

The Chanticleer



"Are you saying 'boo' or 'boo-urns?'"

Left: Cheerleader Emily Farr gets lifted up at Saturday's game. Photo by Lindsey Wade / The Chanticleer

Volume 56, Issue 9

Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

October 25, 2007

MORE ONLINE



The work of photographer and JSU student Lindsey Wade is making its way around, including album covers.

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INSIDE

Dr. Lori Owens, a professor of political science at JSU, was elected a chairperson of the Higher Education Partnership. Story on [page 3](#)

ENTERTAINMENT

Jimmy Eat World's new release, *Chase This Light*, is on par with the best work of the band's 14-year career. We also have reviews of the new Coheed and Cambria, Yikes and Kenna. Reviews on [page 5](#)

QUESTION of the WEEK

Nor any drop to drink. . .

Growth puts pressure on Jacksonville's water system

By Brandon Hollingsworth
News Editor

By this point, it should come as no surprise that water in Alabama is in short supply. A long-lived drought is draining lakes, lowering well levels and even drying up springs.

While the drought is the topic of conversation across the state, city leaders and water engineers are focusing on an even larger concern looming over Jacksonville, Anniston and other municipalities in the county: a booming population and its growing demand for water.

The population of Calhoun County rose from 112,249 as of the 2000 Cen-

sus to 112,903 in a 2006 Census Bureau update, a growth of 0.6 percent. In Jacksonville the increase has been even greater, from 8,404 in 2000 to 9,114 in 2006, an 8.5 percent boost.

Add to that JSU's campaign to increase student enrollment to 10,000 by 2008, and the numbers tell the story: strain on the city's aging water system will only grow in coming years.

It's a problem constantly sitting on Chris Patterson's mind. Patterson is the wastewater plant manager for the city of Jacksonville's treatment plant. At his office off Highway 204, Patterson displays maps of the city water system with pipes color-coded for different flow levels (the amount of water

the pipes can carry).

In residential areas, the pipes are small, only six to eight inches in diameter. In downtown and near the university, the pipes get larger to satisfy greater demand, to about 10 inches. Only a few of the pipes are 12 to 16 inches, capable of carrying the biggest flows. The problem, according to Patterson, is that there aren't nearly enough of those larger pipes.

"The biggest thing we're trying to do right now is beef up our system with a 12-inch main," Patterson said.

That main is a pipe that ties into Anniston's city water system at Jack-

See "Water levels," [page 3](#)



Germania Springs, one of the two springs that supply Jacksonville's water, is running about two feet below normal. Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer

NET LOSSES



O Valencia!

Cantrell is the 2007 Homecoming Queen

By Anna Keefe
Staff Reporter

The clouds were dark, but spirits were bright. Excitement filled the air in Paul Snow Stadium during the Homecoming pep rally held Thursday evening, Oct. 18, despite the threat of rain and the absence of the traditional bonfire.

For many, the most exciting part of the evening was the Homecoming Queen crowning ceremony.

Valencia Cantrell won the crown. Supporters stood and cheered feverishly when Cantrell's name was called.

"Honestly, when they called my name, I didn't even have time to be excited because everybody ran onto the field and tackled me.

QUESTION of the WEEK

What are you doing to celebrate Halloween?



- Spending the evening at home 31%
- Going to a party 27%
- Other 15%
- Trick or treating 11%
- Getting drunk 10%
- Stealing candy from kids 4%



"I plan to stay at home and watch movies."

- Lidia Taylor
Freshman

Next week's question:

Which kind of severe weather do you most fear?

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Former soccer player Brittney Neely stands in front of a goal, ball in hand, on the practice field on Tuesday, Oct. 23. Neely is one of several players to leave the soccer team since Julie Davis has been head coach. Photo by Kevin Jeffers / The Chanticleer

JSU Soccer is in a state of disarray after the resignation of an assistant coach and the loss of several players under the 3-year guidance of head coach Julie Davis

By Jered Staubs
Staff Sports Writer

A tumultuous season for the JSU soccer team took another strange twist with the sudden resignation of assistant coach Summer Covington.

Covington's decision came days before a crucial stretch of games that will determine whether the Gamecocks qualify for the conference tournament and does nothing but conjure more questions about the state of af-

fairs within the soccer program.

Is this a team in turmoil?

Coach Julie Davis doesn't think so. In fact, she says this team is "closer than they ever have been in my years of coaching here."

The current players also lauded the team's ability to stick together and persevere through some difficult times.

As one stated, "It's been hard, we had three or four people quit within a month, but the team has gotten along

probably better than we ever have this year as far as bonding."

But before the bonding, there was a mass exodus.

A former player, who would like to remain anonymous, said, "(Davis) took the fun out of soccer for me.

"I've played since I was four years old. It was always fun and she took that away from me."

See "Soccer turmoil," page 7

name was called. "Honestly, when they called my name, I didn't even have time to be excited because everybody ran onto the field and tackled me. My immediate thought was, 'Oh my gosh, what's going on?'" Cantrell said.

"Then after a second, after they rushed me and knocked me, tackled me, I was excited. I was so nervous and so excited. Then, it made me even happier that they were all excited. So, it was just like they had won something too. It was a big rush. It all happened so fast."

Some of those who rushed Cantrell were her Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sisters.

Cantrell said that she likes being involved in AKA because of what they stand for.

"High scholastics, moral standards," she said. "We do a lot of community service work. I really love that. Helping, being able to go out and help others, I think is really important."

She said that the sorority helps her

See "Valencia Cantrell," page 3



Valencia Cantrell, JSU's 2007 Homecoming Queen, stands with her escort Terrell Montgomery and is greeted after being crowned by President Meehan. Photo by Eric Beck / The Chanticleer

Friend or foe, tool or crutch?

Students growing increasingly reliant on Spell Check

By Bethany Harbison
Copy Editor

With Spell Check and Grammar Check at their disposal and the Internet only a click away, today's students possess an arsenal of tools for crafting their essays and reports.

Some Jacksonville State University professors, however, are concerned that such tools may be breeding a lax attitude toward proofreading.

"Primarily, my experience has been that Spell Check and Grammar Check are only as good as the people using them," Dr. Steven Whitton, professor of English, said. "I tell [my students] that they themselves are the best tool."

Whitton stressed that physically proofread-

ing work is essential for catching all mistakes. He said that he tries to instill this habit into his students by requiring them to actually pick up a pen or a pencil and go over their own papers with a critical eye.

Dr. Gordon Nelson, chair of JSU's educational psychology program, has a mild form of dyslexia and explained that though Spell Check is not infallible, it can be a valuable asset.

"There are limitations to it, but I really don't think of it as a crutch," Nelson said. "I think of it as a help, especially for people who have some form of dyslexia."

Nelson said that though some may call students lazy for relying too heavily upon such

See "Spell Check," page 3

Even tho I am purty good at catching grammer mistakes; that doe'snt mean that I cain't make an error or too.



Graphic by Chris Pittman / The Chanticleer

Announcements

• The JSU Registrars Office reports that midterm grades will be available on MyJSU starting Thursday, Oct. 25.

• Baptist Campus Ministries will hold a Halloween party on Tuesday night, Oct. 30, beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Campus Crime

Wednesday, October 17

• Randall Harcrow was arrested for driving under the influence on Hwy. 21.
• Student Amanda Thrasher reported theft of property at Ayers Hall at 12:20 p.m.

