

"EXTRA! EXTRA!.... Eh, not really."

The Chanticleer



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Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

September 27, 2007

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Football drops its third game of the year, this week in its conference opener.
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QUESTION of the

Wikipedia draws ire of faculty, love of students

By **Bethany Harbison**
Copy Editor

"Please be aware that any information you may find in Wikipedia may be inaccurate, misleading, dangerous or illegal," reads the risk disclaimer of Wikipedia, "the free encyclopedia that anyone can edit."

The Web site offers 2,021,266 articles — each of which is open to edits by any Wikipedia user at any time. The information's questionable origins have Jacksonville State University faculty cautioning students to steer clear of the site and turn to alternate resources.

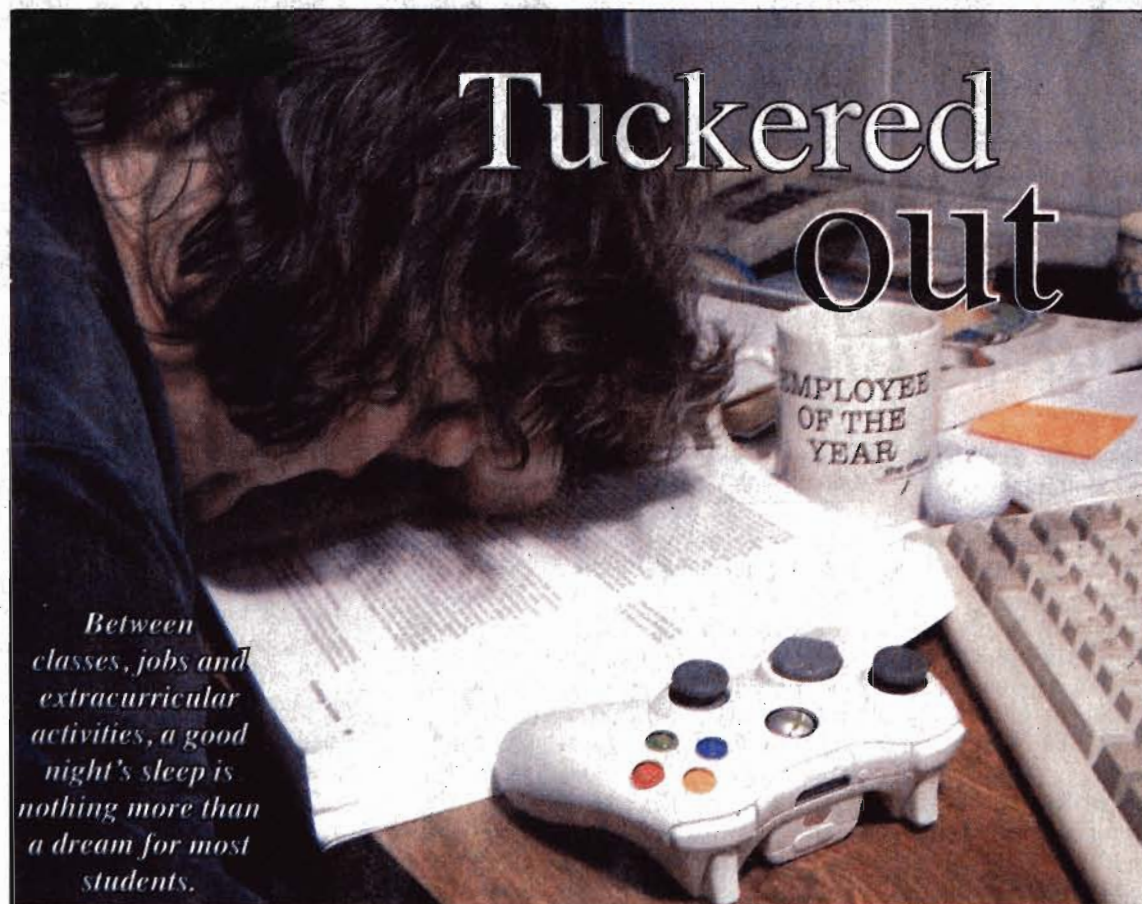
"[Wikipedia] makes me nervous, because the authority of the entries is highly suspect," head of the English department Dr. Robert Felgar said.

"Sometimes it is corrected, and sometimes mistakes stay for quite some time."

Instructors are not the only ones riled over students' frequent use of Wikipedia. Librarians, veritable research experts, are concerned as well.

"Wikipedia is not even on my radar, to tell you the truth. I don't consider it a legitimate source at all," Douglas Taylor, business and social sciences librarian, said.

See "Wikipedia," [page 3](#)



Between classes, jobs and extracurricular activities, a good night's sleep is nothing more than a dream for most students.

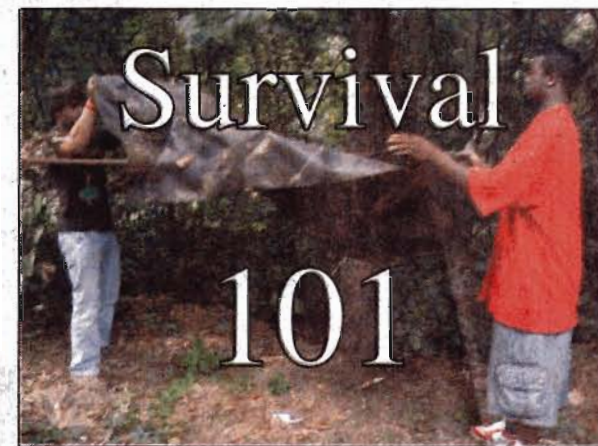
By **Brandon Hollingsworth**
News Editor

Midterms are quickly approaching, and finals not long

as a group have poor sleeping patterns, leading to decreased academic proficiency, degraded athletic performance and even health problems.

Photo by Matt McRae/The Chanticleer

This is the first in a four-part series taking a look at ...



Mitchell Skidmore (left) and Quint Phillips (right) use a tarp to build a tent on the hill behind Rowe Hall. Photo by Bethany Harbison/The Chanticleer

A 76-year-old woman's story has brought the issue of survival added attention

By **Bethany Harbison**
Copy Editor

If you're stretched out on a comfy recliner with remote in one hand and Coke in the other, reality television shows like The Discovery Channel's *Survivorman* and *Man vs. Wild* are fascinating. Funny, even.

For 76-year-old Ora Doris Anderson of Oregon, however, the necessity of such survival skills became her reality when she recently found herself stranded in the Oregonian wilderness for 13 days. She had no food, water or supplies.

The details of her methods of survival are hazy, because she has remained somewhat incoherent since her rescue.

When stories like Anderson's surface, many can't help but imagine themselves in such a critical situation.

"I would panic or pray — or probably both," JSU sophomore Danielle Ault said.

Ault is not alone. Many students, or individuals for that matter, are at a loss when it comes to the topic of survival. Capt. Jerry Mize, instructor of the course Survival 113 at JSU, hopes that his class plays a part in rectifying students' lack of survival knowledge.

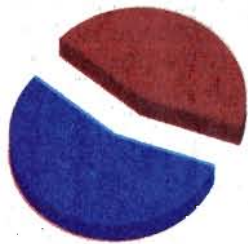
Although the course is based out of the military science department, it is open to all JSU students.

"Ninety percent of my students are not military science," Mize said. "I might have two or three cadets, or green-suiters as we call them, but most of them are just regular college students."

The class centers on the basics: finding water, forag-

QUESTION of the WEEK

Do you like the MyJSU system?



■ No 56%
■ Yes 44%



"I have mixed feelings. [MyJSU] will probably get better once the bugs get worked out. You have to go through too much to get what you want."

- Chris Davis
Senior

Next week's question:

As a student, what is the biggest health concern for you?

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NEWS EDITOR

Midterms are quickly approaching, and finals not long after that. It means long hours studying, completing papers and reviewing material. For many students, it also means getting by on intermittent sleep, energy drinks and caffeine.

Researchers say that, while those practices may work for a day or two, even in the short run they can have a deleterious effect on test scores and even one's health.

It's not just exam weeks that wreak havoc on students' sleep habits. Often, college students

patterns, leading to decreased academic proficiency, degraded athletic performance and even health problems.

"College students often experience poor sleep quality and increased daytime sleepiness," Jeff Bryson, a sleep researcher at JSU, said.

Personal choices that influence the quality and quantity of sleep are often to blame, according to Bryson. Those choices include inconsistent sleep routines, high caffeine and alcohol consumption, and high stress levels.

On a person-to-person basis, sleep is a highly variable thing. Some wake up at the drop of a

This is the first in a four-part series taking a look at ...

STUDENT HEALTH @JSU

feather. Others sleep through a fire alarm. But there's one thing all humans have in common: they all need sleep to survive and function normally.

It's so vital, in fact, that lack of sleep among college students has been identified as one of the top

See "Student health," page 3

Colleges try to curb book fraud

By Brandon Hollingsworth
News Editor

It's a time-honored tradition: the end of a semester brings thoughts of finals, graduation and of course, making 50 bucks off a book that originally cost you \$6,000.

A lot of money changes hands during those periods - Oregon State University's bookstore reports paying

out \$1.5 million a year in book buybacks alone.

At most colleges, it's an honor system: if you turn in a book, it's understood that you bought it in the first place, and the bookstore gives you the money and re-shelves the volume.

