

Election 2008

America chooses Obama



Tim Wyatt, President of the JSU College Democrats, celebrates with friends in front of Crow Hall on Tuesday after hearing of Obama's victory. Photo by Zach Childree / The Chanticleer

JSU students celebrate historic election

By DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) Barack Obama swept to victory as the nation's first black president Tuesday night in an electoral college landslide that overcame racial barriers as old as America itself. "Change has come," he told a jubilant hometown Chicago crowd estimated at nearly a quarter-million people.

The son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas, the Democratic senator from Illinois sealed his historic triumph by defeating Republican Sen. John McCain in a string of wins in hard-fought battleground states — Ohio, Florida, Iowa and more. He captured Virginia, too, the first candidate of his party in 44 years to do so.

On a night for Democrats to savor, they not only elected Obama the nation's 44th president but padded their majorities in the House and Senate, and in January will control both the White House and Congress for the first time since 1994.

A survey of voters leaving polling places showed the economy was by far the top Election Day issue. Six in 10 voters said so; and none of the other top issues — energy, Iraq, terrorism and health care — was picked by more than one in 10.

Obama's election capped a meteoric rise — from mere state senator to president-elect in four years.

Spontaneous celebrations erupted from Atlanta to New York and Philadelphia as word of Obama's victory spread. A big crowd filled Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House.

At Jacksonville State University, students stood outside Crow Hall cheering. "When they announced Obama's win, it was like the floodgates had been let loose," President of the JSU College Democrats, Tim Wyatt, said. "It was instant energy, you would have thought a cannon had fired."

Shalon Montgomery, a marketing major at JSU said the dreams of his parents had finally been realized. "If you watch on TV you can see the older generation just crying, they never thought this would happen," Montgomery said. "We have always been told 'You can be anything; you can be president of the United States.' A lot of us didn't believe that, but now we can."

In his first speech as victor, to an enormous throng at Grant Park in Chicago, Obama catalogued the challenges ahead. "The greatest of a lifetime," he said, "two wars, a planet in peril, the worst

See "Obama," page 5

Nailbiting election

Students nervously awaited election results

By Julie Skinner
News Editor

Three young women stare anxiously at a TV monitor in the clubhouse of The Grove apartment complex.

This day that only comes once every four years has

an ambassador to the NAACP at JSU, cast her ballot for Democratic nominee, Barack Obama, earlier this month through an absentee ballot for Georgia.

"The reason that I voted for Obama is because I basically agree with what he's trying to

she was never swayed in one direction or another when it came to political views.

"If I'm going to vote, I at least need to know exactly who I'm voting for. I didn't want to vote for Obama just because he was black, I needed to know he was a good person and that he



Three young women stare anxiously at a TV monitor in the clubhouse of The Grove apartment complex.

This day that only comes once every four years has struck awe in their faces, as they prepare for a long night of waiting for who will be announced as the 44th president of the United States of America. All three are college students at Jacksonville State University, and have dedicated their Tuesday night to watching the monumental election coverage on CNN.

Callie Sneed, a 19-year-old freshman and member of the Young College Democrats and

Obama, earlier this month through an absentee ballot for Georgia.

"The reason that I voted for Obama is because I basically agree with what he's trying to do," Sneed said. "I didn't vote for McCain because I have that fear that he is going to be like Bush and not think for himself and let the Republican basically tell him what he should and should not do."

Sneed credits her Democrat beliefs to getting involved with the College Democrats, where she first began to research debates and presidential candidates. Always encouraged to vote by her mother,

"If I'm going to vote, I at least need to know exactly who I'm voting for. I didn't want to vote for Obama just because he was black, I needed to know he was a good person and that he stood for change," Sneed said. "My mother always told me it was very important to vote, but she never really talked to me about being republican or democrat, because she wanted me to have my own voice."

Sumer Hawkins, a JSU student majoring in political science and speaker of the house for the College Democrats at JSU, also counted electoral

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An estimated 500 Obama supporters filled Leone Cole Auditorium for a rally on Monday night. Photo by Mandy Pearson / The Chanticleer

Republicans cheer for McCain at campus rally

By Julie Skinner
News Editor

On Monday, November 3, the College Republicans at Jacksonville State University held a last-minute rally for John McCain and Mike Rogers.

"This is just a last minute push or opportunity for people to congregate together who are supporting McCain or Mike Rogers," Dr. Lori Owens, political science professor and faculty advisor of the JSU College Republicans said.

"We have had a lot of JSU students who have been adamantly involved in the Mike Rogers campaign, of course Mike Rogers being a JSU alum, and we appreciate him and the students who have been helping."

Though the turnout was only that of around 60 people, those who did come, like Ashley Nolen, were hoping to get the word out before Election Day and show their support for John

McCain.

"I am here because I am a supporter of John McCain," Nolen said. "His belief systems are very parallel to my own and I would love for him to be our next president."

Others, like Samantha Bailey, expressed their fondness of John McCain's vice presidential nominee, Alaska Governor Sarah Palin.

