



Day in the Life: Coty Cockrell
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Jacksonville State University

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Rifle team going north to Alaska

JSU Rifle earned their third NCAA bid after winning OVC Championship

By Chad Hoffman
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Going for the gold?

In every aspect, that is what the Jacksonville State University Rifle team has been doing this entire season.

There have been ups and downs, but the team has accomplished its first mission: winning the Ohio Valley Conference Championship three years in a row.

The two day event was held on the campus of JSU with Smallbore taking place on Saturday in Rowe Hall and Air Rifle taking place on Sunday in the Kennamer Hall gym.

The Gamecocks took the Smallbore title on Saturday with a score of 2,283, ahead of Tennessee-Martin's score of 2,266. This was also their third straight Smallbore title.

Tennessee Tech finished third with a score of 2,254, followed by Murray State (2,253), Morehead State Men (2,189), and Morehead State Women rounded out the six firing 2,023.

Junior Joseph Hall took the individual Smallbore title firing 580, just seven points ahead of UTM's Jaymi Collar and Murray State's Cameron Hicks total of 573.

Freshman Phillip Huckaby finished sixth shooting 569, and was followed by teammates Michael Dickinson and Jonathan Hall, who tied for seventh firing a 567.



Photo courtesy JSU Rifle Team

The JSU Rifle Team earned the OVC crown this weekend in their own home. The win gives them a ticket to Alaska to compete for the national title against the likes of Army, University of Kentucky, and University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

The 19 point lead gave JSU a cushion that they were looking for going into their best gun on Sunday.

JSU shot an overall aggregate of 4625, 48 points better than Murray State (4577). They were followed by UT-Martin (4542), Tennessee Tech (4528), and Morehead State's Men's team rounded out the top five with 5392.

The Gamecocks just seemed to blow past the competition when they shot a 2,342, 18 points ahead of Murray State and 66 points ahead of UT-Martin.

Sophomore Michael Dickinson, along with Huckaby and Jonathan Hall led the Gamecocks in Air Rifle. Dickinson and Jonathan Hall finished first and second, respectively, while both claimed a spot on the OVC First Team All Conference.

Dickinson claimed the Air Rifle Athlete of the Year, while Joseph Hall claimed the Smallbore Athlete of the Year and Huckaby claimed Freshman of the Year.

Joseph Hall and Huckaby were also

placed on the Second Team All Conference.

Huckaby also joined teammate Jonathan on the All-Newcomer Team.

In Smallbore, while Joseph claimed the Athlete of the Year award, Huckaby, Dickinson and Jonathan garnished Second Team All Conference for the same gun.

In all, JSU's Rifle team earned eight All-Conference selections through the entire weekend.

This is the first team at JSU to earn three straight OVC titles since joining the conference in 2003.

"It was good seeing the new team put it all together and bring home another OVC Championship," stated Joseph. "We have worked hard and we deserve what we have worked for."

The Gamecocks also learned their

fate about the NCAA Championships this past week.

"The team has for sure earned their spot in the National Championship," stated Joseph. "We do, however, have a good bit of work ahead of us before we are ready to win the National Championship."

JSU is one of eight teams to earn a berth in this years field. They will be joined by OVC foe Murray State.

They lost by a narrow margin of one point to Army in 2005, but brought home the Air Rifle title. In 2006, they only got a bid to compete in Smallbore, and they brought that title home as well.

The University of Alaska-Fairbanks will be hosting the competition at the Patty Center.

They earned their second berth in three years to compete for the NCAA Rifle Championship on March 9-10 in Fairbanks, Alaska.



Photo courtesy JSU Rifle Team

Matt MacKenzie aims at his target during one of the competitions. MacKenzie is one of five freshmen on the squad.

Over 700 students attend Step Afrika



attend Step Afrika

Tuesday night

Black History Month event co-sponsored by SGA and Alpha Kappa Alphas

By Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

"We really did it this time," said SGA president Mardracus Russell after the Step Afrika show on Feb. 20. The show, co-sponsored by the SGA and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and held in honor of Black History Month, drew a crowd of over 700 students to the TMB auditorium.

"This is our first year to co-sponsor," said senior Falen Cox, a member of AKA. "It's Skee Week for our sorority, and we have a lot of activities planned...especially because of Black History Month. Our purpose is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, and also to take the opportunity to do something positive and give back to the students."

"We had them [Step Afrika] two years ago and have been trying to get them back," said SGA member Olivia Fadul. "We really liked working with the AKAs."

Step Afrika, a dancing company dedicated to the tradition of stepping, have traveled the world with their tour, from South Africa to Washington D.C.

The troupe began with an explanation of stepping and where it first began...on college campuses, as a part of African-American fraternity and sorority traditions. After some initial dances, a photo mon-

tage of pledges in the 1980's was shown, which led to a skit about pledges learning to step.

After the skit/performance, 10 members of the audience were chosen to become members of the "JSU Step Team." These audience volunteers were taught a small dance routine on stage, with the audience cheering them on.

"It was really exciting," said AKA member Valencia Cantrell, who participated on stage. "I got to meet all the Step Afrika members. They were really sweet."

Cantrell was also one of four volunteers who got a speaking part during the step routine.

"I was so nervous," said Cantrell. "I cheer, but [being chosen to speak] just caught me off guard."

After the successful conclusion of the volunteers' routine; the professionals took the stage again for a "fusion" routine.

"We've combined stepping with several other forms of dance, like Irish dance and traditional African dances," said Step Afrika member Brian McCollum. At the moment, the troupe is fusing stepping with testimonials, traditional songs that have their roots in slavery.

StepAfrika member Sumayya Ali then took the stage and blew the audience away with an operatic performance that soon merged into a step routine with the other members reenacting a Christian baptism and revival.