However, increasing numbers of college students across the nation are stealing texts from booksellers

See "Books," page 3

A Southern tradition



At halftime of most college football games, the empty line at the concession stand you see on the left here just doesn't happen. That's not the case at JSU football games, where the Southerners halftime show usually keeps more people in their seats than the game itself, as evidenced by the picture on the right. While the marching band certainly did not disappoint, the football team lost 31-24 on Saturday, Sept. 22. Photos by Kevin Jeffers/The Chanticleer

green-suiters as we call them, but most of them are just regular college students."

The class centers on the basics: finding water, foraging food, creating a shelter and building a fire. Mize uses episodes of *Survivorman* and a military survivor's manual to drive home the rules of survival. He also brings classes outdoors for hands-on activities once every couple of weeks.

"Because I can't take students out for 2 or 3 weeks at a time to make them survive, what I can do is get them to learn the basics like the book and the videos," Mize said.

He also seeks to teach more complex and obscure skills.

Students learn how to do everything from how to build a Native American-style fish basket to how to use a "cricket thermometer," a formula for accurately discerning the outside temperature based on the number of cricket chirps.

"Survival isn't just about making things - it's about a thought process," Mize said. "If [Anderson] was just that ornery, feisty kind of woman that just decided she wanted to make it home to see her grandkids, she had set herself up for success already. In that case, her mental state was prepared to let her survive."

Taylor Harrington, Eagle Scout and ROTC cadet, agreed that an individual's mental state is indeed one of the most important parts of survival and that staying calm is crucial. Harrington also said that your next move should be to, well, not move.

See "Survival," page 3

Announcements

- The Marching Southerners will host a fundraiser at McAlister's Deli in Oxford on Oct. 9, from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- A JSU-wide picture day will be held on Oct. 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Photos will be taken for the Mimosa yearbook.
- During fall semester 2007, the English Competency Exam will be given on Tuesday, Oct. 16, and Wednesday, Oct. 17. Registration is now open and will close on Oct. 10. Register online through MyJSU.
- MetLife will be at Bibb Graves Hall Oct. 1, to conduct interviews for JSU students or grads. Contact Susan Miller at sdmiller@metlife.com.

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 chanteditor@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 21

• Student George Kapkia reported theft of property at Crow Hall. The stolen item was a yellow bicycle.

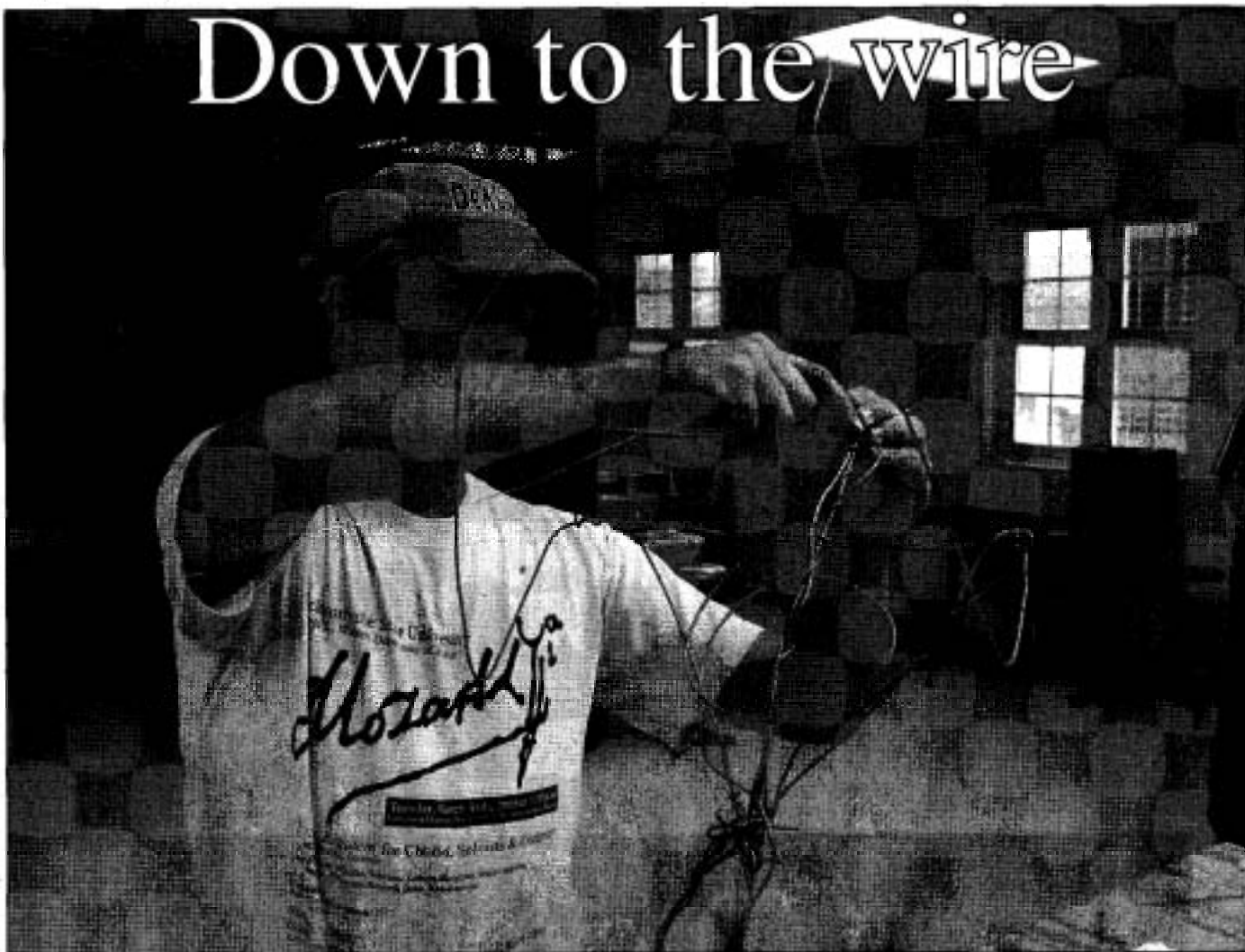
Saturday, September 22

• Diangelo Perry was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Arrest occurred on Drayton St. at 11:25 p.m. A 9mm handgun was confiscated from Mr. Perry's vehicle.

Monday, September 24

• Student Rodrick A. Dorsey reported a burglary at Dauge Hall. The items reported stolen were a

Down to the wire



3D Design, or Design II, is one of many art classes now being held in the Gladys M. Carlisle Applied Arts Building, which opened (finally) on Sept. 19. John Gladden (pictured) attempts to put together his wire sculpture. Of the new building, he said, "The new building is wonderful. It's what we've been waiting for for a long time. This is the kind of facility every department on campus should have." Photo by Matt McRae / The Chanticleer

Art annex, after many delays, is open

By Brandon Hollingsworth / News Editor
and Zach Childree / Staff Reporter

After years of planning and recent delays, the Gladys M. Carlisle Applied Arts Building is now open for classes.

Students were originally told that the new building would be open in time for the beginning of the fall semester, according to art minor Amanda O'Hern. That opening was pushed back to Sept. 15, and then to last Wednesday.

Officials from the art department did not respond to requests for comments by press time.

"It's a whole lot better" at Carlisle, said Tchelindria Austin, a student taking a digital photography class in the center.

For years, art classes were held in cramped quarters at Hammond Hall and the old art annex near Paul Snow Stadium. Under that arrangement, class schedules were often dictated by which rooms were available at specific times.

Space constraints and safety concerns, along with a visit from an accreditation committee of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, helped catalyze the university's decision to construct the new facility.

Rumors over the summer of structural problems in Carlisle's concrete floors proved to be unfounded, according to department head Charles Groover.

Some art classes will still be held at Hammond, and the art department's headquarters will remain there.

The Carlisle building features new equipment and facilities designed to aid students in drawing, design, ceramics and photography classes.

"Everything is really expensive looking," Austin said. "It's a lot more advanced."

Even though the building officially opened last Wednesday, classes weren't in full swing in the Carlisle building until Monday, Sept. 24.

The transition period from the old facilities to the new ones was virtually seamless, consisting mainly of moving furniture into the Carlisle building.

O'Hern, who is taking a ceramics class in the new building, said she isn't upset about the delay in opening.

"I'm just glad it's ready to go," she said.

There are still some minor amenities left to be desired, according to Austin.

"It's mostly some supplies and small things," said Austin.

One feature of the new building that she enjoys is the new digital photography lab.

"I think it has to be one of the best in the state," she said.

The pervading mood about the new building among students is positive, according to Austin.

"I think that everyone is really pleased with it," she said.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

• Jacksonville State University will participate in **National Public Lands Day** on Sept. 29. JSU will coordinate with the National Park Service and volunteers to clean up trails and other public areas in and around Little River Canyon in DeKalb County.

• Flutist **Molly Alicia Barth** is slated to perform at the Mason Hall Performance Center on the evening of Oct. 3. Barth, a founding member of the sextet "eighth blackbird," will be accompanied by local pianist **Christy D'Ambrosio**.

• The **Faculty Senate** seeks nominations of individuals for Emeritus status from the academic faculty and/or administrative staff, currently retired, to be selected for recognition. Nominations are due on Thursday, Oct. 4.

• In the near future, JSU may offer new options for students in two departments. A committee of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education approved a measure allowing JSU to offer a **concentration in athletic administration** in its Master's degree in Public Administration and a **concentration in coaching** for its Bachelor's in Secondary Education.

