Summe, Williams speak at 9/11 remembrance

By Nick Lehwald
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

This week, the nation and Jacksonville State University took time out of their busy day to remember and pay tribute to those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. On the five-year anniversary of the most deadly terrorist attack on American soil, JSU hosted a remembrance with a showing of the documentary 9/11 in the Leone Cole Auditorium.

The remembrance, hosted by the Counseling and Career Services, 92J, The Chanticleer and The Mimosa, featured two guest speakers, Ms. Pearl Williams, a pastor at First Methodist here in Jacksonville, and Colonel Jack Summe, who is a member of US Special Operations Command near Tampa, FL.

“I think that everyone should come to this. This is our history and an event that shaped our nation and this world. I think that history teachers should bring us into this,” said Summe.

That evening, her daughter-in-law called and said that Dwayne had not come home. The next night, an Army Lieutenant and Chaplain came to Williams’ house to tell her that her son was missing.

Five days after the attacks, Williams went to Washington, D.C. and attended the military briefings for families of the missing.

“They asked us to give blood,” she said. “They needed blood to do DNA testing.”

On September 21, 2001, Maj. Dwayne Williams’ remains were identified.

“My son touched so many lives in a positive way,” said Williams. “He has inspired me to make a difference.”

Williams finished by encouraging students not to waste opportunities that came their way.

“We write a chapter of our lives each day,” she said. “We too, can make a difference.”

The next speaker was Col. Summe, who was at his office in the Pentagon the day of the attacks. He was evacuating.

“We had done one evacuation drill during my time there,” said Summe. “We were to go up this stair, down that stair.”

“After the two speakers had finished, there was a showing of 9/11. This documentary was originally about the training and probationary period of a New York City firefighter.

It accidentally became a movie documenting the journey of New York’s bravest as they ran toward the Trade Towers, instead of away from them.

The remembrance, which was held in the Leone Cole Auditorium, was well attended by students and staff.

“I think that’s it’s important to remember. I think that in order to remember it, we should make it a holiday, like a memorial day or something,” said sophomore Lesilee Miller.

Her sentiments were echoed by several of her fellow classmates.

Photo by Blair Eddings
Coaching minor now offered

By Jason Bollen
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Jacksonville State University has a wide range of minors, but a new minor, Coaching, is coming as early as this spring.

“[It is offered to] prepare young people to go into the schools and know how to coach,” said Director of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Jeff Chandler.

The minor will consist of the current system for a coaching concentration, which includes three hours of coaching conditioning and three hours of basic athletic training. The difference will be newly added classes that count for one or two credit hours. These classes will be a kind of tag-team teaching with a standard instructor administering tests and other necessary standards and an actual coach coming into the classroom giving instruction.

“We want to get coaches into the classroom,” said Chandler.

The courses will emphasize specific fields while giving a general understanding of all sports that are offered at JSU. These courses will teach the fundamentals of coaching defense, offense kicking and anything else is included in each sport.

To receive a minor in coaching, as with most minors, the student must accumulate 18 hours in this area of study.

This minor is considered an asset to public school teachers who find themselves coaching in conjunction with teaching.

Anyone interested in more information can contact Jeff Chandler at 256-782-5515.

Books for Baghdad receives thank you letter

By Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

Jacksonville State University’s second Books for Baghdad drive, led by Dr. Safaa Al-Hamdani, was a rousing success. Approximately 20,000 books were sent to Baghdad University in Iraq during the summer, and Al-Hamdani recently received a letter of thanks from the Vice-President of Scientific Affairs at Baghdad University. (See sidebar)

The completion of JSU’s second book drive brings the total number of donated texts to over 31,000. In recognition of this effort from JSU and other contributing colleges, the University of Baghdad will hold a special presentation honoring their generous donors. The United States Embassy in Baghdad, International Relief and Development and other international agencies will also contribute to the event.

“We are well-known over there,” said Al-Hamdani.

“We are well-known over there,” said Al-Hamdani. “We are famous because we have contributed so much. In fact, other universities in Iraq are now asking for our help.”

One such institution is Mustansria University, the second-largest university in Iraq – they have a student population of over 50,000.

At the moment, Al-Hamdani, along with the rest of the books for Baghdad committee, are optimistic about continuing the program this year, maybe within the next few weeks.

“We must send the message that the events of 9/11 are not acceptable and we must actively fight terrorism around the globe and defeat extremist ideology to insure a safe and secure world,” said Al-Hamdani.