After this, a quick movie of the tour's 2000

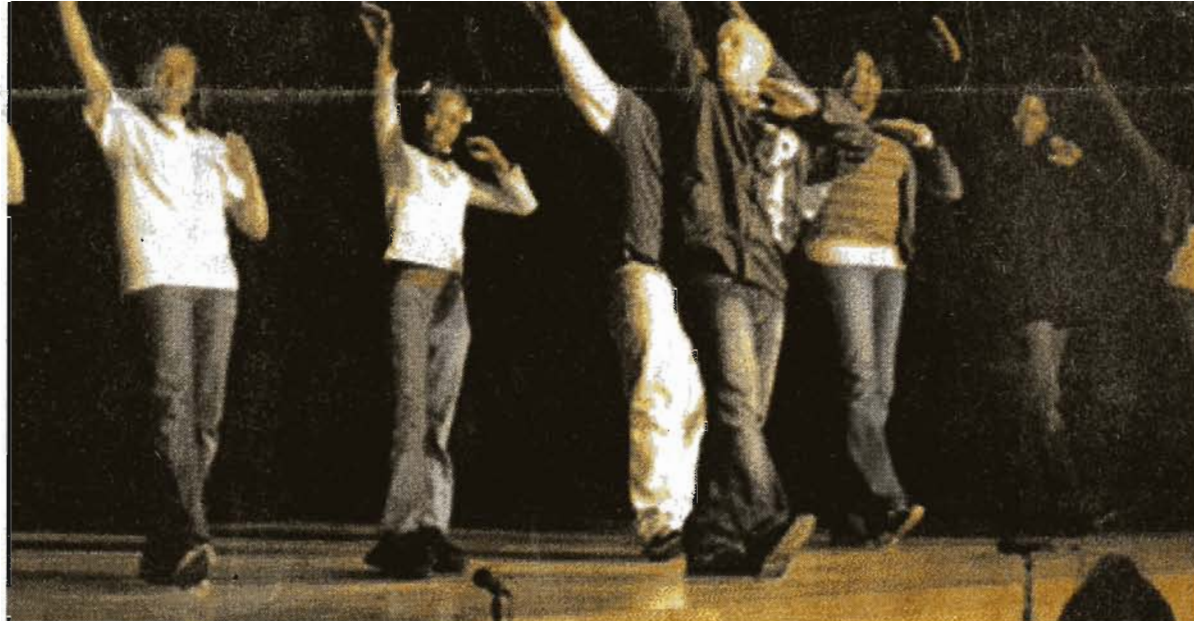
International Cultural Festival in Johannesburg, South Africa was shown. Another performance/skit about miners in Africa and their dancing style of gumboot followed the movie.

An audience-participation part of the show followed the mining sketch, with McCollum wanting to play "games" with the audience. McCollum would start off with a fairly simple clap for the audience to copy, which quickly turned into a confusing riot of handclaps, steps, stomps, head bobs and shouts. The audience really got into this part of the show (watching a couple of hundred people do simultaneous head bobs is unforgettable and hilarious).

When the audience lost track of what they were supposed to be doing and erupted in laughter, McCollum would get a shy, sly little look on his face and exclaim, "Let's play another game!"

After three rounds of this variation of Simon Says, McCollum proclaimed, "I'm not playing any more games with you" and launched into a solo step routine.

See Step, page 2



All photos by Jessica Summe

From top: Volunteers from the audience participate in a step routine, a pose from Step Afrika's final performance, Sumayya Ali sings during the testimonial fusion performance, and Brian McCollum explains South African doll and jewelry-making to some young audience members.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRO: Public Relations Organization will now meet on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the office of The Chanticleer, room 180 in Self Hall.
Contact: Jaclyn Cosper, 256-404-2590.

PRO: PRO will be hosting a portfolio review for all interested communications students, especially Seniors on Feb. 28th at noon in room 207.
Contact: Jaclyn Cosper, 256-404-2590.

Writer's Club: The JSU Writer's Club will meet on the 7th floor of Houston Cole Library at 3:15 p.m. on Thursdays. The deadline for submissions for *Something Else* and the R.U.M. poetry contest is March 2.
Contact: pharding@jsu.edu

Ambassadors: JSU Ambassador applications are now available at the visitor center. They are due Feb. 28 by 4 p.m.
Contact: Chad Hoffman, jsu8368k@jsu.edu

SIFE: JSU Saves Day is March 1 as a part of America Saves Week. Presentations will be at 8:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. in room 101 of the Merrill Building.
Contact: Dr. Landry at ext. 8419

Gamecock Rugby: Anyone interesting in playing, coaching, training or supporting the Rugby Club can meet at Fraternity Row from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Contact: Coach Trowse, steamertrowse@cablone.net

Zeta Tau Alpha: Zeta wants to congratulate Mr. Barnett for being named Professor of the Week.
Contact: Hollie Thrasher 256-740-7858

Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Scholastic Honor Society: Seeking eligible students to be inducted this Spring. Must have a 3.5 GPA or better for the first 30 hours attempted. Check your JSU P.O. box.
Contact: Rhonda Kilgo at ext. 8247

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 Chantynews@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.

CAMPUS CRIME

Feb. 16
 An unattended vehicle was towed at Crow Hall.

Driving with revoked license was reported.

Peer Educators sponsor Sexual Responsibility Week

By Bridgette Powell
 The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Valentine's Day is a day of love, happiness, and togetherness with a special someone. But, for Jacksonville State's Peer Educators, it was a day of awareness.

From Feb. 12-16, "Sexual Responsibility Week" was held. On Feb. 14, Peer Educators teamed up with the Calhoun County Health Department with a display that was located on the second floor of the Thurman Montgomery Building.