Thursday, October 18

• Student Brandon Self reported unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle at Cole Dr. RV Park.
• Jacob Maples was arrested for marijuana possession at Daugeffe Hall at 3:20 a.m.
• Student William Smith reported property theft at TMB.
• Student Christopher Machen reported unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle at Paul Snow Stadium.
• Student Daniel Sweat reported unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle at the Art Annex.
• Student David Bailey reported unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle at Paul Snow Stadium.

Friday, October 19

• Student Katherine Worthy reported theft of property at Fitzpatrick Hall.

Saturday, October 20

• Timothy Trussell was arrested for public intoxication at Gamecock Center.
• Jonathan Hegeman was arrested for public lewdness at Cole Dr. RV Park at 5:50 p.m.

Sunday, October 21

• A female student reported domestic violence.
• Cornelius Wray was arrested for possession of an open container and carrying a concealed pistol without a

Party like a Gamecock



ROTC Alumni gather from all over the country to support JSU at Homecoming. Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer



The all-girl cheerleading squad congratulating their captain Valencia Cantrell after she was crowned. Photo by Eric Beck / The Chanticleer



The Marching Southerners drumline. Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer

CAMPUS BRIEFS

• An accident on Hwy. 204 just north of Self Hall Monday afternoon injured a woman. The victim, who was not identified, was struck by a car that left Hwy. 204 at 1:39 p.m. The victim was taken to Jacksonville Medical Center, where she was treated and released after observation. No other information was available as of press time.

• JSU's Office of Institutional Research and Assessment is making available four publications online. JSU at a Glance, Momentum, the 2006-2007 Trustees Report to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, and the JSU Retention Study are now available online on the OIRA Web site.

• The Office of Distance Learning is working on a new browser to augment exams through the Blackboard system. The browser, called LockDown, is in the pilot stages of testing. LockDown can be used for both traditional and distance courses. ODL hopes to open the system campus-wide beginning in the spring of 2008.

- From wire service and staff reports

SENATE MINUTES

Rundown of the Monday, Oct. 22, SGA meeting:

• Approved minutes from previous meeting.

• Heard reports from officers Shalon Hathcock, Kevrunta Houston, Des-

For more



for possession of an open container and carrying a concealed pistol without a permit.

Monday, October 22

- Student Lashun Postell reported harrasing communications at Pannell Apartments.
- Student Tiffany Parker reported harrassment at Sparkman Hall.

Information in the campus crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Salls Hall. These records are public documents which any individual has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe this information to be in error, please call 782-4704, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050

The Week in Events

Thursday, October 25

- CBASE, TMB Auditorium, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Public Hearing for Transit Study, TMB lobby, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, October 26

- CBASE, TMB Auditorium, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Public Hearing for Transit Study, TMB 2nd floor, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 27

- Gamecock Gallop, Mathews Coliseum, 8:00 a.m. - noon

Monday, October 29

- Nursing Career Day, Wallace Hall, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
- Breast Cancer Awareness Table, TMB lobby, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 30

- Tom Franklin book reading and signing, Houston Cole Library, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
- UNICEF Trick or Treat for Kids, TMB lobby, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Halloween Movie Night, TMB auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 31

- Spring pre-registration begins
- JSU Writers Bowl, Stone Ctr., 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Blood Drive, TMB auditorium, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For more pictures, see our online slideshows @ thechanticleeronline.com



Sig Ep and ZTA placed third in the float contest. Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer



Cocky congratulates Valencia Cantrell and her escort, Terrell Montgomery. Photo by Eric Beck / The Chanticleer



Wesley Foundation won first place in the banner competition. Photo by Jason Wright / The Mimosas



The Marching Ballerinas demonstrate their dance moves during the halftime show Saturday. Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer

• Heard reports from officers Shalon Hathcock, Keyrunta Houston, Destini Mayberry, Brittney Cunningham, David Jennings and Jennifer Nix.

• Heard reports from committee heads.

• Passed a resolution urging university administration to implement the recommendations of a public transit study.

• Debated a resolution calling for the university to increase the amount of flex dollars allocated per semester. Resolution will be debated at Nov. 5 meeting.

• Two bills relating to homecoming activities are still in committee.

• Considered a resolution to increase the number of wi-fi hotspots on campus. Sent to Residence Life committee.

Note: SGA Senate will not meet next Monday, Oct. 25.

OOPS LOL :) Mistakes from recent issues:

• In the Oct. 11 edition, Zach Childree's name was misspelled on page 4.

• In two different instances on page 1B of the Oct. 18 edition, sportswriter Jared Gravette's name was misspelled.

• Olivia Fadul's class standing was misreported on page 2A of the Oct. 18 edition. The correct standing should be senior.

• In the Oct. 18 edition, Paige Arrington's name was misspelled on page 1.

The Chanticleer regrets the errors.

Dr. Lori Owens elected HEP chairperson

By Bethany Harbison
Copy Editor

The Executive Committee of the Higher Education Partnership now includes two representatives from Jacksonville State University—Dr. Lori Owens and President Bill Meehan.

Owens, a JSU professor of political science, was elected chairperson in August at the STARS (Student Teams Advocacy for Realistic Solutions) Leadership and University Advocates Conference in Destin, Florida. Owens's name was presented along with a slate of other officers, which was then voted in by the faculty, staff, alumni and students present at the retreat.

Meehan, who has been involved with the Partnership since its inception in 1997, nominated Owens for the position and said he was glad she accepted it.

"I'm very pleased," Meehan said. "Dr. Owens

has done a wonderful job of promoting the Higher Education Partnership."

In regard to JSU's involvement in the Partnership, Owens attributed the school's heavy participation to Meehan's efforts. She explained that it was Meehan who secured university funding for the bus travel from Jacksonville to Montgomery, making it easy for students and faculty to participate in Higher Education Day. According to Owens, JSU normally sends three to five busloads of people each year.

"He has done a great job of spearheading the effort," Owens said.

Meehan, who is currently serving as Chairman of the Partnership's University Presidents' Council, said that the Partnership shares the same beliefs and values with JSU, just on a statewide level.

Owens has been taking her students to Higher Education Day for several years, she said, but is still learning the dynamics of the organization.

"I'm just beginning to get my feet wet," Owens



Owens

once the legislature is in session, but that they are currently at work planning and gathering supporters for the future.

"At this time of the year, the grassroots work is important," Owens said. "Partnership Executive Director Gordon Stone is visiting with the faculty senate of each university, and Whitney Wood is meeting with the student representatives."

said.

A few of Owens's responsibilities will include presiding over board meetings, working with other board members and addressing legislative committees.

"I'm there to help with anything necessary in promoting higher education," Owens said.

Owens explained that the Partnership will be busier

According to Owens, a great deal of the Partnership's current activities are focused on building participation for a single day—next year's Higher Education Day, which will be held March 6, 2008.

Much of the Partnership's year-round work centers upon garnering Alabama's 15 four-year public universities their fair share of the education budget. The Partnership has already begun examining the next education budget, assessing how higher education will be affected and deciding what courses of action should be taken. Owens said that the Partnership aims to advocate the need for higher education funding—not take from other worthy educational sectors.

"It is not a [higher education] versus K-12 situation," Owens said. "They all matter, and very often we are all in the same boat."

Water levels: J'ville low

Cont. from page 1

sonville Medical Center. Patterson estimates that the Anniston tie-in delivers some 11 million gallons a month to Jacksonville, but only in certain areas. Currently, the residential developments and businesses on the city's south side reap the benefits of the tie-in, but not downtown and the northern half of the city, including JSU.

Patterson says town officials are in talks with the Anniston Water Works to extend that 12-inch main all the way through downtown, terminating at Mountain St. The extension would cost close to a million dollars, but would greatly increase water flow to areas that now rely on smaller pipes.

