26 in the Theron Montgomery Food Court from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Sponsored by the SGA.

SGA: The Office of Student Life is looking for energetic and dedicated JSU students to be a part of Leadership 2006. Applications are available at the Office of Student Life, 402 TMB and will be due March 3. Contact: Emily Williams at 782-5453

ECF: The ECF will be on February 10, 2006 from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. and Wed., February 22 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Online registration opens Jan. 25 and closes February 15. Workshops will be held Monday, Feb. 13 and Tuesday, Feb. 14. Contact: Mrs. Sellers at 782-5512, njell@jum.edu, or in 202 Stone Center.

Ayers Lecture: The 2006 Ayers Lecture will be held on February 10. The featured speaker is Dr. Robert L. Ibarra, the former publisher of the Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald. The lecture is open to the public. There will also be a community journalism conference following the day at McClellan. It will be free to JSU students.

Senate: continued from page 1

Clark suggested that the arrangement of the faculty and the student parking be reassigned to better fit the needs of the faculty and students.

Chief Justice Brande Pollard announced that faculty spaces are open from 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Students can park there, but they must be moved before 7:00 a.m. to avoid a ticket.

Residence Life and Facilities:

Committee Head: Jessica Firestone is working on compiling the results from the surveys that have been turned in to be given to University Housing.

Student Bill 68: Student Bill 68 was passed during Monday's SGA senate meeting. The bill clarifies who can and cannot vote during all student elections.

New Senators: Due to last semester's resignations of Clait Mead and Ted Hunt, two new positions had to be filled at the beginning of this semester.

Two committee head positions also had to be filled, due to scheduling conflicts or having seniors who felt that they could not fulfill the duties of their position.

To avoid having an election in the middle of the term, the executive officers held a closed meeting to determine who will fill the empty slots after senator applications were received.

Factors in determining who would fill the slots were GPA, campus involvement and several questions concerning how you view the SGA and how you feel you could contribute.

Russell said that there is always a stack of applications to be reviewed.

Committee head positions were filled by students who were already serving as senators.

Greeks make the grade

JSU's sororities and fraternities reveal their academic rankings

By: Kimberly Davis
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

The competition is high as Greeks compete for top academic rankings. The Greek grades are posted every spring semester from the previous fall semester ranking the fraternities and sororities in order, by council and as a whole. There are nineteen fraternities and sororities on campus, and everyone is aiming for the number one spot.

Alpha Phi Alpha received the top ranking with a 3.10 GPA. "We achieved a 2.65 in spring 2005, and we used that as a stepping stone for fall 2005," said Alpha Phi Alpha President Antonio J. Davis. "The next level was a least a 3.0, and we met and exceeded our goal."

Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity ranked seventh last spring with a 2.65. The question everyone is asking is how did the Alphas make this tremendous jump from number 7 to number 1. "We used midterms as an assessment to determine where we were as a whole, and we took the necessary steps to improve," said Davis.

During midterms, they helped each other improve individually so it would show collectively at the end of the grading period. "Competition will help keep our academic performance," said Kappa Alpha Psi President Marcus Shepherd. The Kappas used ACE tutoring for members who needed help and they study three hours a week. They also added members with the highest GPA with gift certificates. They gave out a $50 gift certificate to Banana Republic and $25 gift certificate to Gap.

"Greeks are all striving towards excellence, and our goal for next year is to move up in ranking to achieve the number 1 spot," said Shepherd. "Academics is what's all about."

Pi Kappa Phi has improved from a 2.14 GPA to 2.44. Pi Kappa Phi was sixth in the IFC and number 16 overall. Now, they are ranked second in the IFC and number 11 overall. "We did better than we expected, and our goal was to be in the top 2," said Pi Kappa Phi member Woody Rozier. Pi Kappa Phi members study two hours a day, two days a week. "This shows that Greeks can work hard and improve every semester," said Rozier.

"I am proud of the Greeks because a lot of the grades went up, and they are still not satisfied. They know there is room for improvement, and they are dedicated to improving themselves," said Assistant Director of Student Life Eddie D. Banks-Crosson. "The ones that went down are conscious of that, and they are striving to increase that."