- From wire service

SENATE MINUTES

Rundown of the Monday, Sept. 24, SGA Senate

reported a burglary at Dauge Hall. The items reported stolen were a Hewlett-Packard laptop computer valued at \$1,450, a Sony Playstation II valued at \$300, and various Playstation games valued at \$200. The crime occurred between the hours of 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Information in the campus crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Sells Hall. These records are public documents which any individual has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe this information to be in error, please call 782-8521, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050.

The Week in Events

Thursday, September 27

- Interfraternity Council Meeting, 302 TMB, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
- NPHC Week Fall 2007 Step Show/Mixer, Leone Cole Auditorium, 6:30 p.m. Admission, \$3.00

Friday, September 28

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

Saturday, September 29

- Fashionetta, Leone Cole Auditorium, 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.
- Ghost Stories, Cheaha State Park, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Cheaha Dog and Master Hike, Cheaha State Park, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Admission, \$5.00

Monday, October 1

- SGA Senate Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Panhellenic Council Meeting, Curtiss Hall, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- Freshman Forum Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 7:45 - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 2

- Organizational Council Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 3

- Homecoming Pageant, Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

the old art annex near Paul Snow Stadium. Under that arrangement, class schedules were often dictated by which rooms were available at specific times.

Even though the building officially opened last Wednesday, classes weren't in full swing in the Carlisle building until Monday, Sept. 24.

According to Austin, "I think that everyone is really pleased with it," she said.

Banner could be root of mailbox deletions

By Zach Childree
Staff Reporter

Some JSU students who had mailboxes assigned to them at the beginning of the semester may have a surprise when they go the Theron Montgomery Building to check their mail.

They may not have a mailbox at all.

Out of the 7,826 boxes available to students, at least 20 students may have their mailboxes deleted from the system because of duplicates.

It's not clear to the management of the mail center whether the duplications were because of human error or because of the switch to the new Banner system.

Mail Center supervisor Robin Smyre said that she has worked at the mail center for 12 years, and in that time, she has seen worse problems than a few deletions.

"For the amount of students we have, the number that has been affected is very minute," Smyre said.

Smyre added that when problems with mail distribution or services become apparent, they will be addressed promptly.

"If you can't get in your mailbox," she said, "we treat it as a

real problem and act to fix it."

There are several reasons for a student to lose their mailbox, according to Smyre.

Under normal circumstances, a student loses his or her mailbox only when they graduate or stop taking classes for a semester.

The current situation with the mail center raises another question.

Recently President Meehan has expressed a desire to raise student enrollment past the 10,000-student mark. Is the mail center prepared to deal with a large student population growth?

Smyre expressed confidence in the abilities of the mail center to keep up with the growing student population, though she pointed out that there will always be some students that opt not to have an official university mailbox.

She said that students who prefer to have their mail forwarded off campus can do so for a \$10 fee. There is no charge for students to have an on-campus mailbox.

Even with student growth and the few deletions of mailboxes, Smyre assured students they will still be able to get their mail.

"It's a fixable problem," Smyre said, "It's not anything to be concerned about."

Salsa sensation



Participants gather around to learn a Latin linedance at SGA's Latin Dance Party on Wednesday, Sept. 19. Photo by Jason Wright/ The Mimosas

Did we miss something?

If you see news happen, give us a call

782-5701

Greeks unify for NHPC Week

By Kanani Miller
Staff Reporter

On Monday Sept. 24, the National Panhellenic Council Week continued with a Unity Field Day, where Greeks played games of softball, flag football, and kickball on the Intramural Field from 5 to 7 p.m.

This was the second event planned for this week. Sunday, Sept. 23rd officially kicked the week off with a Yard Show on the Quad.

The purpose of this week, according to DeShunn Johnson, is "to promote unity within the Greek community and to give students the opportunity to become a part of something positive."

Sinamen Nixon, Vice President of NPHC also added, "This week is a chance to show JSU a great reason to GO GREEK!"

The week continued with a Road Block Community Service project to benefit the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization on Tuesday, Sept. 25th and Wednesday, Sept. 26th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The road blocks were set up at Stone Center, Ayers Hall, Merrill Hall, TMB and Houston Cole Library. On Thursday, Sept. 27 a Step Show Mixer will be held at 6:30 p.m. until 12 a.m. in Leone Cole Auditorium. Admission is \$3.00 per person.

The last event will be held on Friday, September 28th at the Panhellenic House. This will be a Greeks only affair and a time for the Greek community to have fellowship and promote unity tying back in with the entire week's theme.

Rundown of the Monday, Sept. 24, SGA Senate meeting:

- Approved the minutes from the Sept. 17 meeting.

- Tabled a bill designed to change the makeup of the Student Executive Board. Bill will be reworded before consideration.

- Tabled a bill delineating the duties of the Presidential Chief of Staff.

- Tabled a bill removing a requirement that electronic devices be silenced at Senate meetings.

- Passed a bill allowing the Vice-President of Student Activities to nominate chairpersons for activities committees.

SAC AGENDA

Minutes from the September 11 Student Activities Council:

- Committee heads delivered reports on their respective areas of responsibility.

- SAC President Brittney Cunningham and Vice-President Jonathan Taylor delivered reports.

- Discussion of activities: suggestions included a possible resurrection of Casino Night; SAC T-shirts; more weekend activities; open call for ideas from the floor.

- Push for greater use of JSU facilities for SAC activities.

- Announcements of upcoming events; meeting adjourned.

Survival: Students prepare for "what if?"

Cont. from page 1

"The best thing to do is to stay put. If you go wandering off, you're only going to get even more lost," Harrington said.

Mize explained that an individual could normally last 35 to 40 days without food, but only about a week without water.

Depending on how desperate you are, Mize and Harrington said any water is better than no water.

"You're not going to know if the water's fresh," Harrington said. "If you have a fire and something to boil it in, boil it. You've got to remember that

there's trash everywhere. If you can't boil it, drink small quantities at a time. It could really tear you up inside."

The situation with food is similar. A growling stomach and waning strength can make almost any creature seem palatable. Harrington mentioned ants, worms, lizards and fish as viable high-protein possibilities.

The key to foraging either food or water, according to Mize, is being resourceful and thinking outside the proverbial box.

"A stick is not just a stick," Mize said. "A stick is a spear. A stick is a fishing pole. A stick is a

weapon to keep animals away from you. Improvise. A vine is not just a vine. A vine is lashing material that can be used to put pieces of wood together to make a raft or something."

Mize emphasized the importance of observing the surrounding environment by staying in tune with all senses.

"When you get into nature, you would be amazed at how quickly you pick up on the instincts that you have built inside of you," Mize said. "You get a feel for the nature going on around you."

Without a fire, boiling water or cooking game is impossible. Harrington said that a fire not only provides warmth and keeps insects away, but can aid your mental state as well.

"It gives you a hope, and you're not just sitting there alone in the darkness, which kills a lot of people," Harrington said.

Despite her advancing age and rugged surroundings, Anderson somehow managed to defy all odds.

Mize hopes that if in a similar situation, his students will be able to do the same. Though the vast majority will never find themselves in such dire straits, Mize teaches with what he calls the "what-if factor" in mind.

"Will they use it? Rarely," Mize said. "If they needed to, would they remember a couple of things that might let them survive a couple of extra days? I hope so."

Student health part 1 of 4: Sleep habits problem for students

Cont. from page 1

three health-related roadblocks to academic performance, according to a 2006 survey from the American College Health Association.

The tried-and-true college rite of passage, the all-nighter, is a prime example. More often than not, the caffeine-fueled study sessions make a student more stressed, less alert and more prone to making mistakes. A recent study, completed by the Loyola University at New Orleans' Department of Psychology, concluded that "caffeine does not appear to help the studying process in the long run."

The effects of insufficient sleep go further than just test-taking acuity. It is also important to realize that both getting too much and too little sleep, period, will result in feeling groggy, having poor concentration and mood disturbances, Bryson said.

"Students can have irritability, depression, anxiety, fatigue, decreased immunity, weight gain and heart problems, just to name a few,"

Getting a good night's sleep doesn't have to be a struggle.

Here are some tips on better sleep habits:

- Try to go to bed and get up at the same time.
- Have quiet time before bed.
- Have a quiet, dark room.
- Don't leave the television on while trying to go to sleep.
- Decrease the amount of caffeine you drink during the day.
- Don't drink alcohol within 4 hours of going to bed, and limit your alcohol intake.
- Try to exercise daily, but not before going to bed.
- Don't take naps during the day. Do not eat a heavy meal before going to bed. Sometimes a carbohydrate snack can make you sleepy, but do not eat sugar or chocolate before bedtime.
- Do not have a clock beside your bed. Watching the clock makes it harder to fall asleep.

- Source: Nancy Edge, JSU Student Health Center

Nancy Edge, of the JSU Student Health Center, said.

There's no doubt Americans live in a caffeineated world. A cursory look at supermarket and convenience store shelves reveals a display of products designed to keep one awake and at the ready, but at what cost? The availability of sodas, energy drinks and other chemical products designed to stimulate the nervous system has college administrators' and counselors worried.

"Students do use [stimulants] to regulate their rhythms, but it is not stable," Bryson said. "When these products are used, sleep is impaired and more use of the product is needed to compensate. This cycles over the course of time until the person no longer recognizes how it is affecting them."