The water in those pipes comes from two major sources: Big Springs, located in downtown, and Germania Springs, located about two miles northeast of JSU.

Springs, which discharge groundwater from openings in rock, are less susceptible to droughts than surface water sources, such as rivers and lakes. But they're not invincible. At least one spring in Calhoun County dried up this year, according to Patterson, and water levels at Germania Springs are down this fall.

"It's running about 25 inches below normal," Patterson said.

In addition to new pipes, the Water Works and Sewer Board is looking into the possibility of drilling a deep well to provide additional groundwater. Such a well would be much less vulnerable to rainfall fluctuations and other climatological factors that can spell disaster for a spring. Those plans, however, are still in preliminary stages and won't produce results for some time.

"Right now the Geological Survey has to come up with a list of sites," Patterson said. "Then, we go into test drilling for the most feasible location."

As far as when such a well would produce potable water, "we haven't even looked that far ahead," according to Patterson. "It's definitely a longer-term fix."

Solving Jacksonville's water problems could go beyond new pipes or sources of groundwater. City councilman George Areno is taking a cue from the burgeoning "green" environmental movement, proposing JSU use recycled water for irrigation and landscaping.

Valencia Cantrell: JSU's Homecoming Queen for 2007

Cont. from page 1

scholastically because members must maintain a high GPA to retain membership.

The friendships play a role as well.

"All the girls are wonderful," Cantrell added.

Cantrell is serving her third year as cheerleading captain and is also a member of the orientation team.

"I love it. It's awesome," Cantrell said. "You learn the leadership skills. That's where I got mine. It really shows you a lot, like all the different characteristics (you need) to become a good leader."

Cantrell credits the support of her family for helping her to achieve success in life.

"My mom (Vanessa) is a very hard worker," Cantrell said. "I'm in school because I want to make my parents proud because they've done so much for me. They always have my back about everything. They're just always there."

Cantrell's friends have been another source of support. Terrell Montgomery, one of her best friends, showed his support by escorting her during the ceremony.

"He doesn't really like being in front of a lot of people, but he did it for me," Cantrell said. "So, that meant a lot."

When Cantrell is not devoting time to school and social activities, she is often working at one of her two jobs. She works in the baby department at the GAP in the Quintard Mall in Oxford.

"I wouldn't even call it work really, because

all I do is play with kids all day and dress them," Cantrell said.

She is also a personal trainer to some high school cheerleaders in Heflin, her home town.

With all she does with work and school, she does not have a lot of free time, but when she does, she said she likes to hang out with her group of best friends called the "six pack."

"We probably either go shopping or have a girls' night," Cantrell said. "We (the six pack) all have different personalities. We complete each other. We are more like sisters."

She also enjoys time alone.

"Sometimes I go workout and try to have some 'me' time, but it's very seldom that I do have free time," Cantrell said.

In the future, Cantrell hopes to become a teacher. She is a junior majoring in secondary education in health. She said that Dr. William T. Hey, health professor, has been an important influence and that he has taught her a lot about making learning

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pipes or sources of groundwater. City councilman George Areno is taking a cue from the burgeoning "green" environmental movement, proposing JSU use recycled water for irrigation and landscaping.

Areno's plan calls for filtered wastewater, called greywater, to be used for watering grass and other irrigation needs at the university. Such a system would reduce the amount of fresh water JSU uses, and would provide a way to return greywater to the soil, filtering back to the groundwater from which it came.

"The less (drinkable) water we use, the better our wells recharge," Areno said. "Hopefully, everybody will benefit from it."

Areno's plan calls for wastewater from homes and businesses to be treated in the city's treatment plant on Hwy. 204. The greywater wouldn't be drinkable, but it could be used to irrigate lawns across campus. For the plan to be implemented, new pipes would have to be laid from the treatment plant to the university, and pre-existing sprinkler systems would have to be tied to the new system—a laborious process.

Greywater recycling is a concept that is catching on in many areas of the country, especially on the West Coast, but Areno admits it is not easy to convince city and university leaders to go along with the unorthodox idea.

"The city will probably not develop that (plan), but to me it's a worthwhile endeavor to look into that possibility, because we're going to have these problems (with water supply) anyway," Areno said.

As environmentally conscious as the recycling plan might be, it would also be expensive. Areno estimates the initial costs to jumpstart the effort would come close to \$500,000. Greywater recycling isn't designed to save money, Areno says, but to save water and help protect the fragile resources that provide clean water to the city and its residents.

Both Patterson and Areno agree that, no matter what form it takes, change must happen in order to keep Jacksonville's water flowing smoothly in the coming decades. It's an assessment driven home by the growth in population the city and county have seen in recent years.

At Monday night's Jacksonville City Council meeting, the council passed a resolution stating their support of any state or private agency or individual who would like to use graywater for irrigation purposes. The resolution carries no funding from the city.

Anniston and Oxford get their water from massive Coldwater Spring, located in the far southern part of Calhoun County. Coldwater's discharge—the amount of water it produces—totals some 32 million gallons per day, more than enough for the current populations of the cities it serves. It also makes Anniston more willing to share water with other towns, Patterson says.

As both Jacksonville and Anniston grow, the cities' demands for water will go up as well. It could hurt the water-sharing agreement currently in place and could send both municipalities in search of new resources and infrastructure to support the increased burden. For the time being, it seems Anniston is satisfied with the Jacksonville sharing arrangement, including the plan to extend the 12-inch tie-in through downtown.

"There's been some issues on (how to share the water), but we've talked about it, and they seem very receptive to it," Patterson said.

Jacksonville's water supply is not in imminent danger. You'll still wake up tomorrow with H₂O flowing from the taps. But that's exactly why Patterson, Areno and others are looking not the present, but to the future, to determine Jacksonville's water needs. More growth in the city and the university means more thirsty people, more cars to be washed, more showers to be taken and more lawns to be watered.

It also means the city, county and university will have to work harder to ensure there comes no day when there's not a drop to drink.

"I wouldn't even call it work really, because about making learning



Valencia Cantrell rides in the annual Homecoming parade. Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer

Spell Check: Can be detrimental or beneficial

Cont. from page 1

tools, he believes that if students can succeed with the aid of a computer, that they are well equipped for today's world.

"We're in the information age," Nelson said. "The more they know about technology, the better."

English instructor Margaret Copeland, who admitted to being a poor speller, called Spell Check "wonderful," and said that a large gap exists between the number of errors in her students' handwritten work and papers they type in Word.

"The computer will catch a lot of things they will overlook," Copeland said. "I'll see a lot of these abbreviations that they use when messaging over the phone. They're in such a habit of using these abbreviations that when they're writing, that will happen."

Copeland pointed to homophones like "they're" and "their" as mistakes that Word's proofreading software is not likely to catch. She said that these types of errors are easy for students to overlook when proofreading their own work, as well.

"You don't expect to see your own errors," Copeland said. "I don't know how your eye misses it at times. I encourage them to read their papers out loud, because they'll catch things they might look over."

Copeland said that she requires her students to write two papers in class per semester and encourages them to come that day with a dictionary and thesaurus in tow.

Copeland said that tools like Spell Check and Grammar Check are especially adept, however, at catching several of students' most common errors, such as writing "a lot" as one word.

JSU sophomore Angelique Koehler, an art major, said that particular error is one of her most troublesome, but that she also struggles with spelling.

"I can't spell to save my life," Koehler said. "I love to read and love words, but I'm not very good at grammar, and my spelling sucks."

