

"It's just like a mini-mall!"

# The Chanticleer

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Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

September 13, 2007

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SGA President David Jennings joins other student presidents in an effort to fight book prices.

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## ENTERTAINMENT



Russell Crowe and Christian Bale pretend to be American in *3:10 to Yuma*. It works.  
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## SPORTS

After getting its first win of the season, led by a stellar defense, a change at quarterback was announced for the Gamecock football team.

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## QUESTION of the WEEK

How much money have you spent on your books for class this semester?

## Banner may be to blame for missing checks

By **Brandon Hollingsworth**  
News Editor

Many JSU students received financial aid refund checks on Monday, Sept. 10.

Some put the money in the bank, some spent it on books, some on... less savory expenditures.

However, some students, mostly those on scholarships, did not get any of those options. Their checks were held up due to an error in the financial aid office, meaning they may not see their money for another week.

Drama student Adam Ellis was among those taken aback by the delay.

"I go to pick up my check, and it

was not in the mailbox," Ellis said. "So I go the financial aid office to make an inquiry."

There, Ellis said, workers told him that due to a processing glitch, his check would not be ready until Wednesday, Sept. 12.

At the earliest.

Another student, Kim Stark, was told to wait up to two weeks for her check.

"Anyone who had a scholarship and a loan would have to wait until Wednesday," Stark said. "If it wasn't in by Wednesday, it would be in *next* Wednesday."

The glitch originated in computer processing, according to JSU Financial Aid chief Vickie Adams. She

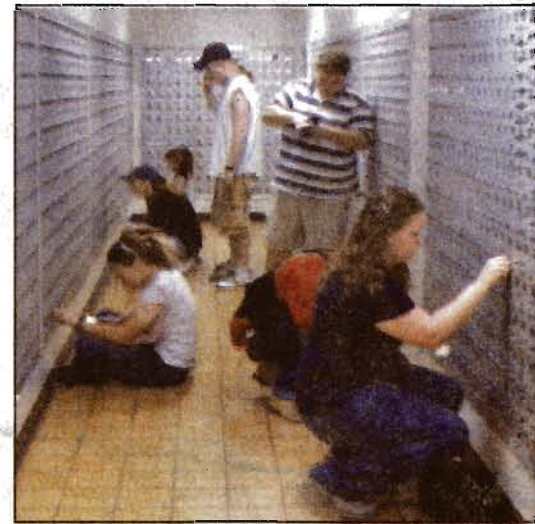
confirmed that students who did not get their checks would have to wait for manual processing to sort through the delay.

Adams indicated that JSU's new Banner system is partly responsible for the problem.

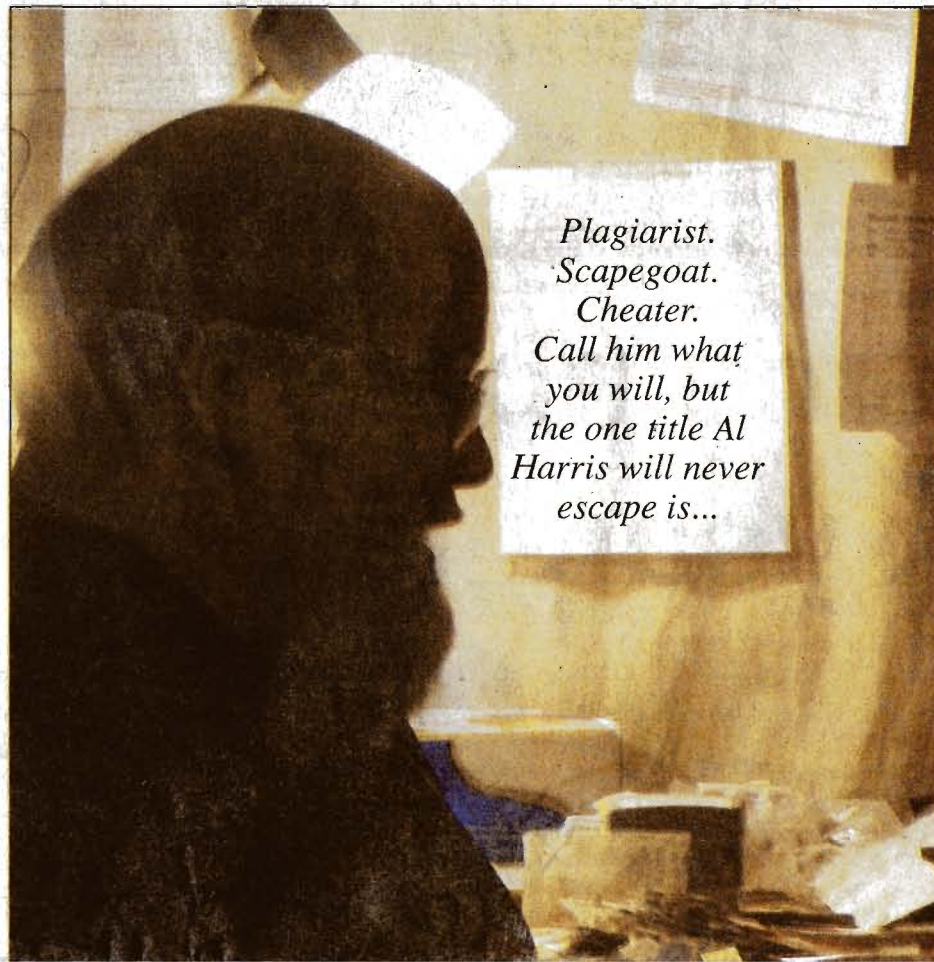
"There were some issues in the [older] Legacy system," Adams said, "But with the new Banner system, third-party contracts are going to have to be set up manually, and that's created a little bit of an issue."

Third-party contracts include Alabama's PACT college tuition plan and other outside sources of college funding other than direct government aid.

See "Missing money," [page 2](#)



Students check their campus mailboxes on Monday, Sept. 10 to see if they got paid. Not all were lucky enough. Photo by Matt McRae/ *The Chanticleer*



## Bookstore blues

By **Bethany Harbison**  
Copy Editor

Most students will tell you that purchasing textbooks is a painful experience at best.

Randall Stephens, store manager of the campus bookstore located in the TMB, points to textbook publishers and says the matter is out of his hands.

"Publishers come in here and see that we have used books and try every way in the world to put us out of them," Stephens said.

Stephens, who has worked at the bookstore for nine years, has witnessed firsthand the changes that the textbook business has undergone.

When he first came to JSU, the bookstore was able to buy many used books, both as buybacks from students and from wholesalers.

"Publishers were evidently hurt-

bert recently came face-to-face with this tactic when purchasing his Macroeconomics textbook. In an attempt to save money, Lambert buys many of his textbooks online.

This time, however, there was a hitch in his plan.

An access code for Blackboard, required by Lambert's instructor, was enclosed in the edition of the book sold by both local bookstores.

Online, Lambert found the exact book for \$80, but by purchasing it locally, he was given the option of either \$135 at the bookstore on the Square, or \$140 on campus.

"If there's an access code included, we have to buy the whole new package," Stephens said.

"Sometimes we can buy accessories separately to save students money, but publishers have picked up on that, too."

For instance, chemistry students



How much money have you spent on your books for class this semester?



- Over \$400 37%
- \$301 - \$400 28%
- \$201 - \$300 24%
- \$101 - \$200 6%
- Under \$100 6%



"I keep most of the books I buy. Money well spent. However, they are too pricey. I don't spend as much as most people, though."

-Kimberly Kalla  
Senior

#### Next week's question:

What are you spending most of your financial aid money on?

ONLINE @

thechanticleeronline.com

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# the Ghostwriter

Photo by Matt McRae, illustration by Kevin Jeffers/The Chanticleer

## By Kevin Jeffers Managing Editor

Al Harris is a simple man who enjoys a simple life in retirement with his wife, Patt, in the simple town of Jacksonville, Ala.

He claims to have two hobbies in life: growing out his beard and collecting stamps.

He's doing quite well with both.

One look at his Santa Clause-esque face tells you he must be pleased with the beard. And he loves stamps so much he even has two stuck on his cell phone.

"It's a hobby you can't lick," Harris quips.

He is jovial and conge-

nial, jolly and courteous. So soft-spoken and polite you leave his presence with a toothache.

One conversation with Al Harris is a conversation with a man seemingly free of worry.

Yet underneath the rosy cheeks and unrelenting grin of a man you swear has not a care in the world, lies the tortured soul of one of the area's most infamous martyrs.

Al Harris is the man who plagiarized under Bill Meehan's name.

That's the stigma.

That's his tag.

Now his simple retirement is fraught with complication.

## The man

What would you do if everywhere you went you were branded a cheater by unfamiliar eyes? Judged daily by juries of strangers to be a liar?

It is an unenviable existence to say the least. It's the life Al Harris now leads.

"It's really tough," Harris says. "I try so hard to do right by everyone. One mistake really can cost a man everything, it seems."

Granted, it was a pretty big mistake.

In four documented cases, columns printed in *The Jacksonville News* were found to be pulled from the Web site

See "COVER STORY," page 3

## Dog days



Clark Barron shows off his Dachshund, Sarge, at the dog show Saturday, Sept. 8, hosted by Kappa Sigma. Michael Vick was nowhere to be seen. For the full story, visit thechanticleeronline.com. Photo by Julie Skinner/The Chanticleer

## U.S. Senate's aid relief limited

By Brandon Hollingsworth  
News Editor

On Sept. 7, the U.S. House and Senate voted to approve a boost to student financial aid totaling nearly \$21 billion.

But not everyone will reap its benefits.

The College Cost Reduction Act is now headed to President Bush's desk for his approval.

