Sister schools?
JSU hopes to build relationship with school in Iraq

By: Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Features Editor

"Lots of people say they are going to help, they are going to help," said Dr. Sasfia Al-Hamdani, the founder of the Books for Baghdad project. "We are helping."

The Books for Baghdad project began in 2004 and soon spread nationwide. In January 2005, contributions from around the country were sent to Baghdad University in Iraq. The project had collected over 11,000 books and $6,500 in school supplies. Due to student demand, the project was revived this February.

"A lot of people wanted to donate," said Hamdani. "It reached a point where we could not say no to people wanting to help education in Iraq."

The Boys and Girls Club of Anniston has promised 5,000 McGraw-Hill textbooks to the project. There are already 1,000 books in Martin Hall waiting for shipping arrangements. Colleges in New York, Massachusetts and California are also collecting for the project.

JSU students, faculty and staff sent around 3,000 books last year, but this year's response hasn't been as great.

"The Student Government Association was helping us then," said Hamdani. "But we haven't heard from them this time."

With the end of the semester coming up, JSU students have an opportunity to donate old textbooks to the Books for Baghdad project.

"Certain textbooks will not be used again," said Hamdani. "They [JSU students] can help fellow students in Baghdad. It's showing goodwill to the people in Iraq."

The Books for Baghdad project is just a stepping stone to what Hamdani and other faculty volunteers want to accomplish in Iraq.

"In the future, we see a relationship between Baghdad University and JSU," said Hamdani. This relationship would involve faculty and student exchanges, and students at Baghdad University would be able to take JSU courses online. JSU would also send excess books, supplies and computers to Iraq.

"We're waiting for the situation to stabilize in Iraq," said Hamdani. "Right now, we're just doing the Books for Baghdad project."

Students can drop off textbooks at the biology office in Martin Hall. All subjects are welcome, but math, science, medicine and technology books will be greatly appreciated. Any questions can be sent to Hamdani at sah@jsu.edu.

Spring is in the air
By: Jennifer Bacchus  
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

"Instead of a concert, due to lack of time and publicity and lack of a good band to get, we're going to do a Spring Fling," said Casie Sanders, vice president of student activities at the SGA senate meeting Monday night.

The event will span two days. beginning at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 12, with Karaoke in the Foodcourt and lasting through 3 p.m. Thursday, April 13, when "Live on the Lawn" ends on the lawn of TMB. It will be co-sponsored by Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

"Live on the Lawn," which begins at 11 a.m. Thursday, will feature a cookout, cotton candy, snow cones, a Velcro wall, a mechanical bull and a dunking booth where students can dunk the past and present SGA executives.

Sanders is also hoping that the event will have live local music. They are planning to ask a few acts from the recent JSU Star talent show and some local acts to participate.

In addition to karaoke and "Live on the Lawn," there will be a foam dance party from 8-11 p.m. Wednesday night at Gamecock Field.

Along with the Spring Fling, the SGA will be having a canned food drive.

"The people that give the food to the needy in our community, the shelves are bare – there's nothing," said Sanders.

Since Monday's meeting was the last time that Justin Lord will preside as vice president, he took a moment to reflect on the year and thank the senators present for their commitment this year.

"If you guys think right now that all we've done this year is meet every Monday night and pass a couple of bills, I just want to tell you that you have done a lot more than that," said Lord.

Seven bills were presented at the meeting. The first six, Senate Bills 88-93 were for the senate to confirm Mardracus Russell's appointment of Kenneth Catoe, Claudia Cauthen, Chauncey Slater, Krystle Bell, Angela Icolano and Lynnley Clark as justices for the 2006-2007 school year.

They were confirmed unanimously. Only six people applied to be justice, so applications are still open and will be accepted through the end of the school year. Three justices will be chosen from the applicants and will be put before the student senate for confirmation at the first senate meeting of the 2006-2007 school year.

The last bill, Senate Bill 94, allocated $135 to the All Faith Student Alliance.