Koehler said that though she appreciates standard Spell Check, she always disables Microsoft Word's AutoCorrect feature.

"I have on occasion had it change something that was right, and I'm also trying to learn to spot them myself," Koehler said. "I like to try."

Whitton, who has taught freshman English for 35 years, said that students have continued to make the same kind of mistakes throughout that time span. Whitton said that when he was growing up and going to school, he solely relied on a dictionary to check his work.

"I use the computer as a tool, not as a replacement, for writing."

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OUR VOICE

Rocking the boat

This one is a little in-house, we gotta admit. But students here in the communications department aren't exactly satisfied with our educations in the last couple of years. It's really hard not to name names. It's even harder to be vague for the sake of not naming those names.

But for a department that is bending over backwards to gain accreditation, there seems to be nothing but counterproduction, especially with the faculty.

Students in the video courses aren't learning video. Students in student media aren't being accounted for. If not for a relatively sovereign newspaper staff, nothing would be said.

In a mad dash to hire someone—*anyone*—with the basic credentials needed to fill a departure that by all logic should have been planned for far in advance, the department was caught off guard, hired the first people with an iota of experience and apparently hoped no one would notice.

Believe us, we did notice.

It's no way to run a department in the throes of accreditation.

We endorse the below editorial.

But I did stay at a Holiday Inn Express last night

By **Webb Dillard**
Senior Writer

Certainly you recognize the tagline from the Holiday Inn

Express commercials.

They show some boob doing different professions and claim that because he stayed at a Holiday Inn, he is capable of doing one of the random professions used in the spots.

Obviously, it is all in humor. Because who in their right mind

DAVE DILLON

Political Cartoonist



It may not be perfect, but U.N. still serves noble goal

On Oct. 21, JSU marked United Nations Day, the annual observance of the founding of the U.N. back in 1945. On Oct. 24 of that year, representatives of 50 nations met in San Francisco to sign the U.N. Charter, establishing a deliberative body to help settle international disputes and help avoid war.

It was a noble goal in October, 1945. It's still a noble goal in October, 2007. But much has changed in the ensuing decades. The United Nations has lost much of its idealistic luster.

The organization is stung by scandal and criticized for a more-talk-than-action policy. Those concerns are valid, and I agree that the U.N. is a flawed body. But in a flawed world with flawed people, we can't expect the U.N. to be above reproach.

Liberals say the U.N. doesn't do enough to alleviate human suffering, including a failure to officially designate the killing of civilians



Brandon Hollingsworth

chantynews@gmail.com

be the American ambassador to the U.N.? He wasn't alone in that sentiment.

You don't have to look hard around this part of the country to find those awful yard signs that proclaim the owner's desire to "GET US OUT OF THE U.N.!"

Sometimes, I want to stop and ask these people exactly what they expect will happen if the United States withdrew its support.

Perhaps America's hostility toward the United Nations stems from a failure to

The U.N. has even helped out the United States, usually in military campaigns such as Korea, Kosovo and Afghanistan. In the face of such support, it seems awfully petty for Americans to oppose a good working relationship with the U.N. in favor of a unilateral policy that would further alienate the country from other nations.

Perhaps it would behoove us, then, to stop for moment and consider what the world would look like if those 50 delegates had not met on a cool October day in 1945 to say, "Yeah, we've got your back. Let's do this right."

A world without the U.N. would be a bleak one, indeed. Let us not reject the noble goal set forth in San Francisco 64 years ago. Let us carry forth into every new day with the hope that, through international cooperation, each

Express commercials.

They show some boob doing different professions and claim that because he stayed at a Holiday Inn, he is capable of doing one of the random professions used in the spots.

Obviously, it is all in humor. Because who in their right mind would fly a helicopter without formal flight training, right?

Apparently, it is an acceptable practice to hire a person to teach in a field in which they do not even have a bachelor's. The communication department at JSU is guilty of this offense, especially on the video side.

The hiring of TV 24 personnel to fill in gaps in the teaching staff is not exactly what I call higher learning.

Ponder this—the person(s) may or may not know how to use some of the tools of the trade they are supposed to be teaching. For example, if someone is teaching a television production class, they should be teaching the class how to edit without relying on TV services and other students to do it.

Somebody remind me why I am paying over \$500 for this specific class—a class in my chosen major, a class that is supposed to ready me for my career—when I'm learning nothing useful from my professor.

Let me give you a personal example.

I worked construction for a number of years. I started working construction with my uncle when I was 13. I worked with concrete, framing, drywall, painting, window installation, roofing and a little electrical.

Can I do most of those tasks fairly well? Yes, I think so. Do I know building codes? No. Would I call myself a contractor, an expert at these trades? No.

Here is the million-dollar question, kiddies—would you commit an enormous amount of money and let me be responsible for building your house based on my limited background?

You'd probably say not just no, but *hell* no.

When people spend money—either hard-earned or borrowed—they expect that the quality of service they receive to match their financial commitment to the situation.

People go into debt for a lot of different reasons in this world. But as a homeowner and a student with loans, the debt better be worth it. You better get your money's worth.

Getting the most out of my college education is very important to me. It is important to my wife and child as well.

Students pay way too much for an education to only be left expecting more.

And when we pay as much as we do for higher education, at the very least we should be ready for our subsequent careers.

Anything less is a waste of our time.

And our money.

to be above reproach.

Liberals say the U.N. doesn't do enough to alleviate human suffering, including a failure to officially designate the killing of civilians in the Darfur region "genocide."

Conservatives tend to be especially hard on the U.N., because they contend it's a toothless entity that seeks to reduce or eliminate American sovereignty. Remember John Bolton? The guy that said the U.N. building in New York could stand to lose 10 stories? The guy President Bush then nominated to

they expect will happen if the United States withdrew its support.

Perhaps America's hostility toward the United Nations stems from a failure to understand that the U.N. has done some magnificent work over the years, from lending support to the U.S. during the Korean War, to food aid programs in Africa, to economic stabilization programs in the third world and other humanitarian, medical and cultural endeavors upon which it has embarked over the past six decades.

one, indeed. Let us not reject the lessons set forth in San Francisco 64 years ago. Let us carry forth into every new day with the hope that, through international cooperation, each will be better than the last.

Brandon Hollingsworth is the news editor of The Chanticleer. He can be reached by phone at 782-8521 or by e-mail at chantynews@gmail.com. You can read his weekly science blog @ brandononscience.blogspot.com.

Go to church, earn your Halo

The release of *Halo 3* for the Xbox 360 last month sent shockwaves throughout the entertainment industry. The game's popularity can be seen literally everywhere you go, including church.

You heard me right.

The New York Times recently did a story on churches that use *Halo 3* to attract young people. These churches will hold *Halo 3* LAN parties in order to get more teenage members.

That certainly seems unorthodox to me.

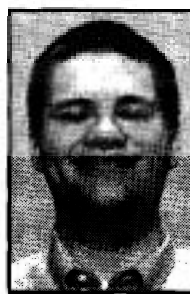
Apparently kids these days are hard to reach. A look at the current trends justifies that statement pretty well, I would say.

However, I really feel that a violent, first-person shooter game is not the way to get America's youth interested in religion.

Ministers and pastors that use this method claim that they will be able to preach to the kids after a couple of games.

Trust me, I've played this game. Good luck with that.

Kids will be a tad hyper after playing and will not calm down enough to listen. The only thing that will be on their minds is getting



Chris Pittman

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back to the game.

The content of the game is obviously fictional, but even virtual killing in a house of God seems horrible to me. Do these people even care that the content of the game is unsuitable for the majority of the people that are playing it?