Greeks are putting their best foot forward by making their academics a top priority. Each fraternity and sorority is working hard for higher rankings next year. NPHC has set their GPA requirement at 2.4 starting this fall.

Many fraternities and sororities are emphasizing the importance of academics by implementing study sessions and setting goals for academic improvement.

"My goal for the Greeks is to ensure that our groups continue to graduate, realizing that Greek is just an added incentive, but we are here for academics," said Banks-Crosson. "Education is our primary purpose."

Greek grade report
Fall 2005

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<th>Sorority or Fraternity</th>
<th>GPA Fall 2005</th>
<th>Change from Spring '05</th>
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<td>-0.70</td>
</tr>
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</table>

All undergrad women 2.89 +0.04
All undergrad men 2.04 -0.04

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By Jason Keener
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

"Brokeback Mountain," the new film by Ang Lee, is more commonly referred to as "that gay cowboy movie." This is a superficial reading of the film.

"Brokeback Mountain" is a film about two gay cowboys in the sense "Easy Rider" is about two motorcycle enthusiasts.

Most everyone by now knows the plot to some extent. Two men herd sheep in Wyoming in the early '60s and fall in love. They both take wives and raise children, but are unable, as one character puts it, to "quit" each other.

Rellying on "fishing trips" every couple of months, they sneak away to the safety of the secluded mountains and get out their forbidden passion, as well as bond.

Jack (Jake Gyllenhaal) is both a dreamer and a failure, able to conjure ideal situations but incapable of making them materialize. He has ambitious dreams of the two leaving their families behind and running a successful ranch together.

Ennis (Heath Ledger) is more realistic. He realizes the society that surrounds them. He recalls a grisly sight his father showed him when he was nine-years-old. A homosexual had been brutally murdered. Ennis is even suspicious that his father may have been involved in the killing.

This unsettling sight has made him repressed and perhaps self-loathing. Jack is more comfortable with his desires and realized that he would have to be the one to initiate their relationship.

Jack also has a more demanding need than Ennis when it comes to men. Unsatisfied with the frequen-

their lives, Alma (Michelle Williams) witnessed the two kissing upon reuniting after four years.

She keeps quiet and does her best to accept it. Her position in the film is, as I find it, the most devastating and interesting.

And that is why the film is more than a meditation on forbidden desires. Affairs, cold marriages, over-bearing father-in-laws, divorce, employment, parental relationships with children, ambition, death and loneliness all play a part in this complex drama.

So why isn't it "that movie about cowboys that cheat on their wives?"

The debate over the film and the refusal of certain theaters (most in Alabama) to play it is an interesting situation. One that will be as interesting to analyze over the years as was the resistance to allow blacks to go to college with whites.

As a friend noted, like Fahrenheit 9/11," the controversy over the film will find it a larger audience. At least in the long run.

There are some people who would have seen it, some who would have refused to see it, but then there are the others who would have passed over it for lack of interest or knowledge about it. The controversy will be what makes the uninterested take interest.

Seeing "Brokeback Mountain" to find out what all the fuss is about is the wrong reason.

See the film because it is well written, well acted, well photographed and well directed.

See the film because it's a complex drama about unattainable dreams.

See the film because it's entertaining.

See the film.

By Jeff Pruitt
The Chanticleer Features Editor

Before a recent McPherson Struts show, I heard drummer and frontman Bucky Warren describe his band's music as "y'all-ternative."

That's a pretty good description.

With songs about drunken encounters with cops, pick-up trucks and a Johnny Cash cover to boot, all delivered in Warren's southern drawl, the band's affection for country music and their southern roots are proudly evident.

But, while the lyrics and delivery are country-tinged, the music itself is less so.

Played at a faster tempo, the songs on their 2005 release titled "Shocker," a four-song EP, resemble punk rock more than country.

The first song, "Ain't Been Drinkin,'" is a sarcastic apology to a cop who has just pulled someone over.