"I like her a lot, I think she is the all-American mom and woman," Bailey said. "She helps out with the stiff republican image, and helping them get rid of that."

Speakers at the rally included Dr. Owens, Head Freshmen Forum Advisor Eric Osbourne, Dr. William Lester, a political science professor; and the President of the JSU College Republicans, Bryant Whaley.

"In class, I don't try to let my opinion go too far on these things," Lester stated during his speech. "But I'm not in class right now."

Lester spoke about the media's heavy in-

volvement in this presidential election and its influence on society.

"We need to send the news media a message that they don't control our nation," Lester said. "We do."

Osbourne spoke of what first made him a Republican and his hopes for everyone to go out and vote.

"I had a teacher in high school who challenged me to think outside the box," Osbourne said. "I fell in love with the Republican party the first time McCain ran against Bush and I liked what he had to say. I just encourage everyone to go vote."

Charlie Langham, vice president of the College Republicans, voiced why he thought McCain was a strong choice and what he stood for.

Though McCain lost the election, Langham said that in his government classes, mock voting sessions showed McCain to be the winner.

"I think Republicans stand for the working people and are not trying to raise taxes," Langham said. "They say Obama is trying to give a tax break to 95% of people, but it's going to trickle down pretty quickly."

Whaley made clear during his speech why Obama was not the man for the job and stuck strongly to his belief in John McCain.

"I support John McCain over Barack Obama because he has experience," Whaley said. "A lot of people criticize McCain for his age, but with his age also comes a knowledge of knowing what he's doing versus only the days of experience that Obama has. McCain has been tested through and through during his career and his personal life and he has persevered, which is what I think makes him the best candidate."

Though the efforts of the JSU College Republicans was strong, it was not enough to prevent Barack Obama from being declared the 44th President of the United States of America.

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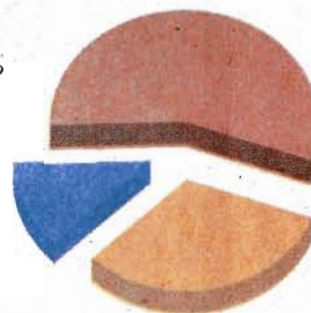
How to Drink Safely

Chris Foshee gives you five steps to make sure your drinking experience is a safe and sane one
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QUESTION of the WEEK

Should teachers discuss personal political opinions in class?

- Yes, If it's a political class 56%
- No, They should keep their opinions to themselves 32%
- Yes, Teachers should be free to discuss politics 12%



Next week's question:
Do you eat breakfast?

ONLINE @ thechanticleeronline.com

ON Campus

Briefs

•The week of November 10-14 will be celebrated as National Distance Learning Week (NDLW) at Jacksonville State University. In recognition of this week, JSU's Office of Distance Education will sponsor several events of educational nature such as online webinars and virtual chat sessions for members of the JSU community. For more information, please visit the JSU news wire through www.jsu.edu.

•Jacksonville State University is participating in IDEA this semester, (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) which is a course evaluation system. On November 10, JSU students will receive an e-mail from IDEA for each of their courses and will be asked to take a few minutes to click on each link, enter their e-mail address and complete each evaluation form. In doing so, each respondent will be entered in a drawing to win either a JSU jump drive, a \$100 gift card to the JSU Bookstore, an iPod Shuffle or an iPod touch.

•Jacksonville State University is in its final two weeks of the United Way employee campaign. The deadline to pledge is November 15, and the pledge cards can be sent to Gloria Horton in the English Department (if faculty) and to Kevin McFry in the Controller's Office (if staff). Donations may be made through payroll deduction, check or direct bill. \$10,000 has already been raised. To locate a pledge form, you may contact Gloria through extension number 5409 or McFry at extension number 5461.

