



THE CHANTICLEER

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JSU alumna Jennifer West won an award at Sidewalk, Story, page 5.

September 28, 2006

Jacksonville State University

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JSU student takes film to Sidewalk

By Jason Keener
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

A beautiful girl in trouble. A killer on the loose. A time bomb ticking. A plot. None of these things are in my film, *The Man with Apple-Shaped Boxing Gloves*, but the lack of narrative and any form of character development did not keep the Sidewalk Motion Picture Festival from accepting it.

Clocking in at a mere eight minutes, *The Man...* is described by the festival as "an assault of bizarre, often amusing and occasionally images." That's about as close to synopsis as it allows.

The Man... is a sort of greatest hits. I've been making movies with my friend Jeremiah Ledbetter since 2003. In 2005, we began competing in Sidewalk's 48-hour film competitions.

Our previous projects were essentially montages of disorienting scenes and surreal moments. For *The Man...*, we took our favorite scenes from our past films and spliced them together to produce a work as ridiculous as its title.

In May, we submitted the film to Sidewalk's annual festival with our fingers crossed that its experimental and non-linear nature would not prevent acceptance. Fortunately, it did not.

In anticipation of the festival, the summer seemed never-ending.

But finally the festival came, and with it several thousand people eager to see what independent filmmakers, both local and international, had managed to get in the now well-regarded festival that Time Magazine has praised.

With our film scheduled to screen at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, we made the most of Saturday by heavily promoting our film. This included setting up advertisements as unapologetically strange as our film. For example, we taped old

vinyl records [like Al Stewart's *Year of the Cat*] to the sidewalk with our film's title and show time written over the cover.

We also took to dressing up as characters from my next project, a surreal effort titled *Can Paralyzed Scorpions Sleepwalk?*, and offered passing people the chance to have their pictures taken with us in addition to receiving a free copy of *The Man...*

This all went down in front of the Alabama Theatre in Birmingham, AL. Many of Sidewalk's superb staff were amused; however, the manager of the Alabama Theatre was not. Nonetheless, we turned the other cheek at his negativity and stayed where we were. And it was a good thing we did.

We were approached by three very kind people who were more than happy to take a copy of the film and tell us that they dug our mindset regarding film promotion. It wasn't until midway through the conversation that these people explained that they, too, were filmmakers. Their film, *The Guatemalan Handshake*, had incidentally been the one film of the festival Jeremiah and I had been excited about for months.



"The Man with Apple-Shaped Boxing Gloves" debuted at the Birmingham Sidewalk Festival on Saturday Sept. 23, 2006.

Our fellow filmmakers had just finished their own form of unconventional promotion by hosting a contest across the street. It was a challenge to see who could eat the most Guatemalan Handshake Hotdogs, which consisted of a hotdog as you know and love it with the addition of chocolate syrup, whip cream and a cherry on top.

Saturday quickly came and went. Finally, it was Sunday and time for the screening of our film. The audience was made up primarily of college students who also had a short film in the block with ours.

There were also many older adults in the audience. Despite this gap, both age groups had the same reaction to our film: one of apparent uneasiness in not knowing rather to laugh or be disturbed by a scene in which a son tries to pull

his father's leg off.

The first question of the Q&A after the screening of the films was directed at our film. It was the one obvious question that we had not anticipated: "why is your film so violent?"

We had few answers to that question and the others we were asked,

such as "what does the title mean?" The fact that we didn't know the answers to the questions that plagued the audience seemed to only distance them from the

film even more.

Afterwards, we headed over to see *The Guatemalan Handshake*. It had suffered from terrible reviews from critics for its lack of narrative focus, which only seemed to confirm that Jeremiah and I would love it.

As we had guessed, *The Guatemalan Handshake* was indeed the best film either of us had seen this year. At their Q&A session, someone asked what the title meant. To our delight, they had as much difficulty in answering their questions as we had with ours.

We were quick to seize an opportunity afterwards to tell them how much we enjoyed their film and their uncompromising originality.

They informed us that they had been traveling around the country with a single print, the way many exploitation filmmakers did before the video age. They also screened short films prior to theirs and mentioned that they might be interested in screening *The Man...* with our permission.

Of course, we were more than happy to grant them that right.

That night at the awards ceremony,

See Sidewalk page 3



Photo Courtesy of Jason Keener

our film. This included setting up advertisements as unapologetically strange as our film. For example, we taped old

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Day in the Life: Andrew Lightner

Drum Captain of the Marching Southerners

By Toni Merriss

The Chanticleer Features Editor
and Leslie Gober
The Chanticleer Staff Reporter

Every musician has a time in his or her life when their musical roots begin.

For Andrew Lightner, Drum Captain of the JSU Marching Southerners, his roots sprouted at the age of six when he formed a fascination with an old drum set of his father's.

Although Lightner, an instrumental music education major from Douglasville, Ga., started drumming at an early age, he did not become serious about his music until he was in junior high.

Once the bug bit, Lightner did everything he could to improve his skills, including marching in his high school band and even taking private lessons from Nick Angelis, a famous snare drum soloist.

In 1992, Angelis was awarded the Drum Corps International (DCI) World Champion Rudi-



Photo Courtesy of Dustin Tanner

The JSU Marching Southerners Drum Corps during a performance.

mental Snare Drum Soloist and was a part of the World Champion Star of Indiana's percussion section in 1993.

Lightner has gained quite a bit of experience by marching four seasons with Spirit at JSU. Spirit is a summer marching ensemble that only contains brass, drums and colorguard.

"We travel all over the US competing and then we end with nationals. The purpose of the Drum Corps is to promote perfection and consistency through music. To do that, we spend hours and hours working on the same show for three months straight, every day for ten hours a day until finals," he explained.

"During the summer, our entire lives are devoted to Spirit. It is a lot of fun, in a different type of way. Not many people would understand how much it means to us," Lightner said.

