2004 JSU Employee of the Year dies at age 50

By Bethany Harbison
News Editor

Members of the Jacksonville State University family gathered in Patterson Hall on Saturday, Feb. 9, to pay their respects and say goodbye to their friend, family member and coworker, Stephanie Przedwojewski.

Przedwojewski, 50, who once worked on the JSU landscaping crew, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 6, after a lengthy battle with cancer. Originally from New Hampshire, Przedwojewski began work at JSU on Dec. 15, 2000 after her sister Suiko Roper, who works as a secretary in the JSU biology department, told her that JSU was a great place to work.

Her immediate supervisor Steven Johnston called Przedwojewski a “very, very, hardworking individual” who cared about others. “I always said that she would swim the Potomac for anybody,” Johnston said.

As a landscaper, Przedwojewski helped plant trees and shrubs around campus, harvested leaves and, as Johnston said, did anything to help beautify the JSU campus. She was also named the JSU Employee of the Year in 2004.

Przedwojewski worked tirelessly to serve her country as well. She was a member of the National Guard.

In April 2003, her unit was called to Iraq, and she served there for just over one year. Johnston said while in Iraq, Przedwojewski did plumbing and mechanical work.

“She believed in her country and in this university, and wanted to do all she could to help them both be their best,” Johnston said.

The truest testimony to Przedwojewski’s work ethic, according to Johnston, was the fact that though she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer not long after arriving home from Iraq, she continued to work at JSU, insisting on no special treatment.

“A lot of folks had given up on her, but she bounced back and was out here sweating and landscaping even after she got sick,” Johnston said.

President Dr. William Meehan attended the Memorial Life Service for Przedwojewski, and he said the service truly was a celebration of her life. Her family was present, pictures of her throughout her life were displayed and her favorite food, pizza, was served.

“She was always thoughtful and always had a smile on her face,” Meehan recalled. “She was fun to work with.”

Johnston said that there was a “great turnout” at Saturday’s service for Przedwojewski, one that included most of her coworkers, many of her military friends and the Meehan family.

“There were a lot of emotions, but more laughing and remembering of good times than anything,” Johnston said. “But there were quite a few tears shed as well.”

JSU ROTC learns from a legend about the core values of Honor and valor

By Zach Childree
Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association appointed three freshmen to the SGA Senate on Feb. 8, 2008. “In my 3 years of working with the SGA, it’s never happened before,” said SGA President David Jennings. “From my understanding, it’s pret-
Helping hand

The Center of Hope also serves as a haven for recovering addicts. JSU's Zeta Phi Beta and Phi Beta Sigma are reaching out to help with physical labor and friendship.

Full story, Page 2A

JSU on alert in case of severe weather

By Zach Childree
Staff Reporter

Feb. 5th seemed a normal Tuesday night at Union University. Students were studying, socializing and resting after classes.

That all changed a few minutes later, when an F4 tornado struck the Union campus, destroying 40 percent of student housing. While no one was killed in the storm, 51 students were treated for injuries, some serious.

With an outbreak of severe weather at such an odd time of the year and so close to home, many students are left asking if Jacksonville State University is ready for severe weather.

“I think that being close to the mountains would probably protect us a little from tornados,” said Isaac Pulham, a music education major.

Dr. Jonathan Herbert, professor of geography and climatology at JSU, said that Jacksonville's proximity to the Appalachian Mountains wouldn't stop storms.

“The idea that mountains or rivers protects any given area from tornados is actually kind of a myth,” Herbert said.

However, in the event of severe weather, alerting the students is a lot easier than it used to be.

Dr. Ted Klimeszewski, interim department head for the department of physical and earth sciences, said that with the advent of the Doppler radar, the time given to respond to a tornado warning, also called “lead time,” in 1980 was 5 minutes.

With rain due on Tuesday, Feb. 12, this student looks to the sky. Photo by Webb Dillard / The Chanticleer
**Triple threat**

**Brothers in arms**

**JSU students adopt “siblings,” form bonds**

By Adam Alexander  
Staff Reporter

The Big Brother/Big Sister organization is one of the oldest mentoring systems in operation today. BBBS provides kids with that which they need most: emotional support and guidance.

According to Tara Phillips, a JSU student and a volunteer big sister, the system that BBBS sets up works very well. The volunteer visits the child to which he is assigned at least once a week, and all that the job entails is being a good influence, playing games and just being there for the child. Tara says that she loves her little sister and has a lot of fun volunteering.

"Most of the kids come from difficult situations to grow up in," Tara said. Some of them come from neglectful parents, some just have trouble socializing. Either way, Tara feels that the BBBS is a necessary and very helpful program to kids.

Tara isn’t the only volunteer from JSU, though. "JSU students have been a backbone of our program," said Teresa Johnson, a volunteer at BBBS of Northeast Alabama in Gadsden.