"There are things that the students need to keep an eye out for," said Peer Educator Alejandro Luera. His fellow Peer Educators and the health department certainly agreed with him. The display consisted of pamphlets and handouts that talked about different prevention methods such as birth control, condoms, and abstinence. There was also a pamphlet on

HIV/AIDS. Condoms were also made available to students.

During the day, graduate student Tim King held a presentation. Healthy relationships were the main focus of his presentation.

"There are certain things that make up a healthy relationship," said King. "Such as respect, trust, and communication."

The presentation definitely benefited one person. King said, "It was a good thing. It kind of helped me examine some of the relationships in my life."

Students said they really appreciated "Sexual Responsibility Week."

Rafeal Ferrell said, "I do think that it was very beneficial because there is a lot going on around the campus." She also said, "Education is the best way. It was definitely a good idea."

Next, the Peer Educators will be sponsoring "Safe Spring Break."

Rep. Davis challenges JSU students to excel

By DeShawn Johnson
 The Chanticleer Ad Assistant

up in a society where race did not play a huge role. Most of you went

you wouldn't recognize this state."

Students attending the speech took

The Chanticleer Editorial Cartoon



Wesley Foundation hosts Mardi Gras celebration

By Laura Moorman
 The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Fat Tuesday, celebrated by many people in New Orleans, is a time to gather before Lent. It is a time for colorful beads, cake, and the traditional colors of purple and green.

Tuesday night, Feb. 20, here in Jacksonville, the Wesley House invited students to come and celebrate. We may not be in New Orleans, but the foundation knows how to celebrate the Wesley way.

The foundation had many party decorations modeled after authentic Mardi Gras paraphernalia. They had Cajun food, a jazz band and purple, gold

and green streamers. The tables were decorated with candles, beads, masks, and glitter to match the rest of the room.

The jazz band had a nice sound, too big for the room they were stationed in.

"The jazz music was the best part. I'm glad to see we have such talent at JSU," said Alex Jordan.

Some people got into the spirit and danced along with the music.

"People should dance more," said Gabby Garcia.

"I danced my shoes off," said Stephen Page.

Party organizer Jason Wright said Wesley's Mardi Gras celebration was a "smashing success".

Step, from page 1

After a minute or two, the other troupe members joined McCollum for a final step routine, then introduced the individual members to the audience and made their farewell speech. The members of Step Afrika first thanked God for his many blessings ("We've been a lot of places, you guys need to thank God everyday for what you have that others don't.") The SGA

Driving with revoked license was reported.

Feb. 19

Assault on a juvenile was reported by a juvenile.

Feb. 20

Shelton Carlisle was arrested for disorderly conduct.

Theft of property was reported.

Debooy Williams reported harassment.

By DeShunn Johnson
The Chanticleer Ad Assistant

"If you are going to be a mechanic, be the best mechanic you can be. Have people from Atlanta coming here just for you to work on their cars."

These were the words of Congressman Artur Davis, who spoke at the Houston Cole Library on Feb. 19.

The speech could not have come at a better time, since this is Black History Month and the Congressman's visit was a part of the SGA's month-long celebration.

Students looked on intently as the congressman expressed his concern on the war in Iraq.

"I think everyone is concerned about what is happening overseas, no matter what end of the political spectrum you are on," said Davis. "My idea of exiting this was to bring more troops home little by little. After all, we have already killed their dictator, established a constitution, and trained their military. It is up to them to govern themselves. It is tie for them to stop looking at themselves as Shiites or Sunnis and start to look at themselves as Iraqis."

Davis also shed light on how the social climate has changed since the 1960s, when he was born.

"Things have definitely changed," said Davis. "In fact, Alabama has the highest number of African-Americans in government leadership roles than any other state. I believe that people are starting to look past race or gender now. People in your generation grew

up in a society where race did not play a huge role. Most of you went to schools where there were not many black quarterbacks or homecoming queens, but it was not a huge issue. That kind of attitude is needed to further change history."

After his speech, Davis opened the floor up for questions.

One person asked what could be done to change overcrowded jails and easy punishments for drug offenders. The congressman answered, "I think the problem lies in the neighborhoods. Some of these kids see no other options to make money but to sell drugs. If we could educate these children and help them see another way out, then that would give them more options."

"I do feel, however, that after an inmate who has been incarcerated for a drug-related crime and has served his time in prison he should get the right to vote," added Davis.

The last question from the crowd was what could be done to make Alabama a better state.

"I think that Alabama should give more people a chance to get an education," answered Davis. "Only 21% of Alabama residents have a college degree. A lot of [students] who started off with you your freshman year are not here anymore. Some of the reason why is that they didn't dedicate the time to college life, but the other reason is that they couldn't afford it any longer. If we could make a college education accessible to everybody and raise that average from 21% to 31%,

you wouldn't recognize this state."

Students attending the speech took encouragement from Davis's accomplishments and words.

"[Davis] inspired me as an African American female by showing me that there are no limits to what I can do," said senior Carnisha Johnson.

"One thing that stuck with me is the fact that he graduated from Harvard Law School," said fellow senior Krystle Bell. "I want to be a lawyer someday, and that encouraged me because he showed me I could go to any college I wanted to, including an esteemed institution like Harvard."

a lot of places, you guys need to thank God everyday for what you have that others don't." The SGA and AKAs for arranging for them to come to JSU, and finished with a speech on the importance of education. ("That's our slogan---just finish!")

After the show, the Step Afrika members mingled with the audience, taking pictures and signing autographs. The company was also selling handmade jewelry and dolls from South Africa. The proceeds from the sales benefited their International Cultural Fair.