I remember the methods that my church used when I was a child.

We would have scavenger hunts, picnics and even trips to local hot spots in surrounding towns.

These are obviously not things that appeal to today's generation, but they still remain a better option. What better way to spread the word of God than by exploring His world?

Nature provides concrete examples of God's work. *Halo* simply serves as bait to lure the kids in while providing no extra merits.

Halo is definitely not the most chat-friendly game either. I could count on one hand the number of times that I've played a *Halo* match and not heard hundreds of swear words.

The game simply does not promote a healthy environment for Bible study.

I think that these churches should turn to a more extra-curricular approach. Basketball is still a very popular activity that would, interest local kids. It may not be the churches responsibility to keep children physically fit, but I feel that they should at least encourage members to engage in healthier activities.

It makes me happy to see ministers and pastors doing their part to get more kids off of the street and into the church, but this is the wrong way to do it.

Master Chief might be Earth's hero, but he has no business in the church.

Chris Pittman is the web editor of The Chanticleer. He can be reached by phone at 782-8521 or by e-mail at chantynews@gmail.com. You can read his weekly video game blog @ chantygaming.blogspot.com.

Read more on video games @ chantygaming.blogspot.com

The Chanticleer

Student newspaper of JSU since 1934

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The Chanticleer is the newspaper of the Jacksonville State University community. Copies of *The Chanticleer* are distributed across the JSU campus weekly on Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters.

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

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

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous or defamatory. 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.

WLJS Top Ten Records of the Week

1. Black Lips – *Good Bad Not Evil*
2. José González – *In Our Nature*
3. Magik Markers – *Boss*
4. Thurston Moore – *Trees Outside the Academy*
5. Iron and Wine – *The Shepherd's Dog*
6. Les Savy Fav – *Let's Stay Friends*
7. Health – *Health*
8. The Go! Team – *Proof of Youth*
9. Fionn Regan – *The End of History*
10. Clockcleaner – *Babylon Rules*

REESE'S PIECE

Yikes

Whoa Comas / Blood Bomb

Besides possessing the best album title of the year, Yikes' *Whoa Comas / Blood Bomb* also holds the dubious honor of exciting me exactly 7 seconds into the recording—a feat that I cannot recall any other band doing this year (besides Thee Ohsees, which I will bring up . . . very soon, in fact).

Featuring can-do-no-wronger John Dwyer—of Coachwhips, Pink and Brown and Thee Ohsees (whose album *Sucks Blood* is simply the best I heard all year)—this seven-song EP from the Bay Area group gets more out of its 15 minutes than albums four times its length.

Joining Dwyer is Eric Park (Curse of the Birthmark), and together they create the ultimate, demented guitar shred that could hold its own in any haunted house. Mike Donovan (of Ropers and Big Techno Werewolves, among others) lends his galloping percussion to the mix, and I honestly say that I have never snarled for the sheer joy of it until running through these songs.

With Dwyer's fuzzed-out vocals laying back in the mix, Yikes fashions rock and roll with the barest elements in tack: make it loud and fun.

Dwyer formed Yikes after disbanding Coachwhips in hopes that something more fun and explosive could be made.

This is beyond explosive.

Upon first spinning the record, and realizing that five songs had passed by before I realized that tracks had begun and ended, I wondered how this music simply didn't come unraveled. Is this a drawback in this EP's case? Definitely not. This is this most exciting album I've heard this year. This is music to shock/jolt/stutter by.

As I said earlier, Dwyer's other gig, Thee Ohsees, released a very great album earlier this year entitled *Sucks Blood*. You can get both if you're internet-savvy, or, better yet, request the two at your local record store.

These recordings are must—have.

— Matthew L. Reese



ALSO IN ROTATION

Coheed and Cambria

ENTERTAINMENT

Music Corner

ALBUM OF THE WEEK

Still emo, still okay with that

Jimmy Eat World's new album better, consistent

By Kevin Jeffers
Managing Editor

If emo is dead, nobody told Jimmy Eat World. Their new album, *Chase This Light*, is the epitome of the very genre that the band is on record of claiming to detest.

It's also one of the genre's finest moments.

Jimmy Eat World has a unique place in alternative rock. They have been maligned for being responsible for such lunchbox creations as Fall Out Boy, and they have been praised by critics for constructing rock that's at the same time stadium-anthem worthy and heartfelt.

Light is on par with their excellent self-titled album of 2001 (originally titled *Bleed American*). While there are no real anthems of top-40 radio

that stand out—e.g. the summertime signature “The Middle”—there are no real weak points such that plagued their 2004 release, *Futures*. *Light* is even and reliable.

Jim Adkins still sings of growing up and finding oneself as if he were the early-20-something he laments for. But it's a niche that has worked well for the band, and while formulaic it may seem, careful listeners will hear a band who has grown wise.

The band may never reach the critical heights of their 1999 release *Clarity*, which many say is the quintessential album of the emo era. But, *Chase This Light* is evidence that Jimmy

Eat World, a band who has fought to defy detractors its entire 14-year career, isn't about to go anywhere any time soon.



Jimmy Eat World. Media File Photo

BOOK REVIEW

Grisham trades in briefcase for football, and it works

By Jessica Summe
Contributing Writer

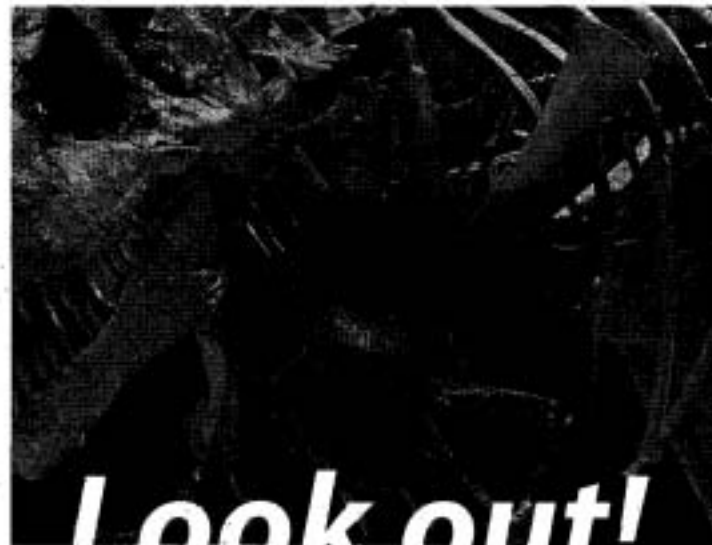
John Grisham's left his trademark legal suspense thrillers behind to write a love song about football, Italy and Italian football. *Playing for Pizza* is Grisham's fourth lawyer-free work and his second football book. (The first was *Bleachers*, in 2003.)

Fans of Grisham will get swept up immediately, as the novel opens with third-string quarterback Rick Dockery waking up in a hospital to death threats, since he just threw three interceptions in the last few minutes of the AFC championship game—a game the Cleveland Browns were winning until Dockery stepped onto the field. Dockery's agent eventually finds him a

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ALSO IN ROTATION

Coheed and Cambria *No World for Tomorrow*

Coheed and Cambria are not what you typically think of when you think of rock bands.

Who would ever think of making music revolving around a comic book? Aren't comic books for nerds?

C&C break this stereotype.

Their albums prove that they are able to rock out with the best of them. *No World for Tomorrow* is no exception.

The music is intertwined with the storyline of Claudio Sanchez's—C&C's lead singer and guitarist—comic books called *The Amory Wars*, formerly known as *The Bag On Line Adventures*. The band's name even comes from two of the main characters of the comic, Coheed and Cambria Kilgannon.