Reliance on caffeine and other supplements to artificially reset one's body clock is getting worse, according to Rickey Naugher, director of JSU's Counseling and Career Services department.

"Some people will come in and say 'I can't sleep,' and they had 12 cups of coffee and 15 Mountain Dew's, and we'll go, 'Okay, we know what the problem is,'" Naugher said.

There are factors other than chemical sources that play into the abundance or lack

of conditions and even air circulation can all factor into the equation, making sleep a far more complex activity than one might suspect.

Colleges and universities are beginning to notice these trends, and some are taking action to prevent minor sleep-related problems from becoming much larger issues, according to a report in the Sept. 17 edition of *USA Today*.

UCLA is offering students a ten-week program this fall to help students with insomnia. The University of Maryland is offering seminars that educate students on common sleep disorders and better time management. Houston's Rice University is in the midst of a campaign encouraging undergraduates to stick to regular sleep/wake cycles.

Jacksonville State University offers no such formalized program for students, but some help is available from the Counseling and Career Services Department. Sleep-related difficulties are not the most common problem among JSU students, according to Naugher, but he says that sleep disorders can be tied to other issues in a student's life.

"We have had students come in for stress issues, and they'll indicate that sleep is one of the symptoms," Naugher said.

After all this gloom and doom, there is

It may not just be that you're staying up too late - doctors recognize more than 80 types of sleep disorders, which have a multitude of causes and effects. Here are some signs that could indicate your sleep problems could be a medical issue:

- Inability to fall asleep or stay asleep
- Frequently awaking in the middle of the night
- Waking up unusually early, sometimes accompanied by

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- Waking up unusually early, sometimes accompanied by headaches
- Excessive daytime fatigue or sleepiness

— Source: WebMD.com

know what the problem is," Naugher said. There are factors other than chemical sources that play into the abundance or lack of sleep. Just as everyone's sleep cycles are unique, the reasons why they don't get quality sleep are varied as well. Stress from classes, problems at work and personal difficulties can all influence the quality and length of sleep. How much or how little caffeine one ingests over the course of the day, whether one smokes or drinks, exercise, temperatures, lighting con-

ditions, and they'll indicate that sleep is one of the symptoms," Naugher said. After all this gloom and doom, there is good news to report: Very rarely are sleep habits unbreakable. Whether it's stress, caffeine or another problem that's causing your sleepless nights, there's often a solution to be found. It could be as easy as changing your routines, or it could require something more substantial. But rest assured, a quality night's sleep is well within reach.

Books: Unlike many schools, JSU requires only school ID for buybacks

Cont. from page 1

and selling back books they never owned. As a result, colleges, universities and municipalities across the nation are cracking down on how books are sold, tracked and recovered.

While most campus police departments don't keep detailed records of book-related crimes, bookstore managers have their own theories. As the price of books increases, they become better targets for students and others seeking to make some quick cash, often by selling to the books for up to half their cover value.

The city council in Madison, Wis., passed an ordinance over the summer that requires the college bookstores that buy used textbooks to maintain detailed information on customers, including Social Security numbers, driver's license information and physical descriptions.

University of Wisconsin police Det. Peter Grimyser told USA

Today that the ordinance was triggered by a rise in the number of people "selling the books to get money for drugs."

Other postsecondary institutions across America have made similar changes, seeking to stem the tide.

The University of Texas at Arlington marks textbooks with ink that can be viewed only under fluorescent lights. The University of Montana allows students to return books only on one day two weeks into each term. The bookstore also requires students to present IDs and the checkout counter. At Penn State, bookstores both on- and off-campus offer resale only to customers with student IDs.

For the record, JSU's on-campus bookstore has no set time for book buybacks. Students can resell texts any day of the week. Clerks ask for presentation of JSU IDs, but no special criteria must be met for book resale.

Some material for this report was derived from an article in the Sept. 17 edition of USA Today.

Wikipedia: Web site that teachers love to hate

Cont. from page 1

John Graham, head of public services and associate library science professor, said that he believes most students happen upon Wikipedia when it appears high on the list of results from a search engine like Google or Yahoo.

Though students may not actively pursue the online encyclopedia, he estimated that students still utilize the site for research about 70 percent of the time.

"We're all in college now, and that's not the way research should be done," Graham said. "You can't take the first five hits off of Google and turn that in."

Graham attributed the popularity of Web sites like Wikipedia to the students' desire for quick, free information that is easy to locate.

Associate biology professor Dr. Robert Carter agreed, pointing out that in his classes, the only books his students ever use are on course reserves.

"They're pretty spoiled in a lot of ways," Carter said. "If I asked some of them to look something up in the dictionary, I don't know if they could."

Felgar suggested Wikipedia's youthful appeal as a possibility.

"They don't like sites run by old fuddy-

duddies," Felgar said. "Even I consult [Wikipedia] now and again in a haphazard fashion. I'm not proud of it."

Despite concerns about Wikipedia, Graham said that Wikipedia is not without its benefits, but students run a risk even when utilizing the Web site's strong points. Wikipedia, according to Graham, is updated rapidly, making it home to a great deal of current and obscure information.

"You just don't know if it is appropriate or correct," Graham said.

Houston Cole Library's Web site, according to Graham, now contains online resources that can aptly stand in Wikipedia's stead.

"You can get to the library's databases

with about the same number of clicks as you can search Wikipedia," Graham said. "There we have information from reputable sources—information that students are paying for."

Whether for a project or paper, Graham recommended students be prepared to go the extra mile when researching.

"[Wikipedia] certainly shouldn't be the be-all, end-all of your research. You should follow that up with more research," Graham said.

Even Wikipedia agrees.

Reads the site's risk disclaimer: "Do not relay upon any information found in Wikipedia without independent verification."

Ways to take research beyond Wikipedia

- Begin early. Allow yourself ample time to research your topic thoroughly. Starting the night before is a sure way to find yourself back at Wikipedia.
- Log on to Houston Cole's Web site and search the library catalog and electronic databases for material on your topic.
- Still stuck? Seek out one of JSU's librarians. Helping you research is a big part of their job.



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OUR VOICE

In this week's edition of *The Chanticleer*, you'll find an article on students who don't have campus mailboxes, possibly due to an error in the new Banner computer system.

It's the second article we've published on a problem that may find Banner at fault. The first, published earlier this month, told of students that didn't receive financial aid checks on time.

In each instance, university administrators told us that the problems were minor, that very few people were affected. In relation to the aggregate, that's true, but for the people who are inconvenienced, it's a much bigger deal.

For the twenty or so people who couldn't receive campus mail, it meant having to jump through bureaucratic hoops to resolve the issue. For those that didn't get financial aid checks, it meant holding off on bills, groceries and rent.

So while it may be a minor issue to administrators, even one student whose life is adversely affected by a cranky computer system is one too many.

Here today, gone Tomorrow

By **Webb Dillard**
Contributing Writer

It's never easy losing a loved one. Whether its family or friend, it something we all have to deal with sooner or later.

Sometimes the death of a loved one is due to something terminal and it's expected, other times it is something sudden. The sudden deaths seem to be so much more unjust, or much more unexplainable. Let's face it, just out and out harder to swallow when it happens.

My wife's family is enduring one of those sudden deaths right now. One phone call, one piece of bad news, and that was all we had for warning.

Our beloved family member was gone.

I just saw and spoke to this person 12 days ago. "Hey

DAVE DILLON

Political Cartoonist



Watch your language

What happened?

In a Sept. 21 editorial, the Colorado State University student newspaper, *The Rocky Mountain Collegian*, ran a four word message, "Taser this . . . F**K BUSH," (but actually spelling out the f-word) that now may result in the editor in chief, J. David McSwane, being released from his position.

The editorial was referring to the University of Florida student who was tasered after disrupting U.S. Sen. John Kerry's speech.

In a statement issued by McSwane he said that it was not the newspaper's intent to come down on President Bush, they were merely trying to "get college students thinking about free speech."

On the same day that the editorial ran, CSU President Larry Edward Penley released his own statement that said, "I am disappointed that the *Collegian's* recent editorial choices do not reflect the expectations we have of our student journalists nor the standards that are clearly articulated by student media policies. I also have every expectation that the readers of the *Collegian* will make their viewpoints



Toni Merriss

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ran, the Associated Press reported that *The Collegian* had lost around \$30,000 in advertising and was having to cut the student staffs pay by ten percent to make up the difference.

Now, McSwane is being called before the BSC and will have to defend his choice of running the editorial.

The board does have specific policies on the use of profanity in student run media, saying that it will "not be used in news accounts or letters to the editor unless they are considered by the editor-in-chief to be essential to readers' understanding of the situation," and that "profane and vulgar words are not acceptable for opinion writing."

The meeting could possibly end with McSwane being removed from the staff.

My take:

The first amendment allows citizens to say and print what they want. The thing many have to remember is that there are usually consequences to those words and actions. In my personal opinion, they could have found another, maybe more subtle way to say it.

As it turns out, McSwane is no stranger to the scandal causing limelight. In high school, McSwane posed as a dropout druggie and tried to enlist in the military. He recorded a recruiter urging him to falsify his diploma so that he could gain admittance. This resulted in an investigation into how ethical recruiting practices are.