The Act calls for the cutting of interest rates students must pay on subsidized Stafford loans, increasing the maximum amount available for Pell grants and tuition assistance for students who agree to teach in low-income areas, such as urban schools.

The maximum amount for Pell grants, designed for the poorest of college students, will go up from \$4,310 a year currently, to \$5,400 a year by 2012.

Interest rates on subsidized (or government-funded) student loans will decrease from 6.8 percent this year to 3.4 percent over the next four years.

used books, both as buybacks from students and from wholesalers.

"Publishers were evidently hurting, so they came up with the great idea of adding something extra every semester or so to books and shrink-wrapping it together as a package," Stephens said.

According to Stephens, the trend of publishers packaging all elements together has really taken off within the last few years.

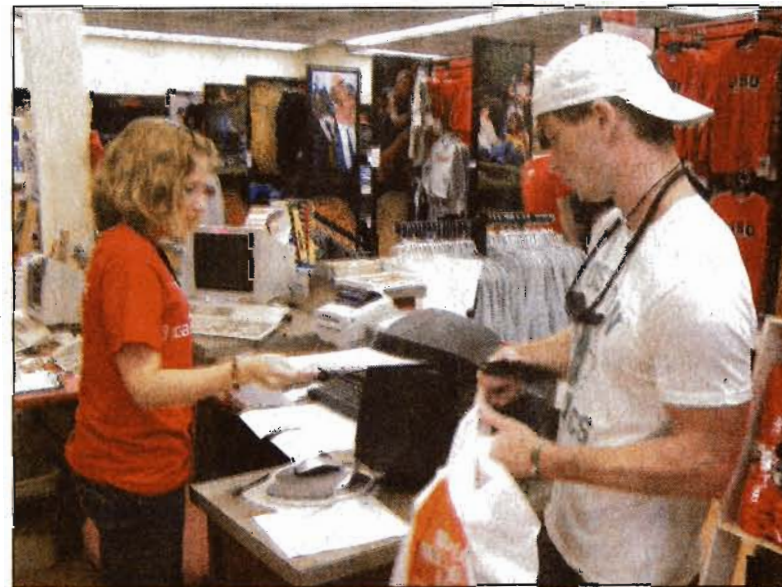
Graduate student Darrell Lam-

money, but publishers have picked up on that, too."

For instance, chemistry students must purchase an OWL code along with their textbooks. Stephens said that in this particular case, the bookstore tries to buy and sell each element separately when possible.

The result is a price that is higher than that of the used book, but less than that of the package deal.

See "Bookstore," page 3



A student makes a transaction at the JSU Bookstore on Tuesday, Sept. 11. Photo by Matt McRae/The Chanticleer.

To be sure, there are caveats.

Lenders say the changes will force them to cut the services they can offer. In addition, only a select few borrowers will qualify for the interest-rate cut, and the reduction won't be offered to students at all schools.

The money to pay for the increase in student aid will come from slashing subsidies Congress pays to private lenders who make Stafford and PLUS loans.

The CCRA was a major goal of the Democratic-controlled Congress when it convened in January.

Three of Alabama's seven Representatives voted in favor of the measure: Democrats Bud Cramer and Artur Davis, and Republican Mike Rogers.

On the Senate side, both Republicans Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions supported the bill.

There were indications President Bush would sign the bill, despite the administration's opposition to the interest rate cuts.



## Announcements

• **JSU Model Arab League:** The club will meet today at 2:00 p.m. in Martin Hall, room 216. The club is open to any JSU student interested in Middle East issues. For more information, contact Dr. Thomas Beaucom, 782-5811.

• **Alpha Xi Delta** would like to congratulate all their new **BABY CUBS!!** Contact Shalon Hathcock, [epsilonpi\\_prvp@jsu.edu](mailto:epsilonpi_prvp@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 limited to 50 words. Submissions must also 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 e-mailed to [chantyeditors@gmail.com](mailto:chantyeditors@gmail.com), by 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 for brevity, clarity and style.

## Campus Crime

### Friday, September 7

• Student Alyshia N. Madison reported theft of property on the lawn of Fitzpatrick Hall. The crime occurred between the hours of 9:30 p.m. Sept. 7 and 10:45 a.m. Sept. 8. Stolen was a Schwinn bicycle and chain, valued at \$220.

• Students Amber Lawson and Ann Butenorn reported a burglary at 215 Fitzpatrick Hall. The crime occurred between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 12:15 p.m. Stolen were \$430.00 in cash and a pair of shorts.

• Student Pierce Douglas was arrested for possession of marijuana at Sparkman Hall. Arrest occurred at 1:33 a.m.

• William J.A. Schultze was arrested for a DUI at the Grub Mart on Felham Rd. Arrest occurred at 1:30 p.m.

### Sunday, September 9

• Sasha T. Goldner was arrested for drunkenness on the quad at Ramona Wood Hall. Arrest occurred at 1:16 a.m.

### Monday, September 10

• Student Justin E. McMiller reported harassing communications at Crow Hall. The crime

# Saturday afternoon fever



Members of the Marching Ballerinas pose in their new uniforms before Saturday's home football game against Chattanooga. The Ballerinas performed with the Southerners during halftime of the game. From left to right; Jeana Gilbert, Lacy Sherrell, Jessica Andrews, Whitney Gray, Olivia Anne, Ashley Vanderburg and Katie Grey. Photo by Tori Merriss/ The Chanticleer

# JSU remembers 9/11, six years later

By Zach Childree  
Staff Reporter

JSU students and members of the community gathered at Leone Cole Auditorium for a ceremony on Tuesday, Sept. 11 to remember the sixth anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The theme of this year's program was Restoring Hope.

The master of ceremonies was Jason Wright, Editor of the *Mimosa*.

"We're here to remember the lives lost on that fateful day, as well as the lives that were

still believes that there was a lesson in all of it.

"The message we were given that day was 'We are one.'"

Even in unity, Americans still disagree. There is still controversy surrounding the war in Iraq and its connection to the events of 9/11, something keynote speaker LTC Henry "Chip" Hester noted.



## CAMPUS BRIEFS

• **Dr. Guillermo Francia III** is now a certified syllabus reviewer for the College Board. Francia will help verify each of the syllabi submitted by high schools worldwide for compliance with Advanced Placement Computer Science curriculum requirements.

• Saturday, Sept. 15 is the deadline for faculty members to submit **2006-2007 significant accomplishments**. The results will be used in the compilation of the Annual Report to the President. Accomplishments can be submitted through JSU's PRISM system.

• The **JSU Wellness Center** began its fall awareness campaign yesterday. "Get Well JSU" took place at the Jack Hopper Cafeteria with a healthy-food bar and presentations. The "Wellness Wednesdays" series continues through Dec. 5.

• The **Office of Distance Education** is offering two seminars this month on the Blackboard system. The first will be held on Sept. 18, and the second on Sept. 27. To register, email [mcobb@jsu.edu](mailto:mcobb@jsu.edu). All training sessions are held in Room 174, Self Hall.

- From JSU News Wire

- Monday, September 10**
- Student Justin E. McMiller reported harassing communications at Crow Hall. The crime occurred at 8:05 p.m.
  - Student Erica Jackson reported theft of property at the Houston Cole Library. The crime occurred between the hours of 10:30 p.m. on Sept. 10 and 10:46 p.m. on Sept. 11.

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 e-mail JSUPD at 782-5050.

## The Week in Events

### Thursday, September 13

- Interfraternity Council Meeting, 302 TMB, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
- Balancing Your Debt, 303 TMB, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- NPHC Mini Convocation, TMB Auditorium 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

### Friday, September 14

- NPHC General Council Meeting, 220 Stephenson Hall, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

### Monday, September 17

- Congressman Mike Rogers, TMB Lobby, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Student Senate Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Miss Black and Gold Pageant, Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
- Freshman Forum Mandatory Applicant Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, September 18

- Organizational Council Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Health Fair/Workshops, TMB Auditorium, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Free HIV rapid testing.

### Wednesday, September 19

- Latin Dance Party, Alumni House, 9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

The master of ceremonies was Jason Wright, Editor of the *Mimosa*.

"We're here to remember the lives lost on that fateful day, as well as those who lost their lives since then in preserving our freedom," Wright said.

JSU graduate and author Pearl Williams has a personal connection with the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Her son, Maj. Dwayne Williams, was killed in the attack on the Pentagon.

"At every turn we looked to wake up from the nightmare on 9/11" Williams said. "Even though it seemed the sun wouldn't rise, it did."

Williams, through her faith, used her grief to better her community. She awarded three scholarships in her son's name, two of which will go to ROTC members and one to a marketing major.

Rep. Artur Davis, who also spoke at the service, emphasized faith as a defining factor in the evolution of American history.

"You have to believe that America is a God-inspired enterprise," Davis said. "You have to."

Still, Davis believes that despite our differences, the enemy attacked us as one people: Americans.

"When I look back six years ago at the images that poured into our living rooms, the images that stick in my mind came out around 10:45 a.m.," Davis said.

"If you take a magnifying glass and look at those pictures, I defy you to tell me if those people were black or white, Muslim or Christian. They were Americans."

It's that unity, Davis said, that caused our enemies to hate us.

"Our enemies knew we were indivisible," Davis said.

Through all the tragedy of that day, Davis

in Iraq and its connection to the events of 9/11, something keynote speaker LTC Henry "Chip" Hester noted.

"[The phrase] 'Freedom isn't free' has become a cliché," Hester said. "Freedom sometimes comes at a staggering cost."

Dr. Tim King, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, reminded the audience, "whether or not you support the war in Iraq or not isn't important. That you support our men and women in uniform is."

Though the event ended with a prayer from Rev. Jamie Waldhour, King may have summed up the somber mood of the evening best with his closing statement.

"I've been fighting back tears all night."