The lines, "Give me back my license and turn off them blue lights/ I appreciate you reading me my rights, but I ain't been drinkin' tonight" offers a glimpse at the often humorous lyrics on the album.

McPherson Struts will be playing at the Nick in Birmingham on January 31 and February 3.

By combining the anti-establishment nature and working class mentality that exists in both "outlaw country" and punk rock, McPherson Struts has managed to create their own unique sound.

So, while the mixing of these two seemingly different genres of music may seem odd at first, it works in this case.

preaching about a rock-n-roll conspiracy based on the fact that Jesus Christ and Johnny Cash have the same initials.

The last two songs on the album, the appropriately titled "Truck Song," and "Whitley Flats" contain the band's trademark lyrics and some good guitar solos as well.

On "Truck Song," Warren sings about how "the more I learn about the opposite sex, the better I like this beat up wreck."

"Whitley Flats," which adds a harmonica to their usual three-piece lineup of drums, bass and guitar, includes the lines, "I'm just a butter bean in the fatback. That's my life."

Haley Frings, Freshman
Katie Williamson, Freshman

"Pink and green. Phi Mu stuff everywhere."
The band plays occasionally at Brother's Bar in Jacksonville and will be performing at The Nick in Birmingham on Tuesday, January 31 and again on Friday, February 3.
Home is where you hang your hat

By Jennifer Bacchus
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

Claire Perrin sleeps under two flags. Literally. A French flag signed by friends from home and a German flag for her family members in Germany.

The smiling faces of loved ones from both sides of the Atlantic, as well as pictures drawn by her cousin compliment them and add extra reminders of home, both in Brest, France, and with her extended family in München, Germany.

No matter if “home” is on the other side of the state or the other side of the world, when you go to college, everyone feels the need to bring a little home with them.

For Jessica Burkhalter and Ginny Allen, that was each other. Band mates since high school, the room they share reflects their friendship and shared interests.

“We’d pick up something here or there and just bring it back,” said Jessica.

It’s a medley of pastel green mixed with purple and pink. Ginny and Jessica’s favorite colors, and had to be rearranged three times before they settled on furniture placement that was just right.

“It was such an ordeal,” said Ginny.

Their mothers also help with decorating, sending the girls two of whatever they find that goes well with the room.

For Zorka Kujovic, her friends are a large part of the decor of her room.

Souvenirs from friends she’s made while living at the International House occupy a ledge, while a map of the world, with countries signed by those she has met, dominates the head of her bed.

Right now, her room is decorated for winter. Blue lights reflect off of blue and silver balls hanging from the ceiling, casting an icy light over the space.

Of course, they’re high enough so that even her tallest friends don’t have to duck when they come to visit.

So, no matter if “home” is just across the state line or over the International Date Line, don’t forget to infuse your space with your own sense of home and family.

5 Decorating Tips

*Don’t crowd in too many items. Coordinate with your roommate (if possible) to ensure that there isn’t too much furniture or too much STUFF.

*Use the walls. No, you can’t paint them, but you can cover up that ugly industrial color with pictures of friends, artwork you love, lights and other decorations.

*Storage is key: From the area under your bed to every inch of your closet, you have to have a spot to store anything that isn’t kept on your desk or out in the open. Buy containers to keep it organized and easy to find.

*Use a bold color or two in accessories to bring out your personality. Popping the bold colors in small splashes will create impact without overpowering the room.

*Leave what you can live without at home. Yes, you love the collection of stuffed animals you’ve had since you were in third grade, but your dorm room is TINY and they will take up a huge part of it... let them have your bed at home until you get back.
Photos By Jennifer Bacchus

Top: Jessica Burkhalter has her name in lights...rope lights.

Above: Claire Perrin has a French flag signed by friends from home.

Left: Zorka Kujovic's map of the world, which is signed by friends met at JSU.

