"Attention to Detail" opens Tuesday night

Exhibit features Lynnette Hesser

By Andra Magaw
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

"Attention to Detail," an exhibition of sculpture by JSU faculty member Lynnette Hesser, opened Tuesday night at Hammond Hall. The exhibition, which features almost forty pieces, will run through Tuesday, January 23.

Hesser is an adjunct professor at JSU who teaches design and art appreciation. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Denison, a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Florida, a master's from the same university, and a Master's of Science in Education from JSU. Hesser often creates pieces with her husband, JSU ceramics and sculpture professor Steve Loucks.

Her main influences come from nature. The flowers she uses as inspiration are perennials she grows in her backyard.

Besides sculpting, Hesser also enjoys art quilting.

When asked which of the pieces was her favorite, Hesser said, "I haven't had time to decide yet. I am just trying to stand upright right now. It is so hard to fill a space like this."

Her hard work was not lost on Communication major Jacob Probus. "The flower wall piece is amazing," he said. "It's phenomenal; the amount of work she's put into it."

One piece in particular drew rave reviews. Wall Flower with Squiggles was named as the general favorite. "The way she captures the delicacy in the shape of the flower is amazing," Dr. Meehan said. "The colors are amazing. The iridescence in the teapot sculpture is beautiful." 

Hesser's pieces on display at Hammond Hall.

The refreshments were served in ceramic bowls created by Hesser and her husband. These were the only pieces at the exhibit that were not created exclusively by Ms. Hesser.

Hammond Hall Art Gallery features a permanent collection of art as well as a new exhibit almost every month. The next exhibit displayed at Hammond Hall will be a Juried Student Show, which will begin on February 13th.
amazing. The iridescence in the teapot sculpture is beautiful."

The opening of the exhibit drew around thirty attendees. Groups of people murmured in low tones as they milled about the sculptures and the table of collection of art as well as a new exhibit almost every month. The next exhibit displayed at Hammond Hall will be a Juried Student Show, which will begin on February 6.

Making history

By Nick Lehwald
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Gerald Ford, the 38th president of the United States, passed away the day after Christmas. He was the longest surviving former president in the nation’s history, beating Ronald Reagan by two years.

The following week, the nation mourned his passing outside of the capitol building, where Ford was placed in the capitol rotunda for the nation to mourn.

What a convenient coincidence that my family lives 50 minutes from D.C.

On Saturday, the first day he was on display at the capitol, I decided to mosey on other there and take a peek. Not lift the lid or anything, just walk by, say something quietly and get out. So I did.

I spent the whole day in Washington. It has been a while since I'd been there; the last time was to see Eric Clapton at the Verizon Center. I took the metro train into D.C. (the only way to travel around the city) and got off at the Capitol building to get a look at the viewing procedures.

Security was tight, so I was unable to get within 50 yards of the building, but could still see that preparations were underway for Ford's arrival, which would be in a matter of hours.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska, and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Ford was born Les-

by Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

When faculty member Dr. Clark Hudspeth refinanced his home with Wells Fargo in Birmingham, he didn't expect his campus organization, All-Faith Student Alliance, to benefit.

"It's part of their policy, when a member refinances a home, to donate money to the member's favorite charity or non-profit organization," said Hudspeth. "I told them about AFSA, and all I had to do was give them the club's tax number."

Hudspeth is the faculty advisor for AFSA, a coalition of students from different faiths to explore their differences and promote religious tolerance.

Scott Phillips, the sales manager who worked with Hudspeth, confirms the policy.

"It's standard practice for Wells Fargo, with any purchase or refinancing of a primary residence, to give back to the community. I try to encourage everybody to do it."

Charities and non-profits Phillips customers have donated to include: The American Heart Association, Just Keep Smiling (which provides financial help to families with children and dogs in the hospital), The Foundry Rescue Mission and Recovery Center, several local churches, and a few elementary school Parent Teacher Associations.

The AFSA donation is the first donation Phillips has done to a college organization, and after the paperwork goes through the national office, the club will receive $300 as a non-profit donation.

"[The club] is considering doing another Peacefest (an outdoor concert sponsored by several campus organizations to promote unity) and this is really going to help towards that end," finished Hudspeth.

"I think that's wonderful," said Shannon Dawson, a member of AFSA's student committee. "Hopefully this will help us expand Peacefest. Last year was kind of a test run, but we had an excellent turnout. This year will be better."