### "Restoring Hope" 9/11 Remembrance

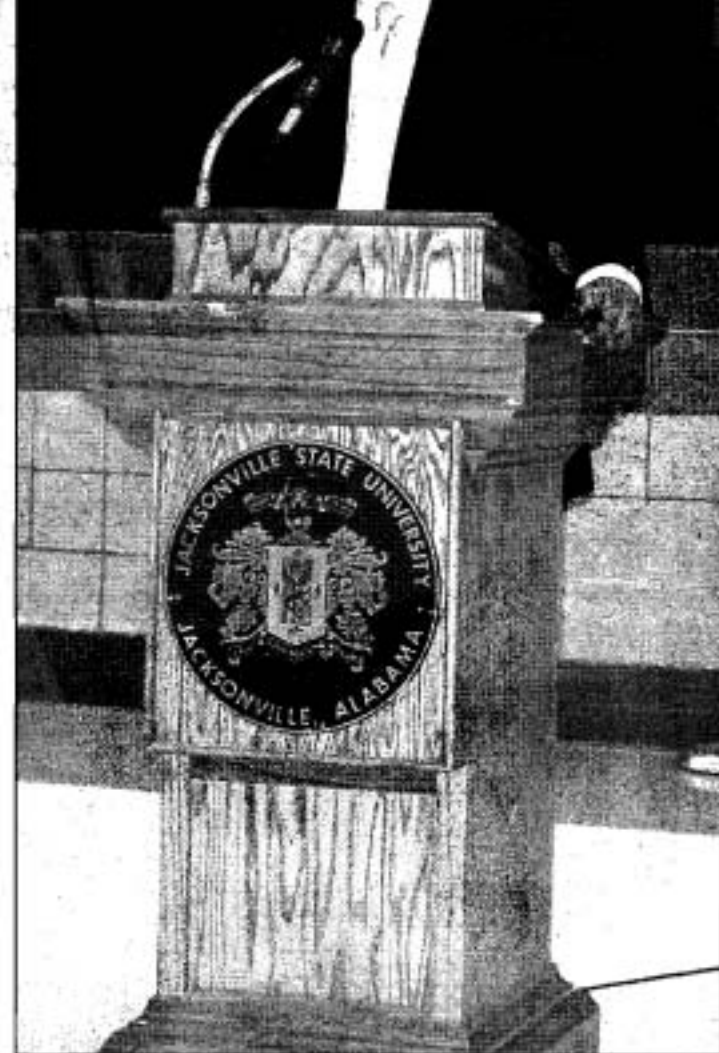
**When:** Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007

**Where:** Leone Cole Auditorium

#### From those who spoke:

"The message we were given that day was 'We are one.'  
- Congressman Artur Davis

"Even though it seemed the sun wouldn't rise, it did."  
- Author Pearl Williams



Congressman Artur Davis speaks at the 9/11 Remembrance at the Leone Cole Auditorium on Tuesday, Sept. 11. The event was held to remember the tragic day six years ago. Photo by Eric Beck/The Chanticleer



Jonathan Hamilton holds up his financial aid check on Monday, Sept. 10. Hamilton was one of the lucky ones who got his check on the first day they were available. Photo by Matt McRae/The Chanticleer

## Missing money: Financial aid says new Banner system could be reason

Cont. from page 1

Adams pointed out that a small percentage of the over 8,000 financial aid checks distributed by the university were affected.

She said the goal of the Financial Aid Office is to get money to students as soon as possible, but estimated it could take more than a week to get all the checks sent out.

"Certain scholarships are required to be set up manually, and that's just the fact right now," Adams said.

Nevertheless, the consequences af-

ected students' pocketbooks immediately.

"There are a lot of people out there who don't have books," Ellis said. "There are people whose rent was due, groceries - all the things not having money can affect."

Stark was one of those people.

"My rent was due last Wednesday, and if we don't get my rent paid, I have four days to get out of my house," Stark said. "I would have to commute, and I can't do that."

"I would be homeless."



# Alabama's student presidents speak out for rights, lower book prices

By Kevin Jeffers  
Managing Editor

JSU SGA President David Jennings was one of several Alabama university student presidents to attend the first meeting of the University Student President Council (USPC) in Montgomery on Friday, Sept. 7.

According to Jennings, the group was formed out of the presidents' overall examinations for the need to promote the values of higher education.

"The idea behind this is to have one voice, not several different voices expressing their concerns," Jennings said.

One main agenda to come out of the meeting was the consensus among the student presidents to lobby for legislation to help alleviate the exorbitant costs of textbooks.

Several concerns of book prices were examined, including the publishing of new editions of select textbooks every 3.5 years, "bundling," or packaging many books with items such as CDs that teach-



Jennings

ers never incorporate, and how to solve these problems.

"We feel it's important to help with the costs of textbooks," Jennings said. "For a college student, \$70 is a lot of money."

According to research provided by those in attendance of the meeting, Alabama is one of only nine states to not have legislation governing textbook prices.

Among the other issues brought up at the meeting was the necessity of a public relations campaign.

The group was formed out of Student Teams Advocating Realistic Solutions (STARS), a group sponsored by the Higher Education Partnership. The HEP is responsible for coordinating the Higher Education Day Rally each year.

Next year's Higher Education Day Rally is scheduled for March 6, 2008, on the front steps of the Alabama Statehouse in Montgomery.

Student presidents from Alabama, Auburn, UA-Huntsville, Troy, Auburn-Montgomery, Montevallo and UAB were among the representatives in attendance, according to Jennings.

## COVER STORY: Much maligned Harris gives his take

Cont. from page 1

Mercksource.com, a health information site.

The columns were printed under the byline of JSU President Dr. Bill Meehan. Meehan has a weekly column in *The Jacksonville News* called "Town and Gown."

For years, Al Harris, as the director of JSU's news bureau, was Meehan's ghostwriter for the column. The plagiarized articles were indeed of Harris's doing.

It is a mistake he immediately called his own. After the story broke, Harris sent a letter to *The Anniston Star* filled with apologies and explanation.

He immediately made it known that Meehan was not at fault for the articles printed under the president's byline. Meehan also took full responsibility.

Harris attributes his lack of attribution to the fact he was under the influence of several pain medications for a form of arthritis he suffers in his neck.

He submitted the articles before completely attributing his sources, forgetting to cite the Web site.

"I was in no condition to be writing," Harris says. "It was still stupid on my part."

"Town and Gown" now attri-

The week that Harris wrote the doomed columns happened to fall on a week in August when Dr. Meehan was on vacation. In such instances, the columns would usually be submitted to his immediate Vice President, Joe Serviss.

That week, Serviss was also on vacation. The articles were then supposed to be submitted to another one of the school's vice presidents.

Harris never knew who signed off on the articles.

It is still unclear whose eyes saw the articles before being sent to *The Jacksonville News*.

Either way, Harris does not pass blame to anyone but himself.

"No matter who saw the articles last, only I knew my source," Harris says. "Again, I just simply forgot to say where I got my information. I was in no position to."

### The pain

Al Harris sits in a room that is cluttered with boxes. On his desk are his stamps. On his computer is an open Word document. It's that of a typed letter to the editors of a couple of publications. He still wants his word, his side, his voice out there.

"It's tough when you think no one's listening," Harris says.

He has only three seats in the room. His plush computer chair is the only one a man with his deteriorated posture should have any business sitting in. The other two are wooden stools.

He takes one of the stools if he has guests, arch support or no.

After an hour or so in that stool, he grabs his neck. His eyes tear up. He is in obvious, excruciating pain. Much more than a man of 54 years old - who looks even 10 years older than that - should be in.

He still smiles.

"Sorry, I'm not used to talking this much," he says.

But he has a lot to say. A man with no hope but to speak to what others will not listen usually will have a lot to say.

Wouldn't you?  
"I know people look at me and see a man that I'm really not," Harris says.

What he's not is someone with an ill will in his bones.

"I love Bill Meehan. He has been a friend of mine for several years," Harris says. "I like to think he still calls me his friend, too."

Al Harris is a man who made a mistake. One he says he will forever regret.

"You know people always say this, but if I could go back and relive one day, just one, it'd be that day."

Then the pain just might be a little more bearable.



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"I was in no condition to be writing," Harris says. "It was still stupid on my part."

"Town and Gown" now attributes any contributing authors. Although Harris says he never minded ghostwriting for his boss and his friend, he agrees with attributing the ghostwriters.

"That's the way it should be," Harris says.

#### The myth

With the firestorm in the local media surrounding what Harris refers to as the "Meehan/Harris weenie roast," misconception was bound to occur.

One such misconception that Harris would like to clear up is that he was not fired for the plagiarized articles.

Harris actually retired in January, 2007. He only continued to serve as ghostwriter for Meehan's columns at the request of Meehan himself. Harris, the friend and loyal colleague he was, obliged.