In other news from the meeting:

* Next traffic court will be Monday, April 3, 4 p.m.
* Karaoke in the Caf will be April 19, the day that final exams begin.
* Monday, April 3, is the SGA Banquet.
* Holocaust Remembrance will be Thursday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in Stone Center Theatre.
* Senator of the Month for March is Lynnley Clark.

Photos By: Jennifer Bacchus

While JSU students were away for spring break, spring broke out of its shell, at least temporarily, at JSU.

Flowers bloomed, birds sang, all in all it was a magnificent March 21.

I know every student on campus was ready for the break when it finally arrived, and it seems that Mother Nature was as well.
Dude looks like a lady

By: Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Features Editor

Alpha Xi Delta hosted Bachelor Beauties, a beauty competition where guys dress in drag, on March 15. The event raised over $500 for Alpha Xi Delta’s philanthropy, Prevent Child Abuse America. Divine Focker (Graham Wiseman) won the contest, and was also awarded Best Legs. The 1st runner-up was Pumpkin (Phillip Cuce). Pumpkin also won Best Hair and Makeup. The 2nd runner-up and Best Booty recipient was Ivana Humphalot (Caleb Moore). Miss Congeniality was Felicity Fontana (Michael Turner).

The eleven contestants in the show competed in Casual Wear, Talent, and Formalwear events. The men collected their outfits in various ways. Sparkle Fanning (Chris Fleming) borrowed a friend’s shoes. “I don’t think she knows I have them,” Fanning remarked.

“I got all this at a thrift shop for $50,” said Focker while preparing for the talent contest. Focker wore a skirt and plaid top over a bikini and stripped to Jessica Simpson’s “These Boots Are Made for Walkin’” for his talent. Other popular talents acts were Fontana’s lip-sync and dance in a french maid’s outfit to an Ashlee Simpson melody and Fanning’s juggling act. Harriet Balsonya (Nick Weir) played the recorder. Sunshine Pinks-Binladen (Clinton Mead) and Humphalot both did humorous ribbon dancing for their talent. Other contestants sang or preformed ‘ballet’.

Most of the guys had girls helping them prepare backstage.

“You need boobs. Where are your socks?” Jessica Lee asked Pumpkin while helping her switch outfits in one of the changing rooms. Other materials used for cleavage were toilet paper and scrap material, but some guys didn’t need to pad their bras.

“It’s all me,” said Mama the Bearded Lady (Zach Hilburn).

During the Formalwear portion of the show, contestants drew a question that they answered onstage.

“How would you further prevent child abuse?” Trey Butler, the emcee, asked Anastasia Beaverhausen (Jason Brittain).

“I would take all the abusers and put them first in line to get the death penalty,” replied Beaverhausen. The audience clapped and cheered to show their support of this bold statement.

“How can you use your talents to help abused children?” Trey asked Balsonya.

“Very carefully,” said Balsonya slyly.

“Divine Focker,” aka Graham Wiseman, gets his cleavage adjusted by two friends. “Focker” was crowned Miss Bachelor Beauty and also got the award for best legs.

“What is the one thing you are passionate about?” Trey asked Fanning.

“Chocolate cake,” said Fanning. “Cause I love me some chocolate cake.” Fanning paused, then returned to the mike. “Amen.”

“Who is your favorite sorority and why?” Trey asked Pumpkin.

“Alpha Omicron Pi, for putting me in this project,” replied Pumpkin.

“If you were President for one day, what laws would you change?” Trey asked Wilma Getmesome (William McGee).

“I don’t know,” said Getmesome. “I like the laws the way they are.”

The judges scored each event out of ten for every contestant. The winners were announced after the Formalwear event.

“I was in it to win it,” said Miss Bachelor Beauty, Divine Focker (Graham Wiseman) after the show. “But, seriously, we’re all three friends. It was amazing to share this experience with my two best friends. It was a lot of fun.”

Chris You contributed to this story.