Agree or disagree with *The Collegian's* way of getting students to talk about free speech, I have to admit, it did work. On their Website, www.collegian.com the much talked about editorial had over 900 comments attached to it. Some were good and some were bad, but either way, people were talking.

Mission accomplished, Mr. McSwane. Let's just hope you have a job after all this.

...as an we had for warning.

Our beloved family member was gone.

I just saw and spoke to this person 12 days ago. "Hey how are ya?" "Fine, you?" That's about all I remember from our conversation. Granted there were other people around distracting the two of us, but I wish now it could have been a little more....well, a little more family than that.

Taking things (or people to be more specific) for granted seems to have become the norm for most people, including myself. The old saying "You don't know what you got till its gone" springs to mind right now. No matter what you think, you really don't know what you got till it is gone.

I guess I would just like everyone reading this to take an inventory of their friends and family. I would like everyone to stop from the hustle and bustle of life and remind yourself of what having friends and family means.

I believe wholeheartedly that our recently departed loved one, "Buddy," lived the philosophy I am speaking about. It sure was hard to miss the 200 cars in his precession to the cemetery. Buddy, 51, worked with special needs children in St. Clair County. He always was smiling, always extended a hand (or a hug) to greet you, and never seem to have a cross word to say about anybody.

I honestly didn't know Buddy even worked with children. It just never came up what he did. However, I learned very quickly today. There were numerous pictures of him and his special need kids at the funeral. Buddy had a huge heart when it came to his family, but evidently his heart was even bigger when it came to his special needs family. Sure wish I had knew all this before he passed. Would it have made it any easier to deal with his passing? No, but I could have told him that I admired him for his work. Now I can't.

Just remember not to take anybody for granted, because no one is guaranteed a certain amount of time on this earth. I know for some of you that you feel like life is just beginning and you are intoxicated with the invincibility of your youth, but reality being what it is, nobody lives forever. Don't let someone pass *not knowing* how you feel about them. Know your family. Know what special deeds they might be doing. Express your love and admiration you have for them.

Their will come a day when you won't be able to.

clearly articulated by student media policies. I also have every expectation that the readers of the *Collegian* will make their viewpoints known to the editor and the Board of Student Communications (BSC), which serves as the newspaper's publisher, and that ultimately, the newspaper will answer to its readers."

Saturday, only one day after the editorial

The meeting could possibly end with McSwane being removed from the staff.

My take:

Was McSwane's choice to run the bigger than headline text, seeming bashing the nation's president, stupid and in bad taste? Sure. Was it unnecessary and unethical? Probably. Was it illegal? Nope.

MISSION.

Mission accomplished, Mr. McSwane. Let's just hope you have a job after all this.

Toni Merriss is the editor in chief of The Chanticleer. She can be reached by phone at 782-5701 or by e-mail at chantyeditor@gmail.com.

Columbia stands up for free speech

On Monday, Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad arrived in New York City ahead of a Tuesday address to the United Nations.

He was invited to speak at Columbia University, a move that sparked heavy criticism.

Columbia's administration said it was important to engage in a dialogue. Critics countered that allowing Ahmadinejad to speak was tantamount to giving the controversial leader a free platform.

Both are good points on the surface, but there's an important undercurrent at play: the practice of free speech.

Don't get me wrong: President Ahmadinejad says some pretty dumb things.

He denied the Holocaust occurred. He called for the destruction of Israel. He routinely slams the American government and way of life.

At Columbia on Monday, he said homosexuality didn't exist in Iran, "unlike in [the United States]."

So yeah, he's a kook.

But there's still that pesky phrase: free speech.

Those who criticized Columbia's decision to invite Ahmadinejad ignored a simple truth; that you're allowed to say just about



Brandon Hollingsworth

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anything you want in this country, no matter how crazy.

By pressuring the university to rescind its invitation, those critics were inadvertently giving Ahmadinejad cover.

What better way to support the Iranian president's criticisms of the United States than to deny him a right about which we boast

all over the world?

Conversely, what better way to undermine him than to put him into a true free exchange of ideas and comments, allowing college students, male and female, gay and straight, to question and challenge his ideas?

And so it went that, despite the protests and hand-wringing, Ahmadinejad did address a crowd at Columbia on Monday afternoon.

He was asked about Iran's suspected nuclear weapons program, and he gave a long, rambling answer that had little to do with the topic.

He claimed Iran's

women are among the freest in the world. The audience of students and faculty jeered when he made the "no homosexuals" claim.

He came off looking, at best, uninformed, and at worst, worthy of ridicule.

We cherish some freedoms that are hard to come by in the rest of the world. Free speech is one of them.

Yes, it can be manipulated, and yes, it can lead to some uncomfortable moments.

But more often than not, freedom of speech allows Americans to make up their own minds, based not on the approved orthodoxy, but on real words and ideas from those that formulate them.

I'm glad Columbia didn't buckle under the criticism. Ahmadinejad dug his own hole, dodging and dancing around the simple, serious questions posed to him. Moreover, he did it on national television.

So yeah, he's a kook.

And he proved it all by himself.

Now *that's* free speech to me.

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The Chanticleer

Student newspaper of JSU since 1934

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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.

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

Music Corner

WLJS Top Ten Records of the Week

1. Caribou - *Andorra*
2. Animal Collective - *Strawberry Jam*
3. The Angels of Light - *We Are Him*
4. The New Pornographers - *Challengers*
5. The Deadly Syndrome - *The Ortolan*
6. Pinback - *Autumn of the Seraphs*
7. Figurines - *When the Deer Wore Blue*
8. Matt Pond PA - *Sunlight EP*
9. No Age - *Weirdo Rippers*
10. Mono - *Gone - A Collection of EPs 2000-2007*

ALBUM OF THE WEEK

Magik Markers *Boss*



Magik Marker's latest release, *Boss*, comes as a relative surprise. With this release on Thurston Moore's label Ecstatic Peace, the now duo – bassist Leah Quimby left the group in May of 2006 – goes for a more accessible sound. Past endeavors, *I Trust My Guitar*, *Etc...* (also on Ecstatic Peace) and *A Panegyric To The Things I Do Not Understand*, were firmly rooted in the experimentalists' realm of no-wave and, at its basest form, sheer guitar noise. That said, *Boss* still features the caterwauling of a guitar and off-kilter drum fills. However, Magik Markers has very definitely softened their sound – even going as far as featuring acoustic plucking and pleasantly detuned pianos.

The biggest difference between past albums and this one, though, is the development of actual song structure. The band shows its capability to write pop songs even if they choose not to. It's clear that being on the Sonic Youth frontman's label and even having Lee Renaldo (guitarist for Sonic Youth) produce their album has influenced them in the Yoof's vein. Particularly on a song like "Body Rot," which sounds as if it could be taken from the cutting room of the *Sister* sessions.

Furthermore, Singer/guitarist Elisa Ambrogio channels the lazy singing style of Kim Gordon (Sonic Youth's bassist/singer) throughout the album, which is rather effective in this album's case (considering past albums featured more or less yelping). In fact, I can hardly discern the difference between the two bands now.

All comparisons aside, Magik Markers create a very visceral listening experience permeated with moments of ethereal quietitude (check the ghostly solo piano track "Empty Bottles") and a penchant for following in their idols' footsteps. Pick this album up if you're dissatisfied with Thurston's solo album, *Trees Outside the Academy*, and are looking for the sounds of Yoof-past.

- Matthew L. Reese

ALSO IN ROTATION

ENTERTAINMENT

VIDEO GAMES

Halo be thy name

Fans show up in droves to wait and buy game



On Monday, Sept. 24, the evening of *Halo 3*'s release, hundreds of people lined up at the Quintard Mall to buy the game at midnight. Some, like JSU student Patrick Sewell (pictured here with his friends) even brought notes to study while waiting. After waiting for five hours, Sewell said it was "totally worth the wait." Photo by Kevin Jeffers / *The Chanticleer*

POP CULTURE

Halo vs. Harry

Halo 3 is easily one of the most anticipated video game releases of all-time. Some are even arguing that it is one of the biggest pop culture phenomenons ever. But was Tuesday's release bigger than another highly-anticipated release earlier this year, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows? The Chanticleer's resident nerds Chris Pittman and Kevin Jeffers debate.



Master Pittman



Harry Jeffers

ALSO IN ROTATION

Various Artists

Across the Universe Soundtrack

Across the Universe, the new film directed by Julie Taymor deals with the turbulent 60's and has a harmonious soundtrack, full of classic Beatles songs covered by the movie's cast, including Bono, Jim Sturgess, T.V. Caprio, Evan Rachel Wood, Joe Cocker and Joe Anderson to name a few.

There's a blurry line between musician and actor after hearing the soundtrack, they're all so multi-talented. However, don't expect to hear the Beatles songs you so expect, a modern twist has been thrown in.

Bono is featured on two of the songs: "I Am the Walrus" and "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds." Both are beautiful. "All My Loving," performed by Jim Sturgess reminds me of the rich vocals in a few of Moulin Rouge's songs, sprinkling love all over the lyrics.

"Hey Jude" is an intense cover performed by Joe Anderson who all but screams the "NA-NA-NA-NA!" It's awesome. I also enjoyed the very soulful "Let It Be," performed by Carol Woods and Timothy T. Mitchum. A chorus chimes in midway through the song that left chill bumps on my arms and hairs on the back of my neck standing straight up.

