



Radio and rock, take your pick.
Pages 4 and 3.

THE CHANTICLEER



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Jacksonville State University

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The Inaugural Ball A gala of all sorts

By Jaclyn Cosper
The Chanticleer Ad Director

I have to say that even politicians know how to have a good time. Over a two-day inaugural period, the Governor and his crew threw some good events.

The inauguration celebrations started with a prayer breakfast in Montgomery on Sunday morning. My father and I considered it a real treat. The breakfast began a hearty and enthusiastic welcome followed by the pledge of allegiance.

John Ed Mathison, a friend of the Rileys', followed the pledge with an invocation. He pointed out how great our beloved state was and mentioned many great accomplishments that have occurred in Alabama, such as Huntsville being the rock capital, how the marble in the Lincoln memorial came from Sylacauga. Also, the youngest person ever to graduate from college did so at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, and Martin Luther King led the campaign for civil rights right there in Montgomery. It reminded me that despite our setbacks and downfalls, Alabama is a great state after all.

Governor Bob Riley spoke next. He listed his plans for the future, but since

The next day started with the Inaugural Parade. As thousands of people lined the streets of Montgomery, the governor and his wife rode down the street, waving and smiling.

A popular event, the parade included bands from all over the state - including our own Marching Southerners. The parade also featured all other elected dignitaries.

The day continued with the actual inauguration itself. Riley gave a simple speech before his own son Rob swore his father in for his second term to office.

The day ended with the most glamorous event of them all, the Inaugural Ball.

Traditionally held in Montgomery, the event was moved to Birmingham's convention center due to renovation of the regular site. As hundreds of people flied in with their gorgeous dresses and tuxes, my brother and I felt very important. After all, it isn't every day that we get to go to something like this.

The ball had the most amazing food ever, including multiple fondue pots with dark and white chocolate, something my brother and I enjoyed greatly.

Mike Hubbard, Riley's friend and the head of his campaign, introduced the governor. Riley thanked everyone there for helping him get to



Photo courtesy Jaclyn Cosper
The author and Governor Bob Riley.



Jessica Andrews is Miss JSU 2007 Pageant celebrates its 25th year at Jacksonville State

By Jessica Summe
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

Jessica Andrews was named Miss JSU 2007 at the 25th Miss JSU Pageant on Friday, Jan. 12. Held at the Leone Cole Auditorium, the pageant featured six accomplished JSU women competing for the crown. The contestants participated in several events, such as talent, evening wear, swimsuit and on-stage interview. The regular

interview event, where the contestants display their knowledge of current events and individual platform issues, was held the afternoon before the pageant.

In honor of the pageant's 25th anniversary at Jacksonville State, the pageant also honored past Miss JSU titleholders. Acting as Mistresses of Ceremonies were Miss JSU 2002 Amber Reid and Miss JSU 2001 Jayme Johnson.

The scholarship competition also showcased the vocal talents of Jamie Langley, Miss

Both Nanci Morales and Jessica Andrews performed jazz routines. Emily Sheffield sang "The Power of Love," and Olivia Fadul deviated from the normal pageant talents and recited an original poem.

Langley sang "If My Heart Had Wings" during the evening gown competition. She then performed her signature talent of "Upon This Rock," which landed Langley in the Top 11 at the 2006 Miss Alabama Pageant.

After the introduction of the selection committee, Langley took her last walk as Miss JSU while a pre-recorded message said her goodbyes and thank-yous to all the people who helped during her reign.

The scores were still being tallied after Langley finished her walk, so Reid and Johnson entertained the audience by recalling embarrassing pageant stories.

Jessica Andrews took home the crown, and she won the swimsuit competition. Haley Arrington was 1st runner-up as well as the talent winner. Nanci Morales was 3rd-runner up.

Coleman, who also competed



Riley spoke next. He listed his plans for the future, but since he was speaking at the Prayer Breakfast, he focused on the importance of God and how he would never have gotten here without Him. Riley also praised the support of his family and friends for helping him through it all. Although the speech contained some agenda points, it was more of a humble speech than I expected. I realized how gracious the man really is.

Now, no party would ever be complete without some musical entertainment. A nationally known group, The Voices of Mobile (from the University of Mobile), who had recently returned from performing for President Bush and the first lady, treated us all to four amazing songs. These talented singers are something else that Alabama can certainly be proud of.

Next, Dan Ireland, a long-time friend of Riley's gave a memorable message. He also commented on how God has done so many great things for all of us in this great state and how lucky we are to have a governor like Riley.

We were next graced by the musical performance by Katanya Langford, and breakfast then wrapped up with a closing prayer and a recital of "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

Governor Bob Riley. He introduced the governor. Riley thanked everyone there for helping him get re-elected. He said he honestly could not express his gratitude enough with his speech.

Hubbard then introduced Alabama First Lady Patsy Riley, along with Riley's children and their families. He told the audience how grateful he was of their overwhelming support. He even presented his youngest daughter, Miranda, with flowers and thanked her for all of her hard work during the campaign. Apparently, she was the creative genius behind all the commercials.

The governor then shared the first dance with his wife, followed by dancing with his daughters and granddaughters. It was touching moment for all. The family then proceeded to meet and greet with all the guests at the ball.

As things progressed, there were many wonderful and exciting performers including country superstar Sara Evans and other notable performances by the Tip Tops, Sweet Young 'Uns and the Huntsville Symphony.

The evening ended around midnight with many exhausted yet jubilant people. It was truly a weekend that no one will forget.



The scholarship competition also showcased the vocal talents of Jamie Langley, Miss JSU 2006.

Five of the six songs Langley performed had a heart theme in honor of her pageant platform "Go Red: Love Your Heart," which promotes cardiac care. Also performing was Auburn student Tyson Hall.

The on-stage interview was followed by the swimsuit event, but the highlight of the evening was the talent portion of the competition. Candace Coleman performed "Devil Went Down to Georgia" on violin, while Haley Arrington sang "Wishing You Were Somewhere Again" from *The Phantom of the Opera*.

winner. Nanci Morales was 3rd-runner up. Coleman, who also competed in Miss JSU 2004 and 2005, said after the pageant, "It's a wonderful experience. [The pageant] isn't just about winning, it's about the relationships you build. I'll definitely do it again." Andrews, a JSU Diamond Girl Captain and Marching Ballerina, has competed in 19 Miss Alabama preliminaries without ever taking home the crown...until now. Her platform (a cause she will promote during her reign as Miss JSU) is Passion Performance, which gives underprivileged children the opportunity to dance.

While winning the Miss JSU title was probably the best moment of the night for Andrews, another fond memory for Andrews was "getting to say 'Roll Tide' on-stage." (During her on-stage interview, Andrews was asked how the recent hiring of Nick Saban for Alabama reflected the states' priorities.)