"I bought three Cocky shirts today," said McCollum when asked if he liked visiting JSU. "I bought one last time, but I needed two more for me and one for my girlfriend."

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 JSU UPD at 782-5050.

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22 Thursday	23 Friday	24 Saturday	25 Sunday
JSU Basketball 5:30 (H) Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society Reception Seussical, The Musical	Education Fair Technology Fair Seussical, The Musical	JSU Basketball 5:30 (H) Seussical, The Musical	Seussical, The Musical
26 Monday	27 Tuesday	28 Wednesday	1 Thursday
SGA Senate Meeting	Art Opening Blood Drive	Freshman Forum Blood Drive	

Day in the Life: Coty Cockrell

Seussical the Musical's Cat in the Hat

By Toni Merriss
The Chanticleer
Features Editor



In the Dr. Seuss books, he encourages you to think. Thinks you think its impossible to think. A mischievous cat, that same familiar cat, who brightens every page while sporting his white striped hat.

Currently on stage here at JSU, Coty Cockrell entertains, with his twists and swiggles. Go ahead, you will laugh, and quite possibly even giggle.



Photo courtesy of Coty Cockrell

Coty Cockrell in his Marching Southerners uniform.

That's enough rhyming for now, you see, there are no poets here. Not you and most definitely, not me.

Cockrell, a senior music major from Huntsville, has recently been showcasing one of his multiple talents on stage in *Seussical the Musical* as the multifaceted Cat in the Hat.

"Being cast as the Cat in the Hat has by far been the most gratifying experience I have ever had. I got to put a lot of my own characteristics into playing him, which has made it really fun for me," said Cockrell. Although he felt overwhelmed at first, once he was given the go ahead by director Eric Traynor to expand on the

Performing is nothing new to this musical mastermind. Cockrell began playing the piano at only age four. The former Marching Southerner also plays the flute, violin, percussion, cello, guitar, accordion and the harp.

A self labeled "chronic joiner," Cockrell was bitten by the acting bug while only a junior in high school.

"I started out in band and then I was talked into joining show choir. My school had gotten a new drama coach who was incredible so I ended up trying out for the school musical, *Once Upon a Mattress*," said Cockrell. "I played a mute king but it was a lot of fun. Ever since then I have tried to get involved whenever it was possible for me."

Although the cast has only been working on *Seussical* for around six weeks, Cockrell's research began much sooner due to the large part the Cat in the Hat plays in the story.

"As soon as I was cast, I began learning the music. All the songs are really fun so that part was not hard at all," said Cockrell. "I think something that really helped was that the show was tailored to the cast and not the other way around, like so many other productions. They really tried to emphasize everyone's strengths."

A day in the shoes . . . or, well, paws of a cat could hardly be called typical but Cockrell is finding that he enjoys having nine lives. Though he does wish that each of those lives gave him a little bit more free time.

Cockrell usually begins his day by practicing a piano accompaniment piece, and then heads off to an art class. After grabbing some food, he makes a stop at Chamber Winds practice before going to his World Regional Geography class.

"I like my geography class. Though sometimes because I am so tired from my hectic schedule I have to find activities to keep myself awake. Usually I will knit in class or teach myself to write backwards," said Cockrell. "Both of those take up some time and it is better than sleeping through class. Actually, one of the scarves I knitted in class is being used in *Seussical*."

Rehearsal for *Seussical* was varied in activity but Cockrell was there to watch all the pieces fall into place. Most nights the cast would meet from about 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

"We would switch off between vocal lessons, choreography and mainly just getting a feel for our characters. It was impossible to get burnt out on this production. Anytime we would get a little bored, things were changed so it was always moving forward," said Cockrell. "The director was

people still had to work outside of the production, so that really helped."

Cockrell frequently keeps himself busy even during the summers. He has gotten the chance in the past to work in some professional theater in North Carolina both acting and directing.

"Acting has been my guilty pleasure. I think that is why I did not major in drama. I was worried that if I had to do it, I would not enjoy it as much," said Cockrell. "I

guess you could say that acting is like my love affair I haven't wanted to acknowledge."

Though Cockrell prefers musical theater because it allows him to use all his talents instead of just one, he has recently auditioned for a cruise line playing the piano as a job after graduation. Around Christmas he plans on returning to North



Photo courtesy of Coty Cockrell

Coty Cockrell plays multiple musical instruments, including the harp.



Photo courtesy of Coty Cockrell

According to his castmates, Coty is such a "ham" as Cat in the Hat!

Carolina to continue working on the stage but would like to eventually

end up in New York on Broadway. Graduate school may be an option later on but

for the time being, Cockrell would like to take a break from classes.

For now, Cockrell would just like savor the moment and his time in *Seussical*, and let his inner cat out.

Local Concert Calendar



Feb. 22
Sam Thacker
Brother's Bar

Feb. 23
Firewood
Brother's Bar

Feb. 24
Kneck Down
Brother's Bar

Feb. 25
Nathan Smith
Smoking Moose

Feb. 26
2 Live Crew
Brother's Bar

Feb. 27
Tedder and Daniel
Brother's Bar

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"

run for me," said Cockrell. Although he felt overwhelmed at first, once he was given the go ahead by director Eric Traynor to expand on the part, he got to really let loose.

Anytime we would get a little bored, things were changed so it was always moving forward," said Cockrell. "The director was really great about scheduling too. Some

Photo courtesy of Coty Cockrell
Coty Cockrell plays multiple musical instruments, including the harp.

JSU Diamond Girls win AASRCD Championship



Photo courtesy of Jessica Andrews

The JSU Diamond Girls won The American Allstar Southern Regional Collegiate Danceteam Championship in New Orleans, La. The Competition was held at the Alario Center in Westwego, Louisiana right outside of New Orleans on Saturday January 27, 2007.