On behalf of the president of the University of Baghdad and myself, I am writing to thank you and all the people in your campus, faculty, students, and staff who helped Prof. Safaa Al-Hamdani (Professor of Biology in the Biology Department) in collecting books and shipping them to Baghdad.

We are sure that without the support of Jacksonville State University, this monumental task would not have been accomplished.

God bless for all those who are friends to Iraq and its people.

Yours faithfully,
Prof. Dr. Hatim Jabar
Vice President of the Baghdad University for Scientific Affairs
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alpha Omicron Pi: We hope that everyone has a great week! Congrats to all our newly pledged in girls! Good luck to all JSU sports this week. Contact: Meredith, Merharvey@aol.com.

Campus Outreach: There will be a fall retreat on Sept. 22-23 and a Christmas Conference on Dec. 27-31. Contact: Seth, sethterrell@campusoutreach.org.

College Republicans: College Republicans is hosting a tailgate on Sept. 16 at the Gamecock Field from 12:30 p.m. until kickoff. There will be free food and drinks. Contact: Vanessa, jsu2682k@jsu.edu.

Counseling and Career Services and Peer Educators: Counseling and Career Services along with Peer Educators are sponsoring Take a Friend to the Health Fair on Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the TMB Auditorium. Contact: Ms. Shelton, lshelton@jsu.edu.

Friends of the Library: Bret Lott, author of 12 books and new editor of The Southern Review, will be speaking at the library Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. There will be books available for purchase and signing.

JSU Ambassadors: We hope to see you at Family Day Saturday morning, Sept. 16 at the Gamecock Field. Go Gamecocks! Contact: Allison, allison_land@comcast.net.

JSU Rugby Club: JSU Rugby vs. Birmingham Vulcans will be Saturday, Sept. 16 at Ramsey Park in Birmingham. If you want to attend, they will be leaving from the International House at 9:30 a.m. Practices are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Paul Carpenter Village Field. Contact: Jared, jsu505m@jsu.edu.

Organizational Council: All organizations please make sure you have an updated information sheet in the Office of Student Life, 402 TMB. Contact: Allison, sgvpca@jsu.edu.

PRO: The Public Relations Organization will have a meeting on Monday, Sept. 18 at 1 p.m. at the back of The Mimosa office in Self Hall. Contact: Jaclyn, 256-404-2590.

Writer's Club: The Writer's Club will be meeting Mondays at 3 p.m. on the 7th floor of the library. Nominations for officers will be Sept. 18. Voting will be on Sept. 25. Contact: Dr. Harding, pharding@jsu.edu.

Day in the life: Mardracus Russell

By Toni Merriss
The Chanticleer Features Editor

With a personality that lights up any room he enters, it is easy to see why senior Social Science Education major Mardracus “Drake” Russell is so popular on campus that he was once voted “Mr. Friendly.” In addition to currently serving as Student Government Association President, Drake has held many important positions on campus throughout his into his college experience. He hopes through his leadership he will send the message that “college is not only a time for book learning, but it is also a time to interact with people from different backgrounds. Students need to get an all around education,” Russell said.

Being only the second person in JSU SGA history to hold the office of President for two consecutive terms is very important to Russell. “Since the student governments establishment in 1946, Chris Pressure (the President from

Compiled by Reagan Williams
Contributions by Kayla Barnes, Leslie Gober and Nick Lehwald

JSU students recall 9/11

September 11, 2001. It is a day that is forever burned in the minds of Americans everywhere. There is no explanation necessary; the terrorist attacks made on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon have been described as the Vietnam or Korean Wars of our generation. Students here at JSU remember the events of 9/11 and how they were affected personally.

"It was the reason I joined the Army. My whole family lives in the D.C. area so the attack on the Pentagon really struck home. I want to protect my family and the other families in America. My brother was supposed to be on the plane that hit the Pentagon, but his plans got changed beforehand. Before 9/11, I didn't really care what was going on in Afghanistan or Iraq. I didn't think things there affected me. Now, although D.C. is my home, it doesn't feel the same anymore. Now there are signs everywhere that say 'report suspicious activity,'” said cadet Michael Miller.

"It really hasn't [affected my view of the world]. Everyone seems to hate everyone else no matter what. It did change my views on politics, though. Politicians never seem to want to change anything unless something bad has happened,” said sophomore Justin Ross.

"9/11 didn't really have an effect on my career. I was in the Navy on the USS Enterprise in the south Arabian Sea the day of the attack, and when we got word, we immediately did a 360 and sailed to the north Arabian Sea. We stayed there for several months and were the first carrier to send planes into Afghanistan on Oct. 11," said cadet Chris Nolen.