Building a new foundation

By: Charity Jones
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

At 8:30 in the morning on Monday, March 27, members of the JSU Rotaract Club arrived at a small blue house in Anniston, Ala.

The students were working with Habitat for Humanity, a volunteer service organization, which has been building homes for families in need all over the world since its official founding in 1976.

which had been primed earlier in the day. After they finished that, Rusty Hulgan, the newly elected club president, helped Rose finish installing the vinyl trim above the porch. Before they left the site, the students installed all the exterior doors and built a door for the crawl space. Many students planned to come back later in the week to hang drywall inside.

One member of the club, Jess Corbus, said that she worked on the home the club build last year before she was new that went into it, is a perfect example of the Rotaract Club and Habitat for Humanity spirit, a great way to wrap up the 2005-2006 school year, and a wonderful introductory project for all of the new club officers elected in January.
The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit submissions for style, brevity, and clarity.

For the full announcements policy, call 782-5701 or come to The Chanticleer office at 180 Sette Hall.

March 8 - Divorced/conduct and criminal trespassing was reported at College Apartments.

March 11 - Dwalyn Sherrod Gray reported unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle and fraudulent use of a debit card in Crow Hall parking lot. A black wallet containing a Kansas driver’s license, $50, JSU ID card, and a BCBS insurance card was stolen.

March 12 - Samantha Latrice Peterson reported harassment in Fitzpatrick Hall.

March 14 - Stephanie Ann Johnson reported harassing communications at the Houston Cole Library.

March 15 - Delane Taurean Harris of Pike, Ala., was arrested at Salls Hall for possession of stolen property. The forgery of a JSU parking permit was reported in the Sparkman Hall parking lot.

March 16 - Chantel C. Ortan of Covington, Ala., was arrested at Salls Hall for a simple assault.

March 26 - A 22 year old white female student reported rape in the second degree by her ex-boyfriend in the vicinity of Little John Road and Pleasant Valley Ave.

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Your free time gets an education

By Toni Shippey
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

How many times do you sit at home, watching the same old shows because there is ‘nothing to do?’

Well, I am waving the flag for the Anniston Museum of Natural History.

Okay, so the mere thought of something educational added to your already busy schedule of schoolwork may seem a bit insane. However, according to Margie Connor, marketing manager for the Anniston Museum, this is not just any museum.

“This is a world class museum,” said Conner. “People don’t realize that it is a pretty big deal. We are actually an affiliate of the Smithsonian, which lets us change our displays quite often because they lend us a lot of stuff.”

So, I decided to tour the museum to see if it was fun, like Connor claims, or whether it is something you should dread doing, even for a class assignment.

As expected, some parts of the museum can seem to last forever, but there are also the parts that bring out the true “kid” in all of us.

“Nature Space,” a section of the museum that lets both kids and adults combine Alabama’s natural history with their imagination, is a sandpit where you can dig for artifacts and a platform that mimics a minor earthquake.

A mineral display is on loan from the University of Alabama. A dinosaur puzzle is among the many displays in the Children’s area and a sandpit where you can dig for artifacts and a platform that mimics a minor earthquake.

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“The Bird Hall is very special because it is one of the oldest of its type in the entire United States,” said Conner. “The Egg exhibition is really going to compliment that. We are developing this display completely in-house, and it is going to feature hundreds of eggs from all different bird species.”

The Egg Exhibition is planned as a ‘family-friendly’ spot and will have hands-on activities for kids. There will be an ostrich cutout with a nest children can play in and an eagle’s nest they can climb up to and sit in.

One of the live animal displays is located in the Attack & Defense Hall. Here, the museum houses half a dozen snakes that can be quite entertaining. If you time it right (Tuesdays, mid-afternoon) you can watch them feed and witness the different attack methods of each species.

A few of the ‘feeding times’ I watched were drooling, hissing affairs with a few bites thrown in. One of the snakes was particularly unlucky. It was thrown in the cage for feeding and was immediately attacked by its closest competitor.

Watch out for that Gray snake. He killed all three mice that were thrown in the cage and still looked a little hungry.