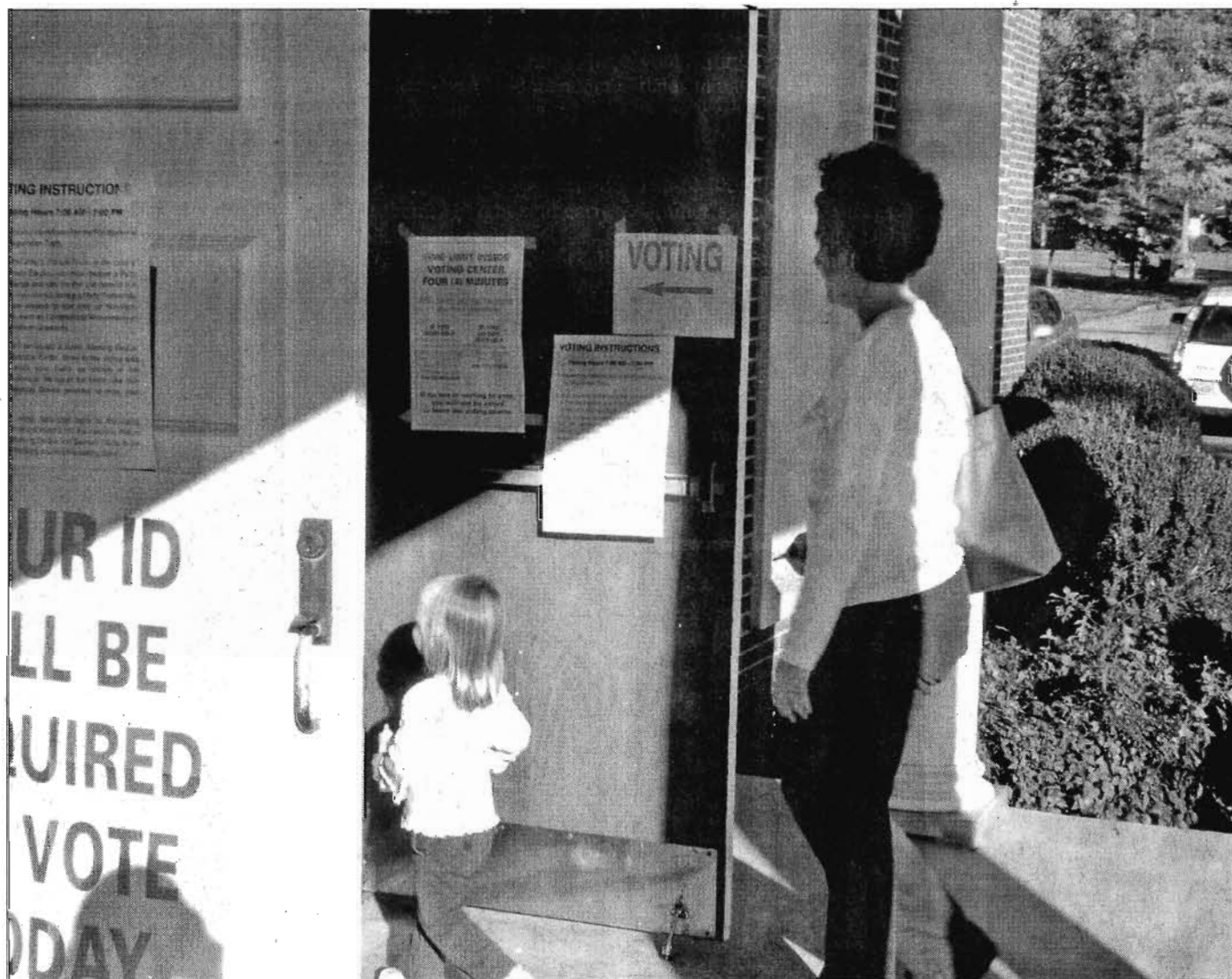
•The American Red Cross will sponsor a Veteran's Day Blood Drive at First Baptist Church on Tuesday, November 11 from noon until 5:00. The blood drive will be held in the church's Fellowship Hall. Donors are asked to bring a photo ID. Drop-ins are welcome or you can schedule an appointment by calling 800-GIVE-LIFE or 435-7020

Campus Crime

October 21

•An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Ayers Hall. Items stolen include a Biology book valued at \$75.00, an English book valued at \$50.00 and an Algebra book valued at \$65.00.

Picture of the week



Voters go into one of Jacksonville's polling locations on Tuesday, November 4, to cast their vote. Photo by Mandy Pearson / The Chanticleer

Democrats win seat held by Republicans for 44 years

By **BOB JOHNSON**
Associated Press Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Democrats on Tuesday claimed an Alabama congressional seat held by Republicans for 44 years, and held off a strong GOP challenge to another open House seat long-filled by Democrats.

Conservative Democrat Bobby Bright claimed victory in Alabama's 2nd Congressional District as Republican

In the only other contested race, six-term Republican Rep. Robert Aderholt won easily over 28-year-old Democrat Nick Sparks, who was making his first run for political office.

Alabama's congressional delegation has included five Republicans and two Democrats for 12 years, but the GOP's edge was trimmed to 4-3.

The two open seats were created by the retirement of

school blue dog Democrat message," Taylor said.

Love, who has represented his Montgomery district for six years, is a conservative businessman and ally of GOP Gov. Bob Riley in the House. Love said Bright would be obligated to vote with national Democrats like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Love said he called Bright and congratulated him.

"It was a tough race and I thought we had a good shot of

Parker, a Huntsville insurance executive, tried to link his opponent with national Democrats like Pelosi. He pointed to Griffith's record in the state Senate, where the Democrat usually voted with his party's leadership.

Parker, 49, has run twice for the 5th District seat and in 1994 came within 1 percentage point of defeating Cramer.

Segall, a 29-year-old Mont-

October 21

•An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Ayers Hall. Items stolen include a Biology book valued at \$75.00, an English book valued at \$50.00 and an Algebra book valued at \$65.00.

October 30

•An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Stone Center. Items stolen include a book valued at \$57.85, another book valued at \$33.75, a geography book valued at \$108.25 and a black Honda backpack valued at \$50.00.