Any students interested in joining AFSA, or any student groups who want to be involved with Peacefest should contact Dr. Hudspeth at Hudspeth@jsu.edu.

Employee of the Year

By Kayla Barnes
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Every year the honor of Employee of the Year is bestowed upon one faculty member. This person has worked diligently and has exceeded the expectations of those around them. This past year was not any different.

Employee of the Year 2006 was Tim McCord. He is the Communication Equipment Technician for JSU. McCord has worked with the telephone center for over three years. He installs and repairs the telephones, telephone lines and services on campus.

"There are a lot of faculty that deserve this award," said McCord. "It doesn't seem fair to choose just one, but at the same time I am very humble and grateful."

Mc Cord was nominated by his fellow co-workers, who thought that he has done a tremendous job.

"We think he deserved it," said Keith Riley, supervisor of telecommunications. "He is a very good worker, and he makes the office a lot better."

Riley went on to say, "I felt, along with the others, to nominate him as evidence of all the great things he has done."

The Coordinator of University Telecommunications, Mary MacArgel, said "Tim exemplifies what an "Employee of the Year" truly is. Tim is a true professional. He is efficient, hard working, dependable and cooperative." McCord's co-worker, Leslie Stinson, said "she could not think of anyone more qualified" for the award.

Every day the faculty members have done a great job this past year, the honor of Employee of the Year can only go to one person. Tim McCord has done all that has been expected of him and more. He was nominated by his fellow co-workers who think highly of him.

"I've always tried to do a good job, no matter the circumstances," finished McCord.
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRO:** Public Relations Organization will now meet on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. in the advertising office in Self Hall. Contact: Jaclyn Cooper, 256-404-2590.

**Pre-Law Society:** The Pre-Law Society will be hosting a Pizza Social Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m. in room 303 of the TMB. Immediately following will be an organizational meeting. Contact: jsuprelaw@gmail.com

**All-Faith Student Alliance:** AFSA will have an organizational meeting today at 4:30 p.m. in room 328 of Brewer Hall. Any student interested in joining AFSA or participating in Peacefest should contact Dr. Hudspeth. Contact: Dr. Hudspeth, hudspeth@jsu.edu.

**Writer’s Club:** The JSU Writer’s Club will meet on the 7th floor of Houston Cole Library at 3:15 p.m. today. Contact: pharding@jsu.edu

**History Club:** The History Club will host Movie Night on Thursday, January 25, 2007 at 7 p.m. in room 326 of Stone Center. The featured film will be Animal House with commentary by Dr. Linebaugh. Contact: loco@jsu.edu

**Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.:** Would like to welcome all students back to school. Hopefully everyone had a great holiday break and we hope your semester goes the same. Contact: Marcus Shepard, 205-533-5111

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**Corrections**

*Fast fire helps rifle team win Gamecock Invitational* was written by Chad Hoffman in the Nov. 30th issue.

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**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 Chantnews@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.

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**11-30-06**

Jameze Daniels reported a burglary at College Apts.

Veronica Belle reported theft at Curtis Hall.

**12-02-06**

Angela Frazier reported criminal mischief in the Sparkman Hall parking lot.

**12-04-06**

Kawwanet Andrews was arrested for fraudulent use of credit/debit card.

**12-15-06**

Timothy Chambless reported unauthorized use of a vehicle at Kappa Alpha house.

Brenda Boozer reported theft of property at JSU Bookstore.

Matthew Savage reported theft of property at Kappa Alpha house.

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**Faculty speak out on Saddam’s execution**

By Jessica Summe

The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

and

Toni Meriss

The Chanticleer Features Editor

“A lot of people don’t know that the Iraqi population is 60% Shi’ite,” begins Dr. William Lester of the political science department. (The Shiites, Sunnis, and Kurds are three of the major cultural subgroups in Iraq.) “Saddam was Sunni, and he put Sunnis officials in the government, and committed numerous atrocities against the Shiites and Kurds. We could have tried him for 20 years.”

Now, Lester says, the Sunni see the Shiite government’s actions, such as executing Saddam while hurling insults, as revenge.

“It makes you wonder who’s in control, the Iraqis or the Shiites. It’s a difficult situation,” said Lester. “It’s a low-level type of civil war.”

Lester personally believes that the impact of Saddam’s execution will fade off, even though some Sunnis already regard him as a martyr.