"On Sept. 11, 2001, I was in high school. I was sitting in 11th-grade biology class when my friend came into the room and told my teacher to turn on the news. We all sat in shocked silence and watched history unfold. I was numb with disbelief that human beings could do such a thing to countless other human beings. I had no conscious thoughts other than "why?" I simply stared," said Valerie Piel.

"It hurt my feelings because of what the highjackers did, and I believe it should be a national holiday," said Jeremy Blakely.

"I was in my 9th-grade math class, and we had just taken a test. And my Spanish teacher ran in and told my math teacher to turn on the television. When she did, I saw the second plane hit," said Allison Nichols.

I was at home and [had] just gotten up. I was eating breakfast, turned on the television and saw the second plane hit. After 9/11 happened, I became uber-patriotic. It made me think about the police, firemen and armed forces and what they are doing for us," said Patrick Waltz.

Compiled by Reagan Williams
Contributions by Kayla Barnes, Leslie Gober and Nick Lehwald
The Chanticleer Announcements Policy: Any JSU student organization or University office may submit items for the Announcements column. Submissions must be typed and limited to 50 words. Submissions must include contact information. This information does not count toward the 50-word total. Submissions must arrive at The Chanticleer office in Room 180, Self Hall, or emailed to Chanticleer@jsumsu.edu by 12 noon on the Tuesday 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 submissions for style, brevity and clarity.

CAMPUS CRIME

Sept. 2
UPD reported the distribution of a controlled substance in the Crow Hall parking lot.

Sept. 5
Dominique Marks reported the unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle in the Daugette Hall parking lot.

Sept. 7
John Maples reported the burglary of a debit card and textbooks at Crow Hall.

Sept. 8
Christopher Moore reported the theft of a Dell computer and charger at Daugette Hall.

Senate Minutes

By Reagan Williams
The Chanticleer News Editor

Jacksonville State University’s Student Government Association’s first senate meeting for the 2006-2007 school year began just like any other senate meeting. The agenda called for 21 new bills, all of which were appointments.

Student bills six through eight appointed three justices: Angela Icolono, Drew Carlson and Keyranta Houston.

David Jennings was appointed as the Executive Assistant to the SGA President in student bill four and Academic Affairs Committee Head in student bill 14.

Shavon Prather was appointed as the Director of Publicity in student bill nine.

Student bill 10 appointed Meredith Harvey as the senate clerk.

Sabrina Ussery is now the Chaplain as mandated in student bill 11.

Student Bill 13 appointed Brett Smith as President Pro-Tempore of the Student Senate and student bill 20 appointed him as the Homecoming Committee Head.

Destini Mayberry was appointed the Allocations Committee Head in student bill 15.

Student bill 16 appointed Jasmine Sessom as the Athletic Support and Spirit Committee Head.

Charday Olson was designated as the Campus Safety Committee Head in student bill 17.

The MADE Committee Head was named as Brittney Cunningham in student bill 21.

Student bill 22 appointed Shalon Hathcock as the Publicity Committee Head.

Residence Life and Facilities Committee Head is now Tyrone Smiley by student bill 23.

Summer Dase was appointed the STARS Committee Head in student bill 24.

Student bills five and 19 were tabled since the appointees were not in attendance.

The Senate started a new council to make sure the committees are fulfilling their duties. The Committee Chairman Council is composed of 11 committee chairs, the Senate Clerk and the Vice President of the Student Senate. Summer Dase will be the Chief of Council.

There will be an Organizational Council meeting on Oct. 3 at 6 p.m. in the Theron Montgomery Auditorium. Allocations will begin after that meeting for the organizations in attendance.

There are two seats available in the senate student. The applications are due on Friday, Sept. 15 by 4:30 p.m. in room 402D TMB.

If your organization would like an announcement on the tear-off calendar, they are due the 20th of every month in the Office of Student Life.
Flight 77 hits too close to home for one student

by Kevin Jeffers
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Often lost in people’s remembrance of the 9/11 attacks is American Airlines Flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, killing everyone on board and over 100 people in the building. Meaghan Hudson, a sophomore at JSU, lived in Arlington at the time.

“I lived maybe five minutes from the Pentagon,” said Meaghan. “My high school was one of the closest ones next to it, too. It was a really nice day. It was Tuesday, and it was beautiful outside.”

Everybody remembers where they were and what they were doing when the news of the attacks came. Meaghan has been reliving that day repeatedly since. She was at school when the news hit.