November 1

•A theft of property was reported at Fitzpatrick Hall. Items stolen include a black Samsung television valued at \$100.00.

What's Happening

Thursday, November 6

- Emerging Leaders Day, TMB Auditorium 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Fine Art Fair, Hammond Hall Courtyard
- Self Esteem Program, Leone Cole Auditorium 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
- Smoke Out Arthritis, TMB Lawn 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Astronomy Introduction/Outreach, JSU Quad 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Monday, November 10

- Delta Zeta Philanthropy Pageant Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11

- Veterans Day : Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 12

- Honor Society Inductions McClure Chapel, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The Chanticleer

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claimed an Alabama congressional seat held by Republicans for 44 years, and held off a strong GOP challenge to another open House seat long-filled by Democrats.

Conservative Democrat Bobby Bright claimed victory in Alabama's 2nd Congressional District as Republican state Rep. Jay Love conceded the tight race around midnight. Democrats had eyed the southeast Alabama district, in the GOP column since 1964, as a Southern seat that could help strengthen their majority in the House.

With more than 98 percent of the votes counted, Bright had 50.3 percent of the vote to 49.7 percent for Love.

In north Alabama, Democratic state Sen. Parker Griffith held off a GOP bid to claim the 5th District, a Tennessee Valley region that Democrats have dominated for more than a century. It was one of the few House seats the GOP hoped to wrest from Democrats.

Griffith defeated insurance executive Wayne Parker by receiving almost 52 percent of the vote, with 98 percent of precincts reporting.

A surprisingly strong bid by Democratic newcomer Josh Segall in the 3rd District fell short against incumbent Republican Mike Rogers. With about 98 percent of the votes counted, Rogers was receiving about 53 percent of the vote.

his first run for political office.

Alabama's congressional delegation has included five Republicans and two Democrats for 12 years, but the GOP's edge was trimmed to 4-3.

The two open seats were created by the retirement of Republican Rep. Terry Everett of Rehobeth, who had held it since 1992, and Democratic Rep. Bud Cramer of Huntsville, who was stepping down after nine terms.

In the 2nd District, which stretches from north of Montgomery to Dothan in the southeast corner of the state, Democrats challenged GOP dominance with Bright, a conservative who was born in Ozark. One of 14 children in a sharecropper's family, he promised to be an independent voice in Washington.

"We stayed focused on the issues and showed the people of the district we cared about them," Bright said early Wednesday morning.

Troy University political scientist Steven Taylor attributed Bright's strong showing to his conservative message, which he said apparently caused some voters to overlook their Republican leanings. He also attributed the win to Bright's strong showing in Montgomery county.

"He just ran with an old

businessman and ally of GOP Gov. Bob Riley in the House. Love said Bright would be obligated to vote with national Democrats like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Love said he called Bright and congratulated him.

"It was a tough race and I thought we had a good shot of winning until the end," Love said.

Love and Bright are both deacons at Montgomery's First Baptist Church, but their campaign turned bitter in its final weeks, with each accusing the other of false or misleading ads.

In north Alabama, Republicans hoped to win a seat in the 5th District. A conservative Blue Dog Democrat, Cramer held onto the seat for almost 20 years, even as the district voted for Republican candidates in national and statewide races.

Griffith, 66, an entrepreneur and former cancer doctor from Huntsville, billed himself as Cramer's natural successor. He ran as a moderate Democrat who would continue luring federal jobs and investment into a high-tech corridor that includes an Army missile center and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center.

"It was a tough win," Griffith said. "We're going to continue the legacy of Bud Cramer and working across the aisle with Republicans."

Senate, where the Democrat usually voted with his party's leadership.

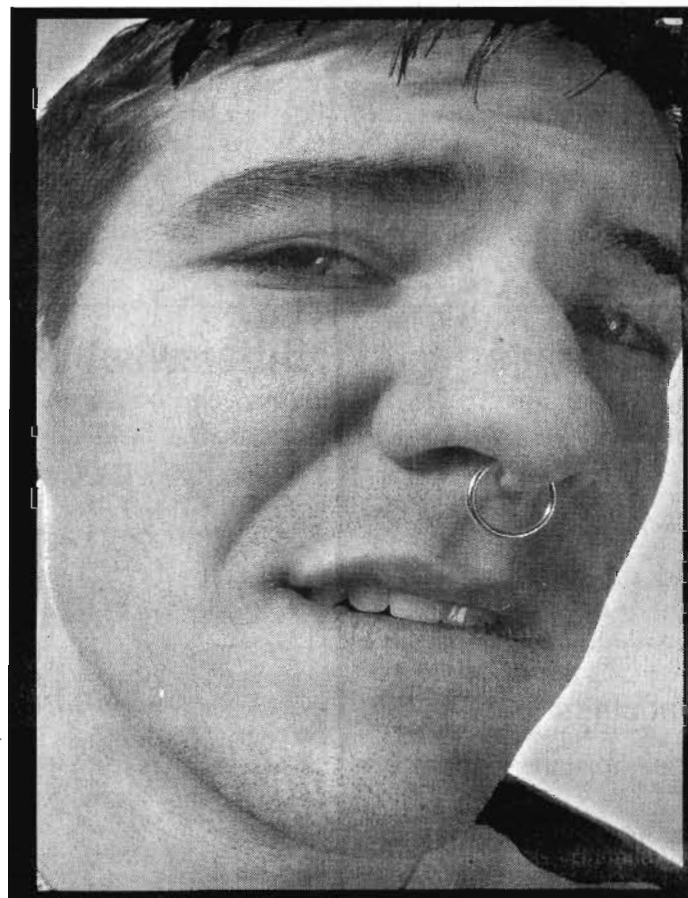
Parker, 49, has run twice for the 5th District seat and in 1994 came within 1 percentage point of defeating Cramer.