JSU won 1st Place in Jazz, Best

Technique, High Kick and won The Overall Highest Score securing them the American Allstar Regional College Danceteam Championship.

Jessica Andrews is the new American AllStar Southern Regional College Solo Champion. The Diamond Girls consist of 10 JSU Marching Ballerinas, and they are:

Jessica Andrews (Captain/Choreographer), Courtney Birmingham, Katie Catrett, Ramona Summerville, Jessica O'Rear, Rachel Glass, Ashley Vanderburg, Amanda Camp, Megan Wright, and Andrea Messick. Joy Andrews is the event coordinator.

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

Letters Policy:

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

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous, 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.

and responsibility."

- Kelly Perdue
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
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QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

WHO IS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN IN HISTORY?



Holly Esch
Senior

Rosa Parks



Donald King
Senior

MIRROR

Chris Yow
The Chanticleer Web Editor



MIRROR

Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Should student athletes be paid?

Yow- Have you ever noticed that when the media talks about an athlete in college that they refer to them as "Student-Athletes"?

I am sure that you have. Notice that the word "student" comes before "athlete". There is a reason for that. Collegiate athletes are to be students first, and athletes second while they are in school. Grades come before play. Unless you played basketball under coach Bob Huggins at Cincinnati.

This, among many other reasons, is why I think college athletes should not be paid for playing. Student-athletes are already getting paid more than the average student anyway. Scholarship athletes have it easy. Granted, they are not allowed to have a job, but what do they need to pay for?

Scholarships cover the room and board, meals and tuition. There is nothing more needed in college. Obviously you may want something, but the needs are covered by the scholarships.

If college athletes were to get paid, then schools would begin recruiting with money and not with the normal facilities and program standards. And I, for one, do not want that to happen. It already happens enough, don't make it legal. College athletics these days are as impure as Britney Spears.

If colleges are allowed to go after athletes like they do coaches, the fans would suffer. Because some team would become the New York Yankees, and spend the money to buy the players. Then players are no longer going for school, they are going for the money.

Schools like Jacksonville State would end up with players that could barely play NCAA Division III sports because the school doesn't have the money to pay 200-plus athletes year-in and year-out.

I know that if I were to get a signing bonus to play college sports, I would take the money. Then I would go to class until I did not have to anymore and pass the tests and play sports until the year was over. Then attempt the pros.

If a player has the money, they don't need the school.

And not all of these players are going to go pro. Have you seen the NCAA commercials about the student-athletes that mentions, "and we're almost all going pro in something other than sports"? That is why college athletes need school. Without being paid, they need to go to school in case a professional league doesn't pan out. If student-athletes were to get paid, they would have the money and no need for the education.

Nobody wants to see college athletes be professionals until they are in a professional league. Eighteen-year-old kids are not supposed to be millionaires. They aren't even supposed to be thousandaires. They should spend their college years like every other student. Just because they are an athlete should not give them more than a great student as it stands. If a student is on full scholarship, they are allowed the same benefits as a five-star athlete. So, unless we start paying students for being great students, we should not pay athletes for being great athletes.

Lundy- Do you ever notice much how college athletics is advertised?

Take for example, Mr. War Eagle himself, Tommy Tuberville. His Under Armor campaign sits high and mighty in athletics stores all around as he stands united with his players. Does he get paid for the campaign? No. His players? That's a definite No. So, if the players aren't getting paid and Tuberville's pocket isn't getting fatter, then where does the money go to? Straight to the university itself.

Auburn University is one of many institutions that receive national recognition year round. Other schools such as Ohio State, Alabama, Georgia and Southern Cal have top athletics programs that make millions of dollars off of players who earn national media attention. So, if these players did the necessary things on the field, why not compensate them for their efforts?

Yes, I understand the logistics and infractions of current NCAA guidelines about paying athletes. But, think about it, how much trouble would Reggie Bush be in right now if you paid him like a student-worker? He was working to a higher paying job

at Southern Cal, so why not pay him a minimal amount for his hard work? If he skips a workout, study session or misses class, cut his pay short for the week. He'll miss that little bit of money when his cell phone bill comes in. Well, maybe not, because his undercover agent will pay for it. But if you pay him a small amount, he wouldn't need an undercover agent, would he?

With all the money that the athletic departments earn from ticket sales, retail sales, sponsorships and boosters, why wouldn't the universities not have enough money to pay their athletes? I understand that not all universities have the same sports on campus, and every athlete is not as recognizable as their highly publicized teammate. But, if the concept of "team" is understood amongst everyone, then it wouldn't matter who is publicized and who isn't. I think institutions all around have the willpower to do so, and if the NCAA were to take a look at their guidelines and structure them accordingly, then more athletes would be more willing to work harder and less willing to live in nice condos paid for by future agents.

Sound Off: The Beauty Within

Dear Readers:

Many people today are constantly thinking of ways they can enhance their looks to become more beautiful. But what is true beauty?

The Webster Dictionary for Students defines beauty as "the qualities of a person or thing that gives pleasures to the senses or mind."

Is beauty defined by how I look, my personality, or both? What is our personal definition and opinions of beauty? What does our society describe as beautiful? After all, they say "beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

According to society, beauty is all about the outer appearance. Media is continuously programming our minds with the way to get the ideal look. The movies, magazines, and TV commer-

I do want to fit into that swimsuit this summer.

One certainly cannot forget about makeup because accenting features on the face will increase beauty.

How about a nice tan so we can continue looking young and healthy?

We definitely need the latest hair styles and most fashionable clothes. Let's all go buy some Air Force Ones because the rappers are wearing them in all their videos.