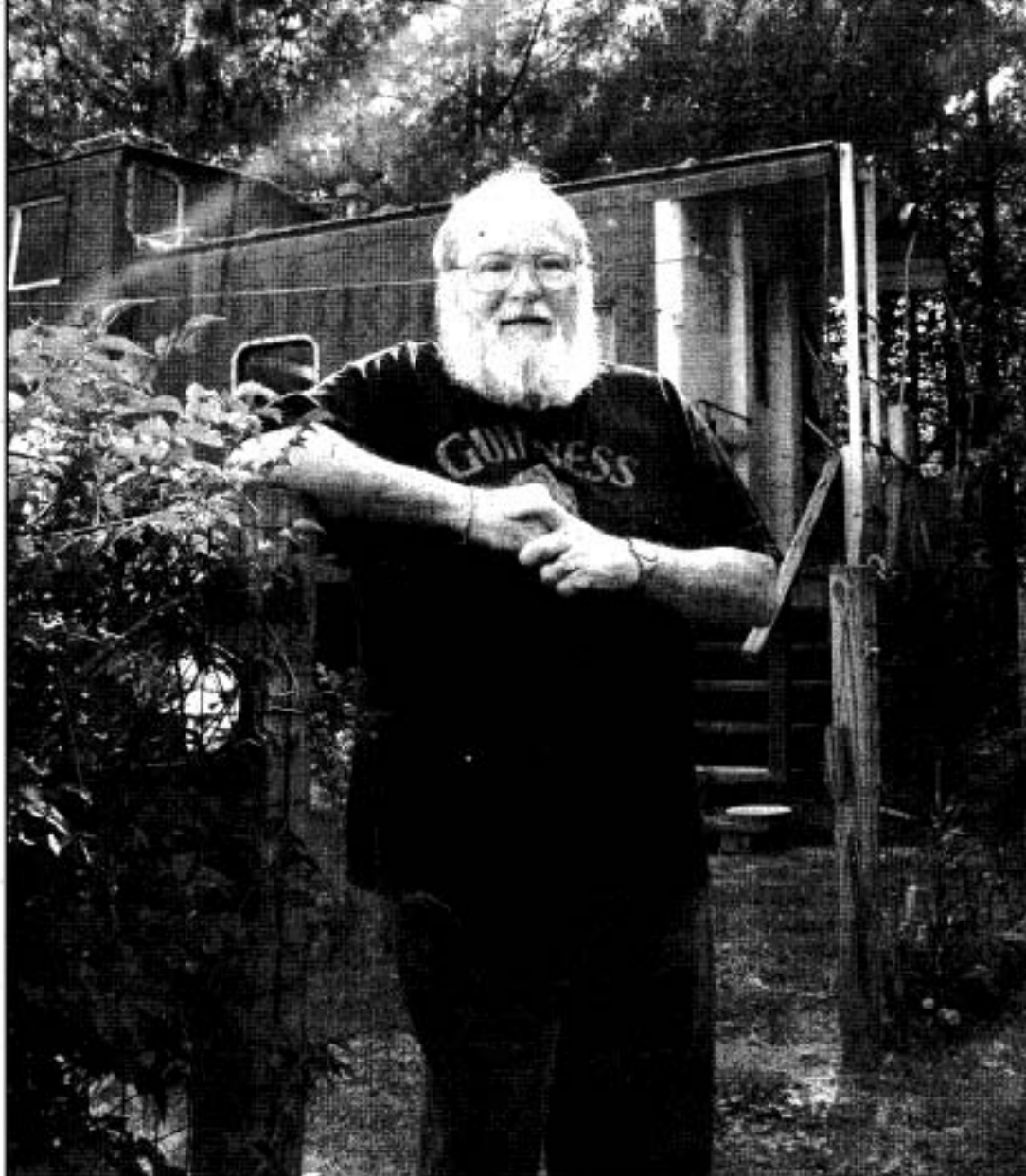
Harris was to continue the duties until Meehan and Joe Sciviss, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, could find a suitable replacement.

"Bill [Meehan] always told me never to do more than I physically could," Harris says. "He was always very kind with me, very accommodating."

Harris continued to serve the news bureau on a limited basis, in spite of his physical limitations.

#### The truth

Important to note is that Meehan never actually signed off on the articles in question himself, which was usually the case for "Town and Gown."



Al Harris stands in front of an old green and yellow train caboose parked in his backyard. He said he bought the traincar from a friend. Inside is a failed attempt at an office. "I put two air conditioners in there. Even on full-blast, it's still hotter than hell in there," Harris said. "I could never get any work done in there." Photo by Matt McRae/ *The Chanticleer*

## Bookstore: Publishers driving up costs for students

Cont. from page 1

Though Stephens does attempt to cut costs for students, the actual selection of textbooks and extra applications is beyond his control.

"We don't choose books. That's the misconception," Stephens said.

"If they tell us they want the package, that's what we order. We don't deviate. We call them sometimes and ask if they're going to use the whole package, or if they could go with the used book instead."

The power does lie in the hands of

instructors, but textbook publishers manage to influence them as well.

"Publishers tell us that [the packages] are a cheaper alternative for students because instead of paying two retail prices, they only have to pay one," Dr. Al Nichols, associate chemistry professor, said.

"At least that's what they're telling us."

Nichols said that instructors are indeed aware of the financial needs of students, and try to consider those needs when they select textbooks.

However, once again, textbook publishers are one step ahead.

"We're trying to minimize expense, but book publishers are changing books every two-to-three years," Nichols said. "They completely stop publishing the old edition, so we're pretty much forced to change."

Stephens agreed, saying that his experience has been that though most instructors are concerned about saving students money, publishers continue to make that a difficult mission.

"It's a shrewd business move on their part," Stephens said.

"But I don't like it and students don't like it. We'd rather have used books."



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# The Chanticleer

**Toni Merriss**

Editor in Chief

chantyeditor@gmail.com, 782-5701

**Kevin Jeffers**

Managing Editor

chantyme@gmail.com, 782-8192

**Mike Stedham**

Faculty Advisor

mstedham@jsu.edu, 782-5713

## OUR VOICE

### Good intentions don't pay my f'n loans

In theory, the new compromised bill that would make big changes to the federal government's college financial aid programs sounds good. But, when you dive a little deeper, there are a few complications that not everyone may be aware of.

If you have not heard, there is a proposed bill that would reduce the interest rates on subsidized Stafford loans by half over four years. Sounds good, right? The problem is that this cut is only for new subsidized loans, not ones that students have previously taken out. Plus, subsidized loans are only for those students who display a financial need for it. As it stands, the rates would jump back up from the proposed 3.4 percent to the current 6.8 percent in 2012 unless another bill is proposed in the meantime.

Second, this rate cut is not offered with the unsubsidized Stafford loans, the loans that any student can take out no matter what their financial need is.

There are other provisions to this bill that all sound fine and dandy, but most of them are not really helping out the students of today, they are focusing on the students of tomorrow. Well really not even tomorrow, since all of this would not go into effect until July 1, 2009. Even then it will only last for four years.

So while we thank everyone for wanting to help students with the inevitable loan repayments that await us only six months (almost to the day) after graduating, what about those who are juniors or seniors? What about those who don't have these great options or those who start school in 2013?

Apparently, timing is everything.

## An open challenge

**By Webb Dillard**  
Contributing Writer

Nothing pains me more than to write this article. I never thought I would see the day that I would disagree with a man that I respect so much.

Jerry Chandler is, hands down, the *best* teacher I have had since enrolling here at JSU. No teacher, grade school or high school, has



## Payday – let's hug it out

For us college kids, it's that time of year again.

Christmas. New Year's. Hump Day. The one day every year when that girl you met in a bar one random night accidentally calls your phone instead of the guy she was really trying to call, therefore confirming that she *did* indeed put your number in her phone in the first place.

All good days. But they ain't got nothin' on this day.

It's payday. Our financial aid checks were dispersed on Monday (or Tuesday, or Wednesday, or not yet, depending on if the Financial Aid office is out to get you again this year).

If you're anything like me, you put a lot of stock on this day. You put off a lot of your bills. You ignore the "suggested" due date that Alabama Power gives you, because once they see you slap down a check that pays for not only your last two months, but for the next two months in advance, they'll forever know you're good for it.



**Kevin Jeffers**

chantyme@gmail.com

friend will never, ever know about.

Yep, you're golden. Rolling in the dough.

Then there are the extra perks, or as I call them, grade killers.

You can finally get that next-gen gaming system you want. But therein lies the dilemma of

which to get. Do I get a PS3, a 360 or a Wii?

While weighing such life-altering decisions, away goes the time you should be reading American Literature. And that's before you even get the gaming system.

Say goodbye to studying.

But it's cool. You're rich. School means nothing now.

Also if you're like me, most of your money is from student loans. Because that's all you

pay all this money back one day.

After you graduate! Suckers.

You're going to be rich *again* by then. With a *real* job. It'll be no sweat to pay all this back. They can throw all the interest they want at you.

That'll show 'em. Eat *that* establishment!

Yep, this is the best time of your life. It's smooth sailing from here. You're Vinnie F'n Chase from *Entourage*.

Some words of wisdom from a student who has had a few of these paydays, though.

Don't blow it all in one week. Try to stretch it for at least a couple of weeks. Maybe a month. Your bills *do* reoccur next month, after all.

Also, cops are freaking serious about this driving with insurance thing. So make sure you have some of that.

Baser necessities come first.

You can still buy that Xbox, though. I mean, you *are* human.

Yeah, life is sweet.

I would see the day that I would disagree with a man that I respect so much.

Jerry Chandler is, hands down, the *best* teacher I have had since enrolling here at JSU. No teacher, grade school or high school, has ever made an impact on me like Mr. Chandler. He is tough, fair and brutally honest.

The standard he sets for his students is very high. He expects a lot, because he believes most students are capable of a lot.

That being said, I don't agree with his stance on the Dr. Meehan pseudo-scandal.

First of all, let's totally forget about the word "plagiarism." It is well documented that Dr. Meehan did not plagiarize a thing. It was his ghostwriter.

Second, why would a man of Dr. Meehan's lofty position at a respected university put his name on anything he did not write? This part is the most baffling.

I don't care if CEO's of major companies do it. They are *not* the heads of academic institutions. CEO's have been going to jail at high-rates of speed lately, so I don't know if I would do anything that a CEO does. Would you?

Comparing CEO's and university presidents is like comparing apples to oranges in my book.

I wonder if Dr. Meehan – and Mr. Chandler for that matter – remembers the old saying: "If everyone was jumping off the bridge, are you gonna jump too?"