Segall, a 29-year-old Montgomery lawyer, surprised some political observers by proving he could raise money and stay relatively close in polls in his race against Rogers, a 50-year-old seeking his fourth term. Segall accused Rogers of voting in lockstep with the Republican majority in Congress and President Bush. Rogers said Segall was too liberal for the 3rd District, which covers much of east Alabama from Montgomery to Cherokee County.

Rogers attributed the close race to a climate nationally that favored Democrats.

The 43-year-old Aderholt moved the 4th District into GOP hands in 1996 after the retirement of a longtime Democratic power, Rep. Tom Bevill.

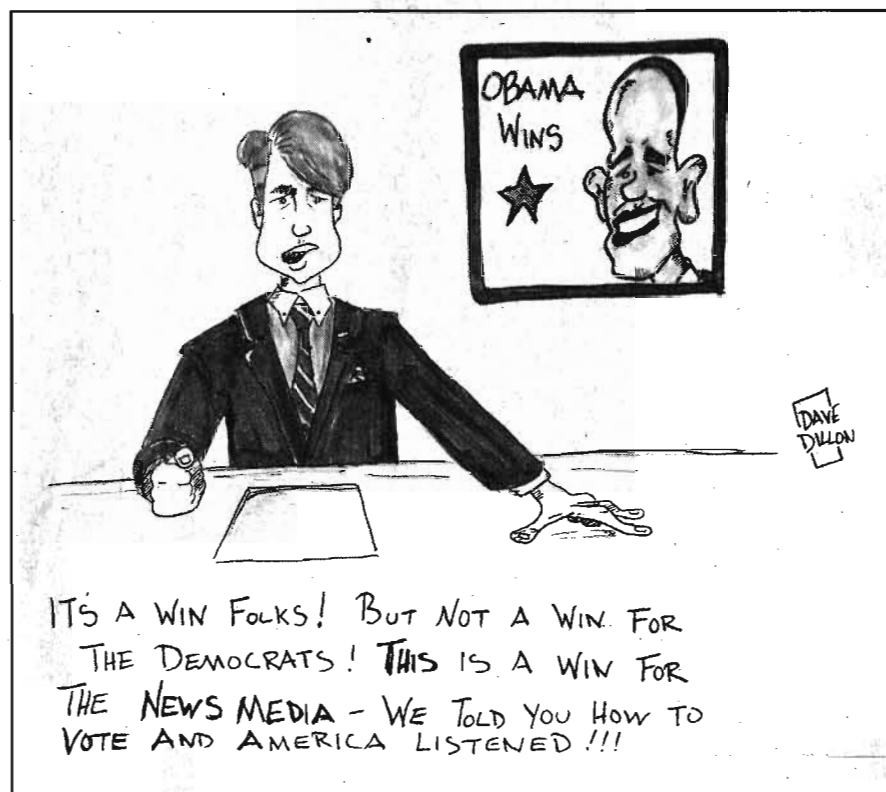
Unopposed Tuesday were Democratic Rep. Artur Davis of Birmingham in the 7th District and Republican Reps. Spencer Bachus in the 6th District and Jo Bonner in the 1st District.



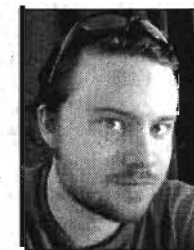
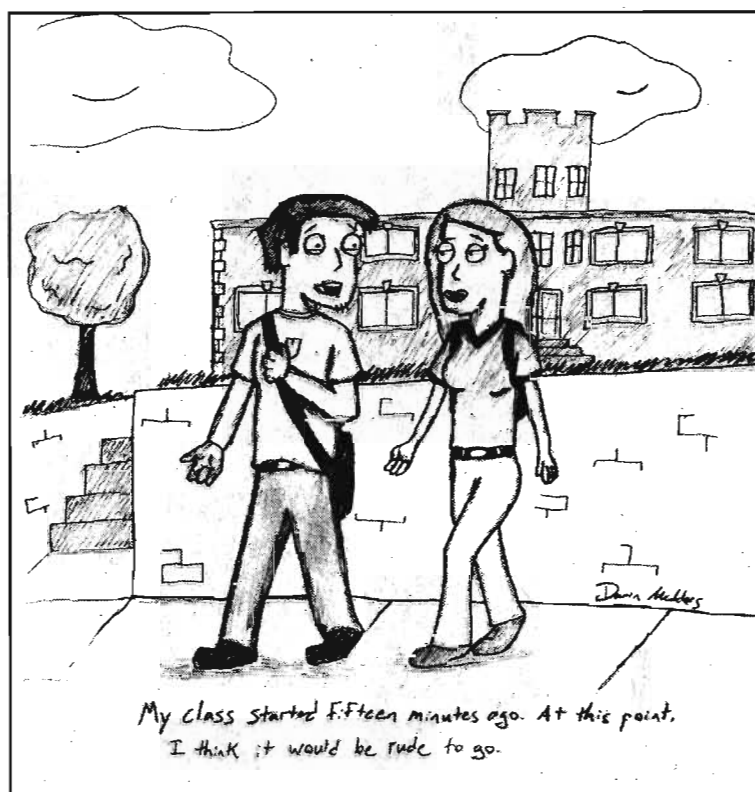
We've Got A Nose For News.