Angelis is currently the Battery Coordinator for Spirit and has no doubt continued assist-

ing Lightner in honing his drumming skills. This past August, JSU's Spirit placed 12th out of 20-25 teams nationwide in DCI finals.

At the end of each season, Marching Southerners vote for captains for the upcoming year. All the members from that year nominate people, and then they question candidates as to why they want to be captain.

Last December, Lightner was named Drum Captain. With that comes many responsibilities. His job, first and foremost, is to drum. A few of his other duties include organizing practices, supervising the conduct of the other drummers and setting the best example he can for the drummers to model themselves after.

For Lightner, setting the example can be quite extensive.

"I am always the first to rehearse, and I try to be prepared. I make sure that whatever I do, it would be okay for anyone else in the line to do also. But most importantly, I practice a lot to

make sure that I can give the proper instruction to my peers," he said.

As many JSU students can see while driving by the coliseum, the Marching Southerners put in long practice hours. What is not seen is all the extra time given to perfecting their talent. The entire band practices for an hour and a half almost every day, but the drumline goes above and beyond that.

"On Monday nights, the snare line practices by themselves. On Wednesday, the entire drumline practices together, and on Thursday each section practices before the whole band has practice

in the stadium. I am sure everyone can hear us practicing on Thursday nights; it can get really loud in the stadium," Lightner said laughingly.

For regular practice time, Lightner likes to show up early and do his own warm-up exercises with a metronome, a device that produces a pulse to help keep a steady beat throughout the music. The drumline usually has a 30-minute warm-up that consists of various exercises to improve their hand motion, stick height and hand strength. After that, they practice each segment of their show to make sure everyone is on the same page and in the right placement. At the end, there is a full run-through of the entire show. Keep in mind this is all in one practice.

During football games, the drumline is the first to show up so they can tune their drums and warm-up their hands. The entire band keeps busy during the games performing the fight song

Rising Stars

By Jessica Summe

The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

"There's two things in life I love - marching and playing in rock bands," said Michael Swartz, a music major here at JSU. "So there's no complaint here."

Swartz's band, Left without Stars, opened for 88 Faces at Brother's Bar last Saturday, Sept. 23. Swartz is the band's bassist but plays tenor sax for the Marching Southerners.

In fact, Swartz was about an hour late for sound check at Brother's because he was at the Paul Snow Stadium with the rest of the Southerners for the Phi Mu Alpha Classic.

Besides Swartz, the band is made up of Brandon Ledbetter (lead vocals and guitar), drummer Kirk George, and "Dick Lithium" a guitar/vocalist who wishes to be known by his stage name.

"Dick likes to be the enigma," says Ledbetter. "I'll bet he didn't say a lot when you interviewed him."

If "Lithium" is the enigma, Ledbetter is the romantic. The newest member of the band, Ledbetter writes the bulk of the band's music along with "Lithium," but Swartz has been working on some songs

with "Lithium" as well.

"You won't see them [the songs] for a while," said Swartz. "One's over ten minutes...we want to write that one song that every hard rock band has, the one that's mellow, hard, and a little weird...the one that's a spiritual joyride."

Swartz got involved in Left without Stars when he met "Dick Lithium" at a party held by mutual friends. Swartz auditioned for the band about a month later.

Swartz is the goofy member of Left without Stars. Besides wielding a metallic pink bass ("It was the best 5-string bass they had"), Swartz also has an engaging personality onstage.

"Is everybody going to enjoy getting drunk?" he asked the crowd on Saturday. "Because I'm going to enjoy my Gat-o-rade."

This version of the band has been together for about three months. The men describe their music as modern, progressive, and different, and they hope to be successful with this incarnation of the band.

"Of course we'd like to go somewhere," said Ledbetter



Photo Courtesy of Innovative Percussion
Drum Captain Andrew Lightner during Spirit 2006.

See Day in the Life page 3

See Stars, page 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alpha Omicron Pi: Congrats to Alpha Omicron Pi's teacher of the Month for Sept. Dr. Porter! Good luck to all JSU sports this week! Have a great week! **Contact:** Meredith, merharvey@aol.com.

Campus Outreach: There will be a meeting Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 9 p.m. in the cafeteria. A guest speaker will discuss the presence of God in world sufferings. There will be a women's retreat on Oct. 13 and 14. The cost is \$10. The Christmas Conference will be Dec. 27 through 31. The cost is \$165, due before Thanksgiving. **Contact:** Seth, sethterrell@campusoutreach.org.

Delta Zeta: Turtle tug is coming up on Oct. 11 at 4:30 p.m. A team of six is \$30 and t-shirts are \$10 each. **Contact:** Shae, 256-239-1343.

GO! Leaders: GO! Leader applications are now available in the Office of Student Life, room 402 TMB. They are due Oct. 31 no later than 4:30 p.m. **Contact:** Janele or Ashley, GOLeaders07@hotmail.com.

JSU Rugby: The JSU Rugby Club v. Auburn University will be Saturday at 2:00 p.m. at the intramural field. **Contact:** Jared, jsu1505m@jsu.edu.

Zeta Tau Alpha: The sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha would like to congratulate all of the IFC fraternities on an excellent recruitment! We encourage everyone to "Go Greek!" We would also like to congratulate all the men and women selected to participate in Freshman Forum! We look forward to your leadership! **Contact:** Malorie, malorie_edger@yahoo.com.

The Chanticleer Announcements Policy: Any JSU student organization or University office may submit items for the Announcements column. Submissions must be typed, and are 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 Charlynews@yahoo.com 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.

Why, oh, why, must the weather turn cold?

By Summer Hunt
The Chanticleer Copy Editor

Football season has begun, there is a slight chill in the air, and people everywhere have begun breaking out their warmer wardrobe. Soon, the leaves will begin to change and JSU's campus will be draped in a blanket of fiery red, brilliant orange and warm golden yellow.