I just believe, as the head administrator of academia, he should write his own stuff. What in the hell did he go to school for? Why does he have "Doctor" in front of his name if he can't muster up 500 words for a small town paper once a week?

At the very least, sir, do it to lead by example.

If Dr. Meehan does not have the time to write, he shouldn't. What did he have to benefit from someone else writing for him anyway? I find great satisfaction from writing. What purpose did it serve you, Dr. Meehan, to have someone else speak for you?

I am sure Dr. Meehan's intent was in the best interest of the University, faculty and the student body. I am sure the columns in question served some kind of goodwill toward the community. I would like to challenge Dr. Meehan to actually write the column himself occasionally. It certainly wouldn't hurt at this juncture.

I really don't care if this rubs someone the wrong way. (Well except you, Mr. Chandler, with you having some control over my grades and all.) I would hope with all of the hubbub that has come from the student body about the whole deal, someone is proud.

Faculty, in all the schools on campus, should be proud that we do believe in the high standards being placed on us, the students. Be proud that we do take interest in and can question our superiors if we think something is not right.

Isn't that why we came to college?

they see you slap down a check that pays for not only your last two months, but for the next two months in advance, they'll forever know you're good for it.

Same with cable, same with your cell phone, same with the alimony for that other family you have in Florida that your girl-

But it's cool. You're rich. School means nothing now.

Also if you're like me, most of your money is from student loans, because Bush all but eliminated the possibility of a student under 24 years old to get a Pell Grant.

That means you're just going to have to

You can still buy that Xbox, though. I mean, you *are* human.

Yeah, life is sweet.

*Kevin Jeffers is the managing editor of The Chanticleer. He can be reached by phone at 782-8192 or by e-mail at chantyme@gmail.com.*

# Popular art should be embraced, not shunned

Luciano Pavarotti died last Thursday at the age of 71. Amid the numerous tributes to the Italian tenor, one fact was overlooked in all but one wire service story I read: his death, while subject of many a remembrance in print, television and radio in the United States and elsewhere, passed with little notice in his native Italy.

While Pavarotti brought a love of opera to millions around the world, Italians (and more than a few opera aficionados) viewed him through one lens: sellout.

It's a mentality all-too-common in society these days – the idea that anyone who makes something popular is immediately detrimental, deserving of scorn. Whether it's an opera star or a below-the-radar indie band, when someone makes it big, it's time for the accusations of selling out and abandoning the cause. Often, they're called "popularizers," in the same tone someone might use to describe a necrophiliac.

For Pavarotti, it started with a performance at the 1990 World Cup in Rome. While well-known in the opera world for his ability to consistently hit high notes and emotional performances of arias, the World Cup appearance marked Pavarotti's launch



**Brandon Hollingsworth**

chantynews@gmail.com

into worldwide fame. His rendition of "Nessun Dorma," from Puccini's *Turandot* was powerful.

It was also ridiculed.

For opera fans, he became a cliché. And for what reason?

He dared make opera accessible to the public.

Carl Sagan's story follows similar lines.

Dr. Sagan taught at Cornell, helped design the Viking Mars landers and helped form the Planetary Society.

Yet, Sagan was denied admittance to the National Academy of Sciences and written off by some in the scientific community. Never mind that he ignited countless imaginations with his explorations of the universe. He was – repeat after me – a sellout.

Scientists, artists and academics constant-

ly bemoan the state of appreciation for their fields among the general public. Yet, when someone comes along who makes their ideas and words come alive, they're the first to cry foul. Instead of turning the works of science and art into forbidden fruits, they should applaud efforts to bring those works to wider public attention and appreciation.

I've always believed that anyone can understand and appreciate scientific concepts and artistic goals. You needn't have a Master's in astronomy or be a docent at MOMA to understand and love the beauty inherent in science and art.

We need popularizers to show us the wonders of our world, to open our ears and minds to the magnificence of music, to open our minds to the endless possibilities of the universe.

Without them, we become a culture consumed by the mysticism, ignorance and demagoguery of what Sagan himself termed the "demon-haunted world."

*Brandon Hollingsworth is the news editor of The Chanticleer. He can be reached by phone at 782-4704 or by e-mail at chantynews@gmail.com.*

## The Chanticleer

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News Editor	Brandon Hollingsworth	782-4704
Sports Editor	Patrick Swafford	782-5703
Web Editor	Chris Pittman	782-4704
Copy Editor	Bethany Harbison	782-8192
Photography Editor	Matthew McRae	782-4704
Advertising Director	Jaclyn Cospers	782-8191
Distribution Manager	Eric Beck	782-5701

### The Chanticleer

Room 180 Self Hall  
Jacksonville State University  
Jacksonville, AL 36265

<http://www.thechanticleeronline.com>

Editor in Chief: 782-5701, Managing Editor / Features: 782-8192, News Desk / Web site: 782-4704, Sports Desk: 782-5703, Advertising: 782-8191, Newsroom Fax: 782-5932

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### Letters Policy:

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

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## Music Corner

### WLJS Top Ten Records of the Week

1. No Age - *Weirdo Rippers*
2. Liars - *Liars*
3. Fog - *Ditherer*
4. Nina Nastasia & Jim White - *You Follow Me*
5. Caribou - *Andorra*
6. John Vanderslice - *Emerald City*
7. Turbo Fruits - *Turbo Fruits*
8. Manchester Orchestra - *Like a Virgin Losing a Child*
9. Interpol - *Our Love to Admire*
10. Numbers - *Now You Are This*

### ALBUM OF THE WEEK

#### Animal Collective

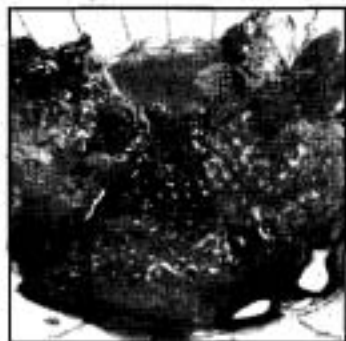
##### *Strawberry Jam*

*Strawberry Jam*, Animal Collective's latest album for Domino Records, in many ways far surpasses their already incredible back catalogue. I've always felt that Animal Collective would be far superior if they would embrace the pop format completely instead of shrouding melody with abrasive noise. It is on this release that the group attempts to create a fully embraceable set of songs that still retain the adventurous aspect of their past endeavors.

*Strawberry Jam* comes on the heels of group member Panda Bear's solo outing *Person Pitch*. That album, to me, was what I wanted to hear from Animal Collective. It was a completely personal album with inspiring, looped melodies and swarming dance beats. *Strawberry Jam* is similar in that it is also a personal album with swelling chords and 70s dance synth. However, rather than the group as a whole creating this intimate set, it is member Avey Tare - also coming off of a solo album with wife Kria Brekkan of the Icelandic group Múm - who takes the forefront. His voice, more than on any other album, feels anguished and true. Album opener "Peacebone" rollicks along an otherworldly synth line while Avey Tare absolutely lines flow culminating in a final minute of frenzied yelps and near-screamed lyrics. Tracks "For Reverend Green" and "Fireworks" both accentuate Tare's vocal presence. On these songs, Panda Bear backs up the charged voicing of Tare with angelic murmuring, showing how much Animal Collective has come into the sound that they always seemed to strive for.

The album's last half, where Animal Collective typically places droning songs spare on vocals, keeps up the intensity - particularly on the track "Cuckoo Cuckoo." The first two minutes of the song drone along a minimal piano line before exploding into distortion and pounding drums. Album closer "Derek," sung by Panda Bear, ends the album with near-perfection. The folksy tune starts off breezily enough - rather simplistic, in fact - with acoustic guitar and water-like sounds before ending with percussion straight out of Africa and Panda Bear lulling us back to reality.

These nine songs demand being heard. It's this insistency that makes this album immediately flourish. Quite simply,



### VIDEO GAMES

## Fall gaming preview

By Chris Pittman  
Web Editor

Fall 2007 looks to be one of the most action packed seasons for video games in history. Each console has quality exclusives that will keep gamers inside for the rest of the year.

Microsoft has the tools needed for a successful holiday season, but none come close to Master Chief's first run on the Xbox 360.

*Halo 3* is poised to have the biggest launch in the history of gaming on Sept. 25th. Bungie's first-person shooter phenomenon is bigger than ever before and should keep gamers on the sticks for years to come.

Gamers will finally be able to play *Halo* in co-op mode online. The player limit has also been increased to four, with each person controlling a separate character that has its own place in the story.

The new "Forge" mode will make multiplayer matches more intense than ever before. Players can insert different things into existing multiplayer maps including weapons and vehicles.

"Saved Films" is a new feature that will change the way strategies are developed. Gamers can record single and multiplayer matches and upload them to Bungie's servers for downloading.

Sony will look to regain strength with the much-heralded *Heavenly Sword* from developer Ninja Theory. This martial arts extravaganza shares many qualities with the popular *Ninja Gaiden* series. Players guide Nariko as she attempts to stop the evil King Bohan and his army from destruction. This Playstation 3 exclusive has already sparked enough interest for a sequel, which is currently in development.

The Nintendo Wii is currently

### FILM REVIEW

## Russell'n up: *3:10 to Yuma*

By Kevin Jeffers  
Managing Editor

One of the toughest jobs in movie making today is doing right by one of the industry's oldest genres - the Western. *3:10 to Yuma*, directed by *Walk the Line*'s James Mangold and starring the venerable Russell Crowe and Christian Bale, does as good a job as any such film since 1993's *Tombstone*.

Bale plays Dan Evans, a rancher who can barely scrape by to feed his family and keep his youngest of two sons healthy in the dryness of Arizona. He struggles even more to keep his oldest son's respect. A Civil War vet with a lame leg, Evans takes on the task of accompanying the newly captured, infamous criminal Ben Wade (Crowe) to a train station, where a 3:10 p.m. train will take the outlaw to Yuma prison.