Top: The crowning of Miss JSU 2007. Top right: Andrews performing her jazz routine. Middle: Crowe sings "My Heart Will Go On". Bottom right: Coleman performs "Devil Went Down to Georgia" on her violin. Bottom: Past and present Miss JSU titleholders.

all photos by Jessica Summe

Martin Luther King Jr. documentary viewing a success

By DeShunn Johnson
The Chanticleer Ad Assistant

The men of Alpha Phi Alpha and the SGA sponsored a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. documentary in Theron Montgomery Building Tuesday, Jan. 16. The SGA and Alpha Phi Alpha wanted to honor King and his legacy around his birthday, which was the day before. Around 50 people came to honor the man who changed American history.

Although many people know a lot of the great things King has done for the equality of mankind, a lot of unknown facts were revealed at the documentary.

"I didn't know that he was a quarterback for Moorehouse college," said JSU student Whitney Jones.

"I didn't know that Dr. King was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha," junior April Vines commented.

Students were very impressed with King's accomplishments

with his education.

"It is truly a challenge to get your college degree at the age of 16, and Dr. King did that, and he went to Boston University to earn his doctorate," said Alpha Phi Alpha member Herbert Wilkerson.

Many of the students did not know that King's birthday was only just recognized as a national holiday in the 1980s, almost 20 years after his death.

To help Congress pass the bill for his holiday, legendary singer Stevie Wonder rearranged the song "Happy Birthday to You" to recount many of King's accomplishments. The song is still sung today at many of King's remembrance programs.

It was also revealed that King was a very humble man. After receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, one of the highest awards for anyone, he gave the money from the award away to different organizations he was a part of.

Dr. King's legacy still lives on today. His dream to have "little black girls and little black boys to one day hold hands with little white boys and little white girls" has come true.

"His dream is demonstrated in everyday life," said JSU student Genesa Doss. "We as black people are able to go to any church, restaurant or school we want to go to. There is still discrimination, but there is more integration."

"Today I saw both black and white people at this documentary," said Alpha Phi Alpha member Varian May. "To me that is a step in the right direction."

"I came today to honor Dr. King, not only because he fought for equal rights for black people, he also paved the way for women's rights as well," said JSU student Cassandra McKenzie.

After the documentary, a member from Phi Beta Sigma recited Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech in its entirety. He received a standing ovation from the crowd.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

College of Arts and Sciences: Student Symposium will be held in Houston Cole Library on Feb. 14 and 15. To participate in the symposium, an abstract of 400 words is required. Deadline for submission is Jan. 19.
Contact: Jan Case, jcase@jsu.edu, 782-5119

Zeta Tau Alpha: ZTA would like to congratulate our beautiful sister Nanci Morales for finishing 2nd runner-up in Friday's Miss JSU pageant.
Contact: Hollie Thrasher, 256-740-7858

National Pan-Hellenic Council: NPHC is hosting Greek Convocation Thursday, Jan. 25th at 6:30 p.m. in the Merrill Building in room 101. There will be door prizes and refreshments. Business casual attire.
Contact: Eddie Banks, 256-782-5491

Writer's Club: *Something Else* at the Writer's Club literary journal is accepting entries until March 2. The deadline for the R.U.M. poetry contest is also March 2. Meetings are Thursdays at 4 p.m. on the 7th floor of the library. **Contact:** Dr. Pitt Harding, pharding@jsu.edu

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 Chattynews@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

Jan. 11

Robin Colvin reported harassment at Sparkman Hall.

The Chanticleer Editorial Cartoon



Be a star every Monday night

By Chris Yow
The Chanticleer Web Editor

So you think you can play guitar and sing? Now every Monday night, you can prove that to all of Jacksonville.

Open Mic Night at Brother's Bar is up and running once again at the local establishment, and it promises to be a hot spot for local talent.

"I've seen the potential of this, and I think that it can be one of the staples to making Jacksonville the college town it was in the

tem.

"The ideal purpose of Open Mic Night is to give young bands the chance to get their name into the local community and maybe even get a show," said Rose. "If a band shows that

most nights there will be a drum set readily available.

"We are trying to get general equipment for everyone to use, like guitar stands, guitars and drums," said Fuller. After you sign up on the list, you simply wait your turn and then rock the stage.

Rose and Fuller want the Monday and Tuesday night crowds to be as big as the weekend crowds, and they hope to accomplish this by not charging cover Mondays and having local bands on Tuesdays. With these strategies, there is a good possibility of increased



Photo by Chris Yow

Jeff Fuller (left) and Patrick Rose bring back Open Mic Night at Brother's Bar.

Get Well JSU

By Bethany Harbison
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

"To be healthy, you have to both eat healthy and get moving. One just doesn't work well without the other," said Jacksonville State University's Wellness Coordinator Gina Mabrey.

In an attempt to educate faculty, staff and students about the benefits and practices of healthy living, Mabrey, in collaboration with the Campus Wellness Committee, has launched the Get Well JSU campaign. The core of this campaign is comprised of Wellness Wednesdays, a new monthly event located in Jack Hopper Dining Hall (also known as The Caf).

Last Wednesday, Jan. 10, was the first of these events. Faculty, staff and students were offered a healthy-choice lunch line located on the right side of the cafeteria beginning at 11:30 a.m. Following lunch, Gina Mabrey shared a short presentation that emphasized the importance of making healthy choices every day.

"The more often you make healthy choices, the healthier you will be," said Mabrey. She explained that while no one is going to live perfectly every day, each healthy choice can make a difference in your well-being.

Mabrey also addressed the timely issue of New Year's resolutions. She said that, while many people make New Year's resolutions each year, many of them fail because their goals are either too vague or too overwhelming.

"Be specific and set the odds in your favor. Aim to do something that you know you can do," said Mabrey.

She gave participants a 90-day calendar that provides individuals with a way to keep track of their daily successes in their attempts to develop healthy habits.

After Mabrey's presentation, participants went on a 15-minute walk that aimed to promote healthy habits from an exercise

squash medley, manicotti with marinara, steamed cabbage, tossed salad and fruit salad. At 12:30 p.m., Mabrey will share a presentation entitled "Save Your Sweet Heart" that will discuss good choices you can make that will decrease heart and cardiovascular disease.

Next, on Mar. 14, the theme will be "Eat Well to Live Well", when participants will learn how to develop good eating habits to decrease the risks of diseases such as diabetes and cancer. "Trample Obesity" is the designated theme for April 11. Mabrey will help participants find ways to get in the doctor-recommended amount of 10,000 steps per day. Information will also be provided about the number of steps between various academic buildings on campus. On May 9, the presentation will address the topic of hypertension and is appropriately named "Halt Hypertension". Participants will learn ways to decrease high blood pressure.

Although Wellness Wednesdays are currently the main part of the Get Well JSU campaign, other plans are in the works.

"Our hope is to basically bring an awareness to our campus about making healthy choices," said Mabrey. "We want to make people conscious of the decisions that they make on a daily basis about their health."