There is certainly nothing wrong with wanting to enhance our looks. But, do we only do it because someone else does it? We will use a certain shampoo because the commercial claims it will maximize the volume of our hair. Why do we mindlessly follow the rules of society instead of having our own

the ugliest people are attractive on the outside with bad, stuck up attitudes.

True beauty comes from the inside and works its way out.

A person's personality is an important component of beauty. What about temperance, determination, love, and kindness?

I think we all need to take a different look at what we define as beautiful. It does not simply consist of the clothes or makeup I wear. What also matters is how I am as a person, how I contribute to my community, how I relate to and if I truly care about others.

the superficial ones.

Thank you,
Dionne Trannon
JSU Senior

Editor's note: Sound Off is a new section for JSU students, faculty, and staff to voice their opinion about, well, whatever you have an opinion about. Please send submissions to chantynews@yahoo.com.



Donald King
Senior

Have to say Martin
Senior King



Zack Brown
Senior

Abc Lincoln
Senior



Whitney Crumbaker
Freshman

Martina King

continuously programming our minds with the way to get the ideal look. The movies, magazines, and TV commercials are always giving us tips on how we can become more beautiful. Models and celebrities are set as the prime examples of how we are expected to look.

We are led to believe that if we look like them we will gain more attention because this is how people with fashion and prestige dress.

Examples:

The ideal way to look good is to have a nice shape, because, after all,

Plan B: over, but still behind, the counter

By Toni Merriss
The Chanticleer
Features Editor



In 2006 the FDA legalized Plan B, an emergency contraception, for over the counter sales to women age 18 and over. Plan B is also sometimes called "the morning after pill" and can be used up to five days after sex.

There have been many rumors about what exactly Plan B is, what it does and even some of the side effects that can come from taking it.

By far the most frequent false impression given by this emergency contraceptive is the fact that it should not be mistaken as a regular form of birth control. Emergency is used in the description for a reason and this medicine should only be taken if the primary form of birth control failed or in cases of an emergency. (For example: a condom broke, missed birth control pills, or victims of rape.)

"I think making Plan B more available is a good idea. You know, we're in college and people sometimes do stupid things. As long as it is used in case of an emergency, I think it will help more people than it would hurt," said drama major Beth Stanford.

Another common misconception about Plan B is that it is 100 percent effective but in reality it only reduces the risk of pregnancy by up to 95 percent. Most birth control pills reduce your risk by up to 98 percent. As most of you heard in your high school sex education

maximize the volume of our hair. Why do we mindlessly follow the rules of society instead of having our own minds?

It is important to realize that without the computer and camera edits, make-up and money these people look just like regular, everyday people. Computers can do anything, and money can easily make the most unattractive person look absolutely gorgeous.

In my opinion, true beauty does not simply consist of the external features. There is much more to a person than their fashion and makeup. Some of

class, the only 100 percent way to not get pregnant is abstinence.

Sorry folks, that still hasn't changed, no matter how long you have been out of high school.

Although there are different types of emergency contraceptive pills accessible in other countries, Plan B is the only one available in the United States. Plan B contains .75 mg of a hormone called progestin (a synthetic progesterone) levonorgestrel (derived from testosterone). Levonorgestrel is a single active steroid and is also the active ingredient in the contraceptive implant, Norplant.

Studies have shown that Plan B can prevent or delay ovulation, when it is taken before the egg and sperm meet. Imagine Plan B playing interference for the two, kind of like when you were out on the town and your drunken friends were pulling you out the door just as you met eyes with a cutie across the room. In this story, your friends are playing the role of Plan B (or interference), so out the door you go. Get it?

Side effects of Plan B can include: feeling queasy or throwing up after taking the pills, headaches, feeling tired or dizzy, lower abdominal pain or even experiencing unexpected bleeding. Plan B can also disrupt a woman's monthly cycle.

A fairly large concern about Plan B is that it is similar to Mifeprex, also called "the abortion pill," or RU-486. The difference, in fact, is quite extensive between the two drugs. Mifeprex is a type of anti-progestin and it works by actually stopping the progress of a pregnan-

cy once it has already begun.

"Personally, I would not feel comfortable taking Plan B. I know it is not the same thing as the abortion pill but I just think that if a situation were to happen, I would take responsibility for my actions," said communications major Whitney Kilpatrick.

One fact that anyone even thinking about taking Plan B should know is that although it is called over the counter, it is not exactly that easy.

First, all pharmacies are required to check a customer's identification before selling the pills to them. Second, it is actually stored and sold from behind the counter.

So, if you were the type who gets embarrassed by purchasing condoms, this would probably not be a positive retail experience for you.

In the Jacksonville-Anniston-Oxford area, there are multiple retail stores that carry Plan B over but behind the counter, such as: Walgreen's, CVS, Wal-mart and Rite Aid. One place that you will not see the emergency contraceptive is the Student Health Center on campus.

"We do not carry Plan B, but if a situation arises I encourage students to come by and talk to either Nancy (Edge-Schmitz) or myself to discuss their options," said RN Robert Mills.

For more information there are many helpful venues regarding Plan B found online. Two websites to check out are www.not-2-late.com and

www.noroomforcontraception.com.

relate to and if I truly care about others.

If we would begin to advertise these things and make them a priority, then maybe America would consist of more truly beautiful people, not just



February 23, 2007
8:30 - 12:00 Noon
Stephenson Hall

Dress Professionally &
Bring Resumes

March at Anniston Museum

Music at the Museum: The Magic Flutes

Sunday, March 4, 2007, 3pm

Free

A very special ensemble, the talented flute choir of Alabama School of Fine Arts, will present a variety of works

Wonderful World of Camellias

Thursday, March 8, 6:30-8PM

Free

Garden & plant enthusiasts, usher in the springtime with Wonderful World of Camellias.