With ample opportunity to simply finish off Wade himself, if not only to appease the railroad owning Butterfield (Dallas Roberts) who has promised Evans \$200 for his part in the journey, an interesting dynamic is born between the rancher and his prisoner. Wade tries to break Evans down psychologically and is especially successful when Evans's oldest son William - whom Wade notices to idolize his reckless bravado - mans up to surprisingly join the expedition.

Part of what sets *Yuma* apart from other seemingly pointless Westerns is the relationship between the hero and his villain. At times the relationship toggles between mutual scorn, mild re-



Russell Crowe, as Ben Wade, delivers plenty of hot lead in *3:10 to Yuma*.  
Media file photo

spect, and ultimate understanding. The real battles are between the scattered dust-ups; when Crowe's solace and arrogance play perfectly off of Bale's intense, sallow grimace.

All the while, Crowe earns his paycheck. Whether killing faceless Apaches, throwing his own men up for sacrifice ("Bill opened his mouth, Bill got stupid, Bill is dead") or mowing down his own captors - while handcuffed - Willy Wonka style, one-by-one, Crowe portrays Wade as viciously and vilely as any spaghetti-badass this side of the Sundance Kid. Yet you almost have to suppress a smile as you watch Crowe, because you just know he's toning down his now infamous real-life volatile tempera-

ment to play this role.

The direction is nothing memorable, but solid. Mangold is fortunate to direct a fantastic cast. Especially memorable was Wade's right-hand gunman, Charlie Prince, hauntingly played by Ben Foster (best known from *Six Feet Under*). Foster can do unending justice to his Joseph Goebbels-like loyalty to Wade with a simple pursing-in of his bottom lip or a glazed-over, wide-eyed stare at his next victim. This kid has game, and will be heard from again.

*3:10 to Yuma* does its job to not be overwrought, an epidemic in modern Western films. And Crowe adds another paragraph to one of the finest resumes in Hollywood. If not an instant classic, *Yuma* is easily an early Oscar contender.

# B+

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more ending with percussion straight out of Africa and Panda Bear lulling us back to reality.

These nine songs demand being heard. It's this insistency that makes this album immediately flourish. Quite simply, *Strawberry Jam* is a must own album, one that exceeds all expectations from a band already established.

*Note: Animal Collective is performing at the Variety Playhouse in Atlanta on September 26. Tickets are \$15.*

**A+**

- Matthew L. Reese

## ALSO IN ROTATION

### Charlemagne

*We Can Build an Island*

Charlemagne's sophomore album, *We Can Build an Island*, buzzes with enthusiastic, charming pop songs in the vein of The Feelies and New Zealand pop kings The Clean. This album, their second for SideCho Records, has the unenviable honor of following their critically acclaimed debut, *Detour Allure*. They manage to avoid the seemingly all-too-common "sophomore slump" with eleven songs of raw, dirty pop. I didn't find myself championing any one song, but in this album's case it is not entirely vital to have an obvious single. In fact, I am entirely glad that Charlemagne opts to focus more on the now dead art form of making an album. It has become routine nowadays (I am speaking of the last decade) for bands to concern themselves with writing one or two great songs only to fill the remainder of the album with garbage. Charlemagne crafts a very reassuring 35 minutes of music.

The pervading mid-tempo rhythm makes the album somewhat meld together about halfway through, which doesn't pose a problem for *We Can Build an Island*. This is the album to put in during a late night drive, an album that provides background noise to accompany the solitariness of night. It's simply a delightful, low-key rock record.

- Matthew L. Reese

### Rilo Kiley

*Under The Blacklight*

Few things hit the spot like this album. You might be wondering who this band is, but you've known them in a past life. The band is a quartet headed by two former child stars. Jenny Lewis, lead singer, was in the television shows *Troop Beverly Hills* and *The Wizard*. Blake Sennett, lead guitarist, played on *Boy Meets World* and was Ronnie Pinsky on *Salute Your Shorts*.

*Under The Blacklight* is the fourth studio album by the band. It dropped on Aug. 21, 2007. The first single off the album was "The Moneymaker."

The wide variety of styles makes this album a great listen, starting with the light and lofty rhythm of "Silver Lining." Lewis quickly transforms her voice from angelic to devilish and sultry, which few could rival, in the song "The Moneymaker."

Kiley's influences are evident throughout. "Close Call" and "Dreamworld" have similarities to some of the heavily Stevie Nicks-influenced Fleetwood Mac days. "Breakin' Up" is reminiscent of Blondie. Then there is "Smoke Detector," a nod to the old beach bum movies of Frankie Avalon.

From singer-songwriter, to pop, to retro, the variations in style help to keep the listener wanting more. It even gives warnings about making sure that cutie that you have a thing for is old enough.

**A-**

- Matt McRae

already sparked enough interest for a sequel, which is currently in development.

The Nintendo Wii is currently on a hot streak that few could have expected. The console also has the best lineup this fall, and will likely take home the sales crown during the holiday season.

The Wii's most exciting title this year is *Super Smash Bros. Brawl*. The star-studded lineup of characters has increased to include such favorites as Wario, Pit and Solid Snake from the *Metal Gear* franchise.

A deep solo player adventure mode titled *The Subspace Emissary* is the game's biggest addition. Players will control their favorite brawler through levels designed on a particular character's game history.

*Super Mario Galaxy* is shaping up to redefine the platform genre in a big way. Our hero takes to the skies in order to stop the evil Bowser once again. This time, players must launch from planet to planet in order to collect stars, while dealing with the familiar obstacles of Mario's past. Nintendo hopes to recreate the success of *Super Mario 64* with this title.

The rest of the year is full of quality exclusive games for each console, and there are plenty of multiplatform titles on the horizon as well. Check out future issues of *The Chanticleer* for an in-depth look at what to expect.

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## Sports

FOOTBALL - JSU 33, CHATTANOOGA 19

## Changing of the guard



Jered Staubs

chantysports@gmail.com

Hypocrisy  
of the  
NCAA

Anyone who saw the aftermath of the Michigan debacle against Appalachian State had a couple of questions.

Why is Lloyd "Christmas" Carr still employed, and what the hell are the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) and Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS)?

While the first question deserves its own column, the second is a bit more troubling (unless you're a Michigan fan).

It's not that it can't be answered - the FCS was formerly Division I-AA and the FBS was formerly I-A - it's that it has to be answered repeatedly.

But the issue here isn't merely an asinine change in terminology.

It's that the NCAA wastes its time, and ours, on irrelevant matters while ignoring its larger issues.

It champions Title IX and then watches idly as schools devote 90 percent of sports' funding to men's teams. It refuses to pay high-profile athletes and feigns shock when said athletes accept "improper benefits."

But most of all, it's the hypocrisy of the bowl system.

My problem isn't even that the NCAA sticks with the current system while a litany of better systems have been proposed.

The frustrating thing is to hear the excuses.

My favorite is that the athletes' academics will suffer.

By Patrick Swafford  
Sports Editor

In August, Jacksonville State head football coach Jack Crowe made it very clear that there was no quarterback controversy.

Matt Hardin was his guy and Cedric Johnson would be the backup.

Now, after two games, Crowe made something else very clear.

Cedric Johnson will make his first start in a Gamecock uniform this Saturday when the Gamecocks (1-1) take on Memphis at the Liberty Bowl.

"It feels good to be the starter," Johnson said. "But it's not like I'm the starter. Everytime I go in, I'm just going to try to make plays."

Crowe made the announcement after Saturday's 33-19 win over Chattanooga, a win that saw the offense struggle for the second consecutive game.

"We are going to start Cedric in this game because I think that we've really got to work toward some emphasis in productivity," Crowe said. "We've got to focus on it. We've got to limit ourselves to the things we know we can do."

What looked to be an offense based on the speed of its receivers and the abilities of the quarterbacks has become a virtual nightmare for Crowe and his staff.

It took a total of 20 offensive series for the Gamecocks to score their first offensive touchdown, a 28-yard touchdown strike from Johnson to Derrick Harris with 7:30 to go in the fourth quarter.

JSU's offense has been nothing short of quiet in the opening stages of the 2007 season.

The Gamecocks have rushed for only 242 yards in the first two games, a total that is down almost 30 yards from last year at this point.

Failure to convert inside the red zone has also been a problem for the Gamecocks.

They have been inside their opponents' 20-yard line 11 times without scoring a touchdown this year.

"I honestly believe there is an offense here, but it's obviously laid on the tracks that it was built on," Crowe said.

Part of the reason for the offensive woes has been the horrific play of the offensive line.

UTC found ways to exploit an inexperienced JSU offensive line in the first half, forcing Hardin and Johnson to scramble for their lives on several plays.

One of those plays saw Johnson scrambling for his life to avoid two UTC defenders.

Johnson attempted to throw the ball away as he was brought to the turf, but the play resulted in a loss of 27 yards.

"We've been very susceptible to lost-yardage plays," Crowe said. "We're doing that with some frequency and enough to keep us from moving the ball down the field."

After halftime, Crowe made the decision to go with the more mobile of the two gunmen.

"If our offensive line could



Cedric Johnson scrambles to avoid pressure in JSU's 33-19 win over Chattanooga Saturday. Johnson will start this weekend at Memphis. Photo by Steve Latham/JSU

See "Quarterbacks," page 7



Breit earns another honor as volleyball rallies for 3-2 win



The frustrating thing is to read the excuses.

My favorite is that the athletes' academics will suffer.

Is the NCAA seriously trying to convince us that the FCS athletes can't afford to miss school time, but the FBS schools can miss several weeks for a play-off?