Another way that the Campus Wellness Committee hopes to accomplish this is by working with the cafeteria to provide a healthier menu. They also hope to eventually provide the nutritional information for every food item served in Jack Hopper Dining Hall.

Mabrey hopes to see the Get Well JSU campaign stretch beyond our campus.

"Eventually, we would like to see it become Get Well Jacksonville Community, then Get Well East Alabama, and then maybe

Robin Colvin reported harassment at Sparkman Hall.

Jan. 13

Samantha Thornton reported harassment at Pannell Hall.

Jan. 16

Jan Pursley reported harassing communications on facebook.com

to making Jacksonville the college town it was in the

90s," said Jeff Fuller, operator of Open Mic Night.

Patrick Rose, a Sigma Nu member, is the new manager of Brother's Bar. He was very much in favor of bringing back Open Mic Night.

If your band has never played a show, Open Mic Night is the perfect opportunity to play in front of a decent crowd and get the butterflies out of your sys-

Jeff Fuller (left) and Patrick Rose bring back Open Mic Night at Brother's Bar.

they are capable of doing a show, we may offer them a Tuesday night gig."

That's not to say that if you aren't asked that you aren't good. Tuesday nights are filling up very quickly with local acts.

It is very simple to get on the lineup for Monday nights. Just show up with your songs and a guitar. Amplifiers and microphones are provided, and

days. With these strategies, there is a good possibility of increased crowds on weekdays.

If this past Monday is any indication of how it will be in the future, get up and go. With jam-band Phish and Garth Brooks covers and some surprisingly good original music, it is well worth the trip around the square to hear your fellow students and support local live music.

participants went on a 15-minute walk that aimed to promote healthy habits from an exercise standpoint.

The next Wellness Wednesday will take place Feb. 14 and will feature healthy foods such as baked fish, wheat rolls, brown rice with peas, sautéed

see it become Get Well Jacksonville Community, then Get Well East Alabama, and then maybe someday stretch to statewide.

That is our big vision."

For more information about Wellness Wednesdays or the Get Well JSU campaign, contact Gina Mabrey at 782-5114.

Delta Sigma Thetas start off new semester with good works

By DeShunn Johnson
The Chanticleer Ad Assistant

Last week Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. celebrated the first full week of school with their Spring 2007 Delta Week.

On Monday, the Deltas hosted a Back-to-School mixer at the TMB. Students came out in droves for the official first party of the school year.

The sorority also gave back to the community throughout their week, smashing the popular theory that all sororities and fraternities do is party. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the Deltas collected school supplies for Anniston schools.

"I'm from Anniston, I know what it is like to go to school there", said Delta Sigma Theta member Kia English. "Anything helps, whether it is school supplies, tutoring, or just extra love."

On Wednesday, they hosted a Dating Game. The game involved a girl who was blindfolded so she could not see the contestants. The audience helped decide who her date would be.

"The game was really cool," said JSU student Valencia Cantrell. "They had refreshments on sale."

On Thursday, the Deltas raised money for their project in Africa. They sponsor Merry Help of the Sick Hospital, which is an international project to help African mothers with prenatal care.

On Friday, the Deltas supported political awareness by hosting a table in the TMB for voter registration.

Overall, Delta Week was a huge success, raising money and school supplies for the community as well as providing an optimistic beginning to the new semester.

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18 Thursday	19 Friday	20 Saturday	21 Sunday
JSU Basketball (H) 5:30 p.m.		JSU Basketball (H) 5:30 p.m. Halo Tournament (Beyond Imagination)	
22 Monday	23 Tuesday	24 Wednesday	25 Thursday
Faculty Senate Meeting SGA Senate Meeting	Student Activities Council Meeting Old School Mixer, TMB 8 p.m.	AAA Organizational Meeting	JSU Basketball (A) 5:30 p.m.

Information in the Campus Crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Sells 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.

'Hey Man, Nice Shot'

By Jonathan Pennington
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

So you think you know the meaning of fear? According to Monolith Productions, it isn't that human emotion that can cause someone to scream until he or she is hoarse. FEAR is the acronym for First Encounter Assault Recon. This is an outstanding first person shooter.

Originally a PC game, FEAR was released as a port for the Xbox 360 and PS3. The game-play is great for a port. However, the luxury of a mouse and keyboard is missed when accuracy is especially necessary. I came across occasional combat moments when I knew I could have killed an enemy soldier quicker with a mouse. That detail itself is not drastic enough to say this game is anything less than great on the Xbox 360.

The artificial intelligence on this game is mind-blowing. Your enemies know how to strafe, jump over walls and hide behind cover. Their combat decisions during a fight are equally impressive. I played through the game on moderate difficulty. You can set the difficulty to low, moderate, hard, or extreme. Using moderate difficulty, their artificial intelligence is stunning.

If you attempt to play FEAR

lucinations that reveal storyline details. You'll see a creepy little girl who appears in creepy environments. Additionally, you will see your main enemy Paxton Fettel,



Photo Courtesy of www.softpedia.com

XBOX 360 allows a player to plug in their iPod and play to their own music.

the commander of the army of telepathically controlled cloned soldiers.

Throughout the game, you find yourself in various locations in pursuit of Fettel. The locations include a water treatment facility, national arms manufacturers' corporate office, city streets, parking garages, sewers and rooftops.

You must kill off enemy patrols with a nice arsenal of weapons. Shotguns, pistols, submachine guns and some fictional weapons are at your disposal. The fictional weapons include a particle beam cannon which zooms like a sniper rifle but fires a beam of high voltage electricity.

The game makes a nice attempt at being horrific, but I

'Money isn't everything'

By Chris Yow
The Chanticleer Web Editor

Local bands are in excess around Jacksonville State, with some successful and others not so much.

One of the more successful and well-known bands is Derk and Elvis. Playing locally at Brother's Bar as well as in Anniston, Derk and Elvis have acquired a pretty sizable following.

Band members are guitarist and singer Mike Holman, Casey Maddox on drums and Muddy on bass. Holman and Muddy went to high school together in Lineville. Maddox joined the band just recently.

Holman, the only current student at JSU, is in his first semester, while Maddox is alumni of the exercise science department.

Derk and Elvis may sound like a random and oddball name for a band, and in fact, it is just that. How the band got their name is featured in a blog on mspace.com.

"We were on our way to practice with the band we were in at the time out in Chandler Springs...Muddy and I were both letting our hair grow out for some reason. My hair was rather wind blown, and Muddy's was long and curly, almost like a perm. Our guitarist at the time was sitting on his porch...as we step out of the car he says, 'You guys look

like Derk and Elvis!' One of us looked at the other and said, 'That would be a cool name for a band.' Five years later, I moved up to Jacksonville from Biloxi and started playing with Muddy again...One day we were sitting around trying to figure out what to call the band and one of us said, 'Well, what about Derk and Elvis?' The rest is pretty much history," explained Holman.

If you are wondering what to expect when you watch Derk and Elvis, random and oddball definitely summarize this group.

"We do some covers, some originals. Whatever we are feeling," said Holman, "We just goof off."