By far my favorite song is "I Want To Hold Your Hand," performed by T.V. Caprio, whose voice is as raw and ghostly as Stevie Nicks. This slow, sensual ballad is sure to please aspiring hippies and peacemakers everywhere.

If you love the Beatles and are open to a little change you should love this soundtrack. I think every cover does justice to the original song and the Beatles themselves. This album would be wonderful

A-

to listen to while planning on how to save the world, or if you're just having a stressful day. Don't fret on whether or not to check it out, just let it be.

- Julie Skinner

HIM

Venus Doom

Though they have been around since 1991, HIM was brought to the attention of the American public thanks to Bam Margera.

The band's sound is driven by the signature forlorn and pleading voice of front man Ville Valo. He has a swooning voice that is rare in the heavy/gothic metal world. Their newest album, *Venus Doom*, has an even grittier and darker sound than its predecessors.

"The idea to have nine songs was based on *Dante's Inferno*, cause hell has nine layers, so it's like going deeper down into hell and then coming back," Valo says, according to the band's Web site.

Doom does just this. It brings you to hell and back. As the songs fade into one another, the music leaves the listener feeling like they are leaving one layer and entering another. By the time you get to "Cyanide Sun," it still feels dark with a tone of hope. But it ends with an almost lofty reminiscent tone - like you have just surfaced from a dark journey. You can't help but feel like you have just gone through the nine layers of hell and came up to the sight of the "Cyanide Sun."

Though I did not find the album as good as *Deep Shadows and Brilliant Highlights* or *Love Metal*, the album has some highlights. "Kiss of Dawn," "Bleed Well," "Passion's Killing Floor," "Cyanide Sun" and "Love in Cold Blood" are all highlights. The album has a few songs that could be skipped. "Song or Suicide" and "Sleepwalking Past Hope," the longest song on the album, can both be skipped.

B

- Matt McRae



Master Pittman



Harry Jeffers

Which release was more highly anticipated?

The cliffhanger ending to *Halo 2* kept gamers waiting in limbo for nearly three years. There were many more things to look forward to besides the ending to the storyline, though.

Halo has changed gaming with each installment of the series.

Now, fans look to the third game for even more. Bungie has once again added a plethora of new options for both the casual and hardcore fan.

Online cooperative mode, the Forge tool, saved films and the campaign meta-game are just a few reasons that *Halo 3* will be played for many years to come.

Microsoft announced in August that the game had exceeded one million pre-orders. That is quite a large amount considering that an over-\$300 device is required to even play it.

The public has *Halo* fever and the proof is in the pre-order.

Cliffhanger is a mild term to use when describing the ending to the sixth *Harry Potter* book. Hundreds of fan sites launched dedicated to attempt and answer all the loads of questions J.K. Rowling left facing The Boy Who Lived before the final installment in the biggest book series of all-time.

Will Harry live or die? How will Voldemort unleash his evil upon the world? Whose side is Snape on? These questions became more important to the average person than anything regarding the national deficit or world hunger.

There were six years between the first and final installments of the *Halo* series. *Potter* fans had to wait an amazing ten years to find out how Rowling would end her epic tale.

The numbers back it up the anticipation, too. *Deathly Hallows* sold 8.3 million copies in its first 24 hours of release.

Which is the bigger pop culture icon?

When a game spawns its own soft drink, you can generally tell that it has a special place in the realm of pop culture.

Yes, you heard me right.

Pepsi created a Mountain Dew variation named "Game Fuel," a citrus-cherry flavored drink that comes complete with a special *Halo 3* can. I guess "finishing the fight" is supposed to taste like cough medicine.

Halo can be found everywhere right now. From Burger King to Nascar, the phenomenon is taking the world by storm. Even 7-Eleven stores will be selling the game.

Video games are a multi-billion dollar a year business and *Halo* has emerged as the true icon for which all are represented.

While talks are in the works for *Halo* to hit the big screen, *Harry Potter* is already one of the most successful film franchises of all-time. Add that to a seemingly endless list of Potter-spawned merchandise, and it's clear that *Harry Potter* is firmly entrenched in the conscious of not only Americans, but also people all over the world. It is truly a global phenomenon.

And this is from a book. A book! In an age when every kid who blinks one too many times is diagnosed with attention deficit disorder, where every kid owns at least three video game systems and parents don't know the meaning of the word "no," you know it has to take a special kind of story to bring a book so far to the front of society. *Harry Potter* is that big of an icon.

Which has the most rabid fan base?

The *Halo* fan base has grown ten-fold since the original debut in Nov. 2002.

Halo revolutionized the LAN party by making it easy and practical. The game allowed 16-player multi-player over four consoles, but did not feature online play.

That didn't sit right with the *Halo* community though.

Several tunneling programs were created that allowed people to play the game online.

Bungie knows that their fans are passionate and want to know every detail about the game that they can. A weekly Bungie update has been in effect since before the release of *Halo 2* with the purpose of informing the gamer about what is happening behind the scenes at the studio. These updates help strengthen hype for the game as well.

The company also knows that they can take advantage of the hold they have on gamers.

Halo 3 features three different versions, including the "legendary edition," which retails for \$130. This package comes complete with a replica of Master Chief's helmet. Some people really will buy anything.

The *Halo* series has some of the most loyal fans on the planet. Just ask any of the over one million people that lined up to get the game Monday night.

Halo is bigger than anything right now and will prove to be a financial juggernaut through the holiday season.

Personal experience can speak to how rabid *Potter* fans are.

In the town of Oxford, AL, on the eve of the release of the most anticipated book of all-time, Books-A-Million could have registered as the ninth largest city in Alabama.

There were that many people in line to buy this book.

I was one of the odd people in the crowd because I wasn't wearing a wizard's robe. There were kids shouting spells at each other, men twice as old as me debating on the theological ideologies of Dumbledore and no one could look at anyone else as if they were weird. It was beautiful. Nerd heaven at its best.

And this was in a small Alabama town. This kind of pandemonium was a common site all over the country that July night.

And the rabidity of *Harry Potter* fans extends well past just the books. The films aren't as successful as they are because they're great movies or anything.

The name *Harry Potter* sells.

Podcasts, fan sites, fan fiction, books about the books - they sell.

A whole sub-culture of Potter fans to fill enough annual conventions that it could even put *Star Trek* to shame.

Try as it might, no video game will ever capture its audience the way *Potter* has. I sincerely doubt any grown man or child can legitimately cry if Master Chief dies at the end of the newest *Halo* game.

Potter fans cried either way. They love him that much.

Sports

Football drops second straight



Patrick Swafford

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Who's voice is it, anyway?

I've never been a fan of writing these columns, but occasionally there comes a time when I've got something I really want to get off my chest.

This is one of those times.

Last July, this university's athletic department made a very unpopular decision in the eyes of the JSU faithful when it decided to bring in Matt Coulter to replace a man considered to be the "voice" of the Gamecocks, Mike Parris.

As soon as the announcement was made, internet boards went berserk. Local sports radio stations were flooded with calls and comments about the decision.

Bottom line, the JSU faithful were pissed.

Let's face facts, people were already piling on Coulter before he ever sat behind the mic last year.

He wasn't Mike Parris. That's all there was to it.

Weeks before he even had a chance to sit behind the mic, I heard someone say, "Matt Coulter sucks."

If you ask me, Coulter's gotten a raw deal in terms of fan support from the Gamecock Nation because he's not "The Voice."

Come on. That's just as asinine as an Auburn fan saying, "I don't like Rod Bramblett because he's not Jim Fyffe."

A year and a half into the job and Coulter still hasn't gotten a fair chance — all because of a

By Patrick Swafford
Sports Editor

In each of its three losses this season, Jacksonville State has found a different way to win and lose the game.

Against Alabama State, a lack of offense crippled the Gamecocks' chances.

At Memphis, the Gamecocks' inability to stop the big play was their downfall. When Ohio Valley Conference foe Eastern Kentucky came to Jacksonville last Saturday, the utter failure of JSU's kickoff coverage helped to hand JSU a 31-20 loss.

"I don't know if we've focused very much on our kickoff team," JSU coach Jack Crowe said. "This is almost like a 'hole in the dam' kinda thing. We're moving our finger all around it."

The Gamecocks (1-3, 0-1) found a way to spark new life into their sputtering offense with a revived running game.

Sophomore Shawn Green was taken off the red shirt list and made his first career start for JSU, gaining 58 yards on the game and sparking an offense that scored on its first two possessions of the game.

Quarterback Cedric Johnson rolled to his right after faking the pitch to Green and hit Deonte Carter from nine yards out to put the Gamecocks on the board first and then Gavin Hallford drilled a career-best 45-yard field goal into a gusting wind to give JSU an early lead.

"I think Cedric makes the offense more mobile," Green said. "When we get in trouble in the backfield, Cedric can always get us out of it and make plays with his feet. It opens our offense a little bit more."

With JSU holding to a 10-0 lead, the dam

cracked and began to leak.

EKU's Davin Walker took the ensuing kickoff back 95 yards for the score to cut the lead to 10-7.

It was the first time JSU allowed a kickoff return touchdown since the 1992 Division II National Championship game.

"They came out with something we weren't ready for, then we fixed the problem on the first one and we still didn't execute the right way," Terrell Johnson, a member of the coverage team, said. "They came out with a double wedge. We expected them to off-set the wedges, but they stacked them back-to-back and came straight down the field."