### The hypocrisy of Title IX

Title IX is a good idea in theory, but it needs to be abolished or rewritten.

The rule keeps JSU from having a men's soccer team and forces the rugby team to be a "club team," unless more women's sports are added.

What other sports can JSU add for women? Polo? Diving?

Title IX allows the University of Alabama to spend \$32 million on a coach and \$45 million on stadium renovations for an unranked football team.

Meanwhile, UA pays its gymnastics coach \$150,000 to lead its most successful program.

I'm certain that the suits at the NCAA are extremely intelligent individuals, but, periodically, they lack tact and common sense.

Willie Williams is allowed to play college football despite being arrested 11 times by age 19, and only recently coming off probation for what is officially called "a fire extinguisher-related incident" (use your imagination).

However, Jeremy Bloom wasn't allowed to play college football for the awful sin of accepting endorsements to be able to train to represent this country as an Olympic skier.

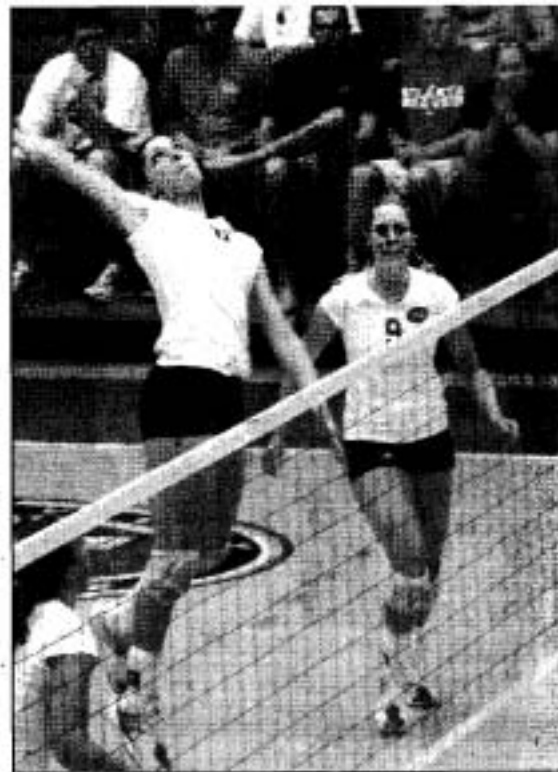
Even more sickening is the case of Aaron Adair.

Adair battled brain cancer as a young man, but heroically overcame it to the extent of being able to play baseball at the University of Oklahoma.

But, when Adair told his story in a book designed to give hope to other cancer patients, the NCAA felt it had to become involved.

They revoked his eligibility because his name was attached to a "corporate product."

As Bloom remarked, "Life rolls on in the wonderful world of amateur athletics, because the NCAA doesn't have to justify its decisions to anyone."



Abbey Breit became the volleyball second player in JSU history with over 1,000 kills and 1,000 digs. Photo by Kira Wright/ The Chanticleer

# volleyball rallies for 3-2 win

By Jared Gravette  
Staff Sports Writer

When all is said and done, Abbey Breit will likely be considered one of the greatest female athletes ever to don a Jacksonville State uniform.

She has put together an outstanding career at JSU and currently holds some of the schools most prestigious records.

However, all the records and accomplishments mean nothing to her without the success of the team to go along with it.

"It's good to have, but it's nothing unless we are winning and playing hard," Breit said.

"Obviously she does a lot for us," JSU head coach Rick Nold said. "I don't think that anybody is going to conquer her work ethic. That's just something for everybody to follow."

Following Breit's lead is exactly what J SU did on Sunday when they defeated the Albany Great Danes 3-2 in a highly contested match.

The Gamecocks came out strong, winning the first game 30-24. Breit led the way, smashing seven kills over the course of the first game.

The Gamecocks would then sputter in the second and third, dropping back-to-back games at home for the first time since Nov. 1, 2005 and more games at home than in all of last season.

"The second and third games were kind of a mental letdown for us," Breit said. "We came out in the fourth game fired up and ready to go. I think in fifth games that we excel because we are an aggressive offensive team."

The Gamecocks came out with renewed confidence and a new game plan on defense that led to a domi-

nating 30-14 victory in game four.

In the fifth and final set of the match, sophomore Brittney Whitten stepped up, making huge plays on both the defensive and offensive side of the court and knocking down four kills in the final game to help seal the win.

"We do a lot of drills in practice working on coming back from being down in big games," Whitten said. "Coach always talks about stepping up after every play by making the next one better."

Breit ended the day with a match-high 20 kills to go along with 15 digs to become the second player in JSU history to record 1,000 kills and 1,000 digs in a career.

The Gamecocks begin their defense of the Ohio Valley Conference title this weekend against UT-Martin and Murray State.

## Pair of 1-0 games for soccer in Classic

By Jered Staubs  
Staff Sports Writer

The JSU soccer team split 1-0 decisions in its two games of the inaugural Gamecock Soccer Classic.

Kaitlyn MacLellan delivered on a free kick in the 75<sup>th</sup> minute to give JSU (1-3-0) its first positive result of the year in the home opener against Youngstown State.

In a game largely devoid of serious chances, MacLellan's free kick appeared to be from an innocuous position, but Penguins keeper Caitlin Bodzioney gave JSU a gift-wrapped goal.

Bodzioney was inexplicably standing at the far post as MacLellan prepared to take the free kick. Even so, Bodzioney would have made the save, but she tripped over her own feet and could only deflect the ball

into the net.

Youngstown State rarely invaded the 18-yard box and only looked like scoring once, but Roehelle Boone hit the crossbar from close range and Kate Kelly controlled Tara Morey's rebound attempt.

A clearly fatigued JSU team was not as proficient in the Sunday match against previously winless The Citadel.

"I'm starting to see a lot more of the work we've done offensively," Davis said, "but in the second game fatigue was a factor."

The Gamecocks twice hit posts and had other chances, but Bulldog keepers Britni Bunnell and Lisa Wilson were able to preserve the clean sheet.

JSU had a dominant possession advantage, and the Bulldogs would go long stretches without even crossing midfield,

But one defensive lapse led to the Gamecocks' demise.

In the 52<sup>nd</sup> minute, Jessica Scott took advantage of poor communication between the JSU defense and goalkeeper Elizabeth Selasky, and fired home what would stand up as the game-winner.

JSU looks to get back on the winning track this weekend.

Friday night the Kennesaw State Owls visit JSU fresh off a 3-2 win over Alabama.

"Kennesaw is a very physical, well-coached team," Davis said. "They not only beat Alabama, they came from behind, down a man for most of the game to beat them."

Davis said that while Kelly has pleased her a little more, and will likely play against Kennesaw, Selasky will continue to receive playing time as well.

## Marius Sava leads cross-country at UT-Chattanooga

By Will Payne  
Staff Sports Writer

JSU Cross Country continued its recent success last Friday with the men placing second overall in the 5K run while the women placed sixth overall in the 3K at the UTC Individual Meet in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The men's team finished the event with three runners placing in the top ten led by freshman Marius Sava.

Sava was the first Gamecock across the line, placing sixth individually with an overall time of 15:26. Jeff Rhodes finished right behind him in seventh with a time of 15:30. Ryan McKay placed ninth with an individual time of 15:37.

"Marius is a quality runner," JSU coach Steve Ray said. "I mean he was a big deal

back in his native Romania."

Overall, the men's team placed second with a total of 69 points, finishing ahead of collegiate powers Alabama (77), Georgia Tech (81) and Ole Miss (167).

"Going up against teams from the ACC and SEC can be a little intimidating, but we feel that competing against the better programs on occasion will help us down the road," Ray said.

"It certainly doesn't hurt your own program if you can knock one or two of the big dogs off from time to time."

For the women, junior Lesley Binning was the Gamecocks' top finisher, crossing the line in 17th with a time of 11:50.

Cross country will look to continue its success this Friday in Tuscaloosa as a part of the Alabama Crimson Classic.



## FOOTBALL

# Robinson, defense doing their part in first win

By Patrick Swafford  
Sports Editor

It's true. Defense does win games.

All you need to do is look at the performance of Jacksonville State's defense and you'll see why the Gamecocks racked up six turnovers, including a fumble recovery and two interceptions by senior Drew Robinson, en route to a 33-19 win last Saturday over Chattanooga.

"I told Drew that we were going to start making him a two-way player now that he's become a ball hog," JSU coach Jack Crowe said. "He had more total offense than any one player we had."

Robinson racked up a total of 108 return yards last week, more total yards than any other Gamecock, on offense or defense.

After recovering a fumble early in the first quarter, Robinson struck on Chattanooga's first possession of the second half.

Robinson picked off UTC quarterback Tony Pastore at JSU's goal line and bolted down his own sideline for a 63-yard return.

"I didn't think I was going to go 100 yards," Robinson said. "I was waiting on somebody to catch me. That's a little far for a linebacker to run."

The pick led to a Gavin Hallford field goal that cut UTC's lead to 16-9.

The Gamecocks tied the game when Brent Davenport stripped the ball from Pastore's hands, allowing Marquise Elston to stride into the end zone from five yards out.

Once the offense finally got rolling and put the Gamecocks in the lead for good, Robinson struck one more time to put the game on ice.

Robinson picked up his second interception of the game and returned it 45 yards for the score.

"I was ready to get in the end zone," Robinson said of his second pick. "We got some pressure on [Pastore], flushed him out and made him throw it right to me. The great blocking we got from the defense is the only reason I got in the end

zone."

The end zone is something new to Robinson. The last time the senior scored a touchdown was during his high school days in Cedartown, Ga.

The defense made a tremendous stand in the second half.

Chattanooga took a page out of JSU's book and played some smash mouth offense with the Gamecocks, running the ball right through the middle of the line.