The last display before the exit is “Mystery of the Mummies,” which includes two very real mummies from ancient Egypt. Ancient Egyptians could not imagine an end to their life and so were embalmed for eternity.

Mummification was very common during this time. How well it was done depended on a person’s wealth and social class. The more wealthy the person, the better service they got. Very much like many treatments in today’s society.

The mummies on display both had mid-level mummifications, indicating that they were not rich but not poor, either working class or lower middle class.

Due to past research, many questions have been answered about the mummies and the process they went through post mortem. But many questions still remain.

Some questions are being researched by scientists while you read this and I suppose that is why the exhibit is called “Mystery of the Mummies”.

“In the Anniston Museum of Natural History, there is something for everyone,” said Conner. “So instead of people thinking that this is something they will pet and throw on the floor, they will see the exhibits as educational.”
The museum that lets both kids and adults combine Alabama’s natural history with hands-on exhibits is so interesting that no one realizes that they are learning.

The activities include nature rubbings, where you can make “carbon-copies” of fossils, a mimic of a minor earthquake.

A mineral display is on loan from the Smithsonian in the changing gallery. The exhibit showcases minerals from sulfur to pyrite (fool’s gold). In June, they will change their display to include an egg exhibit. This exhibit goes along with the Bird attraction for many JSU biology students. Some professors take their classes there on field trips. Paola Rivera, a sophomore from El Salvador, recently viewed the hall with her class.

“I was not expecting to be so interested in everything there,” said Rivera. “I would actually like to go back sometime when I have a chance to go through the entire museum and check out everything. It was a lot of fun and I would recommend going to anyone.”

attack methods of each species. A few of the ‘feeding times’ I witnessed were those of the Southern Copperhead, Timber Rattlesnake and both the Gray and Red Rat snakes.

The Southern Copperhead and Timber Rattlesnakes attack quickly, injecting a hematotoxic venom to paralyze their prey, in this case small white mice.

The Gray Rat Snake and the Red Rat Snake are constrictors that suffocate their victims before devouring them.

That this is something they will get around to doing one day, should spare the time and make that day today.”

Something that will possibly persuade those that are still a little reluctant to go to the museum is that, with a valid JSU student ID, admission is free. They also offer free admission every Thursday after 1 p.m. Their regular hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. For more information, call at 256-237-6766.

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Dear students of JSU,

We just wanted to drop you a note of explanation for the new information you will find in our crime docket this week.

A wonderful thing happened Monday afternoon. We found out that from now on we will have more information available for us to put in the crime docket thanks to an edict sent down by our administration.

From now on, we aren’t able to talk directly to the police officers about crimes that happen on campus; we have to get our information from the crime log itself.

Which is fine with us, because that gives us tons of info about everyone involved in the incident. We can, if we want to, list the officers involved and can often give an almost exact address for the victims.

As a matter of fact, the only thing we don’t like about this new policy is that we have to harass poor Al Harris at the JSU News Bureau every time we need to get a quote from an officer. Even if it’s about something that the police want us to cover and want to talk to us about.

Poor Al will now be, unfortunately, inundated with questions he can’t answer - such as, “Al, can you speculate on why we’ve had so many thefts on campus this semester?”

“Al, what is Jacksonville State’s police department doing about the marijuana usage that seems to be running rampant across campus?”

“Al, what is the police department’s stance on access cards instead of keys for the dorm rooms and various buildings around campus?”

“Al, what precautions are being taken for next week’s Greek Week?”

“Al, what type of security will be on hand during graduation?”

By the way, students of JSU, Al’s phone number over at the News Bureau is 782-5468. If you have any policy questions for the police department, you’ll need that number so you can call him.

We also recommend you call him if you have any problems about the crime information we print. After all, we only give you what we get.

Al, we love you, we really do. We just think it’s a little silly that someone who doesn’t work in law enforcement is going to be answering all of our cop questions from now on.

And we really see this giving you more work than you have time to do.