Fall is here.

I love fall; it's my very favorite time of year. Living in Alabama, we don't really experience many season changes. It's either really, really hot or not-so-hot. Fall is more like a state of mind; however, those first few cool days of fall are like a breath of fresh air compared to our hot, sticky, humid summer days.

Have you ever stopped to wonder where we get our season divisions from? If there are so many different climates in so many different regions, then who decides when fall actually begins? If you answered no, then you can go ahead and stop reading. But if you answered yes, then read on, my friend.

Solstices and equinoxes mark the beginning of each season. The sun reaches its northern- and southern-most declinations on the winter and summer solstices. The beginning of

winter is towards the end of December and is also marked by the shortest day of the year. The summer solstice comes towards the end of June on the longest day of the year.

Fall and spring begin on the days of the equinoxes. On these days, day and night are equal in length. On the vernal equinox, the sun "springs" above the equator; on the autumnal equinox, it "falls" below it, hence the names of the two seasons. The first day of spring begins in late March, while fall kicks off in late September.

The distance from the Sun has nothing to do with the changing of the seasons; instead, they are the result of tilt of the Earth's axis on its side. It is the angle of the Sun's rays that mean warmer or colder days.

In the summer, they are more direct, and the days are longer. The angle of the rays is more intense in the winter, resulting in colder, shorter days.

So I guess fall really is a state of mind. The seasons may not be defined by how hot or cold it is outside, but if you ask me, it definitely feels like fall.

All of the information in this article and more can be found in the Online Weather Almanac.

Mountain

Alpha Xi Delta helps children

By Nick Newhald
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

This past week, the Alpha Xi Delta sorority hosted a bake sale in the TMB lobby to raise money and awareness for the AIDS epidemic sweeping across Africa. The sale was raising money specifically for the charity "Keep A Child Alive." The non-profit organization helps children in Africa, who either have AIDS or have a family member with AIDS, by giving them food and medicine.

Alpha Xi made cookies, rice crispy treats, brownies and cake and were in the TMB on Wednesday and Thursday from 11 to 3 p.m. The girls were very passionate about the cause and were more than happy to help.

"It's important to raise awareness for Africa, espe-

cially for the children. Most Americans don't know what's going on over there or how desperate the situation is," said sophomore Andi Bacza.

"They don't have the money they need for food and medicine, but we do. AIDS isn't only a crisis in America, it's a crisis everywhere," said freshman Sammie Jo Brewster.

Alpha Xi Delta is out in force every month raising money for their philanthropy, "Choose Children." For those who missed it last week, the girls will be holding another bake sale next semester.

This October Alpha Xi will host their annual fundraiser Bachelor Beauties on Oct. 10.

You can visit their website at www.keepachildalive.org.

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For More Info

CAMPUS CRIME

Correction:

Wesley Ogletree reported disorderly conduct and criminal trespassing in Logan Hall parking lot. He was not arrested.

Sept. 21

Miles Allen Keith; DUI; HWY 204, Nesbit Lake Road

Demond T. Coleman; Harassment; Sparkman Hall

Sept. 22

Stephen Abul Elsharrieff Abell; Harassment

Tiffany Nicole Julien; North Stadium Sidewalk; Reported Harassment

Sept. 25

Kelly Alyce Moore ; Criminal Miscief; Salls Hall

Ernest Glenn Sewell; Disorderly Conduct; Mountain Street

Brett Justice Simonelli; Disorderly Conduct; Mountain Street

Information in the Campus Crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Salls Hall. These records are public documents which any individual has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe this information to be in error, please call 782-5701, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050.

Echoes Echoes Echoes

By DeShunn Johnson

The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Birmingham has City Stages, Gadsden has Riverfest, and Dothan has the Peanut Festival.

Jacksonville has the Mountain Echoes Festival.

Last Saturday, the Jacksonville Square turned into a community street party with music, food and dancing. Several members of the community showed their support of the festival, which was sponsored by the Jacksonville Merchants Association. Over sixty vendors displayed their various arts and crafts for sale.

"I think this is a good event," said JSU senior Krystle Bell. "It's good to see different people from the community and all the different vendors."

Jacksonville State was well-represented at the event. There was a booth with information about the university and door prizes given away to festival attendees, as well as several JSU cheerleaders handing out balloons.

Java Jolt, one of many local stores to participate in the festival, had its doors open with a jazz band filling the streets with music. In addition to the jazz band, there was also some Christian music and a little country line dancing for fun.

Sliding to the left and sliding to the right, JSU mascot Cocky showed community members how JSU does the electric slide.

The Jacksonville Mental Health Center had a booth boasting crafts hand-made by their clients.

Vendors from Jacksonville as well as Gadsden filled the square with all the food it could hold, including funnel cakes, ribbon fries, barbeque and more. There was a minor problem with the heat and the wind, but the festival went on until 3 p.m.

"I think that it's a real good turn out," said Renee Hall, another JSU student. "A lot of people from the community have shown up."

Despite the 90 degree heat, the festival was a success.

Senate Minutes

By Chris Lundy

The Chanticleer Sports Editor

The Student Government Association had their weekly meeting on Monday to discuss upcoming events and issues within the senate.

Student bill 5 was tabled for the third time, and officially killed until it is authored again.

Michael Miller and Joseph McElrath were removed from their positions as Senator in bills 29 and 30, respectively.

Student bill 31 passed, appointing Brigitte Pow-

ell to the Senate. Bill 32 appointed Sade' McClaney as a new Senator.

Student bill 33 was passed, appointing Summer Dase as Chief of the Committee Chairman Council for the 2006-07 term.