Wesley Foundation
Campus Ministry

Weekly Programs

Mondays –
J3 Worship – 8:00pm
Student Worship

Tuesdays –
Women's Bible Study – 8:00pm
Men's Bible Study – 9:00pm

Wednesdays –
Wesley Prayer Group – 12:45-1:15pm
Wesley Workout – 9:30pm

Thursdays –
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What’s an Officer’s Military Experience Worth?

“Veterans are impressive, because what they have done at their age is usually five or ten years ahead of civilian peers in terms of leadership and responsibility.”

- Kelly Perdew
NBC’s “The Apprentice”

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- The Lucas Group

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- The Home Depot

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Zydeco
Friday Jan. 27, 2006
Moonshine Still
Saturday Jan. 28, 2006
Rehab
Alabama Theatre
Sunday Jan. 29, 2006
Neil Pollock
BJCC
Thursday Jan. 26-
Sunday Jan. 29, 2006
Ringling Bros. and
Barnum and Bailey
Circus

Atlanta
Smith's Olde Bar
Thursday Jan. 26, 2006
Corey Smith/ Will Stevens
Friday Jan. 27, 2006
Del Castillo/ Princess
Saturday Jan. 28, 2006
Dub Conscious
Sunday Jan. 29, 2006
Dave Barnes/ Justin Rosolino
Monday Jan. 30, 2006
Morning State/ Single
Malt Solution/ Beau Hall
Tuesday Jan. 31, 2006
Pears & Brass/ Dented
Wednesday Feb. 1, 2006
Lexi Street
Variety Playhouse
Friday Jan. 27, 2006
Asleep at the Wheel
Saturday Jan. 28, 2006
Perpetual Groove
Masquerade
Friday Jan. 27, 2006
Badfish
The Roxy Theatre
Saturday Jan. 28, 2006
Charlie Murphy
( Chappelle's Show)
The Fox Theatre
Thursday Jan. 26-
Sunday Jan. 29, 2006
“Annie”
Two weeks ago, a frustrated JSU coach Dave Dagostino paced between the reporters in his office after a loss to Tennessee Tech January 12, voicing his displeasure with the lack of production from his seniors. The tone in his voice was one of urgency and disappointment.

What a difference two weeks make.

After splitting the weekend series with Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State, the tone of Dagostino’s voice was one of determination and hope.

“It’s night and day,” Dagostino said. “That evening we spent in there to this afternoon that we’re talking right now. There’s no one clear reason why. It’s a lot of things together. Some of it is re-doing the foundation. The teaching portions are in place and the young kids are able to apply them and lead within them. The other part is the seniors have answered the bell and are stepping up and being vocal leaders. That’s a huge part of it. With those two things working together, there’s not much that can stop this group.”

Four Gamecocks scored in double digits, but there was no stopping Jacksonville State. The Gamecocks held Morehead State to 32 percent shooting in the first half and claimed a 30-22 lead at the half, thanks to an 11-2 run.

Six free throws by JSU then iced the game, giving them the win.

“This weekend was the first time I walked away from this group feeling excited about what we were doing defensively,” said Dagostino.

The Gamecocks will be in action again this week. JSU will host Austin Peay tonight and UT-Martin Saturday night. Both games begin at 5:00 p.m.
Four Gamecocks scored double digits, but that was back and trimmed the lead to six with just under 14 rebounds. Jacksonville State 47-33 during the

As of: 1/25/2006

Four Gamecocks scored double digits, but that was back and trimmed the lead to six with just under 14 rebounds. Jacksonville State 47-33 during the

As of: 1/25/2006
Bradley scores big on road

By Patrick Swafford
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Jacksonville State might have split the weekend road trip against Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State, but it wasn’t because of poor shooting.

Courtney Bradley knocked down a career-high 25 points, part of a 48 percent performance from the floor from JSU, but saw the game slip away in the final minutes as Eastern Kentucky defeated the Gamecocks 86-78 on January 19.

Down 24-18 with just under 10 minutes left in the game, the Gamecocks went on 8-0 run in the next minute to give them a two-point lead.

Eastern Kentucky answered with the amazing shooting performance of senior Matt LaPlante. The Colonels guard had a game-high 26 points with the help of a 6-for-11 night from long range, allowing them to claim a 45-42 lead at the half.