JSU fired back quickly with two momentum-shifting running plays: a 66-yard carry by Daniel Jackson and an 8-yard carry by Alphonso Freeney to get the Gamecocks inside the EKU 20-yard line before JSU fumbled the ball on the next play.

Then the leak got worse.

After moving the ball up to the JSU 24, EKU's Bobby Washington broke through the defense and took the ball 76 yards for the score to put the Colonels ahead 14-10 with 4:17 remaining in the first quarter.

Once again, the Gamecocks responded halfway through the second quarter when Johnson scrambled out of the pocket and scored from 18-yards out to put JSU back in command 17-14.

Johnson completed 20-of-37 passes for 245 yards while gaining another 78 yards on the ground.

Then the dam burst.

On the ensuing kick, Washington made the Gamecocks pay for the second



Tight end Deonte Carter leaps to grab a 9-yard touchdown pass from Cedric Johnson in the first quarter of JSU's 31-20 loss to Eastern Kentucky Saturday. Photo by Steve Latham/ Jacksonville State University

See "Football," page 7

Volleyball remains unbeaten in OVC

By Jared Gravette
Staff Sports Writer

Two weeks into Ohio Valley Conference play, the Jacksonville State volleyball team appears



Soccer breaks scoreless streak against Troy

By Jared Staubs
Staff Sports Writer

JSU finally ended a goalless drought that surpassed 300 minutes

Kick, held on for the win.

Things did not go so swimmingly Sunday afternoon in Fayetteville.

The Razorbacks outclassed the Gamecocks in every area of their

and Coulter still hasn't gotten a fair chance — all because of a rush to judgment.

Isn't this "rush to judgment" stuff the same crap that almost got three lacrosse players from Duke locked up?

Hang on. Before you start thinking that I'm about to defend Athletic Director Jim Fuller's decision, think again.

I'm also not going to bash him or Matt Coulter for "stealing Mike's job."

In fact, I don't have an opinion in this matter.

I don't listen to Matt's broadcast because I'm in the press box on game day and the last time I listened to a JSU football game on the radio was the 1992 Division II National Title game.

Some of you weren't even in Kindergarten then.

I know that for the past two years, both Coulter and Parris have gone out of their way to help this school.

Parris is one of the biggest ambassadors this school has. He's recognizable and practically bleeds red and white.

While Coulter isn't a JSU-lifer like Parris, he's tried to become as involved in Jacksonville State as he can.

This summer I was listening to Matt on his radio show, and someone asked him who some of the best pure athletes he'd seen in his radio days were.

It didn't surprise me one bit to hear him mention more than a couple of Jacksonville State Gamecocks, including Clay Green.

Coulter has been more than willing to make appearances on 92J's Tuesday night sports show.

Coulter's not the only one. Parris made just as many appearances last basketball season.

Still, Coulter's not "the Voice," so he gets criticized at every turn.

Sure, Matt's going to miss a name or a play here and there. He's not perfect, but I guarantee you he can do the job better than you or I could.

You can agree or disagree with this particular decision all you want, but at least come up with a better reason.

valley. Coultter's play, the Jacksonville State volleyball team appears to have picked up where they left off last year.

The Gamecocks have won their first four conference matches in 2007, but do they have what it takes to run the table in the OVC once again?

All signs point to yes.

The biggest question coming into the season was how the team would react to seven new faces on the roster.

The incoming freshmen have more than shouldered the load left by the 2006 senior class.

Brooke Shumacher has stepped in nicely at the setter position averaging 14.7 assists per game in conference play, and Caitlin Vorbeck has proved to be a valuable option on the offensive side of the court, knocking down 73 kills in 2007.

"I think the freshmen are coming along really well," JSU head coach Rick Nold said. "I think that we are lucky in that we have so much depth. One day it's one person coming in and another day it's somebody else. We feel very confident. As they get more experience, I think it's going to be a great class. I think it's just a matter of time."

While the early performances of the freshmen have played a big role in the success of the team so far, it's the senior class that makes JSU so dangerous.

Every time that Abbey Breit steps onto the court, it's almost a given that she will fill up the stat sheet.

After smashing 26 kills against Samford last Wednesday, Breit recorded the 50th double-double of her career, knocking down 12 kills to go along with 18 digs Saturday against Austin Peay.

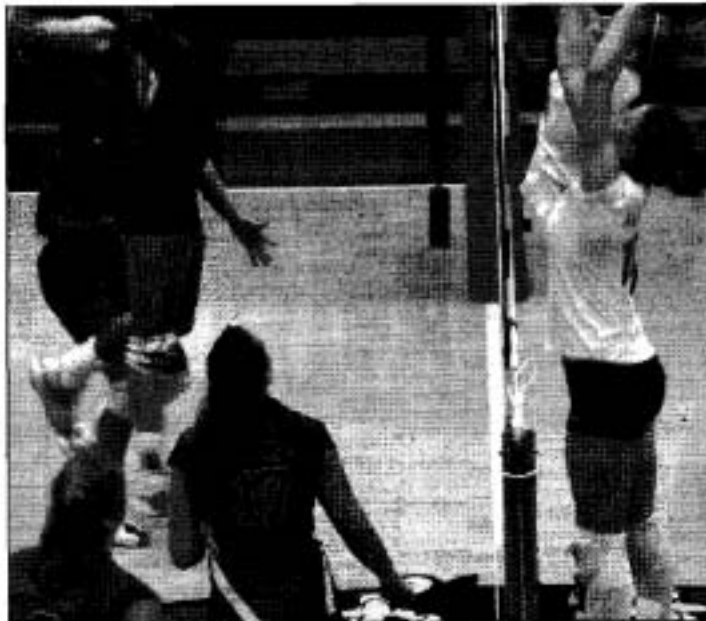
Breit has recorded a double-double in 10 of the team's 11 matches this season.

Rebekah Nichols is quickly becoming one of the most solid options on the offensive side of the court.

The Oxford, Ala., native is averaging 4.7 kills per game in conference play and continues to get better week after week.

Joi Watts is also doing her part to keep the Gamecock offense rolling, having registered more than five kills in every match this season.

The Gamecocks have always been known for their explosive, full-throttle style of offense, but their defense has been a key component in the early part of 2007.



Abbey Breit picks up one of her 12 kills against Ausin Peay. Breit has recorded double digits in kills and digs in 10 of JSU's 11 matches. Photo by Kira Wright/ The Chanticleer

JSU held Austin Peay to a .135 attack percentage in Saturday's 3-0 win.

The success of the defense runs hand-in-hand with the libero position, and senior Abbey Vierling has proven that her long wait to start for the Gamecocks was worth it.

With 17 digs on Saturday, Vierling raised her season total to 178.

Sophomore Brittney Whitten is another very valuable cog in the JSU machine, recording six double-doubles this year.

However, one question mark that hovers over this team is its consistency.

At times, the Gamecocks have looked like the team that absolutely demolished the OVC in 2006, but they also go through stretches where the focus and intensity isn't there.

"I thought we executed pretty well," Nold said after defeating Austin Peay on Saturday. "I don't think our intensity level was where we needed it. That is something that we have talked a lot about. We have to make sure that we come out with the right attitude. Regardless of anything else, we want to keep pushing to our highest level of play, and I thought we could have done that a little bit better tonight."

With wins over Samford and Austin Peay, the Gamecocks increased their OVC winning streak to 32 matches. JSU has also won 18 straight at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Both of those streaks will be on the line this weekend as the Gamecocks will take on Tennessee Tech and Tennessee State.

"It's going to be a huge weekend. They are going to be two of the top teams in the conference. For us, it's going to be a matter of establishing our style of play and putting a lot of pressure on them from the beginning," Nold said.

JSU finally ended a goalless drought that surpassed 300 minutes in a 2-1 victory over Troy Friday, but was manhandled 5-0 at Arkansas Sunday.

Despite poor recent form and an ugly record entering Friday, the Gamecocks (2-6-0) had to feel good about its chances of beating Troy.

It was the tenth time the in-state rivals have faced with JSU winning all ten matches by a combined score of 36-2.

After being shut out the previous three matches, JSU finally got off the schneid when freshman Kim Kimmel redirected a centering pass from Courtney Moore into the net.

Freshman Paige Rovillo added to the lead when she capitalized on a Trojan miscue and beat Troy keeper Karla Smith to make it 2-0 shortly before the half.

Of the Gamecocks six goals this season, five have been scored by freshmen.

The Gamecocks went into a more defensive formation in the second half and worked in some substitutes.

They possessed the ball more, and despite giving up a late goal on a free

Sunday afternoon in Fayetteville.

The Razorbacks outclassed the Gamecocks in every area of their convincing win.

Coach Julie Davis said it was a characteristic weekend for her team, which has fared decently against bottom tier teams, but struggled mightily with superior opposition.

"We have to focus on consistency," Davis said. "We didn't look like the same team that beat Troy. We looked sluggish and weren't ready to play a team like Arkansas."

Davis was most frustrated with the inability to maintain possession, but a litany of smaller offenses led to Davis comparing the performance to a "bloop reel."

Davis said that despite the disappointing score, she believes the trip will prepare the Gamecocks for conference road trips to Eastern Illinois and SEMO.

The rest of the JSU schedule will be against OVC opponents, starting with home matches against Murray State Friday and UT-Martin Sunday.