Student bill 34 was discussed among the Senators. Senate Chaplain Sabrina Ussery authored the bill to amend section 307.12 of the code of laws. Justice Rachel Poe initially proposed the idea. The bill would allow two Senate absences

per semester. Upon discussion, the Senate decided to table the bill until the next meeting.

The SGA President encouraged the Senate to be aware of Homecoming activities; and he announced the Washington Internship Institute again.

Director of Publicity Shavon Prather expressed concerned about the lighting issue at Curtiss Hall.

Senator Jonathan Taylor mentioned an updated website for SGA.

For More Info

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"

"When you combine leadership, technical savvy and a bias toward action, you are talking about the exact skill set businesses are craving. You are talking about a military leader..."

- The Lucas Group

"Successful store leadership candidates possess 4-10 years as commissioned military officers"

- The Home Depot

What Occupations are available for Officers?

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Army Finance Corps | Army Nurse Corps |
| Medical Service Corps | Military Police |
| Aviation | Signal Corps |
| Logistics | Armor Corps |
| Engineering | Field Artillery |
| Human Resources | Chemical Corps |
| Military Intelligence | Air Defense |
| Maintenance | Infantry |
| Transportation | |

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Stars, from page 1

"Of course we'd like to go somewhere," said Ledbetter when asked about the band's ambitions. "We'd like to make it big."

"Like any band, I want it to go big," said Swartz. "But I'm at the point in life where I'm just fine making music I enjoy. I definitely want to play [music] for a job. The degree is so I am able to teach, just in case, but with a music degree I can learn a lot more about the music. I want to know everything about music, why it's made, how it's made and how it came to be that way."

Swartz's fascination with music began when his grandfather, who gave music lessons, taught him how to play piano, guitar, bass and accordion when he was 12.

"Chords didn't agree with me, so I switched to bass," said Swartz.

At Brother's on Saturday night, the band opened with Better, and then played Second Time Around, a very popular instrumental piece that only has one sung lyric. Left without Stars only plays two covers, Cherub Rock by the Smashing Pumpkins and Pet by A Perfect Circle.

"They have their own style," said Jessica Stewart, a fashion merchandising senior. "I haven't heard anything like that before."

Jeff Fuller, an English senior, thinks the band is "amazing".

"They're really talented and have a lot to offer," he said. "But they're also all friends of mine, so I'm probably the most biased opinion you can get."

Left without Stars can be found on MySpace.

The Chanticleer Editorial Cartoon



Day In The Life, from page 1

and warm-up their hands. The entire band keeps busy during the games performing the fight song when JSU scores a touchdown or various other songs when a play takes place.

Lightner admits that he gets an adrenaline rush from performing at half time. "The crowd really

draws out the emotions in the music. It is like a natural high," he said. "There can be a lot of pressure to live up to certain expectations, so we rehearse more to ensure that we do. The more the crowd gets into the music, the more we get into it. It results in a better show overall,"

he added.

Another instructor that has made a great impact in Lightner's life is Clint Gillespie. Gillespie serves as the Assistant Director of University Bands at JSU. In short, he is in charge of the awesome sound heard from the drumline and Spirit from JSU.

"He has been the person I look to through all of my problems, and he always found ways to make me understand the material we were working with," Lightner explained. He regards Gillespie as his greatest musical mentor.

roots began spreading even deeper when he chose music education as his major. "I love getting to see young people grow as musicians and as people through music," he said.

For true musicians, music goes deeper than just reading the music and performing what you have learned; music touches the heart. It is obvious in the way that Lightner encourages everyone to come out and support the Marching Southerners that he is a true musician.

"Drum Corps is the product of hours and hours of hard work, and you get to see what people

Sidewalk, from page 1

we received no awards. Neither did *The Guatemalan Handshake*.

But to think that matters is to miss the real point of Sidewalk and film festivals in general. Networking with other filmmakers and your audience is the real triumph of these events. Every year, I meet more and more wonderful people and leave with more and more friends.

And now, my film may be touring with the best film I've seen this



Photo courtesy Jason Keener.

Screenshot from TMWASBG.





Photo courtesy Dustin Tanner

Lightner's musical regards Gillespie as his greatest musical mentor. Gillespie serves as an instructor not only to Lightner but also several of the other drummers from JSU.

Lightner's musical

"Drum Corps is the product of hours and hours of hard work, and you get to see what people can accomplish when they all come together in one common goal. Everyone should come watch the show," he finished.

of these events. Every year, I meet more and more wonderful people and leave with more and more friends.

And now, my film may be touring with the best film I've seen this year.

In addition to actual filmmakers, Jeremiah and I also talked to a lot of people who said they wanted to be filmmakers more than anything else. When we asked them if they had made anything, they all said no.

The moral of the story of a film with no story is this: anyone can make a film. And your friends and family can say it is stupid, as ours did. Sidewalk provides a venue for your film to be screened where a bigger audience can make up their minds if a film is stupid or not.

While many people were quite uninterested and in some cases disgusted with our product, I was able to meet a few people interested in working on my next film. I also may very well have my film seen around the country alongside the best film I have seen this year.

If you have any ambitions about being a filmmaker, or are even interested in making films as a hobby, then you are a fool to not utilize Sidewalk. Speaking of which, the next 48 hour film competition, the Sidewalk Scramble, is set for November. I'll be there. Will you?

Introductions All Around

By Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

You'll have to forgive me. I have been remiss in my duties as an Editor-in-Chief - I meant to introduce The Chanticleer staff to you within the first issue or two. Well, things have been busy, and they're not quite so busy now, so allow me to make it up to you. I have an excellent staff this year (they haven't quit yet!) and I promise you'll be better off knowing a little bit more about the people who make The Chanticleer happen. Or at least you'll be a little more amused.