Lester also thinks that while Iraq is in turmoil, The United States has a responsibility to help.

“US President Bush; you break it, you own it.” Since America was a major force in overthrowing the original Iraqi government, America must stay until Iraq is unified under the rule of Shiites, Sunnis, and Kurds.

“They [the Iraqis] just have a different way of doing things,” said Lester. “When John Kerry lost the election, he didn’t gather his supporters and run off to the hills to rebel against the government and take up arms. He withdrew from the field and he’ll be back to compete in the political area again. That’s how we do things. We talk, argue, and vote, then, a few years later, we’ll do it all again. That’s democracy, but some Iraqis don’t want that.”

“I’m very hopeful,” finished Lester. “I think the average Iraqi wants to live in peace, and at the end of the day we want the average Iraqi to win.”

“This [the execution] needed to be done,” said Dr. Llewellyn Cook of the history department. “You can use the examples of Charles the First of England or Louis XVI of France. When you’re creating a new system, you have to eliminate every trace of the old so people don’t wish for the ‘good old days.’”

Cook also believes that Gulf I and the current Iraqi conflict has impressed upon the military “the importance of history education.”

“That’s what history is,” he said. “Looking at the past to help with the present.”

“That’s true,” confirmed Lieutenant Colonel Henry Hester of military science. The Army has made it mandatory for all cadets to pass a military history course, but Hester insists that it’s more than just another class.

“To quote George Santanyana, those who don’t remember history are doomed to repeat it. The class helps in a variety of ways. Part of being an Army officer is being a history maker.”

And what does Col. Hester think about the execution?

“You have to respect the Iraqi government and their decision, but, personally and professionally, I think justice was served.”

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**Students Speak Out!**

“The things my parents did that I shouldn’t have done—“

I thought it was stupidly done—“

I was just being stupid—“

I was just being stupid—“

I was just being stupid—“

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**From staff reports**

The forest can be a scary place, especially for two lost children. The only way it could be any worse is for a psychopathic serial killer to be on the loose.

That’s exactly the way it is when Jacksonville State University presents the opera Hansel and Gretel by Engelbert Humperdink. Dr. Nathan Wight, who directs the production, stressed that, despite their inclusion of a children’s chorus, this version of the old folk tale may not be suitable for very small children.

“It is scary. It’s a much scarier story than people remember,” said Wight.

The victims are played by the children’s chorus, all but one of which are members of Kitty Stone Elementary’s Kitty Stone Singers. Hansel and Gretel are portrayed by Estefania Cuevas and Jean Allen respectively. For these two college students, the production provides an excuse to be children again, which can sometimes be a stretch for grown women.

“I came into this role forgetting that it’s a child’s role and I’m acting all womanly and Dr. Wight said ‘You’re a kid,'” said Allen, a music education major.

The production isn’t just a stretch for the lead roles. Timothy Ballard, an alumnus of JSU, typically portrays more heroic characters, but gets to discover his villainous side as the witch. Of course, the worst part about it for him has to be the costume.

“I haven’t seen the costume — I’m sure I’m not going to like it, since I don’t often wear dresses — never, let’s go never,” said Ballard, adding that he isn’t looking forward to the purple and green witch’s makeup either.

The opera itself is also a challenge to the cast.

“It’s pushing me to become a better vocalist,” said Matthew Headley, who plays the father, “and it’s really gotten me to open up and be more confident in myself as far as acting in front of a group of people.”

Hansel and Gretel opens at 7:30 tonight in the Performance Center at Mason Hall. Tickets are $10 for students and $12 for adults in advance or $15 at the door. The production
Nathaniel Lee reported theft of property.

Kenneth Timmons was arrested for criminal trespassing at Campus Inn Apartments.

Benjamin Baldwin was arrested for minor in possession of alcohol and theft of trademarks or trade secrets.

Jerre Hughes reported domestic violence and criminal trespassing.

Christina Brewer reported theft of property at Martin Luther King Jr. Documentary, 7:15 p.m., Secret Service (which was easier than the easiest security), the line snaked across the outside of the capitol, and two words jump out of page 1

Ford, from page 1

in the South Pacific. Upon returning from the war, Ford became active in local Republican politics. In his first campaign in 1948, Ford visited local farmers and promised he would work on their farms and milk their cows if elected, a promise which he fulfilled. He was elected Republican Minority Leader in the House in 1963, a position he held until his appointment to the vice presidency. During this time, President Johnson appointed Ford to the Warren Commission to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy. On October 12th, 1973 Ford was nominated to take Spiro Agnew’s position of vice president, the first time in America’s history that the vice-presidential vacancy provision of the 25th amendment was used. When Nixon resigned in the wake of the Watergate scandal on August 9, 1974, Ford assumed the presidency.