Fans watching the show this past Tuesday at Brother's gave them rave reviews. One fan said that they were "having a lot of fun, these guys rock!"

Another more sober fan called them "fun and definitely worth seeing."

The great mixture of comedy, covers and punk-rock originals really kept the crowd into the band. Along with the comedy of Holman, Muddy jumped in with funny one-liners.

The covers went from "Margaritaville" to "Since You Been Gone," and some of the originals were titled "Money Isn't Everything" and "West of the Border."

This isn't a review, but I think their punk style was great with the originals, and the covers were done exceptionally well.



Photo by Chris Yow

Holman sings his heart out to Kelly Clarkson's hit "Since You've Been Gone" Tuesday night at Brother's Bar.

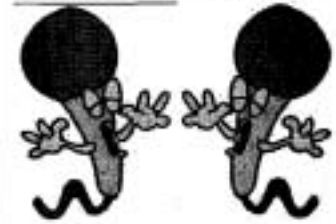
extremely funny between songs and during the breaks, especially right before the intermission when Hollman stated they were leaving to "take a piss, smoke a cigarette and drink a beer." Everything they said about their show rang true all night. They did what felt good, and even played a little Queen with "Bohemian Rhapsody."

Derk and Elvis are playing Brother's and local bars these days, but they don't plan on spending the rest of their careers on the bar circuit.

"Hopefully we'll be playing at the Moose one day," said Holman jokingly, "We are putting together a press kit and sending them to a couple of labels so we'll see what happens."

If you're still skeptical

Local Concert Calendar



Jan. 19
David Evan Pope
Cambridge Coffee, Anniston

Lefty Williams
Brother's Bar

Jan. 20
Surgestone
Chestnut Station, Gadsden

Ethan and the Ewox
Smoking Moose, Anniston

Trial by Jury
Brother's Bar

Jan. 22
Open Mic Night
Brother's Bar

Jan. 23
Joshua Deese
Java Jolt

The Probus Project
Brother's Bar



Photo by Chris Yow

Maddox shows the crowd his skills on the drums Tuesday night at Brother's Bar.

say, "Up yours. We rock. Quote me."

For more information on Derk and Elvis, you can visit them online at www.derkandelvis.com and www.mspace.com



Photo by Chris Yow

difficulty, their artificial intelligence is stunning.

If you attempt to play FEAR on extreme, you'd better be a veteran first-person shooter gamer. I tried to play through some maps on extreme and gave up after less than ten minutes. The enemies on extreme difficulty have artificial intelligence and accuracy that can match up with some of the smartest and most accurate online players.

The graphics are equally impressive. I played the game on a regular television, but I can only imagine how realistic the graphics are on a high definition TV. A memorable moment for me was activating slow motion while pumping an enemy soldier with shotgun shell. His body flew backward, and it looked as though I was actually holding a shotgun and shooting him.

I played through more than half the game without using the available slow motion button. There were times I could have made the combat situations I found myself in much easier if I had activated slow motion. It makes combat easier, while also making up for the moments when you are wishing you had the accuracy of using a mouse.

There are few story details revealed throughout the beginning of the game. The game begins with your induction as point man for FEAR. Throughout the game, you experience occasional hal-

The game makes a nice attempt at being horrific, but I am not a person who is easily frightened by entertainment horror. However, there was one moment when I nearly jumped out of my seat. I walked into a room and suddenly a truck full of cloned soldiers crashed in through the wall and splattered me.

A great feature about the Xbox 360 is your ability to plug your iPod into the USB port and listen to your own music as game music. Listening to a custom soundtrack you set up with appropriate music for the game is great. I will never forget listening to "Hey Man, Nice Shot" by Filter while I obliterated two soldiers with one shot from my shotgun.

FEAR is definitely worth playing. If you like a good horror story, then you will love the game's story. It keeps you wondering what is going on until it is all revealed at the end. If you are like me and just like cranking up some rock and roll music while you blow your enemies away, it is equally enjoyable. If you are looking for a good Xbox 360 action game to purchase, by all means purchase this one. If you can't afford to pay \$60 for a game, it is at least worth renting.

The Chanticleer gives this game (out of five gamecocks):



Photo by Chris Yow

Muddy Waters carries the low end.

are originals, and the covers were done exceptionally well. Holman and Muddy were

to a couple of labels so we'll see what happens."

If you're still skeptical about seeing Derk and Elvis, they only have one thing to

For more information on Derk and Elvis, you can visit them online at www.derkandelvis.com and www.myspace.com/derkandelvis.

Switchfoot defies gravity

By Kayla Barnes
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

Switchfoot released their latest album *Oh! Gravity* last week. Switchfoot has broken out of their shell as a Christian rock band into a mainstream band with the sound of today's changes. Switchfoot's newest sound is that of a thumping bass line and a hardcore rock sound. Switchfoot could possibly be competition for bands like The Killers and Fall out Boy.

Oh! Gravity has an edgy vibe like U2. Some of their lyrics are mellow like that of their last album, *The Beautiful Letdown*. In their opening song, "Oh! Gravity," the lyrics don't quite make sense but are still very catchy as that in the opening lines. "There's a fracture in the color bar/ in the backseat of a parked car/ by the liquor store where the street light/ keeping you company 'til the next night."

One of their best songs, "Amateur Lovers" would seem like your ordinary love song but with a twist. This song refers to love as drugs and that of a common cold. Their lyrics are pretty entertaining but nothing like their last album.

When first listening to this album, I

was thinking, "This sounds nothing like Switchfoot's last album." It seemed they could not be compared because they were two totally different worlds. Then I came across the song, "In This Life."

"In This Life" reminds me of "Dare You to Move" because the lyrics are alike and

and charismatic. "In this life, you're the one place I call home/ in this life, you're the feeling I belong/ in this life, you're the flower and the thorn."

"In This Life" has powerful lyrics and just gives you a good feeling about love. Most of the songs on this album are about love, dreams and just being yourself.

There are a lot of pros and cons to this album. The pros would be the original lyrics, some written by the band's lead singer Jon Foreman. The songs recommended to listen to would be "Dirty Second Hands" and "In This Life." The cons to this album are the confusing lyrics that catch you off guard and the new sound. "4:12" is not one of the best songs on this album.

Oh! Gravity by Switchfoot has catchy lyrics, great sound and a new tone. If you liked the sound of their last album, *The Beautiful Letdown*, then you might not like this new sound. The band has come around from their last, and they are keeping up with the mainstream sound like The Killers and U2.