“We’re the leading offensive team in the league, but we’re dead last in defense,” JSU coach Mike LaPlante said. “Part of that is we make the game a lot of possessions. So, we’re probably top in defense because of that and we’re also bottom on defense because of that just because there’s so many possessions, you’re going to get scored on a lot.”

JSU battled back to regain the lead by three with 14:13 left to play, but two different runs by EKU sealed JSU’s fate. The first, a 10-0 run, turned the Gamecocks’ three-point lead to a seven-point deficit in less than four minutes.

After Bradley brought JSU back within two at the six-minute mark, the Colonels put the game out of reach with a 12-2 run.

“I thought we shot the ball very well, put ourselves in position to win the game,” LaPlante said. “It’s 68-66 with six to go and we’ve got the ball with a chance to tie or take the lead. Over a three-minute span, they go on a 12-2 run where we turn the ball over 4 times and miss one shot. We were playing very consistently and getting ourselves in position on the road, which is all you really ask for.”

Walker Russell dished out a game-high 10 assists, making him the fourth player in JSU history to record 500 assists in a career and moving him to third in the nation in assists per game as the Gamecocks rolled to an 88-65 win over Morehead State on Saturday.

Besides Russell’s performance, and another 23 points from Bradley, JSU stopped the Eagles cold with solid defense and gave JSU their most one-sided conference win since joining the Ohio Valley Conference.

“I thought we came back in the Morehead game with great focus and great energy on the defensive side of the ball,” LaPlante said. “We played very offensively, but I thought it was our defense that separated ourselves.”

The Gamecocks (7-9, 5-5 OVC) turned up the pressure on Morehead State’s defense as well, jumping out to an early nine-point lead with just over 15 minutes left in the first half.

As of: 1/25/2006

Courtney Bradley and Dorien Brown put pressure on a Morehead State ball-handler.

OVC Standings

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<th>Overall</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee Tech</td>
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<td>Morehead State</td>
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Rugby returns with Black-Red Game this Saturday
On Saturday, 30 men decked out in red and black will face off against their friends and teammates for two grueling 40-minute halves.

Cock Rugby, Jacksonville State University’s rugby club will be facing off against itself in a red vs. black game in preparation for the start of the new season.

The game will be the last practice game for the team, and the best training for the new batch of rookies, before they take the field at JSU on Feb. 4 against Bryan College for their first game of the spring season.

The ruggers ended last season with a hard-fought 28-15 loss against the University of Alabama. This season, however, with 24 veteran players returning, the team is feeling confident.

“If we play a heads-up game; if we play smart and we stay healthy, we’ll do well,” said coach Mike Trowse.

Two of the team’s toughest opponents will be faced back to back.

On Feb. 11, Cock Rugby will take on the University of the South at home, then the next week they’ll go on the road against Tennessee Tech.

“They’re both really technical teams,” said Zachary McCumber. “They have more endurance.”

McCumber sees the experience that the team has built into its pack, or forwards, as the group’s strongest asset.

Of course, being a member of the pack, he acknowledges his bias.

Their weaknesses are in their small numbers and the fact that a fifth of the team are rookies, with new ones joining almost every time they practice.

“Our rookies are still pulling some penalties that shouldn’t be done,” said McCumber.

Which is one of the reasons the red/black game on Jan. 28 is so important.

“It will be a learning game for everybody,” said team captain and club treasurer Justin Armstrong.

No matter how well the team does this year, Coach Trowse sees it as a foundation for better things to come.

“We’ll do pretty good in the spring,” he said. “But I’m looking to next fall and next spring when we’ll have the same guys.”

Schedule:

All games at noon.

Jan. 28: Red/Black game
Feb. 4: Bryan College at home
Feb. 11: University of the South at home
Feb. 18: at Tennessee Tech
Feb. 25: at Lee University
Mar. 4: at Kennesaw State University
Mar. 25: Playoffs

The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

By Jennifer Bacchus

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