Ford was the only president not elected by the people. Though he only served two years, Ford accomplished and watched over some very important events. He oversaw the withdrawal of US troops for Vietnam, entered into the Helsinki Accords with the Soviet Union, which later evolved into the Human Rights Watch, appointed one supreme court judge, pardoned Nixon and survived two assassination attempts within three weeks of each other.

So there I was, it’s 7:45 p.m. and I’d just gotten in line outside of the capitol building, expecting a two-hour wait. I knew they were going to start letting people into the capitol soon, because I saw the vice president’s motorcade drive by Constitution Ave. There were at least 700 people standing in line that I could see. After getting through security (which was easier than the easiest airport security), the line snaked across the outside of the capitol, and I was presented with the greatest view of D.C. and the Washington Monument.

The line started slowing as I got inside the building. The inside of the capitol is as impressive as the outside, the marble staircases, the stone floor, the bronze statues of the founding fathers gazing down at us, reminding all that history is made here. After ascending the stairs, I entered the rotunda. You could here a pin drop, the room was so quiet.

And there it was, the casket draped by the flag, with an honor guard from each branch of military service standing guard. The line split into two paths, so people could walk around both sides.

As I gazed upon the casket, I could feel it, the strong feeling of history. I paused, looked around this great room and marveled at the significance of it all. The most powerful people in the world have walked through here, wars have been fought here, the course of history decided in the very chambers of the building that I now stood in. I looked at the paintings and murals that adorn the walls of the rotunda. They’re beautiful, awe-inspiring, to say the least. Images of great moments in our nation’s history, each piece stirs up the feeling of patriotism, reminding all that walked through to be thankful for all the freedoms, the blessings that we have in this great nation. And then I looked up.

There, at the top of the capitol dome, is George Washington, looking down from the head of the table, surrounded by other great leaders from the countries past. They sit there, gazing down, majestically guiding us through the treacherous waters of the world. It’s almost as if you can feel their power, hear their experiences, ask them for guidance, their opinion of the state of the nation.

I’ll never forget that.

After a minute of staring, my attention completely focused on Washington’s face, I felt a tap on my shoulder. Turning around, I was face to face with an attractive woman, mid-thirties, asking me to keep moving.

Before I could think of a witty retort, I noticed the earpiece in her ear, snapping its way down her back, and two words jump into my mind – Secret Service.

“Sorry, just looking at the murals,” I said. (It’s best not to anger those people. They could make me disappear, never to be seen again, and I’d rather that not happen.)

I moved along, but stopped just before the exit and turned around. Good bye, Mr. Ford. I may not have been around during your presidency, but tonight, we’ve both made history. Rest In Peace, sir. You earned it.
Not too Baaad

By Jonathan Pennington
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

For anyone interested in CIA intelligence, Yale’s Skull and Bones society, or simply loves history, The Good Shepherd, will own your attention throughout the entire two hours and 40 minutes.

Congratulations to Robert DeNiro for delivering what could possibly be the greatest spy and espionage thriller of all time.

Although The box office ranking for the film has been surprisingly lower than predicted. With an all-star cast including Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie, Eddie Redmayne, Alec Baldwin, and Robert DeNiro, nothing less than greatness can be expected. The Good Shepherd does not fail to deliver that greatness.

The film is a true story, but based on true events that occurred. You have to be familiar with some historical events from the early 1960’s to know what is going on in the film.

The film’s story jumps back and forth through time covering The Bay of Pigs Invasion, Edward Wilson’s progression into the office of Head of CIA’s Counterintelligence division, and the days after the invasion.

The story is centered on two premises:

1. The life of Edward Wilson and the mystery of what caused the intelligence leak leading to the CIA’s failure to defeat Fidel Castro’s forces at the Bay of Pigs.

2. For the uninformed, but wise people who are planning on spending money to see the film, here is some background information about the events that the story is based on.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy assured the American people that there would be no military intervention into Cuba.