The Chanticleer rates this album (out of five gamecocks):

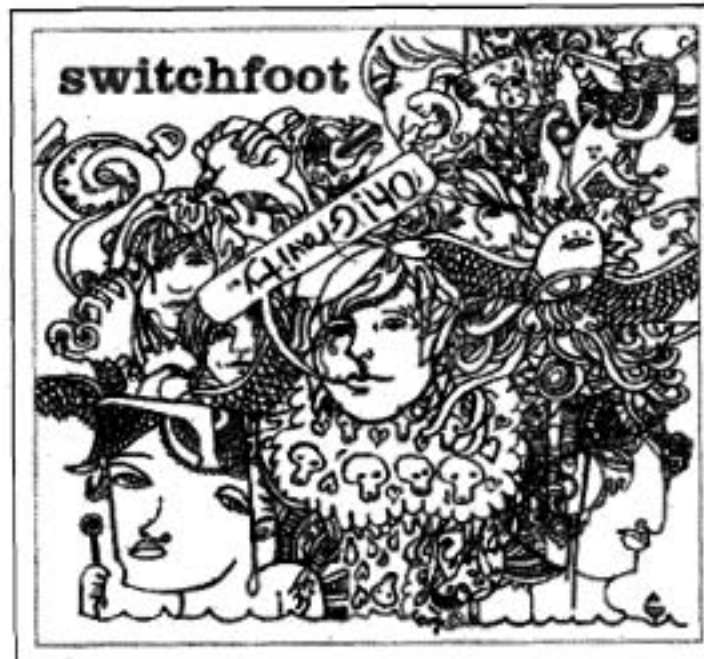


Photo Courtesy of www.switchfoot.com

Switchfoot change their sound and image in their newly released album *Oh! Gravity*.

the beat is also. It's a song about life, love and making a move. The beat is mellow

THE CHANTICLEER

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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. Rebuttals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.

**QUESTION
OF THE
WEEK:**

**WHAT IS YOUR
FAVORITE
PUNCTUATION
MARK?**



Toni Merriss
The Chanticleer
Features Editor



Matt Morgan

Day in the Life: Matt Morgan

Intern "Gump" for Rick & Bubba

By Toni Merriss
The Chanticleer
Features Editor



For everyone, there is a calling. That notion in life that tells you that you are on the right track, have chosen the right field and are truly doing what you are good at. For Forrest Gump, it was ping-pong, or loving Jenny, or running a shrimp boat, or it could even be running. But for another "Gump," senior communications major Matt Morgan, that calling is entertainment.

"In everything I do, I love to entertain people. Whether it is on the radio

on-air from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

JSU alumni Rick Burgess and Bill "Bubba" Bussey, otherwise known to their listeners as "the two sexiest fat men alive," first formed a friendship while working together at the Jacksonville State University radio station, WLJS 92J.

Since establishing the Rick and Bubba show, the duo has introduced numerous interns into the exciting life of being an on-air personality. One of show's standing rituals is the nicknaming of the interns at the beginning of their term.

Morgan was given the nickname "Forrest Gump" only to be shortened to "Gump" later on.

"There were some really cool nicknames that they were considering... until they found out that I ran cross-country for JSU from an old intern of the show. After that, it was settled," sighed Morgan.

Other names that were considered were "Mattquest" (due to the fact Morgan had to Map quest directions to get to the studio), "Genesis" (because he was the first intern since the move to WZZK 104.7 from Y 94.5, which happened earlier this month), and "10k"/"Spike" (also for running cross-country).

Following a suggestion from his mom, Morgan spoke to Don Killingsworth about the internship, who then e-mailed his friend "Speedracer" (Calvin Wilburn), who in turn contacted Morgan, who then spoke with "Don Juan" (DeMarco), who set up the interview. Did you get all that?

To explain a little more, "Speedracer" is the full-time producer of the show and a former Program Director of 92J. "Don Juan," who started out as an intern, is the assistant producer and is in charge of the interns for the Rick and Bubba show.

"Getting this internship has been great! I'm not only getting hands-on experi-



Photo Courtesy of Matt Morgan

Rick Burgess, Matt "Gump" Morgan and Bill "Bubba" Bussey pose for a photo during the morning show on WZZK 104.7.

ence, but I am also getting to see how only two people entertain thousands of listeners," said Morgan.

"At first, I was really intimidated to be around Rick and Bubba. But now, I love it. One thing about them is that what you see is what you get. They do not act like they are better than anyone and it makes you feel really comfortable around them."

Although Morgan was the first intern to start this term off, he definitely was not the last. He has been joined by "Darth Banker," "Flipper" and "Roller Coaster."

Enjoying every minute he gets to be there, Morgan gets to the studio at 5:45 a.m. to help set everything up on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The interns' responsibilities include answering the phones (a.k.a. screening calls), running the professional editing machine and getting to "drop the satellite," which really means ending syndication for the show.

"All of the interns are starting to mold together, and I think we are anxious to start learning more. It is already a fun atmosphere, but I want the interns to do something. Maybe have a project all of our

own. I am really looking forward to whatever we get to do," said Morgan.

Originally planning on attending

JSU as a Marching Southerner, Morgan changed his mind at the last minute after placing high in the cross-country state tournament. Most people are unaware that from seventh to twelfth grade, Morgan was active in the Weaver High School Band; playing both the trumpet and the french horn.

When he received a scholarship offer to run cross-country at JSU, he jumped at it, literally. After running all through college, Morgan has nothing but fond memories (and tired feet) to leave behind.

As graduation looms at the end of the semester, Morgan is still unsure what road his life is about to take. Graduate school is an option, but another possibility hovering in the distance is attending classes at the Memphis Improvisational Theater.

Many famous actors have trained in improv, and since a huge dream of Morgan's is to someday be on Saturday Night Live, Memphis would be the perfect place.

"I would love to be a part of SNL! I have always wanted to work on that show," said Morgan. "I think if I could make it that far, I could die complete."

Well Matt Morgan, as Momma Gump always said, "Life is like a box of chocolates: you never know what you're gonna get."



Photo Courtesy of Matt Morgan

Matt Morgan lets out his inner "Gump" on-air with the Rick and Bubba morning show.

or maybe even television, I just want to make people happy," said Morgan.

Currently in Morgan's final chapter of his college years, his passion led him to a prestigious internship for the Rick and Bubba radio show. Airing on WZZK 104.7, the Rick and Bubba show is live



Sentimental Journey: the *Today* show at 55

By Brandon Hollingsworth
The Chanticleer Senior Reporter

"Well, here we are, and good morning to you--the very first good morning of what I hope and suspect will be a great many good mornings between you and I. Here it is, as Jack said, January 14, 1952, when NBC begins a new program called *Today*; and, if it doesn't sound too revolutionary, I really believe this begins a new kind of television."

--Dave Garroway

Thus spoke the Master Communicator on a frigid Monday morning in January 1952. *Today* was indeed something new, and though at first almost no one but Garroway called it "revolutionary," it soon became clear that morning news was one of the most significant inventions of the still-young television era. On that first morning Dave Garroway, announcer Jack Lescoulie and news anchor Jim Fleming introduced the awakening nation to a brand new kind of television, one in which all the information then available could be brought to the viewer in real-time.