Just this past Monday, Feb. 11, Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity held a fundraiser in the TMB to lend a helping hand to the BBBS organization. Representatives said the fundraiser did well, but as of press time, no dollar amount was available.

If you would like to become involved in the BBBS program, visit www.bbbs.org and click the “volunteer” tab. The Web site provides all of the necessary information, including people to talk to, a section for donations (which comprise 75 percent of the group’s funding) and a search engine to find the office nearest you.

Big Brother/Big Sister is a completely independent, volunteer organization. It is kept alive by the kind and caring people in the world who have taken it upon themselves to help those struggling through childhood. These people provide hope for the upcoming generation, and they are always looking for more help. If you feel that your social skills could be valuable to them, pay their Web site a visit. You could have a major impact on someone’s life.

Center of Hope focuses on recovery

**Local thrift store helps addicts overcome, JSU Greeks lend a hand**

By James Caruso

Katie Freeman  
Staff Reporter

On any given weekend during the school year, a college housing facilities are located in Anniston, Ala. However, it is probably more known by students as the thrift store located in the old Wal-Mart building ahead when they leave here. For the people who complete the entire year, graduation ceremonies are held every two months.

that’s a lot to deal with, but when they have some outsiders around to talk to, it has to help with the encouragement part of the process."

**Campus Crime**

- JSU Ambassador applications are now available at the visitor center and are due Feb. 29. For more, call ext. 5260.
- Students for Organ Donation at JSU is a new organization on campus. Those interested in joining or learning more about organ donation should e-mail frenchsoccerrules@msn.com.
- The Lambda Pi chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. invites you to “Skee-week 2008- Rated:PG”, February 17-23, 2008. Come join the AKA’s as we celebrate 100 years of sisterhood! For event times and locations, see flyers posted on campus or write AKAlambdapi@yahoo.com. See you there!
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc will be holding a yard sale, Saturday, Febr. 16, 2008. From 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on the TMB Lawn. Contact AKA lambdapi@yahoo.com for more info.
- The English Competency (ECE) will be Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 6:00 - 7:30 and Wednesday, Feb. 27, from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Registration began Jan. 30 and ends Feb. 20. No late registration. Optional workshops will be Monday, Feb. 18, 6:00 - 7:30 and Tuesday, Feb. 19, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. in Rm. 110 of Merrill Building. Registration is not required for the workshops. Questions about the ECE may be directed to Susan Soliers at ext. 5572 or by email at ssellers@jsu.edu.
- Phi Eta Sigma members are invited to apply for national scholarships. Call Rhonda Kilgo at ext. 8247 for details.
chances for a Valentine's Day giveaway. Grand prize was dinner for two at one of three restaurants and a movie. Second was bowling and chocolates. Winners of the Feb. 11 drawing were Kimberly Rowe, Keyrunta Houston and Sinamen Nixon.

From staff, wire reports

**OOPS LOL...**
Mistakes from previous issues:

- In the Feb. 7 issue, SGA Senator Paul Wilson was incorrectly identified in a photograph on Page 2 as Ryan Wilson.

Katie Freeman
Staff Reporter

On any given weekend during the school year, a college town like Jacksonville is home to a number of parties. Chances are, alcohol is available, and more than likely, the average student has joined in on the drinking at least once. Some people have even done things that are a little more illegal, but it’s all chalked up to the normal “college experience,” and most move on with no problem.

However, some people can’t move on. For those folks, that party is not a good time — it is a nightmare.

The bad news is that drug and alcohol abuse affects people all around us. The good news is that there is a way out. That way out can be paved in part by the people at the Center of Hope.

The Center of Hope is a Christian recovery center. The center’s church, main office and housing facilities are located in Anniston, Ala. However, it is probably more known by students as the thrift store located in the old Wal-Mart building here in Jacksonville.

Pastor Garry Burns is the head pastor at the center. He, as well as the entire staff, shares a special bond with everyone that comes in seeking help. Every staff member there (including pastors) has struggled with drug or alcohol abuse at some point in their lives.

The program at the center lasts a year. Burns explained that the reason for the program’s lengthiness is that it can take at least that long for people to straighten their lives out.

“It took a while for them to get their lives in that mess, and they should take the proper time to get out,” Burns said. “We don’t want them walking out those doors feeling like the weight of the world is falling on their shoulders. They should be able to only look ahead when they leave here.”

For the people who complete the entire year, graduation ceremonies are held every two months.

James and Russell (who asked that their last names be kept anonymous) are the most recent graduates. James says that he has gotten very close to his family since being at the center, and Russell is actually the newest member of the Center of Hope staff. He is now a counselor, and he hopes to help people the way he was helped.

Places like the Center of Hope are built on the actions of good people. Volunteers from JSU’s Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. are a few of these good people.