Local expert, Hayes Jackson, Calhoun County Urban Extension Agent, will share his expertise about this beautiful flowering shrub.

Anniston Museum of Natural History
256-237-6766 www.annistonmuseum.org

Free admission with valid JSU
student ID, Spring Semester 2007

LaPlante on outside looking in, Geyer just out

By Chris Yow
The Chanticleer Web Editor

Jacksonville State basketball, men's and women's, are finding that the OVC post-season tournament is not the easiest task to achieve.

Geyer's Gamecocks were knocked out of a chance at playing in the tournament this past weekend with losses to the Eastern Kentucky Colonels and the Morehead State Eagles.

Morehead St. 83, JSU 57

Thanks to a late first half and early second half run, the Morehead State Eagles (13-14, 12-6 OVC) ended the Gamecocks (7-20, 4-14 OVC) hopes at a post season bid to the OVC tournament. Ashley Clay scored a double-double in the game with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Eastern Kentucky 85, JSU 73

The Gamecocks rallied late, but came up short against the Colonels (10-17, 7-11 OVC) even after hitting three-point baskets on three consecutive trips down the court with less than five minutes to go. Ashley Boykin led the Gamecocks in scoring with 19 points and Jolie Efezokhae finished her night with 16 of her own.

LaPlante and his crew still have a shot at the eighth and final spot for the OVC tournament. The Gamecocks swept the season series against Morehead State, and split the series with current eighth-place Tennessee State. If the Gamecocks beat the Eastern Illinois Panthers and finish off the sweep against the Southeast Missouri Redhawks, then JSU will hold the final eighth spot, and could possibly fight their way to the seventh seed entering the post-season.

Tennessee-Chattanooga 75, JSU 64

Courtney Bradley had 28 points in the game, but the Gamecocks (8-20, 6-12 OVC) could not hold off UTC (14-16, 6-11 Southern Conference) in the final 4:40. With the game tied at 63, the Mocs ended the game on a 12-1 run, winning the ESPN BracketBuster contest.

Eastern Kentucky 63, JSU 51

EKU (17-10, 12-6 OVC) held off the Gamecocks with late free throws, putting a clamp on the squads' chances of making the post-season. Courtney Bradley led JSU with 16 points in the contest. Nick Smith was close behind with 14 points of his own.

Tonight, the men and women face



Photo by Kira Wright

Eastern Illinois in a key OVC matchup for the men. Known as "Pack the Pete" night, the group with the most people representing their respective organizations will receive \$500 from the SGA.

The regular season finale is set for Saturday, Feb. 24 against Southeast Missouri State. Both women's games will tip-off at 5 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum, with the men's game immediately following. The games can be heard on the Gamecock Sports Network, 91.9 FM, with commentary by Mike Parris.

Gamecocks hit up Hiawassee

By Nick Lehwald
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

The Jacksonville state rugby team creamed Hiawassee this weekend on the intramural field. The score was a whooping 93-0 in favor of the Gamecocks. The Gamecocks were led by team captain Justin Armstrong, who scored three times during the rout.

Hiawassee never got anything going offensively while the Gamecocks couldn't be stopped. It was a one sided match from start to finish. With temperatures in the 30s, the Gamecocks were on fire as they tore through Hiawassee lines and ran down the pitch unopposed to the end zone.

The scoring was led by team captain Justin Armstrong, who scored three tri's throughout the

game. Chris Steketee followed close behind with two tri's, pushing the score even higher. It was a big day for the nine ruggers who scored, including four players scoring for their first time.

Jonathan McElvey, David Williams, Curtis Mayo, and Zach "Jew" Blume made their first tri's of the season, boosting the score to new levels. Other key tri's were made by Chris Wills, Bradley Hurd, Tom Snow and Mark Kennedy.

This win brings the Gamecocks' record this season to 4-0.

Next week, the Gamecocks will host Lee University on the intramural field at 1 p.m. They are looking for a big crowd as they look to douse the Flames.



photo by Nick Lehwald

Hiawassee players fruitlessly chase a JSU Rugby player down the pitch.



Photo by Kira Wright

Gamecocks get Blazed, battle with Bruins and jab the Jags

By Chad Hoffman
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

This past week has been a bitter sweet moment for the Jacksonville State Softball team.

This past Tuesday, the Gamecocks (5-2) traveled to Birmingham to face the University of Alabama-Birmingham Blazers (5-5) in a double header.

In game one, neither team could find a way to score during regulation, so they went into extra innings.

Junior Rachel Fleming was placed on second and moved to third on a Nikki Prier sacrifice bunt. Next to bat was senior Daniela Pappano.

Pappano hit an infield single that sent Fleming across the plate in the top of the ninth.

The Blazers answered in the bottom half of that inning with two runs. A bad throw from shortstop Jackie Jarman sent the tying and winning runs in to score.

Junior pitcher Karla Pittman (2-2) went the distance in the circle and was tagged with the loss. She only allowed two unearned runs on eight hits. She struck out 11 batters, the most this season by a Gamecock pitcher, and walked only two.

In game two, the red and white put two on the board in the top of the first inning.

Sophomore Allie Barker sent Prier and Pappano across the plate when the bases were loaded and she hit a single to left center field.

The Blazers responded with one run when Antonovich singled up the middle and plated Andrea Rogers from second.

Before the Gamecocks could score in the second inning, the umpires called the game because of rain. The two teams will not reschedule that game.

This past weekend, the JSU Softball team held the inaugural Gamecock Classic at University Field.

JSU played their first game against Belmont University (0-4).

In game one on Saturday, the Gamecocks showed no mercy and came out swinging the bats.