“I looked up and I saw the twin towers got hit... it didn’t really register, what just happened. I thought ‘Is someone playing a joke?’ The severity of it didn’t hit. Then I saw the Pentagon [was] hit... and then... it just kind of felt like my world crashed,” she said.

Her mother, who works for the Department of Defense for Naval Criminal Investigative Services, had a scheduled meeting in the Pentagon that day. Meaghan’s little sister, Caroline, who was only five at the time, was also in the building at a daycare.

“She says that lightning hit the building, and it sounded like thunder. And then all of a sudden they just started running... it was chaotic.

“I go across the hallway and tried calling her, and the phones were down and everybody, all of a sudden, you just see people getting up using their phones. All phones were down. So I just started bawling. I was just really... I just knew something... I don’t know... I thought my mom...” Meaghan could not finish her sentence.

“So I went back into the classroom and said I couldn’t get ahold of her. I was freaking out. I went up to the guidance counselor’s office, and there was half the school in there watching the TV because it was just so ridiculous. Everybody was panicking because we kept hearing about this second plane that was supposed to hit.

“I remember in the hallways, someone walked by my locker and said, “I’m glad I don’t have anybody there,” and I just fell to the ground.”

Around noon, her little sister came with her dad to the school to visit Meaghan. Both were unharmed, but Meaghan still did not have any news of her mother. At 1:07, her mother finally showed up, also unharmed. Fortunately, she was not even in the building because she had a doctor’s appointment and missed her meeting.

With the news that her mother and little sister escaped disaster, Meaghan went home. To this day, she has trouble reliving the worst day of her life.

“I didn’t even go to school the next day because I was too upset,” she said. Being so close to the crash, she said the area did not begin to heal until the rebuilding of the crash scene continued and a movie trailer sparked the interest and tears of many nations and to share with them what America was about,” Reynolds said.

When he returned from Afghanistan, Reynolds was so inspired by the troops he had worked with -- some as young as 17 -- that he decided to request an active guard reserve assignment.

“I want America to be here for the young people of today and tomorrow. So, I accepted an assignment in the Active Guard Reserve Program,” Reynolds said.

Overall, the attacks of 9/11 have fundamentally changed the entire military profession. Through much I've read on the situation, the attacks have been called a turning point in the war on terror.

Drake from page 2

first class, he gets a short break to take care of any break to take care of any future SGA President. will be coming to an end in
Although his time at JSU will be coming to an end in April, he considers himself very lucky to have all the memories from his past four years on SGA. "Of course I will be sad for it all to come to an end, but I know that everything has its cycle. I have gotten so much out of everything I have been offered here at JSU, so I can only look back with fond memories and hope that JSU continues its rise to excellence," Russell concluded.

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 106, SGA Hall, or by email to chantilaw@jacksonville.edu. 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. Reprints will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial, or letter in question.
Moving forward while looking back

By Summer Hunt
The Chanticleer Copy Editor

My parents always talk about where they were when they got the news that President Kennedy was shot. For our generation, everyone remembers where they were on Sept. 11 at the time of the terrorist attacks.

I remember being in school and watching the footage on television. I also remember continuing to watch it all day, over and over, along with the 500 other kids in the school. The halls were not free from the noise of conversation, but there was a certain whispered quality to the students’ voices in the hall. We watched in horror with our eyes glazed over, our mouths open in shock and our minds struggling to comprehend what was happening and what this meant for our country. We were stricken with a sort of silent desperation; there was nothing we could say, nothing we could do. We just simply sat and watched as it played out before our very eyes.

Five years later, things have changed. Our country is fighting a Global War on Terrorism. Some people are frightened to get on planes or even travel at all. However, there is one thing that has changed that is definitely for the better: we are no longer silent. We have found our voices, and we are speaking out loud. Here’s the terrorist attacks.

By Summer Hunt

By Kim Davis
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

9/11 starts out as two brothers’ exploration of the life of a probationary New York City firefighter, but accidentally turns into a trip into the Towers the day they fell. This documentary takes viewers on an emotional roller coaster of what firefighters encountered during the world trade center tragedy.

This real life documentary takes viewers on an eyewitness account of what is known now as Ground Zero, and how firefighters worked their way through debris and flames.

Too soon? from page 3

millions of Americans. United 93 is born. The trailer airs in select theaters all over the U.S., including ones in NYC, and is not well received. United 93 is greeted with boos, chants of “too soon” and thousands of theaters littered with over-salted popcorn and smuggled-in candy.