The first person I'd like to introduce you to is Reagan Williams. She is our News Editor this year, as well as the dedicated author of Senate Minutes and our reigning Quote Board Queen. The Quote Board is where we write down some of the more - interesting - things our staff say in the office. A good requirement for the Quote Board is that it must make someone snort a beverage up their nose.

Next on the list is Toni Merriss, our Features Editor. You might have seen a couple of her pieces last year, and I am now happy to report that she has something in the paper al-

most every week. Sometimes she's not really happy about that fact, but the girl loves to write and her Day in the Lives are usually the most popular articles posted online at thechanticleeronline.com. She also has a habit of bringing candy to the office - and sharing it as well!

Chris Lundy is the island of testosterone in this sea of estrogen. We stole Chris from Sports Information over the summer and are very happy with our new Sports Editor. Chris has a resume to die for and is also President of Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT). He also brought in some food - as in home-cooked leftovers from his Dad's in Rome, Ga. That is an amazing man that'll share that kind of food.

Our Copy Editor - the one who checks my spelling, bless her - is Summer Hunt. Thanks to Summer, the paper in your hands has almost every single dot, letter, and line in its proper place. She also is the Mistress of Headlines - if you see an amusing or clever headline in the paper, it's most likely Summer's work. Because of this uncanny talent, we keep poor Summer here way past her bedtime - even though she has to come back at six in the morning.

Now, the reason you have a paper

in your hands at ALL is because of Jaclyn Cosper. Our Advertising Director, she is known for her extreme dedication and hard work bringing the paper out of the red and into the green last spring. She keeps our necks above water, our pages above six, and some of our issues in color. She also has graciously offered the use of her house for any staff member who needs a place to crash, which I'm sure I'll take advantage of very soon.

Now, ads are such a big job we found Jaclyn needed a bit of help keeping them all together. Enter DeShunn Johnson, our Ad Assistant and Sweetest Person on Earth. DeShunn is an organizer and keeps our paperwork from rising up and murdering us in our sleep. She also contributes articles to the paper every week - because they're usually events that no one can get to but that she thinks should be covered. I told you she was sweet.

Now for the invisible editor - Lee Johnston. Our Distribution Manager wakes at the crack of dawn Thursday mornings - sometimes without coffee - picks up the 5,000 copies of The Chanticleer, and delivers them by hand across campus. We hardly ever get to see Lee in the office, but she's one of us all the same.

And finally, the people who we'd never get the paper done without - Mr. Mike Steadham and Ms. Tammy Maize. Mr. Steadham is our advisor, but more important than that, he is the Man That Makes the Computers Work, and oh, how we love him for it. We'd wish he'd stay for all of layout night - but I guess that would be cheating.

Ms. Tammy really belongs to the Communication Department, but she is always magically accomplishing things we were supposed to do but didn't know about - I'm serious, the most magical words I have ever heard have come out of Ms. Tammy's mouth - "Oh, you were supposed to do it, but I took care of it." She's our guardian angel...Mr. Steadham might fix the printer, but it's Ms. Tammy who gets us the paper!

I'm Jessica Summe, and I'm this year's Editor-in-Chief. I'm very happy with my staff, and the rest of you should be jealous of me for getting to work with such fun-loving people. We're always laughing in here - granted, a lot of times it's at me, but that's not the point. Stop by sometime and see for yourself.

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Features Editor	Toni Merriss
Sports Editor	Chris Lundy
Advertising Director	Jaclyn Cosper
Ad Assistant	DeShunn Johnson
Copy Editor	Summer Hunt
Distribution Manager	Lee Johnston
Advisor	Mike Steadham

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Letter Policy

The Chanticleer welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typed. Letters may be hand-delivered or sent through campus mail to our offices in Room 180, Self Hall, or to the mailing address at left. Letters may also be e-mailed to chanticleernews@yahoo.com.

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous, defamatory or submitted anonymously. Letters may be edited for style, brevity, or clarity. The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to desired publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Rebutals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.

**QUESTION
OF THE
WEEK:**

**WHAT COLOR
IS YOUR
UNDERWEAR
TODAY?**



Gerhard M... ..

They are green, that
... ..