The Chanticleer

DAVE DILLON
Political Cartoonist



DARIN MEDDERS
Cartoonist



Clark Barron

On The Verge

The drive to the office was electric. Shouting and celebrating could be heard from anywhere on campus. It just shows the enthusiasm that has overtaken the young voters in this town. It makes me proud to know that my generation is beginning to realize how important it is to get involved in American politics.

It wouldn't take a political analyst to determine that I'm a strong Obama supporter, but I can definitely say that I'm glad to see that there was a strong "young voter" turnout all over the country no matter their decision when it came time to hit the button.

There are of course several things that I'd like to illustrate on the road leading up to this monumental victory for Obama. First of all, after the first couple of projections came in, things seemed to be going according to schedule.

McCain had taken a few of the southern states; there's no surprise there. Obama had taken Vermont, as well as a few "here and there" states. Both candidates were at a steady pace after the first few projections came in and no real "upsets" had been projected yet. However, while watching three different coverage sites online and Anderson Cooper on CNN, I witnessed Wolf Blitzer give Pennsylvania to Obama.

Sure, we all knew that there was a heavy Democratic presence in Pennsylvania, but we also heard speculation of Obama not being able to take it. I didn't think much of the Obama win in Pennsylvania, thinking that it was basically expected. Then, things got crazy.

After listening to several analysts ramble on in order to take up time, news of back to back upsets finally broke. In only the third hour of coverage, CNN, MSNBC, and even FOX

Election was bittersweet for fair-minded

Tuesday, America made a great stride in racial equality. Barack Obama became our first African American president and the first Democrat to hold the office in eight years.

The celebrations around Jacksonville were exciting, people were screaming and cheering and, well, celebrating. It was a truly moving moment and one that I will remember for the rest of my life.

Unfortunately, there were some great strides backward in our country as well.

Florida and Arizona both passed amendments to their state constitutions banning gay and lesbian couples from marrying. As of this writing, California is poised to do the same.

While in Florida and Arizona the strike was preemptive, a move by social conservatives to make sure that marriage equality was something that could not be attained by gay and lesbian couples, California's ballot mea-

sure was reactionary.

More than 18,000 couples had their legal unions dissolved by a simple majority of voters.

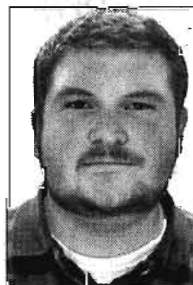
Truly, the entire state decided who should and should not be married.

Now these thousands of couples, find themselves without rights they had just a week ago.

Families find themselves legally dissolved in the wake of this constitutional amendment.

I know that what happens in California seems far from what's going on here in Alabama, but these are human beings whose basic rights were stripped away by putting them to a vote.

I want you to stop and think about it for a minute. What if, suddenly, you found that your relationship was being put to a vote by the entire state?



Zach Childree
chantyeditor@gmail.com

What if the entire state of Alabama got to decide if you get to visit your significant other in the hospital or if you get to keep the house that you both paid for?

What if the entire state got to vote on who you could pledge your devotion to?

Seems pretty bizarre huh?

Well this is exactly what happened to thousands of people in California.

Proposition 8, using a campaign largely funded by the Mormon church, removes the rights of couples the California Supreme Court said the state constitution provided.

How exactly do these "family values" proponents suggest that these couples tell their children today that their parents are no longer married?

In a time when the entire country celebrates another nail in the coffin of discrimination, people who love each

other and have pledged their lives to one another have now been rendered legal strangers by the voters in California.

I celebrate the milestone that Barack Obama represents and I encourage further strides toward the end of race based discrimination, but as we celebrate, let us not forget that discrimination has now been enshrined in the state constitutions of three more states.

Let us not forget that, in the words of Dr. King, injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

I mourn for these couples and families in California who find themselves today with over 2,000 fewer rights and responsibilities than they had on Monday.

It makes the joy I feel over the election of Barack Obama very bittersweet indeed.