United Airlines Flight 93 was en route from Newark, NJ, to San Francisco, CA, when four men hijacked the plane. Their plan was soon after United 93, anon-
I flew from New Jersey to San Francisco, CA, when four men hijacked the plane. Their plan was to crash the plane into the White House; however, it was abruptly thwarted by the brave men and women on the flight. The plane crashed into a field in a small town in Pennsylvania. There were no survivors.

This movie was written, directed and produced by Paul Greengrass (The Bourne Supremacy). It tries, as accurately as possible, to portray the incidents that occurred on that day from several different perspectives, from the air traffic controllers all the way to the military. The in-flight accounts were mainly improvised using the actual phone calls from the passengers on the flight as a foundation. The actors in this movie were mostly people with little acting experience, but they played their parts well. The part of National Operations Manager Ben Sliney was actually played by Sliney himself. The terrorists, as well as our beloved American heroes, possessed very convincing emotions and a near accurate portrayal of what happened.

Soon after United 93, another movie was in the making. The reception of this movie was slightly different because it was an account of the beginning of the events that sparked fear in us all. The movie was titled World Trade Center. It attracted my curiosity because many friends of mine had watched it and loved the story as well as the movie itself. Nicholas Cage (Gone in 60 Seconds, Adaptation) and Michael Pena (Million Dollar Baby, Crash) star as John McLoughlin and Will Jimeno, two port authority officers that become trapped in the rubble of the Twin Towers. This story was an amazing one of survival, friendship, unity and the effects of the attacks on the families and people from all over the world. It also shows how the attacks on our country inspired the hero inside of all of us. The movie was directed by Oliver Stone (Natural Born Killers, JFK) and the screenplay was given some contributions from John McLoughlin himself. Aside from the obvious messages of the movie, it also shows us how we need to get through the difficult times and pick up some Kleenex. You’ll need it.

EVAN WILKINS
Grad Student
“Absolutely.”

STEPHEN JOHNSON
Senior
“Yeah, I do. If we put it out of our minds and don’t recognize it, we’ll get into the same mindset as before. That’s when it will happen again.”

KRISTIN SHIVES
Senior
“Yes, I do.”

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Gamecocks shutout Hornets, lose to Owls

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Led by co-captain Christina Balint’s hat trick, the JSU soccer team shutout the Alabama State Hornets 6-0 on Friday night. The Gamecocks dominated the Hornets, stopping them in attempts on shots.

"It was nice for the team to come away with a shutout," said Head Coach Julie Davis. "We did a good job of finishing our chances, and we were defensively solid in the back."

Balint’s first goal came in the 35th minute and the second in the 58th minute. The third goal for Balint was scored in the 64th minute. Erica West, Amber DeLaney and Sarah McAuley scored one goal each.

"We tried a new system tonight, and I think that gave Balint the opportunity to attack more," said Davis. "She came out and finished like a senior should."

The Gamecocks shot a total of 37 shots and 18 shots on goal. Balint leads the team with 16 shots and eight shots on goals.

"I think we stepped up the energy and had a good time playing soccer," said Balint. "Our energy was infectious tonight and our level of competition was higher."

Jacksonville State lost at Kennesaw State to the Owls on Sunday 3-0. The Gamecocks return home on Tuesday, Sept. 19, to host the Georgia State Panthers at 7 p.m. at the JSU Soccer Field.

Sarah McAuley looks to pass to one of her teammates.

Football: Ready for SEMO

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

After another tough, last-second loss to Furman, the Gamecocks are looking to put away the Southeast Missouri State Redhawks in the home opener.

"There’s nothing that has happened to change our expectations of ourselves and our season," said head coach Jack Crowe. "I expect to be improved when Southeast Missouri comes in here on Saturday."

Quarterback Matt Hardin went 9-17 for a total 108 yards passing and two interceptions against Furman. Although it was a losing effort, Hardin’s performance allowed him to get a feel for the momentum of his offense as he leads the Gamecocks into this weekend.

"He’s on his way to being a great quarterback," said Crowe. "I have no doubt his performance allowed him to get a feel for the momentum of his offense as he leads the Gamecocks into this weekend."

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Get to Know:
Christina Balint

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Christina Balint is not your average soccer player. Known for her hat trick against Alabama State on Sept. 8, she is not known for her skills as an ultimate Frisbee player. Balint took the time for the Chanticleer to get personal with her off the field.

Chanticleer Sports: What is your major?
CB: My major is in the Bachelor of Science in Education with a concentration in Biology

Chanticleer Sports: Do you have any siblings?
CB: I’m the only child, but I always felt like my parents were my siblings because we grew up together and learned from each other.