Now, this school year only has two more weeks in it for us, but next year is wide open with 26 editions of the paper to go and lots of issues to discuss.

How will the reporters for The Abstract tell the incoming students that they can call UPD for an escort home if they don’t hear about it from Michelle Paige?

How will we be able to tell you what to do to keep your belongings safe if we don’t have UPD’s list of do’s and don’ts from the officers?

How can we tell you how to ride your bike safely if we don’t have the experts that UPD provides us?

Once again Al, we love you, but you don’t know everything and we think it’s silly of the university to put you in this awkward position.

You have our sympathy...and we’ll talk to you tomorrow.

Letter to the editor:

The ladies and the Tigers

When the batter gets all of it, there is a satisfying, fat sound not heard in baseball. Really, it sounds: "phat"; and it sounds even better the second time the ball clears the fence.

I had the first-time pleasure of enjoying a JSU softball game, where the Lady Gamecocks were not only victorious, they also busted-up some Tigers and it was...
bust-up some Tigers and it wasn't even close.

TV-surfing the first Saturday of spring break, I happened to catch our own channel 24 broadcasting the last inning of the first game in a doubleheader.

Two miles and 30 minutes later, the aroma of the concession stand and the sounds from the field filled my empty afternoon. I think I may be hooked.

In a year that has seen -- for the second time in the last three years -- JSU Sports marred by reports of an incident involving a bar, a football player and the police, it was refreshing to watch a group of athletes in an exhibition demonstrating the true spirit of Sport.

Pink should be proud. This is certainly not a bunch of "Stupid Girls;" these ladies are professional athletes in all but money.

I must admit their smaller statures and the shorter fields and base-paths made me think I had come to watch a Little League contest, but the scorching pitching and the flawless field work quickly gave lie to first impressions.

Their excellence as displayed upon that field would have been betrayed and jinxed had the best not been mentioned last...

They played a perfect game.

Larry Welch -- Jacksonville
Softball opens OVC play

By: Chad Hoffman  
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

While the rest of us were on spring break, the Jacksonville State softball team was busy taking care of business on the diamond.

The Gamecocks opened Ohio Valley Conference play with Tennessee State and won both games 4-3, 8-0. The third game was cancelled due to inclement weather.

In game one the ladies scored two in the bottom of the first.

Senior power-hitter Megan Jezierski led the team off with a solo home run over centerfield.

After a couple of singles and walks, sophomore Alana Hicks hit a single and put Maigin Alexander across the plate to put the score at 2-1.

The Tigers added two more, one in the fourth and one in the fifth, to go ahead 3-2.

JSU answered with two more runs in the bottom half of the fifth. Lauren Horwath doubled to score Jezierski and Whitney Eldridge singled to first on a bunt and scored Alexander for the go-ahead run, 4-3.

JSU could not find an answer and senior Carly KeLam took the win for the red and white, two outs to short stop, a walk, and then a fly out to left field.

Twelve twenty minutes later, JSU regained their composure and took care of business.

Going into the top of the sixth, APU was up by two and then the bats of the Gamecocks woke up.

With two outs and runners on first and second, freshman Alifie Barker hit a home run, her second of the season.

Peay had no answer in the bottom half and relief pitcher Kelly Raw played a major role in the win.

“Kelly gave us a lot of confidence this weekend,” said coach Jana McGinnis. “She only came in to throw to one batter, but it was one of the biggest outs of our win. They had runners at second and third one of their key hitters up. We dropped Kelly in to throw her change up, and she got a big out for us.”

JSU put two insurance runs on the board in the seventh. Sunday proved to be another

Christian Rybertt and Scott Robertson warm up for their doubles match against Mercer.

Tennis loses emotional match to Mercer

By: Liz Hendricks  
The Chanticleer Sports Writer

Emotions ran high at Tuesday’s tennis matches against Mercer. Senior Christian Rybertt said it was the worst sportsmanship he has ever seen.