With the score tied at 16 and the Mocs moving inside the JSU 15, the defense stood tall and forced UTC to kick a field goal on fourth down.

"That was huge," Robinson said. "They were giving us a run for it and we got in there on defense and said 'We have to man up here.'"

While JSU has struggled offensively, the defense has scored three touchdowns in two games and has returned an interception in four consecutive games, dating back to the Samford game of November, 2006.

"Anytime you can score on defense it is a tremendous help for the team," Robinson said. "We're not out there to get points, but when we get the opportunity, it's great to help the offense and the team out."

*"That's a little far for a  
linebacker to run."*

- Drew Robinson



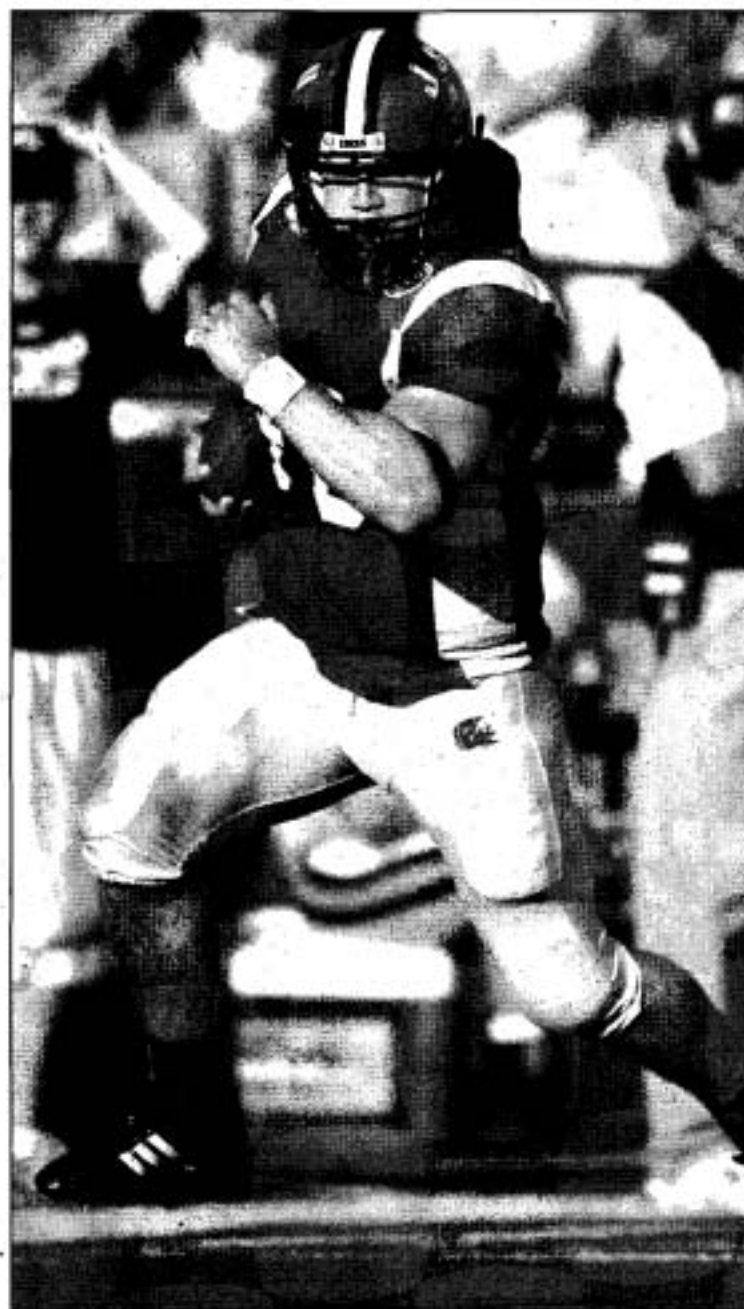
53.8

Robinson's 53.8 yard pick is the longest in school history.

## A Glance ahead

The Tigers have some serious talent on the offensive side of the ball. Running back Joseph Doss entered the season on the Coak Walker Award watch list for the best running back in the country and quarterback Martin Hankins has some quality receivers to throw the ball to in Duke Calhoun and six-foot, eight-inch tall Carlos Singleton.

Defensively, Memphis got ran over two weeks ago by Ole Miss to the tune of 467 total yards. Their game against Arkansas State was postponed due to weather.



Linebacker Drew Robinson runs after one of his three turnovers on Saturday. Robinson intercepted two passes, one of which he returned for a touchdown. Photo by Steve Latham/JSU

## GAMECOCK BRIEFS

• Freshman **Marius Sava** was named Ohio Valley Conference Runner of the Week after his performance last weekend at the Chattanooga Opener.

• Senior **Drew Robinson** was named OVC Defensive Player of the Week after picking off two passes for 108 total yards and a touchdown against Chattanooga.

• Senior **Gavin Hallford** was named OVC Special Teams Player of the Week for the second straight week after connecting on all four of his field goal attempts against Chattanooga.

• The Jacksonville State softball team will host the inaugural **Tera Ross Memorial Classic fall tournament** on Sept. 29-30 at the Oxford Lake Softball Complex in Oxford, Ala. JSU will kick off the two-day, 12-team event at 9 a.m. on Saturday against Snead State.

• The **JSU womens' golf team** finished second in the 13th annual Chris Banister/Gamecock Golf Classic held at Silver Lakes Golf Course in Jacksonville, six shots behind Chattanooga.

• **JSU's mens and womens basketball teams** will begin the 2007-08 season on **Nov. 9** with the men traveling to Georgia to take on the Bulldogs while the women open

## Report Card

### Offense: C

The offensive line isn't doing the running backs or quarterbacks any favors here. If you're looking for a fall guy for why Matt Hardin lost his starting job, start at the front.

### Defense: A

Drew Robinson was named OVC Defensive Player of the Week. Marquise Elston returned a fumble for a score and the defense as a whole forced six turnovers and sacked UTC quarterback Tony Pastore three times.

### Special Teams: A



Singleton.

Defensively, Memphis got ran over two weeks ago by Ole Miss to the tune of 467 total yards. Their game against Arkansas State was postponed due to weather.

That poses a small problem for Jack Crowe and the JSU coaching staff. They only have one game from which to review film.

Despite being absolutely crushed statistically against the Rebels, Memphis only lost that game by a field goal.

If JSU can get their running game in order, this could be a very interesting game, but don't look for it to happen.

If JSU is going to pull an Appalachian State, they're going to have to win it through the air.

It looks like Memphis could be prone to give up a heap of passing yards. If Cedric Johnson can avoid the pressure that Memphis will most likely bring, this game could be close.

However, I don't think he'll be able to avoid the pressure all night.

**Patrick's prediction: Memphis 24, Jacksonville State 17**

## Rhetta sidelined this weekend

By Patrick Swafford  
Sports Editor

JSU's already struggling offense might have gotten a huge monkey wrench thrown into the works last weekend.

Standout wide receiver Taurean Rhetta will miss this weekend's game at Memphis with a neck injury.

The injury occurred in the second half of the game on a play where Rhetta hit the turf awkwardly, jarring his neck.

With JSU's playmaker out of the lineup, the Gamecocks (1-1) will be without their most versatile athlete.

"It changes a lot of it, which maybe we don't need to be doing it anyway," JSU head coach Jack Crowe said. "The threat of him was a big part of that concept. I think going for it on

fourth down will be severely limited."

Rhetta has been JSU's most used player this season. Last weekend, the senior from Birmingham was used as a quarterback on fourth down situations, the holder for field goals and extra points and in his usual wide receiver position.

"We threw him in everywhere we needed something to happen," Crowe said. "It's not that we're minus a player, but we're minus that player. We're minus that productivity because we never line Taurean up without having productivity."

The loss of Rhetta couldn't come at a worse time for JSU.

The Gamecocks have been out gained in rushing and passing yards in both games this season and have been outscored a combined 21-7 by their own

defense.

Place kicker Gavin Hallford is a near perfect 8-for-9 on field goal attempts and has four extra points this season, good for a team high 28 points.

With Rhetta out of the lineup, expect to see Derrick Harris play a bigger role in the Gamecocks' stagnant offense.

Harris recorded JSU's lone offensive touchdown in the fourth quarter of last week's game against Chattanooga with an amazing catch.

"I think that we've got some step up guys," Crowe said. "You don't see a better catch than the one Derrick Harris made. You can look at Terrell Owens or anybody else you want to. You don't make better catches than that. That's maybe as good a catch as I've ever seen."

## Quarterbacks: Johnson starts Saturday

Cont. from page 6

control the line of scrimmage and establish the running game, they'd create a lot of unpressured passes," Crowe said. "But when you're not running the ball, they're pressuring the passer, whether it's first down or third down. All of those pressures mount up and you've got to move the quarterback around.

"Matt is not the fall guy for this," Crowe said. "Our whole offense has not developed well enough for us to maintain the same approach to offensive football. Matt is the victim of changing that approach."

With the offensive line in shambles, Johnson's

speed and ability to roll out of the pocket to avoid pressure was the main catalyst for the second half surge and eventual offensive breakthrough.

Despite Johnson getting the nod as the starting quarterback this weekend, Hardin will see playing time, although he will not see the same script as Johnson did.

Crowe scripted the opening three series in the first two games of the season. There is no script for the Memphis game.

"I expect Matt to play. Don't ask me when he's going in, because I don't know. I can't see us getting through this game without Matt playing. I told him that he'll be a part of us winning a conference championship."

### Special Teams: A

Gavin Hallford is 8-of-9 on field goal attempts to go along with four extra points. I kid you not, he is outscoring the offensive and defense combined.

traveling to Georgia to take on the Bulldogs while the women open at Kennesaw State.

- From staff reports

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