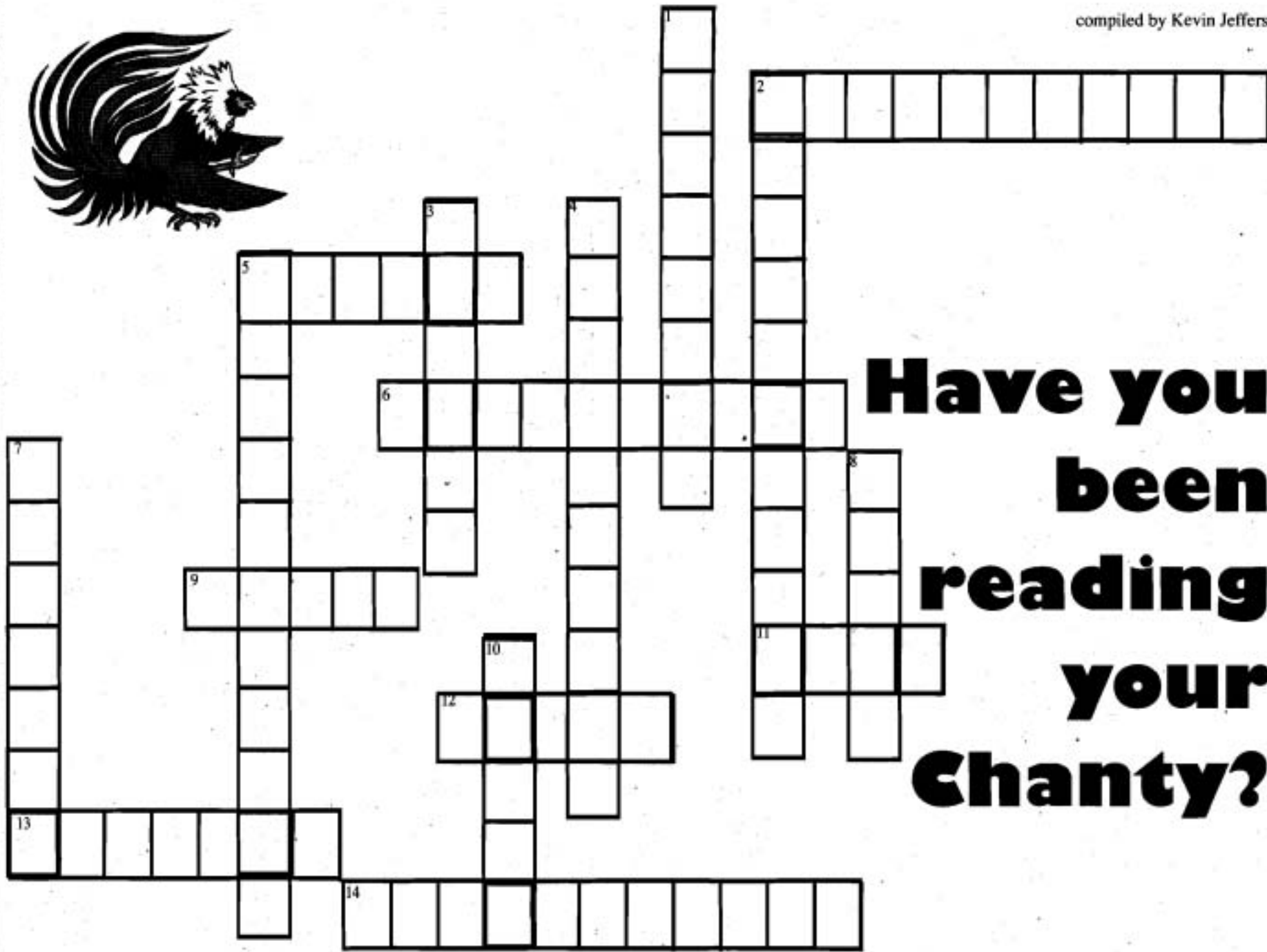


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The Chanticleer Crossword Puzzle

compiled by Kevin Jeffers



**Have you
been
reading
your
Chanty?**

Across:

- 2. English classes are held in this building
- 5. Jack _____ Dining Hall
- 6. JSU's athletic conference
- 9. Pumps up the crowd at football games
- 11. Located in Rowe Hall
- 12. Star JSU athlete Abbey _____
- 13. SGA President's last name
- 14. Published every Thursday

Down:

- 1. Newest coffee place on the Square
- 2. The JSU Marching _____
- 3. JSU President Dr. William _____
- 4. Crocodile Hunter
- 5. Library
- 7. JSU football announcer Matt _____
- 8. No longer a planet
- 10. JSU star athlete Clay _____

Nunital time_bomb

Nupital time-bomb

By Jason Keener
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

As the director of the Sidewalk Motion Picture Festival Erik Jambor announced the films playing at the second block of Alabama shorts on Saturday, he would pause in between to allow for applause. While films received varying amounts of enthusiasm, none were quite as enthusiastically received as *Piece of Cake*. I had to cover my ears immediately after he said it. The film apparently lived up to expectations of those who came to support it; the next night it took home the audience award. Starring Mo Rocca and written and directed by local sweetheart and first time filmmaker Jennifer West, *Piece of Cake* is described by the filmmaker as "a slice of life comedy."

It takes place right before a wedding and treats the event like an action film would a time bomb - time is running out and doom seems eminent. West should know just how chaotic weddings can be considering she is a self-employed wedding videographer.

West wrote the film after attending a

screenwriting workshop promoted by Sidewalk, Alabama's popular film festival organization. She then utilized all the aspiring film crews and actors she had met through Sidewalk's various events to assemble the team to make her film into a reality.

Perhaps what made *Piece of Cake* stand out from most of the other shorts screened at the festival this year is that it stars a recognizable talent, Mo Rocca from TV's "The Daily Show."

West had seen him perform in Birmingham and got her script to his agent. He read it, agreed to do it and added an undeniable boast of buzz and credibility. After all, Alabama is home to dozens of short films every month, but few have established actors.

The film itself shifts focus between different characters. There is a pregnant wedding planner (Amy Kay Raymond) who happens to be expecting the day of a wedding she is supervising but would rather reschedule the birth of her child than the wedding itself.

There is a bridesmaid (producer Alison Britt) who has an ever decreasing amount of time to lose ten pounds before the wedding. She is on a low-carb diet that calls for eating a lot of sausage, and she has also taken up running. Unfortunately, the two weight loss methods do not go together very well.

Then, of course, there's the bride and groom. Rocca plays the kind of guy who believes in playing polka music and hanging up decorations at his own bachelor party. Luckily, or maybe not so luckily, his booze-guzzling friends have other plans involving shots of tequila and fuzzy handcuffs.

Meanwhile, the bride (Jen Graham) has the kind of duplicitous nature that calls for kissing every single wedding invitation envelope and also making out with her fiancé's best friend the day of their wedding.

Unfortunately for us, the film ends just in time for the wedding. However, it leaves room for much, much more.

Since the film received such a positive reception at the film festival, there could possibly be a chance that it might be developed into a feature length film. As it stands now, the film does indeed feel more like a sneak preview for a longer project than a short film.

This is more of a compliment than it sounds. I saw several short films at the festival this weekend and honestly, most seemed like they would never end, despite running times like ten minutes. When *Piece of Cake* ended, I couldn't help but think to ask West for another slice.



Nathan Smith



I sed to



File Photo

"Piece of Cake" debut at the Birmingham Sidewalk Film Festival on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2006.