There was more yelling coming from the tennis courts than an Alabama honkey-tonk on a Friday night.

The Gamecocks just couldn’t pull out a win over the Mercer Bears. The men lost 5-2 while the women played late into the day, finally ending with a disappointing 4-3 loss.

In doubles play, Layla Abby and teammate Eloah Lopes battled against Mercer’s Patricia Assumpcao and Irys Citko for nearly two hours before coming away with their win and getting the doubles point.

Abby said the doubles win gave them a lot of confidence.

By: Jennifer Bacchus  
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

The outdoor track season began with two school records falling for Jacksonville State at the Alabama Relays in Tuscaloosa.

But the new records only lasted a week.

Kendra Wise set and reset the discus record at Bama and Florida State. Her throw at Bama went 124', vastly outdistancing the prior record of 99'10” set in 2004 by LaChanna Bartholomew.

“I really thought the two freshman hurdlers did a great job this weekend. They ran 15.01 [in the 100 meter hurdles]. Nolinda set a school record and then Eboni ran 15.23,” said coach Steve Ray.

“Both of those are their lifetime best times. They have never run faster in their life.”

At Bama, Nolinda Garner blew past Amber Hardy’s prior record in the 400 meter hurdles by more than six seconds, with a time of 1:06.17. At FSU, Garner killed her own record, setting a new time of 1:04.96.

In addition to Garner and Wise, two other individual runners and one of the school’s relay teams also broke school records.

JSU Invitational Saturday, April 1

Field events:  Running events:
8 a.m.  10,000 meter run  11 a.m.
10 a.m. Shot Put (W)  3,000 meter steeplechase
10 a.m. Discus (M)  400 meter run
10 a.m. Pole Vault  5,000 meter run
11:30 a.m. Long Jump  10,000 meter run
11:30 a.m. Discus (W)  400 meter run
12 p.m. Triple Jump  400 intermediate hurdles
12 p.m. Shot Put (M)  200 meter dash
12 p.m. javelin  1,600 meter relay

“Sarah Caine in the 10,000 meter, that was unbelievable. That was a great race for her. She almost knocked a minute off of her record time,” Ray said, referring to Caine’s time of 37:53.82 and her previous record of 38:48.80.

Megan Ziarek’s 11:56.73 in the 3000 meter steeplechase also set a new record, as did the 400 meter relay team of Asha Gibson, Jonica Bell, Andrea Arnaud and Eboni Matthews.

“We’re still better than what we’re showing, but we just can’t get everybody on the same page on the same weekend,” said Ray.

The team is now gearing up for their first ever home track meet this Saturday on the track behind the coliseum. Events begin at 8 a.m. and athletic department administrators will man several of them, including athletic director Jim Fuller, who will man the shot put event.

“The administration in general is behind every athletic program they have and they’re going way above board in my opinion. Better than anything I’ve ever been associated with,” said Ray. “Our girls better darn well appreciate it, because you don’t get that in a lot of schools, you just do not get it.”

The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief
perfect game at University Field. The red and white had eight runs on nine hits and shut out TSU in just six innings.

JSU continued OVC play when they traveled to in-state rival Samford last Thursday. The ladies got a scare in game one when Samford won 1-0. However, they came back and shut the Bulldogs out 5-0 in game two.

Samford won the first game on a sacrifice bunt from Meghan Wagner in the bottom of the sixth inning.

The only runner for JSU got to first because of a fielding error by short stop. Daniela Pappano fouled out to left field for the final out.

In the second game, JSU was bound and determined not to let Samford get the best of them. Pierce was back on the mound and shined bright once more. The Placerville, Calif., native threw her second no hitter on Saturday. and the games will be broadcast live on JSU Sports Network with Mike Jezierski.

With just one day off, the Gamecocks' schedule for the week.

JSU scored five runs on nine hits and had one error. Horwath hit two home runs and Jezierski added one of her own to defeat the Bulldogs.

With just one day off, the Gamecocks took on the board in the seventh.