With JUCO transfer Fleming singling to center field, and then freshman Prier doubling to the same spot, it set the stage for slugger Pappano.

Pappano, a native of Bolton, Ontario, hit a double to center as well, plating Prier and Fleming while breaking the career double record of former Gamecock, Melinda McDonald.

"Records are meant to be broken," stated McDonald. "It's good for her and I am happy. Her talents will help her in the future with coaching, recruiting for future players, and for others to try and achieve."

Junior Alana Hicks flied out to right, but Pappano tagged to second and put it in high gear. She got there before the throw and was ready to come home.

Freshman Chrissy O'Neal hit a roller to third, reached first on the throwing error by the third baseman and advanced to second because of that error. This also plated Pappano to give the Gamecocks a 3-0 advantage going into the bottom of the first.

For Belmont, Angie Helseth was standing on second when Sarah Vaughn hit a single to right and put her

across the plate for their lone run of the inning.

In the second, the Bruins scored once more on a wild pitch by sophomore Melissa Dowling.

The Gamecocks plated three more in the top of the third and would never look back.

With Ciara Wesen standing on second base, Jarman sent one to the right center field fence for an RBI double. Following Jarman was Barker. She hit a sacrifice fly to right field that put O'Neal across the plate. Jarman then scored the last run of the inning on the next pitch. She scored on a wild pitch by Jennifer Batte.

The Gamecocks scored again in the top of the fourth with O'Neal's first home run of her career as she sent it sailing over the right-center field fence.

The Bruins tried to come back in the bottom of the fifth, but it was not meant to happen. Angie Hoeye scored on a wild pitch by Kelly McGregor, which put another runner in scoring position.

Kelly Major sent one down the right field line for the RBI single and the last run they would score.

Junior Kelly Raw came in and pitched for the red and white in the seventh and sealed the win with a save while Dowling (1-0) was given credit for the win.

"I am excited about writing my name in another record section for the team," stated Pappano. "We have a good team defensively and offensively and we look to do more damage down the road."

In game two against South Alabama (3-2), the Gamecocks fought tooth and nail.

In the first inning, getting into the groove was hard for Pittman.

South Alabama scored five runs on just three hits in the top of the first. Pittman hit two players and walked one with bases loaded to give them an advantage.

After the first inning, Pittman got in her groove and the Jaguars could not catch her. She struck out 10 and only allowed one more hit.

"Karla was good after the first inning," stated coach Jana McGinnis. "She has to come out like that from the beginning."

JSU could not rebound until the bottom of the third inning. Catcher Allie Barker sent one over the fence to get things started.

Mary Beth Ledbetter kept things going when she took one for the team. The ladies then started back at the top of the lineup and things came together slowly.

Fleming hit a double to the left-field fence. Prier hit a line drive to left field that was caught and sent Pappano to the plate.

With runners on second and third, she knew it was her turn to do what she does best, score runs for her team.

Ledbetter scored on a wild pitch by Linden Jones. Pappano then hit a double to left center field and got an RBI after Fleming crossed the plate.

O'Neal reached on a single to short. The shortstop, Carolina Mendoza, dove for the ball and there was no chance for a throw. Next, Whitney Elder drew a walk

and the bases were loaded.

Designated hitter Melissa Norton came to the plate and took a quick 0-2 count. She stepped in the box and swung at the last pitch to leave three runners on base and close the inning.

The next three and one-half innings were scoreless, but the Gamecocks tried once more in the bottom of the seventh to claw their way back.

Fleming started it off in JSU fashion with her first home run of the season to put them within one, 5-4.

The following batters, Prier and Pappano, hit fly balls to the left foul line and were caught for the first two outs of the inning.

O'Neal got a single due to an error by Jaguar third baseman, Julie Morton. Elder came to the plate and hit to first pitch to third for the last out of the game.

The Jaguars took the win, 5-4.

"We adjusted to the pitcher after the first inning," stated Fleming. "Karla did a great job on the mound for us tonight and I know that we will come back and be a different team tomorrow. We will rebound and win."

In day two of the Gamecock Classic, the first challenge for the ladies in the red and white was to face the ones they lost to less than 16 hours ago, South Alabama.

The bats continued to lead the way for the Gamecocks as they swept USA 9-4 with 13 hits and only one error.

Dowling got the win after pitching two innings of relief for McGregor, and Pittman got the save.

Prier got things going for the Gamecocks and went 3-5 with a triple to lead off the first inning, a solo shot in the third, and her first career home run.

Hicks ended the sixth with a three-run homer, part of a four-run inning. That inning for the Gamecocks broke the 5-5 tie with the Jaguars, and would be their third and final lead of the game.

USA tried to come back in the bottom of the sixth, but the merciless defense of the red and white would not have it.

That lone run came off of a 3-2 count homer from Corey Race.

The seventh would be scoreless and the Gamecocks got their revenge with the win.

In the last game of the Classic, Belmont came to the field.

Pappano's bat woke up and she tied a school record of six runs on two three-run homers, which gave Pittman the cushion that she needed to perform on



Photo by Kim Wright

Gamecock freshman pitcher Karla Pittman gets ready to release the pitch. Pittman is currently 2-2 on the season.

the mound.

She held Belmont to one unearned run on three hits to earn her second win of the season.

With Pappano carrying the offense, Fleming stepped up and went 3-for-3 with a triple, two runs scored, and two RBIs.

The Gamecocks went 3-1 over the weekend and claimed the inaugural Gamecock Classic title.

They will travel to Columbia, SC, this weekend to play in the USC Gamecock Invitational. They will open the tournament with the first game on Saturday at 9 a.m. against Radford.

The next home game will be February 26 against Auburn at 6 p.m.

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