On April 22, 1961, CIA operatives informed the president that a military operation in Cuba would not be a failure. Under the direction of CIA operatives, anti-Castro Cuban exiles attacked Castro’s forces at The Bay of Pigs. The battle is known as The Bay of Pigs invasion.

Soviet spies tipped off Fidel Castro about the operation and his military obliterated the exiles which resulted in a disgusting loss for the CIA.

In The Good Shepherd, DeNiro offers a fascinating story of not only the source of this intelligence leak, but the formation of the Central Intelligence Agency through the story of Wilson.

Wilson (Damon) is a stone-cold intelligence agent who loves his country with deep devotion. As a student at Yale and a Skull and Bones member, he is recruited to work for the OSS (Office of Strategic Services), the forerunner of the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency). At Yale, he met his wife Margaret Ann Russell (Jolie) who bore his son Edward Wilson Jr. (Redmayne).

The Shepard rates this movie (out of five Gamecocks):

Shake and Bake

By James Burton
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

When I first picked up my copy of Talladega Nights (on the first day it was released), I saw the replaced with other similarly random pieces of dialogue, such as what Girard said he was going to shaped racecar that would poop out little rabbits, while Walker and Texas Ranger (Bobby’s child-
By James Burton
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

For those of you who have been living under a rock and have not seen Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby, be sure to stop by the local movie store and pick up a copy.

The film boasts an all-star cast of Will Ferrell (who needs no introduction), Sasha Baron Cohen (of Borat fame), Leslie Bibb (Popular), John C. Reilly (Days of Thunder), Michael Clarke Duncan (The Green Mile) and special cameos from Molly Shannon, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Jamie McMurray, and the racing analysts from both Fox and NBC.

Talladega Nights is about Ricky Bobby (Ferrell), a boy who is born to race.

His father imprinted the motto “If you're not first, you're last” in a memorable “bring your dad to school” moment and so he grew up with that principle.

Bobby unexpectedly finds himself behind the steering wheel of a Nextel Cup race car and proves that he can make it to the front. He finds himself either crashing out or winning each event, and later on his childhood friend, Cal Naughton Jr. (Reilly), joins in on the fun by finishing second every time.

When a French Formula One driver, Jean Girard (Cohen), comes to America to compete in Nextel Cup, he stages a challenge against Bobby, who will not back down, almost destroying his career in the process.

The rest of the movie shows his hilarious antics as he attempts to build himself back up for one final showdown with Girard... at Talladega.

When I first picked up my copy of Talladega Nights (on the first day it was released), I saw the unrated version and I was like, "Yay! More footage!"

Well, yes and no... the unrated edition provides more footage to the theatrical release, but for some reason this extra footage is at the expense of footage that was in the theatrical version. Confusing, right?

For example, the scene that many of you probably saw in the TV trailers where young Bobby steals his mother's station wagon and speeds down the highway with a plastic baseball bat on the gas pedal, it is also in the theatrical version. However, it is not in the unrated version.

Instead, we see two scenes where Naughton calls Bobby while they had their falling out, as opposed to the theatrical's one scene. Pieces of dialogue and replaceed with other similarly random pieces of dialogue, such as what Girard said he was going to do after he retired in the theatrical version was completely different from what he said in the unrated version.

This is not to say all extra scenes are unwelcome.

Fans get to see the much hyped Pedro's Thongs for Men car in the theatrical version, which was not even mentioned at the theaters. This scene was used at the expense of Lucas Washington's pit crew working at a car wash.

The extra features, just like with any other Ferrell film, are very amusing. There are deleted and extended scenes including where Carley Bobby (Bibb) talks about how her "ass has caused four traffic accidents, one of them fatal."

In another scene Cal and Ricky have a heated discussion over why anyone would want a rabbit shaped racecar that would poop out little rabbits, while Walker and Texas Ranger (Bobby's children) run around the house hitting things with baseball bats screaming "Jenga!!"

There is also a gag reel and a thing called Line-O-Rama, which is basically five minutes of Bobby and Naughton ad-libbing scenes.

There are two fake interviews with Bobby, a small documentary of when Ferrell went to Talladega and served as Grand Marshall, and for some reason they found it necessary to include bonus race footage.

After this bountiful harvest of extra features, I have one question: Where are the scenes that were removed and/or replaced?

Could you not have put them in the deleted scenes? Oh well,

Overall, it is a good movie with good extra features. While I do not like the unrated version as well as the original theatrical release, it is worth a look for some of the scenes that you may not see otherwise.