“When we go down there and do the community service, I think its just good for them. It’s a lot to understand how others try to put one’s self in the shoes of another to do a good deed. It’s just hard to believe that there are people out there who are really interested in helping others. Really, it is a service to the community. It is helping them and helping themselves at the same time,” said Darryl C. Hamilton, president of Phi Beta Sigma, said. “They’re going through the program, and that’s a lot to deal with, but when they have some outsiders around to talk to, it has to help with the encouragement part of the process.”

They’ve painted windows, cleaned the parking lot, rearranged shelves and priced items, among other things. “Anything that we can be used to do, that’s what we’re there for,” Hamilton said.

At the end of the day, people will still go to parties, and people will continue to abuse drugs and alcohol. Unfortunately, no matter how hard people try to prevent others from abusing drugs and alcohol, there will still be folks who go down that dark, depressing path.

But if more people could be a little more like the good folks of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, and the Center of Hope, perhaps this community could be an exception.

In the Feb. 7 issue, SGA Senator Paul Wilson was incorrectly identified in a photograph on Page 2 as Ryan Wilson.

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**Campus Crime**

**Thursday, Feb. 7**

- JSU student Patrick M. Rose reported a theft of property from Mountain Street NW in Jacksonville. The stolen property consisted of a sign, the estimated value of which is $75.00.

**Week in Events**

**Thursday, February 14**

- Amber Wagner in concert, Performance Center, Mason Hall. 7:30 p.m.
- Alpha Xi Delta Bake Sale, 2nd Floor TMB Lobby, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- STAT Bake Sale/ Membership Drive, 2nd Floor TMB Lobby, 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Friday, February 8**

- Prayer, sponsored by Muslim Students Association, McCluer Chapel. 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.
- Cinderella Scholarship Pageant, Leonte Cole Auditorium.

**Saturday, February 9**

- Preview Day, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Yard Sale, JSU Quad, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Monday, February 11**

- Senate Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Alpha Kappa Alpha and Phi Beta Sigma BBQ, JSU Quad, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Blue Love Grams, 2nd floor TMB, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Mize: Korean War vet speaks to JSU cadets

Continued from page 1A

it, every man in that platoon deserved it. But President Eisenhower made me come home from Korea."

Mize reluctantly left Korea and, on Sept. 7, 1954, he stood before Eisenhower in Denver, Colorado — terrified.

"What would you do if you were a country boy redneck from the back country, meeting the president of the United States?" Mize said. "My legs were shaking so bad they sounded like a bass drum."

As Eisenhower presented him with the medal, which is the highest military honor one can receive, he leaned over and whispered in young Mize's ear, "Lee, I was in the 15th infantry too."

President Dr. William Meehan said the university is looking for better ways to inform students of severe weather.

"There is a university policy where we alert the building and make sure that everyone takes cover," Meehan said. "We need better ways to contact students and we're investigating those."

Many JSU students also aren't aware of emergency preparedness plans or even where exactly they should go in the event of severe weather.

James Spann, meteorologist with ABC 33/40 in Birmingham, said that if you are living on campus on a higher floor, you might want to get to know your downstairs neighbors.

"You really need to have a friend on the ground floor so you can access their place anytime a warning is issued," he said.

Spann also recommended that students have a NOAA weather radio in case of emergencies.

Klimasewski said that JSU does have a procedure in place during university business hours to alert students to severe weather threats.

Freshmen: SGA Senate welcomes three

Continued from page 1A

"Each building has a building manager who is responsible for taking action during a tornado warning," Meehan said. But during off time (before 8 a.m. or after 5 p.m.), Klimasewski said that students should be alert to severe weather alerts and take action accordingly.

Spann said that if you are in your car and you see a tornado, do not try to get under a bridge.

"We never recommend getting under a bridge," Spann said. "All of the objects in the tornado can produce serious injury as it passes. Being below ground level is much better."

Dr. Klimasewski agreed.

"Don't go under an underpass to hide," he said. "The confined space under the underpass makes winds blow even stronger through the narrow gap. It's similar to holding a hosepipe so water comes out in a stronger spray."

Klimasewski said that when it comes down to it, each person should use common sense when dealing with a severe weather situation.

"Reaction to a tornado warning must be a personal responsibility," he said. "A building manager or police cannot force a person to take action during a tornado warning."

JSU prepared in case

Continued from page 1A

"Now lead time is 30 minutes," Klimasewski said. "So JSU has 30 minutes to take action after a tornado warning has been issued."

Even with advances in weather alert systems, many students usually aren't in a place where they can be made aware of alerts.

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JSU prepared in case
A room, barricaded the doors, placed two tear gas grenades on each end of the hall, cut off the lights and left them in there for half an hour. He said they were screaming and throwing up all over one another, but that they emerged a new group of people. They later went on to garner awards for being the best-disciplined troops in Southeast Asia.