No World for Tomorrow continues the storyline that has taken place over the past three albums.

No World is possibly the band's best work to date. Claudio, complete with his signature, falsetto voice, is simply amazing. He delivers his lyrics with an unbridled ferocity through the whole album.

C&C's maturation is evident in this album. The riffs are catchy and powerful throughout most of it. Also, C&C received help from one of the industry's best drummers, Foo Fighter's Taylor Hawkins. Hawkins plays all the drums on *No World*.

Successfully combining a classic and modern rock sound, *No World's* guitar work is proof of C&C being at the top of their game.

Though it does slow down in the "End Complete" portion of the album, *No World for Tomorrow* is an overall superb album. "No World for Tomorrow," "The Hound (of Blood and Rank)," "Feathers," "The Running Free" and "Gravemakers & Gunslingers" stand as reasons enough to buy *No World*.

If you want to hear an album with some of the best riffs to come out this year, pick up this album.

— Matt McRae



since he just threw three interceptions in the last few minutes of the AFC championship game—a game the Cleveland Browns were winning until Dockery stepped onto the field. Dockery's agent eventually finds him a refuge, playing quarterback for the Parma Panthers. The disagreeable Dockery moves to Italy, accustoms himself to his surroundings and starts changing for the better—all the while leading his underdog team to challenge the Bergamo Lions in the Italian Super Bowl.

The book sounds like it should play out like a tear-jerker sports movie, and sometimes it does (the last act of redemption in the final minutes of the game). What keeps the story plausible is that Dockery's no Rudy. In fact, Dockery's kind of an ass. It's the Italians, who play for fun after finishing their day jobs, that form the soul of the team.

Two other elements that keep the book afloat (Yes, there's a girl, there's always a girl, but that's not the good part) are the genuinely exciting football action and the food. The amazing, fantastic, "I'm-getting-hungry-just-reading-this" descriptions of food. Who knew the man known for sticking lawyers in improbable situations wrote food porn on top of everything else? It's just not right.

While the book's a quick read (just over 250 pages) it's enough that the reader leaves the book with a distaste for the overpaid showmanship of the NFL and the generally frenzied and massively underfed American lifestyle. These changes may not be temporary. A trip to Italy may be in order.

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A

Kenna *Make Sure They See My Face*

Who is Kenna?

He was born in Addis Ababa and later moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia, with his parents. He quickly fell in love with American music and was especially inspired by U2's *The Joshua Tree*. His first album, *New Sacred Cow*, launched in 2003 and got two of his singles "Freetime" and "Hell Bent" noticed on MTV2.

Now releasing his second and newest album, *Make Sure They See My Face*, featuring funky fresh sounds accompanied by some pop-punk beats and awesome tribal drums and piano. Kenna and The Neptunes both produced the album. Each song has a different sound and the first song "Daylight" will draw you in and fuel your curiosity. My personal favorite is "Baptized in Blacklight," but most of the songs on the album have the potential to be danced to, sung to and, ultimately, listened to. Kenna has a lot to say, but is noticed by the awesome quote inside his album cover. He says, "To me, an artist isn't one who fits a mold. An artist is one who makes a mold." He's definitely an artist and definitely doesn't fit a mold.

At only 29, he has produced two albums and is finally being noticed, and it's not because of his face. *Make Sure They See My Face* is an album filled

B+

with the ingredients it takes to produce a melting pot of excellence. I predict we'll be seeing much more of Kenna's face.

— Julie Skinner



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Sports

FOOTBALL—JSU 38, TENNESSEE TECH 10

Defensive domination



Patrick Swafford

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Moving up in the world

It seems like everyone is talking about JSU's potential move to the Football Bowl Subdivision.

If the Faculty Senate, last week's Question of the Week and nearly everyone else at *The Chanticleer* have an opinion, I think I need to voice mine.

Maybe I'm too much of a purist, but shouldn't we care more about wins than how much freaking money we can make by getting waxed by every school in the Sun Belt?

What are we going to do with this money, anyway?

I've got it! Let's add more seats to Paul Snow Stadium when we can't even sell the place out.

Come on. We can't even fill up the stands in the east end zone unless it's band day.

While the JSU student body shows up for the games, there doesn't seem to be a lot of public outcry in support of the team.

Did my ears deceive me, or did I hear a healthy amount of boos at last week's pep rally?

What's the point of moving up to the FBS when we can't even at least *halfway* dominate the Ohio Valley Conference other than money?

True, we have one of the best winning percentages in the OVC since we joined in



JSU defensive end Duane Tolbert powers his way through a Tennessee Tech offensive lineman. Tolbert recorded six total tackles including one for a five-yard loss in the Gamecocks' 38-10 win

VOLLEYBALL

Gamecocks win two of three

By Jared Gravette
Staff Sports Writer

Coming off a loss to SEMO, the Jacksonville State volleyball team needed a big weekend, and that's exactly what they got.

The Gamecocks (14-6, 11-2) entered Friday's tilt with Murray State knowing that at the end of the night one team would own sole possession of first place in the Ohio Valley Conference.

When all was said and done, it was JSU that walked off the court with a 3-0 (30-27, 30-28, 30-18) victory over Murray State.

The defensive-minded Racers matched the Gamecocks point for point in the first two games of the match, but JSU found a way to win both.

The Gamecocks absolutely dominated the third and final game, hitting a robust .519 attack percentage.

"We didn't feel like we started off that great last night," JSU head coach Rick Nold said. "We made plays when we needed to, and in the third game we came on a lot stronger."

For senior Abbey Breit, 17 was a magic number.

Breit knocked down 17 kills to go along with 17 digs to record her 17th double-double of the season.

Nichols added 12 kills on just 19 attacks, recording a .526 attack percentage.

Freshman Caitlin Vorbeck also chimed in with 11 kills of her own.

The Gamecocks had a much easier time Saturday afternoon, defeating Tennessee-Martin in a three-game sweep (30-21, 30-23, 30-15).

"It's about getting to know your opponent, and we don't want it to take three games," Nold said. "Today I thought we didn't. In game one, we started making adjustments when we needed to. By game three, both teams should have a good feel for what the other team wants to do, then it's just going to be a battle of wills."

The Gamecocks hit .262 as a team against UT-Martin, but it was the defense that stepped up, holding the Skyhawks to a microscopic .009 attack percentage.

"We talked a lot about preparation before plays," Nold said. "We tried to anticipate the things they were doing and tried to stay a step ahead. When that happens, I think our blocking numbers go up quite a bit."

The Gamecocks' current run was halted on the road by Samford Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs defeated JSU 3-0 (30-25, 31-29, 32-30), marking the first time since 2001 that the Gamecocks have lost to their in-state rivals.

Despite Breit's 19th double-double of the season, complete with a match-high 21 kills, JSU was held to a .163 attack percentage.

With the loss, JSU's lead over Morehead State for first in the OVC is trimmed to a half of a game.



Understand money? True, we have one of the best winning percentages in the OVC since we joined in 2003, but we have no conference titles since 2004.

Second or third place isn't bad at all, but when the OVC is typically a one-bid league into the NCAA playoffs, second place gets you two things: jack and squat.

Sure, the move to the artist formerly known as D-1 would give us more money, but at what expense?

We get to renew the rivalry with our old friends at Troy, but we also get to enjoy watching our team struggle against teams that are better than every team in the OVC.

My argument isn't about the money. It's about being competitive.