The Chanticleer rates this movie (out of five Gamecocks):

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The Chanticleer welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typewritten. Letters may be faxed to 765-5713 or sent through campus mail to our offices at Room 180, The Hall, or the mailing address at left. Letters may also be e-mailed to chntclernews@hotmail.com.

The Chanticleer reserves the right to retain publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to desired publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Reprints will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the letter. If you are denoted in question.
To Imagination and Beyond . . .

By Nick Lehwald
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Remember those weekends? Those long, boring weekends when almost everyone goes home or works, so you have nothing to do.

Sure, the dollar theatre closed down, but in its stead, is something even better.

Somewhere you can have all the fun you want and still stay under the same roof. People used to lament over the fact that there’s not one convenient place to play things like paintball, laser tag, or even shoot pool. In your dreams, they would say. You just keep on imagining things, buddy, no place like that will ever open.

But then, sometime did open, somewhere all your dreams can come true, where you can shoot your boredom in the butt. Where goes home or works, so you have nothing to do. Where there’s not one convenient place to play those who don’t feel like watching other kids play video games.

I mean seriously, paintball is the greatest sport ever to be invented since baseball. Paintball! The speed, the intensity, the fury, the place of youthful indulgence, we make a sharp right, and I hear the familiar sounds of paint being discharged at a high velocity from hand held, CO2 powered weapons called, paintball guns. Its the paintball room, and I’m very excited.

If I have not mentioned this before, I love paintball! The speed, the intensity, the fury, that terrified feeling you get in that split second you have before you watch a ball hit you in the face mask. Ooooh, I get chills just thinking about it. The paint room, as I’ll call it because writing paintball every other minute gets tiring, was impressive.

Another converted theatre, the room is set at an incline, with the waiting area by the door protected by a large net, that will block any stray paint from hitting spectators.

The course, while small, is set up with inflatable obstacles and bunkers, creating a complex crossfire of catalytic chaos. The referee’s seemed perfectly capable with knowing how to work their guns, enforce the rules, and keeping safety at the very forefront of everything they do. It was very professional and well done.

Enough though, I’m told, while being escorted from my trance out of the arena of fire, as I think I will call it, and down the hallway that leads to what might be the arena of fire again.

Chris Yow gets his revenge by beating Nick Lehwald miserably in NCAA 2007. Lehwald gets an early win on Yow in air hockey.

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Features Editor

By Toni Merriss

The Chanticleer Features Editor

As the holiday season closes the doors on 2006 many people are left feeling . . . fat? According to recent studies, over 60% of Americans are overweight and the most common time to pump up that spare tire is over the holidays due to big meals and even bigger leftovers.

The new year can spark the motivation of people, resulting in them making one promise that usually guarantees disappointment in the long run . . . the dreaded new years resolution.

Losing weight rates in as the number one resolution made by people with quitting smoking and saving money pulling in as the number two and three, respectively.

In theory, establishing a new years resolution is a great idea, but sometimes people can overlook the difficulties they will run into with such a life-changing turnaround.

The bar that people tend to set for themselves can sometimes be rather unattainable, then when they try committing to their resolution but only put forth half the effort, they are disappointed when they do not achieve the impossible.

"Many people never really plan out how they are going to reach their goals. They just expect to be able to do it once the new year comes around," said junior geography major, Josh Bomar.

Another problem that hopefuls can run into is thinking that they only have the new year to change their lives dramatically.

"I try to not really make any resolutions because I think you are expected to do okay throw) the more it will remind you to stay on top of the plan.

Next, realize that to successfully change your habits, it should be done in steps. For example, if your long-term goal is to give up fast food, then maybe a good starting point is to just cut down on the fast food intake each month.

Another alternative is making a promise to yourself that anytime you want fast food, you should evaluate yourself all year instead of only doing it once," said Bomar.

Coming up with ways that you can help yourself all year instead of just the beginning of the year can greatly assist a person in the quest for better habits.

"Sometimes a long-term goal can take more than a year though. I am still trying to make it to the track to run from last year," laughed senior music education major, Clark Hunt.

But, if you are one of the many that resort to only bettering themselves at the beginning of the year, a few pointers might help nudge (push . . . okay throw) you in the right direction.

First off, after choosing your bad habit of 2006 to get rid of, write it down. Keep it in multiple places. The more you see it, the more it will remind you to stay on top of the plan.