Mize’s higher-ups were not nearly as pleased with his mode of discipline as Mize was. But even today, he contends that it was the right thing to do.

“I tell you this stuff like this for a reason,” Mize said. “You may be in a situation sometime where you have to take a drastic measure.”

Mize explained that fear during battle had never been an issue. For him, the fear came later, upon recollection of what he had done and seen. He explained to the cadets that everyone handles their fears in their own way.

“I’ve seen men turn completely gray-headed overnight,” he said. “It can do a lot to you.”

At the conclusion of Mize’s speech, friend and decorated Vietnam veteran Rich Vaughan stood and said that over the years, he has encountered over 100 individuals who served under Mize — but has yet to find one who would not want to work with him again.

“He might seem like a rebel or a renegade,” Vaughan said, “but (Mize) has a heart bigger than this room.”
Meehan right on fees stance

E

verything has its price. We pay taxes so we can have roads, schools and the Department of the Interior. We pay health insurance so we can get medical care when we need it.

And yes, at colleges and universities across the nation, we pay for usage of recreation facilities, labs, technology classrooms and university services.

Usually, such costs are deferred through separate fees charged to the students. But that has not been the case at JSU. The University of South Alabama, for example, charges no fewer than ten separate fees for medical care when we need it.

Obviously, the first source of income is student tuition. What better way to raise money (for oh say, an expanded stadium?) then to bump up the price for students to attend here. Thus, the notion of adding student fees is not all that surprising.

However, Williams and others who support the expanded stadium (and no doubt a subsequent move up in football division) will be hard-pressed to find widespread support of their idea from the students themselves.

Things are, at least viscerally, different here. This institution has a president adamantly opposed to student fees. Dr. Meehan is joined in this opposition by the president of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Jim Rayburn, and, presumably, the students themselves.

The issue was most recently raised at the Jan. 28 Board of Trustees meeting, during which Johnny Williams of Creative Marketing Management presented a plan proposing a boost in student fees to cover the cost of improvements to Paul Snow Stadium. Meehan and Rayburn have wholeheartedly support Meehan.

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Dear Kevin, You rock. Love, Kevin

Sincerest Kevin,

Happy Valentine's Day. I know how you hate exclamation points, so I'll spare you! (Oops.)

Anyway, just noticed you were single this year. Again. That's cool, though. This day isn't meant to make you aware of the blatantly obvious.

This is a day for love. And those who are in love. Which, unless you count your increasingly unhealthy obsession with Natalie Portman, doesn't include you.

Sorry, sorry. Not trying to make you feel worse than you are. Just trying to give you my best, which is all.

Sure, everyone you know who has a boyfriend or girlfriend is all cutsey this time of year. Half of your friends are engaged. The majority of the people you graduated from high school with a million years ago are all married and/or have kids and/or already divorced by now and/or remarried.

So that's bonus for you, right? You've been spared the torment of failed marriage.

But, more importantly, you should be happy for the optimists. For the ones in love (and not yes.)

What you need, and what all of your single comrades need, to do is simply be happy for what you have.

You've been in that place before. You know, love. It was pretty cool. You remember it fondly. And you'll have it again.

And then, the stress surrounding Valentine's Day will be that of "What to get her this year?" instead of "Oh it's Single's Awareness Day yay for the happy couples whoopity-f*%#@$g doo."

Don't be bitter, whatever you do. And tell your single friends the same thing when they

DAVE DILLON
Political Cartoonist
Importance of weather radios

Last week, a devastating tornado outbreak hit several states, killing many people. One of those tornadoes struck Union University in Jackson, Tenn. Although no students died in the storm, I cannot fathom the thought of a large tornado hitting the campus of JSU.

Some of the students at Union did not know the storm was coming or disregarded the warning.

I strongly recommend that students purchase a NOAA weather radio for their dorm, house, apartment or especially if they live in a mobile home. It will warn people of coming bad weather such as a severe thunderstorm or tornado. The radio also alerts the person of industrial emergencies such as toxic chemical spills, which is crucial due to our location near the Anniston Army Depot.

These radios are especially crucial at night when one is asleep. In the middle of the night, one may not be watching TV to see if the storm is coming. Do not depend on the tornado sirens because those are designed only for people who are outdoors, not indoors. Sirens are hard to hear if one is asleep. The NOAA weather radio alert tone will sound to wake one up to hear the warning for their county, so that they can figure out what kind of action he or she needs to take.

NOAA weather radios are also battery-operated so that if the power goes out, one can continue to receive crucial weather information. The new weather radio models allow one to program their own county into the radio so that the alert goes off only for the county entered into the radio. Most models cost around $30 dollars with some going for around $40 dollars. If a student has roommates, have everyone pool their money together to get one. It could mean the difference between life and death.