Newspapers were flown in and faxed in from all over the nation. Phone lines connected Dave with reporters in London and Frankfurt. Clocks displayed the time for most major cities of the world. Chattering teletype machines churned out the latest news. And yet, relatively *nothing* happened. It was a slow news day, and not much to show for all the gadgets at the staff's disposal. Critics and viewers were less than impressed.

A lot of things went wrong on that first episode. Except for a few bewildered people who stopped by the huge glass windows that walled in the studio, hardly anybody watched, at least at first. For the first several months, this new combination of news, weather, information and entertainment--at seven AM, no less!--snuck in under the radar, arousing little in the way of publicity outside of newspaper columns and trade journals. But where it snuck--that was the important part.

Into living rooms and kitchens, bedrooms and dens; slowly but surely more and more people were getting up to see Garroway, Lescoulie, Fleming and a strange chimp named J. Fred Muggs. Children missed school buses. Men ran late for work. People started moving mirrors in front of their TVs so they could watch from other rooms. Others would listen carefully, so that when something piqued their interest they could run into the next room to see it. One let-

ter-writer said she had a special stand built so she could watch from bed. One boy, interviewed by Garroway himself outside the studio in July 1953, said, "It gets boring the second hour, because you repeat everything." Well, you can't please everyone.

Pat Weaver sent out a memo in December 1951 outlining the goals for his new experiment. He ended with a grand burst of energy palpable from the typewritten paper: "I have a commission for each one of you. It is simply this: to make of *Today* not merely a good program but the finest news presentation in history. We have the resources. We have the opportunity. Now we go to work and do the big job."

Today changed America. Strange thing to say, you might think. But it did: it changed the way we view television, sure, but it also roved the world looking for fascinating stories. From a dead-end hour of the day to the go-to place for news first thing in the morning, *Today* transformed the role TV played in our lives and the places it could go.

To Paris in 1959, Rome in 1960, Athens in 1965 and Africa in 1992; to car shows and technology expos; on ships and airplanes; with newsmakers and world leaders; everywhere there was a story, *Today* went, and took viewers right along with it. From Garroway to John Chancellor and through Hugh Downs and Tom Brokaw and Jane Pauley to Matt Lauer and Meredith Vieira, *Today* has indeed taken viewers around the world to find the most fascinating people, places and events that shape our lives. *Today* has provided the running commentary and record of our world these past fifty-five years.

By default of my birth year, I'm among the newer *Today* fans. Even so, we'll be able to tell our descendants about the wonders we saw via our electronic window on the world. I've seen more in my life than would otherwise be possible, and through this program I've traveled around the world, met people I'd never get to meet, seen events I'd never get to see, and I've learned things I'd otherwise never get to learn. Dave Garroway articulated that notion on the very first day. "We hope to keep you more free, more informed. Because I believe, as I hope you do, that an informed people tends to be a free people."

He was absolutely right. Here's to the next fifty-five years of *Today* and the promise they bring.



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Geyer goes bowling, splits in Volunteer State

Tennessee Tech gets best of Gamecocks

From Staff Reports

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. -- Despite a furious comeback in the opening minutes of the second half, the Jacksonville State University (4-12, 1-6 OVC) women's basketball team couldn't overcome an early 20 point deficit and lost its third straight game to Tennessee Tech (4-12, 3-4 OVC) Thursday night, falling 85-73 at the Eblen Center.

Tech carried a 44-28 lead into the break, but JSU came out of the half and played inspired basketball. Led by Jolie Efezokhae's 17 second half points, the Gamecocks opened the half on a 12-5 run and closed the gap to just eight points. LaTonya McKinney's running jumper in the lane with 16:20 left cut the Tech lead to 48-38. McKinney then stole the inbounds pass and dished to Efezokhae, who finished the play to draw JSU to within 48-40. After a defensive stop, JSU created an open look for Efezokhae under the basket, but she missed the layup that would have made it a two possession game.

Out of the media time-out, Tech stretched the lead back to 12 and JSU never drew closer than eight points the rest of the game.

Efezokhae finished with 19 points, her highest output since scoring 22 vs. Georgia State on November 25, and seven rebounds. Junior Courtney

Slaughter ended with 15 points, her 10th double digit scoring effort of the season, and a career-high seven assists. Nine different Gamecocks scored in the game and JSU's 22 assists was a season-high.

JSU shot 46 percent from the floor on the evening, six points higher than its season average, but had its worst performance of the season from behind the 3-point line hitting just three of 19 shots.

Tech took control of the game early in the opening half and maintained a large lead throughout the remainder of the half. On the strength of a 24-4 run, the Eagles jumped out to a 29-9 lead with 11:50 to play in the first half. During the run, Tech knocked

down four 3-point shots and scored on 10 of its 13 possessions.

Tech won the rebounding edge in the game 42-33 and its 15 offensive boards led to 14 second chance points. Cara Reed had a game-high 12 rebounds.

Kendall Cavin led all scorers with 20 points for the Eagles. Three of her six made baskets were 3-pointers. Meagan Lyons had 15 points, Blair Bowens finished with 14 and Marissa Hensley had 11.

JSU will play its third consecutive road game on Saturday at Tennessee State. Tip-off is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and the game will be available on the JSU Sports Network.



JSU Women are currently in 9th place in the OVC



Photo By Chris Lundy

Gamecocks edge Tennessee State

From Staff Reports

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Sophomore guard

rebounds. Sophomore Ashley Boykin, who was instrumental in a pair of key JSU runs finished with 17 points on a 5-of-6 shooting

Go Team!

By Chris Yow

The Chanticleer Web Editor

Why do we root for the college football teams that we do? Do you root for the team that your parents root for? Maybe you chose your team by their geographical location. Some people may have an ironic story. Like me.

I chose to become a fan of the University of Tennessee when I was nine years old. After following in a high school heroes footsteps by choosing to wear his jersey number in park and recreational sports, I quickly looked into the football team that he rooted for.

Before this I was an avid Alabama fan. I rooted for them because I lived with my dad, and he bled crimson from the heart. I remember being ecstatic as George Teague ran down Lamar Thomas in the '93 Sugar Bowl. And even being as excited when David Palmer ran around the right end to score a two-point conversion against Tennessee to tie the game at 17, preserving a seven game non-losing streak to the Vols.

But there is one shining reason why I became a Volunteer fan. Peyton "Freaking" Manning. In 1995 I told my dad that I was rooting for Tennessee for the first time on the Third Saturday in October. He told me that I could never change back. I haven't. We are 9-2 since then against the Tide with a national championship to boot.

I just recently realized that I really do love the big orange. When I turned 18 I told myself that I could do what I want and that I wanted to be an Alabama fan again. The tradition and pride of the program was drawing me back to the Tide. However when I gave all of my Tennessee apparel to my little brother, who followed my lead, I began to look around and realize that I missed that hideous orange. I now have more stuff than before and have become even a bigger fan.