We need to prove that we can win the conference now that every team runs the ball just like, if not better, than we do.

Let's not forget that before JSU entered the OVC, the conference was dominated by a pass-happy Eastern Illinois team that was led by current Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo.

Now we've gone from being the lead dog to a middle—of—the—pack team.

While we've won 26 OVC titles since we joined in 2003, Division II's Grand Valley State has won six NCAA titles in the same time frame, including four in football.

JSU has two in rifle.

Sure, JSU's fans were saying the same things when we jumped up from Division II in 1992.

Yeah, but the Gamecocks brought home three NCAA titles between 1991 and 1992, one in football and two in baseball.

Like I said, I'm probably too much of a purist, but I think Oakland Raiders owner Al Davis said it best.

"Just win, baby."

Patrick Swafford is the sports editor of The Chanticleer. He can be reached by phone at 782-5703 or by e-mail at chantysports@gmail.com. You can read his weekly sports blog every Monday @ chantysports.blogspot.com.

JSU defensive end Duane Tolbert powers his way through a Tennessee Tech offensive lineman. Tolbert recorded six total tackles including one for a five-yard loss in the Gamecocks' 38-10 win last Saturday, Oct. 20. Photo by Steve Latham / Jacksonville State University

Gamecocks force six turnovers, keep OVC title chances intact

By Patrick Swafford
Sports Editor

With one more loss, Jacksonville State's chances of a third Ohio Valley Conference title could be nothing more than a dream.

However, thanks to one of the most dominant defensive performances in recent history, the Gamecocks will live to see another day.

JSU (5-3, 4-1) held Tennessee Tech to 35 yards rushing in the Gamecocks' 38-10 homecoming victory Saturday night.

"I'm real happy we won and I want our players to be happy that we won, because 5-3 looks a lot better than it did four weeks ago," JSU head coach Jack Crowe said.

JSU's defense held the Golden Eagles to 220 yards of total offense and forced six turnovers on the day, keeping all three of Tech's quarterbacks

feeling the pressure.

"I'm really proud of our defense," Crowe said. "I think we could be becoming a really solid defensive football team through here."

Tennessee Tech (4-4, 2-4 OVC) failed to produce anything on the ground throughout the entire game.

Derek White, TTU's leading rusher, was held to 49 yards on 18 carries and failed to find the end zone.

"Stopping the run was the solid deciding factor in the game," Crowe said. "They couldn't get theirs going. I thought that early separation margin was something we were able to hold on to."

In fact, Tech's only offensive weapon came from receiver Larry Shipp, who caught seven passes for 104 yards and also counted for 74 return yards.

From the opening kickoff, the Gamecock defense looked to be one step ahead of what the

Golden Eagles were doing.

"All week, our coaches put together a good scouting report," JSU defensive end Duane Tolbert said. "The scouting report was just like the game. So it was kind of like playing the game during practice."

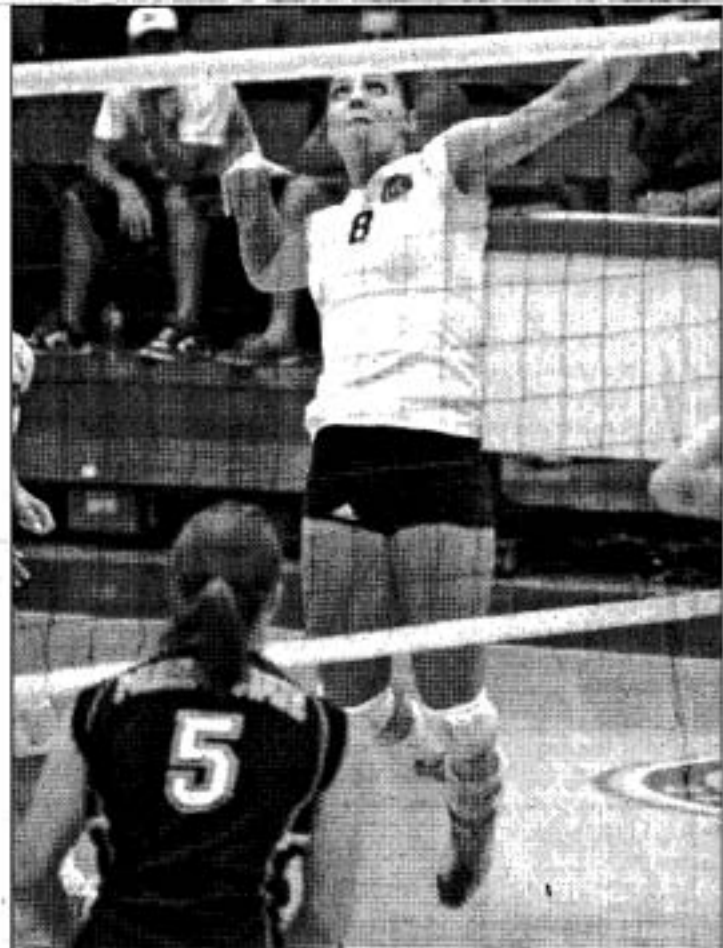
"We knew they were going to try to come in and run the ball. We knew the type of runs that they liked to do."

While JSU's defensive unit rolled over Tech, the offense seemed to struggle at times, despite finding the end zone five times.

Quarterback Cedric Johnson was held to 37 rushing yards, despite rushing for two touchdowns and passing for another.

"I was really disappointed," Crowe said. "I'll get over it, but I'm discouraged on how we played on offense. To have a start like we had, it looked like we could have had some

See "Football," page 7



Jacksonville State middle blocker Abbey Breit continued her dominant season, recording 50 kills in the Gamecocks' last three road matches. Photo by James Harkins / JSUFan.com

"We didn't feel like we started off that great last night. We made plays when we needed to, and in the third game we came on a lot stronger."

- JSU head coach Rick Nold after Friday night's win over Murray State

SOCCER

Gamecocks still alive in tournament hunt

By Jered Staubs
Staff Sports Writer

After a whirlwind weekend, the JSU soccer team finds itself in need of some help.

With only the top six teams qualifying for the conference tournament, and the Gamecocks two points out of sixth, they do not control their own destiny.

Of course, none of the dozens of possible scenarios matter if JSU is unable to win at least one of its two games this weekend.

The opponents — SEMO and Eastern

Illinois — will hardly be easy, especially with JSU still having failed to even draw an away match.

Coach Julie Davis said both opponents are "beatable," and that it shouldn't come as a surprise that her team's fate is coming down to the last weekend of the season.

"With the parity throughout the conference, it always builds down to the end," she said. "That's why every game in the OVC is an important game."

A 3-1 Senior Night win against Austin Peay on Friday means that the Gamecocks are still mathematically alive.

Senior Courtney Moore highlighted the night by scoring the game-winning goal.

Fellow senior Elizabeth Selasky got the start in goal and came up with the win.

The Gamecocks controlled most of the action and took the lead in the 53rd minute through Sarah McAulay.

McAulay took a crossing pass from Debbie Matich and gave the Gamecocks a lead they would only temporarily enjoy. But after conceding a goal on a free kick from just outside the box, Moore delivered her game-winner.

A Kim Kimmel goal in the final minutes

removed all doubts, and extended JSU's unbeaten run at home to four games.

But that streak would end Sunday, as JSU fell to Tennessee Tech for the first time in school history.

Tech was victorious by a 2-0 score, in a game that was even statistically. The Golden Eagles managed to finish their chances a little better, though the shots and possession were identical.

Besides dropping three points, the other problem with the loss is that Tech moved into a tie with JSU for 7th, and it now holds the tiebreaker advantage with JSU.