— Aaron Tanner

During strike, time enough at last

And so it appears the end is at hand. Not an apocalyptic thing, mind you, but the three-month-old Writer’s Guild of America strike.

To be fair, I’ve missed my TV shows as much as anyone else. Without Supernatural and The Office, it can be hard to remember it’s Thursday. I was just getting into Reaper when its episodes went into perpetual reruns. The rise of reality programming to fill the gaps has been maddening. And even though its salad days are far behind it, I even miss Saturday Night Live.

Oh doubt, I’ve missed a lot. But maybe the biggest effect of the strike has been what I haven’t missed.

I’ve been concentrating more on my homework. Instead of spending the evening aimlessly flipping across the dial, I’ve been engaging in one of my favorite hobbies, drawing. I’ve been reading more (though I was no book slouch to begin with). I painted abstract expressionist pieces. Whether it’s to get the mail or to drive to Birmingham, I’ve been getting out more. I’ve been talking to people. I learned to send text messages. It’s a cultural revolution!

Okay, so maybe it isn’t that important, and pretending the writers’ strike has been a personal epiphany for me is melodramatic. But I have discovered that when the distraction of television is absent, I have a lot more time than I’d imagined.

Suddenly, there was time for all those things I put off or ignored because I thought there weren’t enough hours in the day. The hours, it turns out, were not lost or missing altogether, but instead consumed by my television habits.

Instead of lamenting the loss of free time, I picked up some interesting books and read. I played my bass clarinet and my piano. I caught up on back issues of Science News. I did the things I never thought about doing before, back when the glowing box in my bedroom offered something funny, provocative or just plain distracting.

The past few months have been an interesting period. I miss my favorite television shows, and I’ll be very happy when they’re back later this spring.

At the same time, however, I rediscovered — somewhat sheepishly, because I knew all along — that there’s a Big Wide World out there, one that keeps moving whether I’m paying attention or not. I don’t want to lose that again.

So, when the weather gets warmer and the air becomes more refreshing and enjoyable, I’ll set the closet aside for another year, I’m not going to reach for my remote quite as often. I’ll have my life won’t be so easy to rewind and reach for my remote again.

I can still listen to All of America, so that’s bonus for you, right? That was you not so long ago. Funny when you think of it like that, isn’t it? And wasn’t it you, Kevonator, who just recently told one of your best friends the Gotta go. Try me big guy.

— Kevin XOXO

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 chantleyeditor@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 submitted. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to the desired publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Rebuttals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.
THE ARMY ADVANTAGE FUND.
BECAUSE SOLDIERS DESERVE MORE.

Now the Army gives you more choices for your future. Earn up to $40,000 to start the business of your dreams or buy the home you always wanted. Log onto goarmy.com/aaf to learn more about the Army Advantage Fund.
Music Corner

ALBUM OF THE WEEK

Jack Johnson
Sleep Through the Static

The Jack is back. Johnson, the surfer/singer-songwriter from Hawaii, has returned for his fifth full-length album, Sleep Through The Static. The same old Jack is what you need to expect. Nothing really all that new is found in Sleep. The laid-back surfer attitude is still influential to the music. The album is very mellow and can often give you images of waves crashing on the beach, especially on “Same Girl.” It is an especially good album to wind down to at the end of the day. The highlights include “If I Had Eyes,” the soft and sweet “Angel,” “Same Girl,” “Go On,” and “Enemy.” Unfortunately, the rest of the album may really help you sleep through all the static. In some cases, it is almost too mellow for its own good.

The formula Johnson has used on Sleep doesn’t seem like it has strayed too far from all his other music. While it has worked quite well and brought him much popularity, the formula has worked much better on previous albums. If you are looking for quintessential Jack Johnson, Sleep Through The Static doesn’t disappoint. They say that the sign of a good artist is that they continue to evolve. If this is true, Jack has got his work cut out for him on the next album. But, overall it’s not bad.

— Matt McRae

ALSO IN ROTATION

Xiu Xiu
Women as lovers

If there’s one word I can use to describe San Francisco-based indie rock band Xiu Xiu’s latest release Women as Lovers, it would be different. Different says a lot about an album, but it says even more when describing an album by a band whose musical efforts generally tend to dive into the far end of the weird pool. Xiu Xiu (pronounced shoe shoe), takes the term experimental to a whole new level. Women as Lovers is an interesting release that

FEATURES

Romantic comedies. Chick flicks. Girls love them. Guys hate them. Either way, with these movies most couples have a ...

love / hate relationship

For Valentine’s Day, The Chanticleer’s Bethany Harbison debates the classics with boyfriend of 3½ years Kenny Boulahanis
The girl
I don't even want to hear you complain about this one. Remember sitting in the theater when this came out? I was sobbing uncontrollably by the end, and you know very well that you teared up a little too. I saw you wipe your eyes.