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JSU alumna is finding life sweet

By Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

"Making the film was really a labor of love," said Jennifer West, a JSU alumna whose short film *Piece of Cake* debuted at the Birmingham Sidewalk Film Festival on Sept. 23. After graduating from JSU, West worked for several years in Atlanta, Ga. as a graphic designer. While in Atlanta, she took a couple of screenwriting and storyboard classes at the Art Institute. When she moved to Birmingham, West continued her forays into film with a writing class at Workplay that eventually became the script for *Piece of Cake*.

"It just really evolved from that," West said of the film.

West credits her graphic design degree for her success in her artistic adventures.

"It opened a lot of doors for me after I graduated. There are the same principles with any art degree – composition, certain design elements. I'll always keep what I learned from them. It [film] is just a different medium, they have the same principles."



Allison Britt as Claire Roundtree.

With the script finished in January 2006, West turned to friend, producer and actress Allison Britt to help get the

dream of making a short film off the ground. After several months of recruiting sponsors, crew, and actors (including Mo Rocca of Comedy Central's *The Daily Show*), West and Britt began a six-day shoot on June 18.

West's cast and crew consisted of family members, friends, co-workers, a healthy dose of perfect strangers, and Mo Rocca himself.

"Getting Mo Rocca was just pure luck," said West. "We had sent a script to his agent, and Mo read it and liked it a lot, and, amazingly, he had some free time. It took a bit of arranging, but having him in the project is really just the icing on the cake."

After finishing shooting, the crew went into post-production. While it only took six full days to film the

short, it took an excruciating 10 weeks for editing. Besides splicing the film into its final version, the score and special effects were added.

"It's nothing big," said West of the special effects. "It was so bright when we filmed the race scene that we had to add the sky in. They call it special effects, but you'd never notice."

West added, "We only finished the week of Sidewalk. We could probably still spend a month on it."

West cannot even guess at how many man-hours went into the production of *Piece of Cake*. "It must be hundreds. It's very all-consuming."

The complexity of making a movie was only increased when, in post-production, West and her crew decided to cut an entire storyline out of the film.

"It just didn't fit. We had focus groups and a marketing firm telling us that it just didn't work. They slaughtered it. It was my fault for letting it go haywire [in the first place]. But now it's a good length, 15 minutes instead of 19 minutes. And the response we got once it came out was wonderful."

The same could be said of the audience at the Sidewalk

Film Festival. *Piece of Cake* won the Audience Choice Award for Alabama Short.

"It was amazing," said West.



Allison Britt, producer and actress for "Piece of Cake", gets made up before filming.

"The audience response was kickass! I was worried about not getting any awards from the judges, but I feel confident in the audience response. There were 700 people in that audience!"

"The judges were awesome, though," West backtracks. "The film that won was a really good, high-art kind of film – the exact opposite of what we were doing. But it was a really good film that won."

Many people have approached West about extending *Piece of Cake* into a feature film, or making a sequel to it.

"A lot of people think it could be a feature – I don't

see it, but they say it," said West. "The response was that people just wanted more, they wanted more of the characters. But with *Piece of Cake* I feel like I've done everything with it I can. I think the characters are pretty well-developed and successful the way they are. I made a movie in a year – less than a year! I'm ready to try some other things."

These other things in West's future involve running *Piece of Cake* through the festival circuit and working on a longer – different – feature piece.

"A short film is a business card of sorts – it shows people what you're capable of," said West. "We're going to try our hand at Sundance – we have a very small shot at that. But I'll have something on the table soon."

West also has a day job – she is a wedding videographer. In fact, after *Piece of Cake* screened, West only had about an hour before she was due at a wedding to record.

"I missed the rest of the festival, but it's awesome working for myself," said West, who picked up business skills on the fly and from her father. "I was always very ambitious and had the determination to back up my crazy ideas."



Jennifer West, graduate of JSU and writer and director of "Piece of Cake".





Extras on the set of "Piece of Cake".

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UTM Holds on for 24-14 Win Over Jax State

From Staff Reports

MARTIN, Tenn. -- E.J. Daniels returned a punt for 52 yards for a touchdown and added another score on a 42-yard reception to lead Tennessee-Martin to a 24-14 win over Jacksonville State in an Ohio Valley Conference game Saturday night.

The Skyhawk defense, which entered the game ranked third nationally, held the Gamecocks to just 91 rushing yards, the fewest by the Gamecocks in almost three years. Meanwhile, the UTM offense had the ball for more than 35 minutes and was led on the ground by Marcus Dawson's 144 yards on 30 carries. Taylor Brown gave UTM the early lead after kicking a 40-yard field goal with 4:00 remaining in the first quarter. The 15-play scoring drive covered 56 yards and was aided by a pair of fourth down conversions by the Skyhawks. Tennessee-Martin (3-1, 1-0 OVC) then pushed the lead to 10-0 late in the first quarter after E.J. Daniels returned a punt 52 yards for a touchdown. It was the first punt returned against JSU since Southwest Texas State in 2002. Jacksonville State (1-2, 1-1) got on the scoreboard with 2:39 left in the sec-

ond quarter after Matt Hardin tossed his first touchdown of the season on a 10-yard pass to Taurean Rhetta. Gavin Hallford added the point after to cut the lead to 10-7 at the half.

The Skyhawks then pushed the lead to 17-7 on their opening drive of the second half after Daniels caught a 42-yard touchdown pass from Greg Preston with 12:19 left in the third quarter.

The game was then delayed for 1 hour and three minutes early in the third quarter due to weather, but the Gamecocks came out of the delay and cut the lead to three points. Senior Clay Green scored on a 3-yard run over the left guard with just :43 left in the third quarter to slice the lead to 17-14 after Hallford added the point after. The scoring drive was setup by a blocked punt by Taurean Rhetta and six plays later, Green scored his fourth touchdown of the season, but the Gamecocks could get no closer.