A user's guide to safe drinking

A user's guide to safe drinking

By Chris Foshee
Special to The Chanticleer

Most of us have had a bad morning after a night of drinking all night. You wake up with no idea where you are or how you got there, your mouth is dryer than the Sierra, you smell like a steady combination of vomit, smoke, and hooker spit, and God forbid you wake up next to some strange naked person.

These nights can be some of the best or worst nights of your life, it is all how you handle them.

You should not feel discouraged about going out and drinking with your friends if you are the legal age because no one remembers the nights they got plenty of sleep. However, memories of a DUI, STDs and alcohol posing will haunt you forever. The key is to be safe and smart all while having an amazing time. Here is my guide to a night of drinking.

Step One: Be prepared and plan ahead. Being prepared is not just a motto of a boy scout; it is also the creed of a smart drinker. Not only is it the first thing you should do before a night of drinking it is also probably the most important.

Know who you are going out with and always have a designated driver. If you plan on drinking you should avoid even bringing your car out of park. This will help you avoid prob-

lems of drinking and driving, which is a very stupid idea.

According to the legal office of Russell Crumbley, the legal limit to drink and drive in the state of Alabama is .08, anything over that you are as good as gone. So remember that has you fumble for your keys saying those famous last words, "I am not that drunk." If you have to convince yourself or others that you are sober enough to drive you aren't.

Step Two: Know your limit. This step can not be stressed enough. Not only is alcohol capable of killing you by slowing down your heart, it can also affect your thinking abilities according to studies of the U.S. Department of Health and anyone who has been sober around an annoying drunk person.

According to an expert party animal Tucker Max, author of "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell," if you have a blood alcohol content of over .35 you will probably die. It is a good idea to take your time and do not mix drinks. If you are drinking beer do not switch to hard liquor. The main reason for this is that it disrupts your liver processing and disrupts your pace.

If you pound beer all night then try to pound whiskey you are asking for trouble. Knowing your limit also keeps you from becoming "that guy," at the party.

Step Three: Stick to the Buddy System. More times than not it is going to save you from making bad decisions and it is always good for a few free drinks and a steady wing-man or wing-women. Two heads are always better than one.

If you are thinking about doing something but aren't sure, ask a friend. Even if they are drunk too, the both of you should be able to get down to a reasonable decision. This also helps you from picking a bad mate and taking them home. Sticking to the Buddy System will keep you out of trouble, but never go into a night with complete faith in your friends.

It is never a good idea to expect the best from them. Sometimes your friends will encourage you to do bad, dark, horrible things. So know your friends.

Step Four: Have the necessary tools for the job. There are a few things you should always keep on you when you are planning to drink. If you are single it is always a good idea to have a pen.

This can be used for getting phone numbers. Don't try to remember numbers because that never works out. The numbers swash around your head like emo-kids at a Slipknot concert. Whether you are single or not, always have a condom and cash.

Not that they should be used simul-

taneously within the same transaction but both are good ideas to have handy. Bar tabs can get real expensive and condoms keep the evil itches away.

Step Five: Pass out with success. Passing out is your body's way of telling that if you keep drinking your liver is going to pack up and move in with its secretary to Nebraska.

So if you feel the need to pass out stop drinking a call it a night. If your vision is already blurred one more game of Circle of Death is a bad idea.

Always take off your shoes and belt (in most houses this will keep the Sharpies and shaving cream away). If you feel like you are going to throw-up, throw up. Pass out on your stomach to avoid lying on your back.

If you do this it will keep you from drowning on your own vomit. Regardless how disgusting it is to wake up in your own puke, at least you're alive.

These are just a few tips to save you from very horrible experiences. It will keep you alive and keep you from making all your friends mad. According to the National Institute of Health, around 17,000 alcohol related deaths occur each year.

So have a great time but don't be a fool.

got crazy. After listening to several analysts ramble on in order to take up time, news of back to back upsets finally broke. In only the third hour of coverage, CNN, MSNBC, and even FOX had given Ohio to Obama. This was a huge win for the blue team considering that no Republican has gone into office without winning Ohio. If this wasn't enough bad news for McCain, news broke of Obama finally winning Virginia, putting Obama's electoral count up to 227. Considering that California's number were not officially "in" yet, I knew right then exactly what was about to happen.

Seconds after the victory in Virginia, all major channels and websites projected Obama to take the entire show. This was great news for me personally, but I had to sit back and think. "Wow, that was fast," I thought. If you looked at the map at the time of Obama's projected win, the results from Florida and several other key swing states were not even in. Regardless, history had been made. The United States of America had elected the first African-American President.

As a Democrat, I'm of course all for celebrating and enjoying the victory. However, no matter who you voted for, there's one question we all have to ask; what now? In reference, I must agree with President-elect Obama on this one. He's quoted with, "Tonight was only a victory. The real works starts tomorrow." These bold and very true words came from Obama in his victory speech in Chicago, IL. This is initiative that I believe deserves respect regardless of affiliation. Sure, the election is over, and he has won. However, the world doesn't stop turning. There are things to be handled right now.