The guy
First off, I was not "tearing up." I was scratching my eye. I mean, sure, it's a good love story, but it's nothing like the love story in The Notebook. Now that's a movie I'll watch again. The Notebook is okay, but it doesn't live up to the hype as much as you ladies think.

She says
This is "our" movie, and you know it. We both, but mostly especially you, have seen this one at least a dozen times and always know what's about to happen before it does. We also both know that you have a secret crush on Mandy Moore, but it's okay. I still love you. I'm just glad there's at least one chick flick on which we can agree.

He sez
I do admit that out of all the chick flicks, this is my favorite. And yes, it doesn't hurt that Mandy Moore plays a significant role. It's just that she has a good singing voice — I promise! But seriously, when I think of this movie, it makes me think of all the romantic things that I would do, and will do, for you.

A Walk to Remember

Illustration by Kevin Jeffers / The Chanticleer
The Chanticleer
Volume 56, Issue 18 / Page 1B
Baseball Preview 2008

THE DRIVE FOR 5

The Chanticleers have made it to the OVC Championship game every year since joining the league, winning in 2004 and 2005. And there's every reason to think this team will be returning for the fifth consecutive year this May.
The JSU baseball team continues to add to its resume as the premier program in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Gamecocks have made it to the OVC Championship Game every year since joining the league, winning in 2004 and 2006. Coach Jim Case believes there is every reason to think his team will be returning for the fifth consecutive year this May.

"That's our goal, to play in the final game every year," Case said. "It's disappointing that we weren't able to win that final game last year, but we figure that if we keep getting there, we'll win our share."

Austin Petty defeated JSU in the championship game last season. The Gamecocks -- who had been 27-2 when leading after six innings prior to the game -- allowed a seventh-inning rally that turned a 2-1 lead into a 3-2 loss.

The missed opportunity has left a bad taste in the Gamecocks' collective mouth, and the team realizes it must give maximum effort to erase that result.

"The rest of the league has gunned for us," Case said. "That's a great place to be, at the top, but when you're there, you better be ready to bring it every game."

The leader

Clay Whittemore made a leap to become the Gamecocks' statistical leader last season. This season, the senior is contributing as a clubhouse leader as well.

"The great thing about Clay is that he's such a character kid," Case said. "It's not all about him. He's developed into a leader and..."
Hot shots, part quatre
Rifle wins 4th consecutive OVC championship

By Webb Dillard
Senior Writer

The Jacksonville State University rifle team is definitely locked, cocked and ready to rock. Just days after closing out its fourth consecutive Ohio Valley Conference championship, it now sets its sights on sectionals and then the NCAA tourney.

Junior Michael Dickinson and sophomore Jonathan Hall both made the 2008 All-OVC First Team in both Air Rifle and Small-bore Rifle. In March, the same sharp-shooting tandem will travel to Colorado Springs, Col. to compete in the Olympic tryouts held at the U.S. Olympic Training Facility.

Coach Ron Frost attributes the success of the program to "good shooters and great recruiting."

"We just try to help each other as much as possible. Coach reminds us to keep our focus and keeps us on task," junior leader Michael Dickinson said. "But if I, or any one of us, notices one of the guys doing something wrong, we are quick to help."

Jacksonville State will be hosting Tennessee Tech University and Murray State University during the regional sectional. Looking ahead to the sectional, Coach Frost said, "Murray State is probably going to be the toughest team we face here in our sectional. Murray State actually took a 6 point-lead on us Day one of the conference finals."


Freshman Josh Grantham, a native of Enterprise, Ala., takes target practice. Photo by Webb Dillard / The Chanticleer

Coach Frost came to JSU four years ago with very few expectations.

"I wasn't sure what I was walking into. I had been out of the rifle scene for so long, I didn't know how far along this program would be," he said.

"I most certainly didn't expect the team would be as successful as we have been in the last three years and now including this year. "Our goals are not going to change. We still expect to win the OVC every year, and before I leave here we will win a National Championship."

Focusing on the future
On the heels of a disappointing 6-5 season, football signs 24 players

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State football team shifted its focus to the future last Wednesday, as the Gamecocks signed 24 players from the class of 2008.

This group adds on to the list of eight prospects that JSU brought in for the spring record, "We had to have a quarterback situation settled for the future," coach Jack Crowe said. "We got two guys, both of them undefeated in the major classifications of their state. I think that was first and foremost."

The Gamecocks also loaded up on offensive and defensive linemen in the 2008 class to add a solid foundation along the line of scrimmage, and we did that with offensive line signing class," Crowe said.

"We did bring in two in January, along with the one that we bring in the fall, to have what I think are three quality defensive linemen. I think we, secondly, built a foundation of linemen," Crowe added.

The final category that athleticism that you've got to have on both sides of the ball," Crowe added.

It appears that both Ivory and Watson may be given the opportunity to get some early playing time along with several of the junior college transfers that ISU added in January.