However, we all know that the love for your own school pledges you to become a permanent fan of that school. My real love and passion for college football had dwindled recently due to the money issues that major schools were forcing on athletic departments. However, small division I sports have began to resemble the days of old. That, along with the love for my school, I root unconditionally for JSU. I have really always been a Gamecocks fan. My dad attended here in the late 70's and brought me to one of the most electrifying football games that I've ever seen--JSU and Troy State, yes Troy State.

Ever since that game I have rooted for JSU and now with my own heart here in Self Hall, I am overjoyed when we win, and distraught when we lose. I even cried last year against Furman.

I never cried over Tennessee.

STUDENT DISCOUNT
ALL DAY - EVERY DAY

From Staff Reports

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Sophomore guard LaTonya McKinney sank her third and final free throw with four seconds remaining Saturday night to lift Jacksonville State (5-12, 2-6 OVC) over Tennessee State 69-68.

McKinney got to the foul line after she was fouled by TSU's Jheri Booker while shooting a 3-pointer from the right wing as the shot clock wound down. With McKinney at the line, JSU had the opportunity to take a three point lead and assure itself of nothing less than overtime. But McKinney missed her first two free throws before making the third.

"LaTonya has been struggling with her shot over the last few games," JSU head coach Becky Geyer said, "but I was confident that she'd make the third one." She's a good shooter and good shooters rarely miss three straight free throws."

TSU's attempt to win the game was thwarted when Eren McMichael knocked the ball away at midcourt.

"It's nice to pull out a win on the road, especially a conference win," Geyer said. "Hopefully this will help give us a little more confidence heading into the rest of our schedule."

JSU jumped out to as much as a 12 point lead in the first half, but the Lady Tigers stormed back and evened the game at 32-32 heading into the break. Neither team built much of a lead in the second half and it was clear heading into the final minutes that the game would come down to the wire.

The Gamecocks carried a two-point lead into the final minute of play, but a tipped rebound off a missed Courtney Slaughter layup led to a transition bucket for TSU and the seventh tie of the game with 1:01 left. The Gamecocks then inbounded the ball and milked the clock as much as possible before taking a shot that rimmed out. But Jolie Efezokhae tipped the rebound and kept the ball alive for JSU, who took possession of the ball with 34 seconds to play and a four-second differential on the shot clock.

Out of a timeout, McKinney created an open look on the right wing that resulted in the foul and the eventual game-winning free throw.

McKinney finished the game with nine points and five assists, but was just 2-of-6 from the free throw line.

Slaughter led the Gamecocks in scoring with 20 points, eclipsing the 20-point mark for the third time this season. She also had six

rebounds. Sophomore Ashley Boykin, who was instrumental in a pair of key JSU runs finished with 17 points on a 5-of-6 shooting performance from behind the 3-point line. Efezokhae finished with 11 points and six rebounds and Ashley Clay hauled in seven big rebounds.

Both teams got out to a slow start. A combined nine points were scored in the game's first five minutes. But the Gamecocks took control of the game following the first media timeout. Sparked by consecutive 3-pointers from Eren McMichael and Ashley Boykin, JSU went on a 17-6 run and took a 21-11 lead with 8:27 remaining in the half.

The JSU lead fluctuated between 12 to 10 points until the 2:51 mark of the half when McMichael committed JSU's seventh team foul and put the Tigers in the bonus. TSU then scored nine consecutive points from the free throw line to tie the game at 30-30. Both teams added a basket before the half and went into the locker room tied.

In the second half, TSU took its largest lead of the game at 43-39 with 14:41 remaining. But the lead quickly evaporated after Ashley Boykin hit treys on three consecutive trips down the floor and helped spark the Gamecocks to a 15-4 run and a seven point lead.

JSU's defense limited the Lady Tigers to just 39 percent shooting the game, thanks in large part to TSU's ability to connect on just 26 percent of its shots in the first half. The Lady Tigers were an unconscious 54 percent in the second half, but were just 2-of-9 from the free throw line. The Gamecocks countered by shooting 50 percent from the field itself in the second half, including four crucial 3-point buckets.



LaTonya McKinney sank the game-winning free throw to down the Lady Tigers.

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701_JW&SU

LaPlante, Gamecocks fall twice, look ahead to EKU and Morehead

TSU outlasts Gamecocks



From Staff Reports

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee State's Reiley Ervin scored a career-high 29 points and was 15-of-16 from the free throw line to lift the Tigers to an 83-74 win over the Jacksonville State men's basketball team at the Gentry Center on Saturday night.

Senior guard Nick Smith scored a career-high 18 points to lead the Gamecocks (3-14, 1-7 Ohio Valley Conference), 16 points in the second half, but the Tigers (7-9, 4-3 OVC) wouldn't let a late JSU charge come to pass. TSU knocked down 20-of-25 free throw attempts in the second half alone to hold off a JSU comeback attempt.

After shooting just 29 percent from the floor in the first half en route to an 11-point halftime deficit, the Gamecocks heated up in the second half. They shot 60 percent from the floor and were 5-for-10 from behind the arc, but TSU did just enough to compliment its free throw shooting to pull out the win.

Junior Harold Crow was the only other JSU player

to score in double figures, scoring 15 points, all in the second half, on 7-of-8 shooting from the floor. The Lubbock, Texas, native has connected on 20 of his last 25 shots from the floor, dating back to Jan. 4.

Ervin led five Tigers in double figures in the scoring column. Moraye Ivy and Clarence Matthews each scored 13 points, while Larry Turner and Andrae Belton each added 10 points.

The Tigers won the battle on the boards, 39-33, but used 17 offensive rebounds to get 14 second-chance points on the game.

The first 20 minutes were ugly on both sides of the court, but it was JSU on the short end of a 31-20 half-time score. The Gamecocks struggled to find the bucket, hitting just 7-of-24 (.292) shots from the floor. The Tigers were 10-for-34 (.294) from the field but grabbed 25 rebounds to JSU's 18 and secured 11 boards on the offensive glass. They also were 8-for-10 from the charity stripe, while JSU struggled from the line, making just 5-of-11 attempts.

Ervin led all scorers in the

first half with nine points, while senior Courtney Bradley led the Gamecocks with six points.

The Tigers matched the Gamecocks' hot hand for much of the second half, building the lead to as many as 13 but never fewer than four. Behind a string of seven-straight points from Smith, Jax State made a late charge. Trailing 77-72 with just over a minute to play, sophomore DeAndre Bray swiped the ball from Ervin's hands and dished it to Smith under the bucket. He lost the handle on the ball, leading to a TSU free throw and negating a chance to cut the lead to four.

JSU couldn't drop the late attempts as time winded down and the Tigers converted from the stripe to seal the win.

Jacksonville State comes home for just the second time since Dec. 9 on Thursday, when the Gamecocks host Eastern Kentucky at 7:30 p.m. in another OVC match up. The game will be broadcast live on the JSU Sports Network with Mike Parris calling the action.