Chanticleer Sports: That’s interesting.
CB: It is, but we really learned from each other. I really got to see the human side of them. I learned from their mistakes because they let me see them as opposed to ‘normal’ parents working out their differences behind closed doors.

Chanticleer Sports: Favorite food?
CB: Pie! Strawberry-rhubarb pie! It’s the best!

Chanticleer Sports: Any other memories?
CB: I worked in the Rocky Mountains on the Canadian side of the border. I was a camp counselor and we would take our kids hiking, horseback riding, camping, and all the typical camp stuff. That was the summer of 2005. We would light fires and look at the stars. It was very relaxing.

Chanticleer Sports: What do you enjoy doing outside of soccer?
CB: In the winter, I love snowboarding. I love ultimate Frisbee! It’s such a great sport. I love racquetball, too. As soon as the season is over, I’m playing racquetball back home.

Chanticleer Sports: How many hours together, so they’re my family.
CB: Definitely spending time with my friends and my family. I call my friends and let them know I’m coming so we can go hang out and spend quality time together.

Chanticleer Sports: Do you have any plans after graduation?
CB: I want to travel and see the world. I would like to teach abroad for awhile. I really want to adopt new cultures and learn new languages. I don’t want to be a visitor or a tourist. I want to understand the culture and become apart of it.

Chanticleer Sports: Any advice for the freshmen?
CB: Pie! Strawberry-rhubarb pie! It’s the best!
Nigel Platt Camp successful for rugby team

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Clemson University head coach Nigel Platt hosted his camp on Friday and Saturday at the Paul Carpenter Village Field. The team continued to refine their technique as they prepare for their first game on Sept. 16.

"I'm looking for them to have endurance, stamina and fitness," said Platt. "I'm going to put them through some grueling tests and hope they take on something I'm teaching them."

The club was 4-2-1 last season with big wins over Georgia, Kennesaw State and a tie with Alabama. The team hopes to continue its winning ways by receiving advice from Platt.

"I wanted to bring in a solid, experienced rugby player," said Rugby coach Mike Trowse. "He was a back and I was a forward, so it balances out really well. But I'm giving him the whistle and letting him run the camp."

Platt put them through numerous fitness tests, including the Bleep Test. The test is a 20-meter run that measures how well athletes are in shape.

"There have only been two people in the world to successfully pass the Bleep Test," said Platt. "One of them is world soccer player David Beckham and the other is cyclist Lance Armstrong."

"The team felt confident about the knowledge they received from Platt."

"Overall, we got in a lot of field time with a very experienced coach," said President and Assistant Coach Jared Sorensen. "Everything we took in we'll be able to put into good use."

The club's first game is an invitational to the Birmingham Rugby Football Club and play against teams in the Birmingham Men's Club. Their first home game is Sept. 30 against Auburn.

CB: In the winter, I love snowboarding. I love ultimate Frisbee! It's such a great sport. I love racquetball, too. As soon as the season is over, I'm playing racquetball. I just love them all, but those are the cool ones.

CS: What do you enjoy doing when you go home to England?

CB: The best pie ever! My dad and I eat it like a pie-eating contest.

CS: Favorite music?

CB: I like everything, but I like Sarah McLachlan.

CS: Favorite food?

CB: Pies! Strawberry-rhubarb pie! It's the best pie ever! My dad and I eat it like a pie-eating contest.

CS: Favorite sports?

CB: In the winter, I love snowboarding. I love ultimate Frisbee! It's such a great sport. I love racquetball, too. As soon as the season is over, I'm playing racquetball. I just love them all, but those are the cool ones.

CS: This is your senior year. What do you feel you've accomplished outside of soccer?

CB: I definitely feel like I've made friends for life with my teammates. We spend 24 hours a day, 7 days a week together. We're always going out. It's like going to Europe or a tourist. I want to understand the culture and become apart of it.

CS: Any advice for the freshmen?

CB: Keep the hard work and passion in your life. It will get you through anything.

The Redhawks defeated Austin Peay State Sept. 2 by a score of 38-13 and handled Missouri-Rolla on the ninth 44-23.

(SEMO Head Coach) Tony Samuel has put together a great staff similar to the background he's familiar with," says Crowe. "It's obvious he has a plan to win."

With SEMO coming in undefeated and the Gamecocks looking for a big win in Paul Snow Stadium, the Sept. 16 home opener should prove to be an exciting game.

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