"I think the quarterbacks will be (ready). They're going to play," Crowe said. "You're
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Closing in on tournament berth

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

In need of a big win, the Jacksonville State women’s basketball team took care of business last week, as they defeated ‘Tennessee Tech 69-65.

The Gamecocks (10-14, 7-8 OVC) had been struggling on the road of late, dropping their last three games away from Pete Mathews Coliseum by an average of 29 points.

“We need every victory we can get,” JSU coach Becky Geyer said. “Every victory is going to count. We’ve got to get a couple of more wins to secure a spot in the tournament.”

JSU came out on fire behind a strong inside presence from sophomore Jolie Efezokhae and freshman Cierra Duhart. The duo scored the Gamecocks’ first 18 points of the contest.

JSU led by double-digits throughout most of the first half, but a defensive adjustment by the Golden Eagles cut the lead to six before half time.

“We came out and got an early jump on them,” Geyer said. “When our inside did well, they switched to a zone, and we had to make some adjustments.

“They were in that zone to stop Jolie and Cierra. It took us a little while to get in our rhythm, but I thought we did a good job of breaking that down and hitting some things from the outside,” Geyer added.

After leading for the first 33 minutes of the game, the Gamecocks fell behind twice in the second half. Megan Lyons’ three-pointer put the Golden Eagles up by one with 4:31 left to play, but JSU quickly took the lead and held off TTU for the remainder of the contest.

“I think we’ve overall done a really good job of that (closing out games) this year. We just kept playing basketball. We ran some of our special plays, and we scored on those. Our girls

never panicked even though the majority of the ballgame we were up. I thought we did a nice job of just finishing it,” Geyer said.

Four Gamecocks scored in double-figures on Thursday night. Efezokhae led the team with 17 points to go along with 10 rebounds, recording her sixth career double-double.

Junior Cassi Stuart scored 13 points, all coming in the second half, and Danielle Beshey and Duhart each added 11.

“When we have five people that score over 10 points, we’re 5-0 in those games,” Geyer said. “I think our well balanced scoring is what really makes us a hard team to defend.”

The Gamecocks are currently sixth in the OVC standings, with five games left to play. Eight teams make the conference tournament. JSU is currently three and a half games above ninth place Tennessee Tech, but the Gamecocks aren’t comfortable with their position just yet.

“I think there are five teams fighting for the last two spots, and there is not that much difference between them,” Geyer said. “I think right now there are a handful of teams that don’t have a guarantee. It’s just too close.”

JSU will take on Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State this weekend.

OVC STANDINGS

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*The top eight teams earn a bid to the OVC tournament.*

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The Jacksonville State track team broke the school record for the 1600-meter relay with a time of 3:56.90 at the McDonald’s Invitational. The team was anchored by Nolinda Garner.

--- From staff reports
No Pappano, no Pittman, no problem
JSU softball looks for success without last season’s 2 best players

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State softball team enters the 2008 season with high hopes of regaining Ohio Valley Conference supremacy.

The Gamecocks bring back a slew of All-OVC performers from last year. However, they will not have the services of Daniela Pappano or Karla Pittman this season.

Pappano left JSU as the school’s career leader in home runs. RBIs, hits, runs scored, walks and at bats after earning All-OVC honors in four consecutive years.

Pittman was arguably the OVC’s best pitcher last year, but will miss the entire 2008 season with a leg injury.

“We just found out about 11 days ago that she is out for the season,” JSU coach Jana McGinnis said. “She went in for what we thought may be some minor surgery. We thought at the most she might be out two weeks. But when they got in there, they found that she has a very serious injury to her femur bone.

“They said it would take her a year to rehab, so she is going to have to be redshirted. It’s big because if you don’t have one somebody else will step up, and she might be the one that takes their place.”

One such player is Florida State transfer Kayla Collins, who has re-registered. Collins played two seasons for the Seminoles, but she decided to transfer to JSU after her sophomore season.

“Initially they (JSU) recruited me, and I came up here and I absolutely loved it,” Collins said. “But it was always my dream to go to an instate, big D-I school.

“I told coach McGinnis and coach Mark that I had already committed. They said, ‘You know, if it doesn’t work out, you’re always welcome to come here.’ It didn’t work out, so I remembered JSU,” Collins added.

Collins enters the 2008 season as the only Gamecock to have NCAA tournament experience, and she is expecting big things from this group.

JANA MCGINNIS
- Head coach, softball
- 15th season
- 440-248 record
- “I have high hopes for this season. Our goal is… to win the tournament and go to regionals, and win regionals.”

One such player is Florida State transfer Kayla Collins, who should give the Gamecocks a much-needed boost from both a pitching and hitting standpoint.

With Pittman being sidelined for the entire season, the majority of the pitching duties appear to have been handed to junior Melissa Dowling and freshman Ashley Eliasson.