The Gamecocks beat Murray last year, and lost to UT-Martin, who prevented JSU from making last year's conference tournament.

"We have to focus on consistency. We didn't look like the same team that beat Troy. We looked sluggish and weren't ready to play a team like Arkansas."

- Julie Davis



Courtney Moore helped break the Gamecocks scoring drought Friday afternoon in the 2-1 win over Troy. This was the tenth consecutive win over the in-state rival. Photo by Kira Wright/ The Chanticleer

GAMECOCK BRIEFS

• Jacksonville State outside hitter **Abbey Breit** has been named the **Ohio Valley Conference Offensive Player of the Week** after leading the Gamecocks to wins over **Samford** and **Austin Peay** this week.

• The **Jacksonville State cross country team** has earned a South Regional ranking for the first time in school history. The Gamecocks are currently ranked tenth by the **U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association**.

• The Jacksonville State men's tennis teams claimed two titles at the **UTC Baras Collegiate Fall Classic** over the weekend, with **Bernie Bachino** and **Eduardo Saratt** winning the B Draw Doubles, and Saratt claiming the consolation title of the main singles draw.

- From staff reports



Daniel Jackson rushed for a team-high 80 yards on Saturday. Photo courtesy of Steve Latham / JSU

A GLANCE AHEAD

If you remember the Murray State game from last year, then you'll remember a very bad Murray State team.

Defensively, Murray State has been torched in all three of its losses by a combined score of 164-51.

The key match-up this week is the passing game of the Racers against JSU's secondary.

If there's a weak point to the Gamecock defense, it's that young secondary that has been prone to give up big plays this year.

So what if I blew it on last week's prediction? I'll get back in the win column this week with a JSU win.

Patrick's Prediction:
JSU 28, Murray State 14

Football: Kick returns torch Gamecocks

Cont. from page 7

time, taking the ball 94 yards for another return touchdown. Washington accounted for 204 all-purpose yards and two touchdowns on the day.

Johnson explained that the kick was designed to go to the right side of the field to avoid the double wedge, but the kick sailed down the middle of the field where the wedge was set up.

The kick coverage wasn't the only aspect of special teams that struggled for JSU.

Just before halftime, Hallford missed a 27-yard field goal, his first career miss from under 30 yards.

Statistically speaking, the Gamecocks dominated EKU.

JSU gained 165 yards more than the Colonels and held the ball 15 minutes longer.

The running game, considered to be JSU's biggest weakness, was as productive as it's been all season, chewing up 268 yards thanks to balanced performances from Green, Jackson and Anthony Jones.

"I think what we've established is that we're going to run the ball with a lot of people," Crowe said. "That's going to be our approach from here on out."

The Gamecocks travel to Murray, Ky., to play the Racers this Saturday night at 3 p.m.

"I don't know if we've focused very much on our kickoff team. This is almost like a 'hole in the dam' kinda thing. We're moving our finger all around it."

-Jack Crowe

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REPORT CARD

Offense: B-

Despite not having a 100-yard rusher for the fourth straight game, the Gamecocks rolled up 511 total yards of offense.

Defense: C

The defense held EKU's running game under the average, but gave up a huge 6-yard touchdown run to Bobby Washington.

Special Teams: F

Gavin Hallford hits a career-best 45-yard field goal and shanks a 27-yarder just before halftime, and don't forget the blown kickoff coverage.

Confidence breeds success

By Jared Gravette
Staff Sports Writer

tions were higher than ever for Nichols, and she hasn't disappointed.

"She is playing well, and she has been hitting

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By Jared Gravette
Staff Sports Writer

Rebekah Nichols always seems to come up big whenever the Jacksonville State volleyball team needs it.

The outside hitter from Oxford, Ala., has developed into a tremendous leader and is quickly becoming another go-to option on the offensive side of the court for the Gamecocks.

"Sometimes I feel like I'm the go-to player," Nichols said. "If we're in a jam or other people aren't doing what they can, I take it upon myself. I know I've got to step up and slam the heck out of the ball and score the point."

Nichols wasn't always the confident leader that everybody sees on the court these days, but her continued improvement over her four year career has allowed her to become just that.

As a freshman, Nichols played in 79 games recording 122 kills on a .137 attack percentage.

Her sophomore season saw her playing time and overall numbers increase, but it wasn't until her junior year that Nichols became a valuable offensive weapon.

In 2006, Nichols knocked down 284 kills averaging 2.96 per game. She also improved her attack percentage to .282.

Coming into her final year at JSU, the expecta-

tions were higher than ever for Nichols, and she hasn't disappointed.

"She is playing well, and she has been hitting very well," JSU coach Rick Nold said. "So, that is something that everyone can follow, and you kind of feed off that energy level."

She has already recorded 152 kills averaging a staggering 4.71 kills per game in Ohio Valley Conference play.

Numbers aside, Nichols has also been the spark that the Gamecocks needed going into conference play.

Earlier this year Murray State had the Gamecocks against the ropes about the throw the final jab, but it was Nichols that got the last laugh.

With the Racers up 15-14 in the decisive game of the match, Nichols smashed one of her career-high 24 kills leading JSU to a narrow 17-15 victory.

Without Nichols playing at her best, JSU would have faced the danger of losing their first conference game since 2005.

Since then, Nichols has been on fire.

"She is obviously a huge part of our offense and defense. She brings a lot of leadership to us," Nold said. "She has a lot of confidence, and that is something that you like to spill over to all the other players."

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Jacksonville State outside hitter Rebekah Nichols, pictured here, is averaging 3.45 kills per game this season, and is among the team's best in attack percentage. Photo by Kira Wright / *The Chanticleer*



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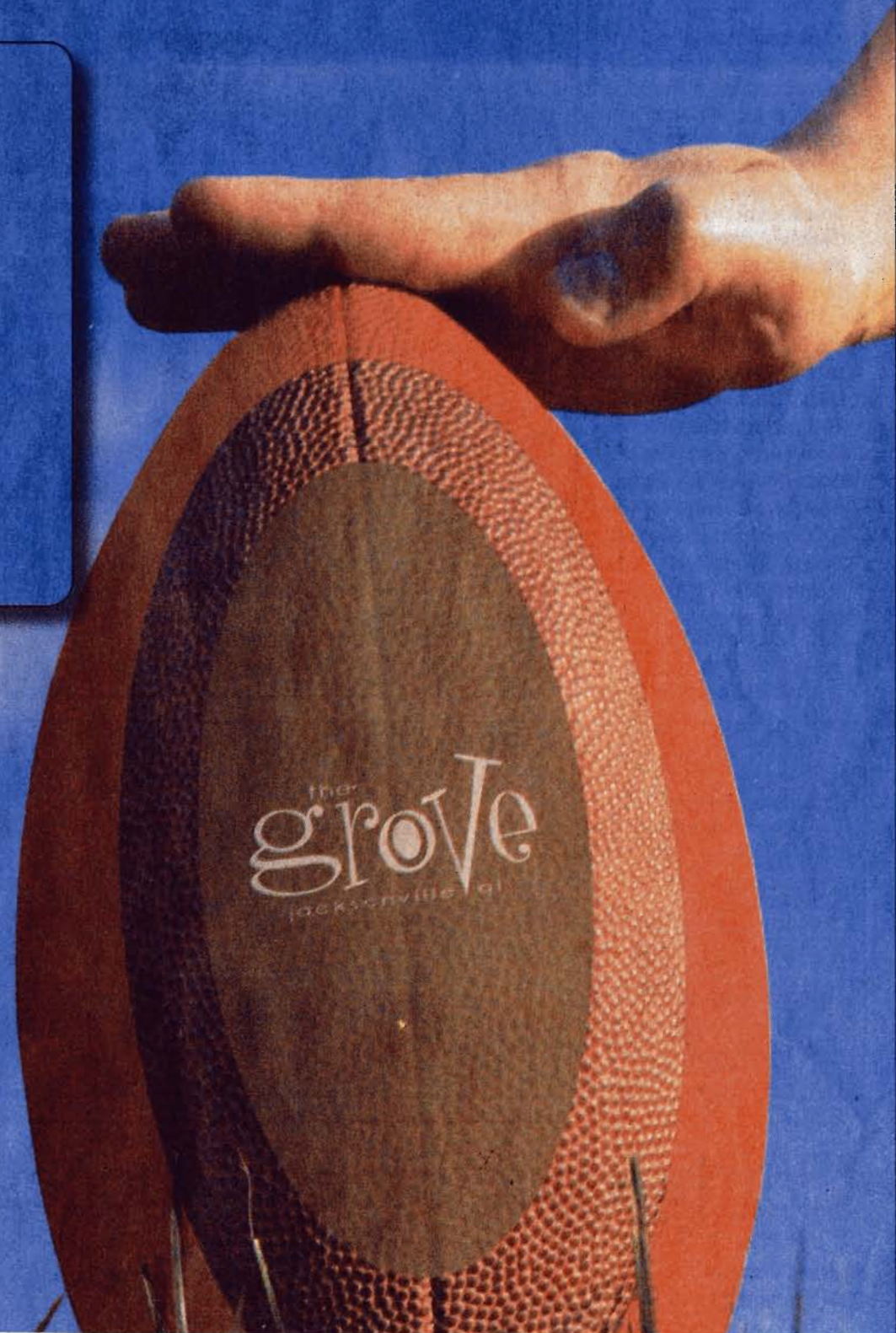
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