Sunday proved to be another bad day for the Gamecocks. APU took the series with a win in game three, 3-1. JSU committed three errors and had four hits to score only one run.

"When you get into conference," said McGinnis, "I feel as though you are supposed to win the games you are supposed to win, and I think we should have beat Samford and Austin Peay. This was definitely one of our worst weeks, production on the board in the seventh.

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The Gamecocks get the hits cooking and finish the meal in the bottom of the fourth Tuesday night as they send UAB home on a full stomach serving the Blazers to a disappointment with a 5-1 defeat.

The Gamecocks came into the game Tuesday with a 2-1 OVC record after winning two of three games to Austin Peay. The first four innings were the offensive standpoints of this baseball game.

The first inning started off with the Blazers putting up their one and only run for the game. After the first inning, the Gamecocks broke out the menus.

The Gamecocks finished the top of the second inning with no runs and no hits, something the Blazers would get used to as the night went on.

The Gamecocks came into the bottom of the second with a double by Brian Piazza to left center. Jason Horn followed with one of his own, which sent Piazza in for the score and gave JSU its first RBI of the night.

Jake Ball then hit a fireball down the first base line, sending Horn in for the score. The Gamecocks finished the inning with two runs, three hits, and one LOB.

In the third, the Gamecocks had one run and two hits as they Gamecocks took a 3-1 lead.

The Blazers put up their one run in the fourth with a two-out single by Jordan Davis. Though Horn followed with a double, the Gamecocks were unable to drive in another run.

The Gamecocks scored three runs in the fifth inning to extend their lead to 6-1. The first run came on a single by Smith and the second on a sacrifice fly by Piazza. Jay Johnson followed with a two-run single to end the inning.

In the sixth, the Gamecocks scored three runs on a single by Davis and a two-RBI double by Horn. The Gamecocks scored four runs in the eighth, finishing off the win.

The Gamecocks celebrate after the 5-1 victory over UAB Tuesday night.

Gold medal? Who would have thought that any athlete from JSU would get an Olympic medal of any kind?

Well, sophomore rifle team member Joseph Hall competed in his last Junior Olympic Championship during spring break and claimed the gold.

With a score of 2323, he beat Thomas Santilla (2305) by 18 points, with Christopher Abalo claiming third.

The 2006 Junior Olympic Shooting Championships were held at the Olympic Training Facility in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Hall competed with the rifle team during NCAA Nationals the week before. Then he flew home, peeked his bag and flew back within 12 hours. He lived in the Olympic Village for 11 days and trained with Olympic coach Major David Johnson.

"Physically, I kept with the training program that I already have," said Hall. "I kept the cardio going. Mentally, I knew it was my last year and I really wanted to win it three years in a row and be the first person to ever do that. That added a little extra pressure. I probably added more pressure to myself than what I should have. When I finally got to the match and started concentrating on what I had to do, it just fell into place and I did what I had to do."

During the relays, Hall got to stand back and watch the others shoot, because he was in the last relay each day. He got to see what kind of scores he had to shoot to be at the top.

"I knew all of the guys I was competing with," Hall said, "because we have competed together forever. After watching them shoot, I knew it was time for me to either pick up my game or accept a second place."

Hall has been on the USA Olympic team before and he traveled to the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. He was an alternate that year, but plans on shooting with them in 2008.

"Junior Olympics is just on my path," said Hall. "This was a stepping stone for me. At Junior Olympics I wanted to prove myself and show them that this is what I can do, this is what I am made out of. Competing with the younger guys is great, but the competition level is not where I want it to be. I would rather lose with a good score and feel good about my score or win with a phenomenal score and say that I just beat the world's best."

Joseph will be traveling around the world, competing in World Cups all summer. If he wins one of these, he will have to turn down the prize money because he is on a scholarship here at JSU and the NCAA will not allow him to take money unless he gives up his scholarship and turns pro.

Throughout his career, Joseph has claimed 83 gold, 46 silver and 38 bronze medals.