“We’ve got Ashley Eliasson, who is a pitcher and a freshman, who I think mentally wise is well beyond her years. She seems older mentally, and I think that is going to carry her a long way. That is going to be huge for us. I think she can help us as the season progresses.”

If the Gamecocks are to re-gain the top spot in the OVC, they will have to find a way to unseat Tennessee Tech, who has won the conference tournament in each of the past two seasons.

“That’s our first conference series, a three-game series at Tennessee Tech,” McGinnis said. “That could be a huge difference-maker in the season if we can go in there and take two out of three.”

“I told our girls that Tennessee Tech isn’t the only school we have to focus on. After we play Tennessee Tech, we’ve still got eight other conference series to go. It would do us no good if we beat Tennessee Tech and then blow the others. We’re going to take it one game at a time,” McGinnis added.

JSU’s season got started last weekend in the Bama Bash held at the University of Alabama. The Gamecocks defeated South Alabama twice but fell to both Alabama and Purdue.

“I have high hopes for this season. Our goal is as it always is. It’s to win the tournament and go to regionals. And win regionals,” McGinnis added. “I really like this team. This team works harder than any team we’ve had in a long time. They’ve got good attitude and seem to have good chemistry, so that will take you a long way.”

---

Softball – probable starters
C - Allie Barker
1B - Nikki Prier
2B - Courtney Underwood
3B - Whitney Elden
SS - Kayla Collins
OF - Martina Desskog
OF - Viviane Maran
OF - Martina Desskog
OF - Ashley Eliasson
OF - Daniela Pappano
OF - Karla Pittman

Baseball – probable starters
C - Andrew Edge
1B - Steven Leach
2B - Bert Smith
3B - John David Smelser
SS - Josh Gordon
OF - increase
OF - increase
OF - increase
OF - increase
**Baseball — probable starters**

C - Andrew Edge  
1B - Steven Leach  
2B - Bert Smith  
3B - John David Smelser  
SS - Josh Sanders  
LF - Todd Cunningham  
CF - Daniel Adamson  
RF - Clay Whittemore

Pitchers: Ben Tootle, Jordan Beistline, Justin King, Danny Andres, Nick Hettland

**Softball — probable starters**

C - Allie Barker  
1B - Nikki Prier  
2B - Courtney Underwood  
3B - Whitney Elder  
SS - Mary Beth Ledbetter  
LF - Rachel Fleming  
CF - Chrissy O’Neal  
RF - Jackie Jarman

Pitchers: Kayla Collins, Melissa Dowling, Ashley Eliasson, Kelly McGregor

**BASEBALL**

**Five in a row: Gamecocks look to get far in OVC again**

Continued from page 1B

is helping the younger guys a lot.”

The youthful Gamecocks can certainly look to their outfielder for an on-field role model.

Whittemore led the team in batting average (.391), hits (93), doubles (20) and runs batted in (69). He was one of two Gamecocks to start each of the team’s 60 games.

A year after being named Second-Team All-OVC and OVC tournament MVP honors in 2006, Whittemore was named OVC Player of the Year last season. He also became JSU’s first Division I baseball All-American.

Indications are that the trophy case will become even more crowded at the end of the 2008 campaign. Whittemore has been named to the Brooks Wallace Player of the Year Award Watch List and to the Louisville Slugger pre-season All-American team.

**The supporting cast**

Other than Whittemore, JSU returns only three players who started at least half the team’s games last season. Most notable is fellow All-OVC first team selection Bert Smith.

Smith, last season’s starting second baseman, was second on the team in batting average at .359 and led the team by a wide margin in stolen bases with 20.

The junior may have trouble playing in every game as he did a year ago, however.

Smith underwent shoulder surgery on Feb. 12. Case said it was unclear whether Smith will be ready for the start of the season.

The other two primary returnees are shortstop Josh Sanders and outfielder Daniel Adamson.

Both were named to the OVC All-Freshman team a year ago.

Case says that the rest of the positions are still largely open, and will be determined in the two weeks leading up to JSU’s first game on February 22.

“A farewell to arms

The biggest question mark for JSU’s 2008 season lies in arguably the worst possible place — the pitching staff.

For most, the Gamecocks lost ace Donovan Hand, who was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers in the 12th round last year.

Hand led the team in ERA at 3.78, led the team in innings pitched, and threw all seven of JSU’s complete games. The bullpen will miss the consistency Hand provided.

Tony Drinkard and reliever Brett Harris will also be missed. Drinkard started 15 games, and went 7-3 with a 4.15 ERA. Harris went 6-1 with a 3.88 ERA out of the bullpen.

“At 189-162

Helping to fill the void will be the number three starter, Alex Jones led the team in ERA a year ago, but most recent, he was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers in the 12th round.

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