Tennessee-Martin pushed the lead



File Photo Jacksonville State University football player Taurean Rhetta

back to 10 points after the Skyhawk defense held the Gamecocks on fourth down and took over on the JSU 40 yardline early in the fourth quarter.

Seven plays later, Donald Chapman scored on a one-yard run with 7:39 left and Brown kicked the point for the final margin and earn their first win over JSU since 1988. Green led the Gamecock offense, finishing with 78 yards on 20 carries. Junior quarterback Matt Hardin finished 7-for-25 for 130 yards, with one touchdown and one interception.

The Gamecocks return to action next week at preseason favorite Eastern Kentucky. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. at Roy Kidd Stadium.

SPORTS

Gamecock Volleyball sweeps TSU to open OVC play

NASHVILLE - The Jacksonville State volleyball team got the 2006 Ohio Valley Conference schedule off to a good start on Friday with a three-game sweep at defending regular season champion Tennessee State.

The Gamecocks (7-4, 1-0 OVC) pulled out a 3-0 (30-28, 30-27, 30-28) win over the Lady Tigers (6-8, 0-1 OVC) in their home opener, snapping an 11-match TSU home winning streak that dated JSU Volleyball Player Emily Withers goes back to 2005.

"It really was a good match between two good teams," JSU head coach Rick Nold said. "They are extremely athletic and returned a lot of players from a team that shared the league title a year ago. It was back and forth most of the way, but we were able to make some plays when we needed them."

Senior setter Emily Withers had a match-high 51 assists to set up a Gamecock offense that totaled 56 kills

in the three-game match. Reigning OVC Offensive Player of the Week Abbey Breit led the way again with 18 kills, an average of six per game. The junior from



File Photo JSU Volleyball Player Emily Withers goes for the save.

Louisville, Ky., is averaging just under six kills per game on the year, which ranks second nationally.

Freshman Brittney Whitten led the JSU defense with 10 digs, while junior Rebekah Nichols was the only other Gamecock with double-digit kills with 13 on a .375 attack percentage.

The Gamecocks will wrap up their current road trip on Saturday, when they travel to Clarksville, Tenn., to face Austin Peay at 2 p.m.

JSU Soccer holds on for 1-1 tie at Tennessee Tech

From Staff Reports

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. - A goal from senior Christina Balint, coupled with 16 saves from junior Elizabeth Selasky, helped the Jacksonville State soccer team to a 1-1 tie with Tennessee



elyn Daniel assist to score the tying goal and force overtime.

The Gamecocks were out shot on the afternoon, 24-9.

Each team only got off one shot in the first 10-minute overtime period.

Selasky, helped the Jacksonville State soccer team to a 1-1 tie with Tennessee Tech in Ohio Valley Conference action on Sunday.

Selasky, a native of Maineville, Ohio, was in goal for the Gamecocks (1-8-2, 0-1-1 OVC) for the entire 110 minutes of the double-overtime game and allowed just one goal on 24 shots by the Golden Eagles (1-7-2, 0-1-1 OVC). She recorded eight saves in the first half,



File Photo



File Photo

JSU Ladies Soccer Players. Left: Amber DeLaney. Right: Daniela Malta.

five in the second and three over the two extra periods.

Balint, a midfielder from Chatham, Ontario, scored the Gamecocks' lone goal off an assist from senior

Daniela Malta in the game's 33rd minute to give Jax State an early 1-0 lead.

They maintained the advantage until the 51st minute, when Tennessee Tech's Rebecca Ross used a Joc-

Each team only got off one shot in the first 10-minute overtime period, and TTU took two to Jax State's none in the final extra period.

Loretta McNamee spent the game in goal for TTU, recording three saves.

The Gamecocks return home this week and will host OVC foe Morehead State on Friday at 7 p.m. Admission is free for all fans.

Saturday, when they travel to Clarksville, Tenn., to face Austin Peay at 2 p.m.



JSU sweeps Austin Peay

From Staff Reports

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. - The Jacksonville State volleyball team rolled to its third win in a row on Saturday, claiming a sweep at Ohio Valley Conference foe Austin Peay.

The Gamecocks (8-4, 2-0 OVC) rolled to a 3-0 (30-19, 30-15, 30-24) win, their third straight sweep, on the back of a defensive effort that limited the Lady Gobs (3-10, 1-1 OVC) to just 24 kills on 123 attacks, a miniscule .081 attack percentage.

"It was an all-around good match for us," JSU head coach Rick Nold said. "I thought we played well across the board. Shari Weyer played really well, and Jessica Starck did a great job for us defensively."

Starck, a senior from Louisville, Ky., led a Jax State defense that amassed 69 digs in the three-game match with a career-high 26 digs of her own. She led three JSU players with 10 or more digs. Senior setter Emily Withers and junior outside hitter Abbey Breit

own. She led three JSU players with 10 or more digs. Senior setter Emily Withers and junior outside hitter Abbey Breit each picked up 13 digs.

Weyer, a senior middle blocker from Ferdinand, Ind., paced the JSU offense with 11 kills on a .435 attack percentage. It was freshman Brittney Whitten, however, leading the way with a match-high 14 kills.

Breit added 12 kills, while Withers dished out 48 of the team's 53 assists. Junior Rebekah Nichols added nine kills, while senior Joi Watts had a career-high-tying eight.

The Gamecocks return home on Wednesday after a 29-day hiatus from Pete Mathews Coliseum to host in-state rival Samford at 7 p.m. Admission is free and the Gamecocks will hold an autograph session following the match.

JSU Volleyball falls to Lady Gobs

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. - The Jacksonville State volleyball team rolled to its third win in a row on Saturday, claiming a sweep at Ohio Valley Conference foe Austin Peay.

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File Photo

JSU volleyball player Shari Weyer.



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