JSU falls at Tech

From Staff Reports

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. — Career highs from junior Will Ginn and senior Nick Smith weren't enough for the Jacksonville State men's basketball team on Thursday night, when Tennessee Tech handed the Gamecocks a 75-71 defeat in Ohio Valley Conference action.

Ginn tied his career high and led all scorers with 20 points on a 6-for-11 showing from behind the arc, while Smith added a career-best 15 points in 20 minutes of action, but it was the free throw line that would tell the tale in the Gamecocks' seventh loss by four points or fewer.

The Gamecocks (3-13, 1-6 OVC) hit 65 percent of their attempts from the charity stripe and the Golden Eagles (7-9, 3-4 OVC) hit just 59 percent of theirs, but TTU hit them when they counted, making 12-of-14 during one late stretch that turned a tie

game into an eight-point lead under the one-minute mark in the second half.

"Just another tough loss, but Tennessee Tech was able to take advantage of their opportunities and convert from the free throw line late," JSU head coach Mike LaPlante said. "It was a physical game, and I thought we showed great character to get ourselves back into the game, but we just have to find a way now to finish these games."

TTU, who was led by Belton Rivers' 18 points, used a physical game early to open up a 13-point lead but watched the Gamecocks adjust to battle back with a run to close the half and give them a one-point advantage at the half. No team led by more than three points in the second half until the 3:04 mark of the game, when the Golden Eagles used the free throw line to build the advantage. The Golden Eagles scored their

final 10 points from the charity stripe.

JSU shot 45 percent from the floor to TTU's 41 percent and turned a 24-12 rebound deficit at the half into a 38-36 Tech advantage at the end of the game. Ginn tied a career high with six treys, but the rest of the Gamecocks combined to go 0-for-7 from behind the arc.

Junior Dorien Brown scored 13 points on the night, thanks to a 7-for-10 night from the charity stripe. Harold Crow led the Gamecocks on the glass with seven rebounds, while Brown added six boards.

Amadi McKenzie led TTU on the glass with seven boards and had 15 points, making him one of four Golden Eagles in double figures. Anthony Fisher scored 16 points, and Jonathan Jones added 10 points.

It was all Tennessee Tech for the first 14 minutes of the game, as the Golden Eagles came out on

fire and led by as many as 13 as late as the 5:26 mark in the half at 31-18. The Gamecocks adjusted, however, thanks to Ginn's hot hand.

The guard knocked down three of his four first-half treys in the final five minutes. His last of the half came at the horn, capping a 16-2 Jax State run and giving the Gamecocks a 34-33 advantage at the intermission. He led all scorers with 12 points in the first 20 minutes, while Rivers led Tech with 11 points.

The two exchanged the lead 11 times in the second half and tied the score nine times in the second half before TTU went to the line and created some separation.

The Gamecocks will now move about 80 miles west to Nashville, where they will face Tennessee State on Saturday night. Tip-off is set for 7:30 p.m., and the game will be carried live on the JSU Sports Network.

Junior Harold Crow was just 5-of-11 attempts. calling the action.
the only other JSU player Ervin led all scorers in the

ing one late stretch tage. The Golden JSU Sports Network.
that turned a tie Eagles scored their Eagles came out on

Underclassmen taking over in '07

By Chris Lundy
The Chanticleer Sports Editor

With the upcoming 2007 draft, many analyst and sports critics predict "The year of the Underclassmen" will take effect during the first 10-15 selections. And with rising superstars from last year's draft like Vince Young, Reggie Bush, and Devin Hester, why not go for the young bucks?

Many questions arise in the board room when an organization's personnel get together to decide on their pick: "Do we want to go offensive or defensive?", "What is the salary cap looking like?" "Why should we invest the time and money into this player over the next five to six years?" These questions are heavily weighed over the course of the football combine, invitational bowl games, and the players ability to adapt the next level. Based on this year's draft class, which has a multitude of superstar, sleeper, and "what the hell were you thinking" athletes, the 2007 NFL draft class should be one of many classes heralded as one of the greatest to grind it out on the turf.

We will start with the seniors, who have the experience to be at the next level and have the power to change any team they are

drafted by. For example, Brady Quinn, who finished the season on a low note, getting hammered by the Louisiana State University Tigers 41-14, but had a remarkable 146.66 passer rating. In my book, that's pretty good, but I still question his arm strength. Looking at it, he would be a great fit for the Cleveland Browns, who are coached by Weis' former colleague Romeo Crennel. The system is pretty much the same, so Quinn would not have a problem fitting in.

This year's underrated team has one of the most underrated quarterbacks in Wisconsin's John Stocco. Finishing second in passer rating in the Big Ten (143.90), his size and ability to see the field makes him a top prospect. I'm sure a lot of critics are anxious to see how he separates himself in the combine, but I do not see the combine standing in his way. Expect Mr. Stocco to make an impact in the NFL and the stats of his wide receivers.

The Big Ten produced some favorable candidates this season, especially in the underclass ranks, like Ohio State wide receiver Ted Ginn, Jr. The burst of speed down the sideline against the Gators gave him a quick boost to the top of the draft day order. Ginn finished with 781 receiving

yards on the season, and while he sprained his ankle on the opening play, he may sprain some defensive ankles on a few stop-n-go routes on his way to a touchdown.

Ginn's talent certainly puts up a fight with another heavy contender in the underclassmen category. Georgia Tech's Calvin Johnson can climb the athletic ladder just about anywhere on the field. Just throw the ball in his direction and he will make something happen. His athleticism earned him 1,202 receiving yards on the season, placing him on the top of the Atlantic Coast Conference list and making him the only 1,000 yard receiver in the conference. Standing at six-foot, four-inches tall, his talent should land him in the top five of the '07 draft class.

No one can forget what JaMarcus Russell has done for LSU. With what was basically a home game for the Tigers, his 334-yard performance might have jumped him to the number one spot in the draft. His Incredible Hulk size and scrambling ability will put him in some heavy talks with the top three draft teams.

While the exposed players have the limelight, there are the so-called "sleeper" athletes gain attention during the middle of

the season. Like Marques Colton, who was the sixth round draft pick, but a made a huge Hofstra splash in the NFL. I can see a player like Houston's Kevin Kolb going in the third round, but with a 162.72 passer rating and airing it out for over 3,800 yards, I would not be surprised if he popped up in the first round.

The same goes for Florida safety Reggie Nelson, who made a monster impact for the Gator defense. Racking up 51 tackles (34 of them solo) and six interceptions on the season speaks volumes in the Southeastern Conference. With Nelson on the defensive side of the ball, he will be a nightmare to quarterbacks and receivers for seasons to come.

There are a number of unspoken athletes who have a great amount of potential in this year's draft, but for the sake of boring my readers, I will leave out names like Sidney Rice of South Carolina, Dwayne Jarrett of Southern California, Jared Zabransky of Boise State and Michael Bush of Louisville. However, while all of these things are taken into consideration, and my judgements are a mixture of opinion and fact, one thing remains true throughout this whole ordeal...Oakland is on the clock.



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