(Or you might just get tired of throwing away all those little papers, but whatever.)

As the owners, Tammy and Gina, lead us down the hall-

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Lehwald gets an early win on Yow in air hockey.

Arnold Montesog, Senior

To promote more live music in Jacksonville.

Abe Kiyoda, Junior

To look better.

Take Sihle, Senior

To make my grades...
Holidays hex LaPlante and the Gamecocks

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

While the holidays put smiles on some faces, men's basketball head coach Mike LaPlante scratched his head in confusion.

The JSU men's basketball team struggled at the close of 2006, but looked to come in 2007 energized and prepared. Unfortunately, the Austin Peay Governors and in-state rival Samford have already taken some steam out of the Gamecock train.

Saturday, the Gamecocks proved again they could compete with the Bulldogs (9-6, 6-0 OVC). Until the last second, JSU had the lead, but junior guard Curtis West hit a last second three-pointer to sweep the season series and remain undefeated.

The shot hit the Gamecocks hard for the fifth time is six games, where they have been decided on the last possession. In addition, the Bulldogs found a way to hit a last second shot to win for the second time against JSU this season.

Led by Harold Crow's 18 points, the Gamecocks held their ground all 40 minutes in Seibert Hall. The only time Samford led at any point during the game was the 17-minute mark of the first half. Since that point, the Bulldogs trailed by as much as nine, but only trailed 47-40, giving JSU momentum going into the final 20 minutes.

The second half kept the fans entertained and on the edge of their seats. Midway through the second half, the Gamecocks only led by five, but managed to keep the lead until the last seconds of the game, making it the sixth straight loss for the LaPlante.

Thursday, Jan. 4, the Gamecocks came back to Pete Mathews Coliseum to face the Governors (8-6, 5-1 OVC), but failed to open 2007 on a winning note, falling 78-63.

LaPlante's crew held up through the first 10 minutes, but the Governors' twenty-second defensive spurt took the Gamecock's fuel tank to empty.

"We were in the game, but they got up quickly," said LaPlante. "And it was that quick span where they got away from us."

With 7:18 left in the first half, Governor guard Wes Channels came down for a fast break layup to put Austin Peay up 26-25. On the insuring possession, Channels quickly stole the ball and converted a reverse layup, putting Peay up 28-25. Channels sparked a 16-4 run that took the Governors into the half with a comfortable 40-29 lead.

While JSU fought in the second half to salvage the game, they could only manage to hold the Governors to 38 points while 34 of their own, but the first half run made the difference in the game for both teams. The OVC's leading rebounder, Courtney Bradley, was only held to two rebounds, and the leading rebounding team was downed in that category 34-30.

"We came out with a lot of energy, and we were aggressive and jumped on them early," said guard Will Ginn.

"Basketball is a game of runs, and they caused us to make some costly turnovers and give up steals, and made us pay for them."

LaPlante and the Gamecocks look to turn things around for their season as they head to Tennessee Tech and Tennessee State Jan. 11 and 13, respectively. They return to Pete Mathews Coliseum Jan. 18 to face the Eastern Kentucky Colonels and the Morehead State Eagles on Jan. 20. The games can be heard on the Gamecock Sports Network with Mike Parris on WLJS 91.9.

Lady Govs, Bulldogs take bite out of Gamecocks

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

Every year you hear it from some coach who has no business talking about anything other than his team, "We need a playoff system in college football."

And every year I sit back and laugh because I know it's a waste of breath. Allow me to play the devil's advocate, if you will.

The NCAA Bowl Championship Series sub-division, more commonly referred to as Division I-A—however wrong it may be, play a series of games in early January called the Bowl Championship Series (BCS). The BCS system is seen by many as a

Wow! What a bowl season. Texas Tech coming back from a 38-7 deficit to win and getting the Golden Gophers coach fired, Georgia and West Virginia coming back from their first half hiatus to win against Virginia Tech and Georgia Tech, and the upset of the year. Louisiana State University defeating Notre Dame 42-14 (honestly, I'm the Sports Editor. I just wanted to catch your attention). And how about Boise State, the 2006 National Champion! Chalk it up for the blue and orange!

What? Boise State didn't win the National title? No cristal football
Women's head basketball coach Becky Geyer talks to her team during a timeout. Geyer's Gamecocks look to stop a four-game skid this weekend when they travel to Tennessee Tech and Tennessee State.
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