Football: Travels to Samford Nov. 3

Cont. from 1A
consistency."

The home stretch

Jacksonville State now gets a much-needed bye week before taking on a pivotal stretch run that could mean an Ohio Valley Conference title.

The Gamecocks will travel to Birmingham on Nov. 3 to take on in-state rival Samford for the final time as OVC foes.

The Bulldogs will be making the move to the Southern Conference at the beginning of next season.

After Samford, JSU will have one final home game the next week against Eastern Illinois before making the long trip to Cape Girardeau, Mo., to take on SEMO in the season finale.

In order for the Gamecocks to win their third OVC crown in five years, they're going to need a little help.

Currently, Eastern Kentucky sits in command of its own destiny with an unbeaten in-conference record.

With wins in two of their next three games, the Colonels will be playoff bound.

JSU must win its final three games and hope ECU drops two games down the stretch.

However, ECU's schedule is more than favorable with a road game against Murray State this

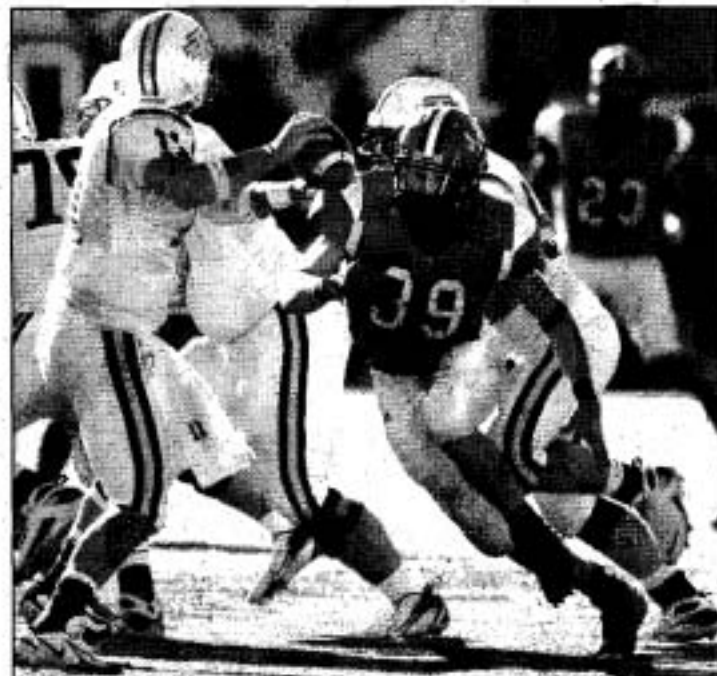
week and a home match-up with Tennessee Tech on Nov. 17.

The only potential roadblock for the Colonels is a road tilt against Austin Peay, the only team on ECU's remaining schedule with a winning record.

If ECU stumbles and the OVC comes down to JSU and Eastern Illinois, then the Panthers road to the title is nothing short of brutal.

In addition to their game in Jacksonville Nov. 10, the Panthers have to travel to Nashville next weekend to take on a loaded Tennessee State team that has one of the OVC's fastest offensive weapons, quarterback Antonio Heffner.

He's burned nearly every defense in the OVC and can change a game at the drop of a hat.



Jacksonville State linebacker Devin Phillips recorded three tackles and an interception in the Gamecocks' 38-10 homecoming win over Tennessee Tech Saturday. Photo by Steve Latham / Jacksonville State University

REPORT CARD

Offense: B-

Scoring five touchdowns isn't really "struggling" on offense, but no one, not even a quarterback, gained over 100 yards in one category, unless you count Maurice Dupree's 130 total yards. That includes return yards, too.

Defense: A+

Defenses don't get much more sinister than this. Four interceptions, two fumbles recovered and constant pressure. Tech didn't even convert on third down until the third quarter.

Special Teams: A

Solid day for JSU. Gavin Hallford continues to lead the nation in field goals. Zach Walden had a good game and Taurean Rhett blocked his eighth career punt, which ties him for the NCAA career record.

Soccer turmoil: Players, coach at odds

Cont. from page 1

She said that of the 17 players eligible to return next year, ten have told her they either would quit or would like to quit.

As one current player put it, "I'm not a quitter. I can't do that to my team and I can't do that to myself. But there's a lot of negativity running through the team."

Losing is never easy on a program. The Gamecocks have stumbled to a 4-10-1 record and only an improbable, good finish will save them from missing the postseason again.

Missing the conference tournament again would be a disappointing end to what was once a promising season. But some are speculating that there is a deeper concern than just wins and losses.

This season began the same way last year ended—with players quitting the team.

Two of the talismans for this year's team were to be Tiffany Julien and Sarah Miller, who made the All-OVC Newcomer Team a year ago.

After Miller received that honor, Davis was quoted as saying, "Sarah had an exciting freshman season. She has been an instrumental addition to our midfield and progressively improved throughout the season and has a very exciting future ahead of her."

Davis named Tiffany Julien the team captain.

These were impact players, potential stars within the program, and yet both quit the team.

What went wrong?

What led to these, and numerous other players, hanging up their cleats the past couple of seasons?

A common theme among former players is that Davis is "very phony."

As one said, "When I first came here, I thought she was a great person. She gives the feel that she'll be a great coach and a great leader, but when you get here, it's totally different."



Davis

Another said, "She doesn't really care about her players."

These are harsh—perhaps even bitter—comments, and Davis was quick to deny that

line of thinking.

"I think I'm very honest with them, when I recruit them, to tell them this is a very tough program," she said.

"When they do come here, it's my understanding that they understand that they are pushed to compete because we have expectations to be competitive in the OVC."

There's natural attrition in any sport. Davis specifically pointed to overuse injuries and burnout as two causes that lead to soccer players not lasting in the college game.

And, in a Darwinian manner, the team has rallied around those who survived the season.

"I can't speak for the players, but if I'm in a position to speak for the team," Davis said. "They're probably looking around the room and saying, 'These are the people that want to stick with this until the end' and 'these are the players that will fight on the soccer field, pick them up when they are down, and support them when they do well.'"

But one former player felt that the rash of players leaving combined with the recent events added up to a large issue.

"If you have players quitting, that's one thing, but to have an assistant coach quitting is totally different. That means something is really wrong."

She went so far as to say that if there is a new coach next year, she would strongly consider playing again.

But the current players had a slightly different view.

Hard feelings

Another player who wished

to remain anonymous said there was plenty of blame to go around.

"It's hard because we aren't putting wins on the board, but there's a lot of different things going into that. You can't just put the blame on a coach, it's on the team as well."

Maybe losing Covington serves as rejuvenation for the team. The Gamecocks did defeat Austin Peay 3-1 the day after learning that Covington would no longer be with the team.

As Davis said of Covington's resignation, "The team has handled it very maturely."

But multiple members of the team expressed their resentment that Covington was not allowed to tell them of her decision in person.

And it's hard to envision that the loss of Covington isn't an unwanted distraction for the team, especially as it embarks on its most important stretch of games.

Covington chose not to comment on the subject, and AD Jim Fuller was understandably non-committal.

He did say that Davis's three-year contract is set to expire at the end of the year, and made no indication of what his department would do at that time.

"We don't talk about contracts during the year," Fuller said.

"We do a year-end evaluation with all coaches. She'll come in and sit down with us within a month of the end of the season, and we'll discuss wins and losses and all the other things that go along with that."

"When they do come here, it's my understanding that they understand that they are pushed to compete because we have expectations to be competitive in the OVC."

-JSU coach Julie Davis

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