So, next time you see him around campus, be sure to pat him on the back and say good job and congratulations.
By: Patrick Swafford
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Donovan Hand entered the 2006 season as the ace of the JSU baseball pitching staff. After a freshman year that saw him earn OVC Freshman of the Year and Freshman All-America honors, Hand has been one of the more electrifying arms in the OVC. Chanticleer Sports sat down with Hand after the win against UAB, shared a few laughs and had an in-depth discussion about food and fun in this week's edition of “One on One.”

CS: Why did you choose JSU?
DH: Coach Case, definitely. A buddy of mine signed with JSU to play basketball. (Josh Bryant, who played under former coach Mark Turgeon.) But I'd never really heard of it. I was heavily recruited by Coach Case, so that's why I chose it.

CS: What got you started playing baseball?
DH: My dad. He was real big into sports and drove it into my head early. I got to playing and just loved it. I love competitive sports and I just had fun with it.

CS: You've been a great success in the year-plus that you've pitched here. What's your favorite pitch?
DH: Fastball.

CS: I've always seen you more as a control guy, though.
DH: Well, I have been. The change-up's been my out pitch lately, so the change-up may be my favorite pitch to throw, but my fastball is what gets me through stuff.

CS: Define the perfect pre-game meal.
DH: The perfect pre-game meal... wow. A YooHoo and white donuts. No doubt. That's from my high school days. The big YooHoo, now. Not the little ones, the big gulps and a six-pack of white donuts.

CS: I read that during your senior year, you batted .495 with 37 RBIs. Here's my question for you...
DH: Oh no. Not this one.

CS: Do you miss hitting?
DH: I miss it a lot. I really do. In high school, I played every day. I was on the field everyday. I loved it. It was a little adjustment coming out here once every six days and pitching.

CS: Do you still take batting practice?
DH: No. Coach Case won't let us. The deal was if we swept Austin Peay this weekend, pitchers got to take BP on Monday. He would throw all day... I lost my game.

CS: If you could bean any major leaguer, who would it be?
DH: Manny Ramirez.

CS: What is your most embarrassing moment out on the diamond?
DH: Here's the scenario: Man on second, I'm probably 14 years old. Go to inside, move to second base, the back of my cleat catches in my shoe-string... I was like a sitting duck. BAM! It was just like "I'm falling and I can't help it." It was in front of everybody... five... six hundred people. I hit and rolled down the mound.

CS: What is your favorite quote?
DH: The most important pitch in baseball is strike one.

CS: What is your favorite movie?
DH: For Love of the Game.

CS: If someone told you that you had to go through life with just one CD, which artist would you choose?
DH: George Strait.

CS: What is your favorite sport besides baseball?
DH: Basketball.

CS: Are you more college or pro?
DH: College. I like Duke. I just like the way they play.

CS: How did your tournament bracket turn out?
DH: Horrible. I do not have a team in the Final Four.

CS: When did you realize that you were screwed?
DH: I had LSU beating Duke. When UNC and Iowa got beat... I had Iowa in the Final Four as my sleeper. When they got beat in the first round, I said, "I'm done."

CS: What do you do to relax?
DH: I couldn't tell you. I don't relax very much. I just lay on the bed and watch TV.

CS: Any pets back home?
DH: Horses. I'm not a cowboy; I just like to ride horses.

CS: If you could meet any athlete, alive or dead, who would it be?
DH: Don Mattingly. He was my role model growing up. He's a good guy... true soldier.

CS: If you weren't Donovan Hand, which of your teammates would you like to be?
DH: Josh Forrest. He's a good guy.

CS: Favorite place to eat in Jacksonville?
DH: Cooter Brown's.

CS: What's the usual?
DH: Barbecue plate, double okra.

CS: What is your favorite cartoon character?
DH: Scooby Doo.

CS: Describe yourself in five words.

Donovan is expected to be back on the mound this weekend when Samford comes to Rudy Abbott Field to take on the Gamecocks in an OVC match-up.

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