We're seeing change in the way we vote, the way we want to shape our future, and most importantly... the way we think. These are definitely tough times, but we have desperately needed something to bring us all together for quite some time now. I'm in no way saying that this election will bring America together as a whole. However, what we can take from this election is that America is changing. How are we changing? Are these changes good or bad? Well, that's in the eye of the beholder, but there is no denying that history was made Tuesday night.

This is a monumental change that will affect our nation greatly. What we do from here will determine our future. Yes, there is a new president, but we have to remember that we, as humans, hold the real future of this country.

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

The Chanticleer
congratulates
Barack Obama
on his
historic win

HISTORIC WALK

November 4, 2008



Obama: "Let us summon a new spirit of patriotism"

financial crisis in a century."

He added, "There are many who won't agree with every decision or policy I make as president, and we know that government can't solve every problem. But I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face."

McCain called his former rival to concede defeat — and the end of his own 10-year quest for the White House. "The American people have spoken, and spoken clearly," McCain told disappointed supporters in Arizona.

President Bush added his congratulations from the White House, where his tenure runs out on Jan. 20. "May God bless whoever wins tonight," he had told dinner guests earlier.

Obama, in his speech, invoked the words of Lincoln and seemed to echo John F. Kennedy.

"So let us summon a new spirit of patriotism, of service and responsibility where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder," he said.

He and his running mate, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, will take their oaths of office as president and vice president on Jan. 20, 2009. McCain remains in the Senate.

Sarah Palin, McCain's running mate, returns to Alaska as governor after a tumultuous debut on the national stage.

He will move into the Oval Office as leader of a country that is almost certainly in recession, and fighting two long wars, one in Iraq, the other

in Afghanistan.

The popular vote was close — 51.3 percent to 47.5 percent with 73 percent of all U.S. precincts tallied — but not the count in the Electoral College, where it mattered most.

There, Obama's audacious decision to contest McCain in states that hadn't gone Democratic in years paid rich dividends.

Shortly after midnight in the East, The Associated Press count showed Obama with 338 electoral votes, well over the 270 needed for victory. McCain had 141 after winning states that comprised the normal Republican base, including Texas and most of the South.

Interviews with voters suggested that almost six in 10 women were backing Obama nationwide, while men leaned his way by a narrow margin. Just over half of whites supported McCain, giving him a slim advantage in a group that Bush carried overwhelmingly in 2004.

The results of the AP survey were based on a preliminary partial sample of nearly 10,000 voters in Election Day polls and in telephone interviews over the past week for early voters. Obama has said his first order of presidential business will be to tackle the economy. He has also pledged to withdraw most U.S. combat troops from Iraq within 16 months.

In Washington, the Democratic leaders of Congress celebrated.

"It is not a mandate for a party or ideology but a mandate for change,"

said Senate Majority leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

Said Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California: "Tonight the American people have called for a new direction. They have called for change in America."

Democrats also acclaimed Senate successes by former Gov. Mark Warner in Virginia, Rep. Tom Udall in New Mexico and Rep. Mark Udall in Colorado. All won seats left open by Republican retirements.

In New Hampshire, former Gov. Jeanne Shaheen defeated Republican Sen. John Sununu in a rematch of their 2002 race, and Sen. Elizabeth Dole fell to Democrat Kay Hagan in North Carolina.

Biden won a new term in Delaware, a seat he will resign before he is sworn in as vice president.

The Senate's Republican leader, Mitch McConnell, survived a scare in Kentucky, and in Georgia Sen. Saxby Chambliss hoped to avoid a December runoff.

The Democrats piled up gains in the House, as well.

They defeated seven Republican incumbents, including 22-year veteran Chris Shays in Connecticut, and picked up nine more seats where GOP lawmakers had retired.

At least three Democrats lost their seats, including Florida Rep. Tim Mahoney, turned out of office after admitting to two extramarital affairs while serving his first term in Florida. In Louisiana, Democratic Rep. Don Cazayoux lost the seat he had won in

a special election six months ago.

The resurgent Democrats also elected a governor in one of the nation's traditional bellwether states when Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon won his race.

An estimated 187 million voters were registered, and in an indication of interest in the battle for the White House, 40 million or so had already voted as Election Day dawned.

Obama sought election as one of the youngest presidents, and one of the least experienced in national political affairs.

That wasn't what set the Illinois senator apart, though — neither from his rivals nor from the other men who had served as president since the nation's founding more than two centuries ago. A black man, he confronted a previously unbreakable barrier as he campaigned on twin themes of change and hope in uncertain times.

McCain, a prisoner of war during Vietnam, a generation older than his rival at 72, was making his second try for the White House, following his defeat in the battle for the GOP nomination in 2000.

A conservative, he stressed his maverick's streak. And although a Republican, he did what he could to separate himself from an unpopular president.

For the most part, the two presidential candidates and their running mates, Biden and Republican Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, spent weeks campaigning in states that went for

Bush four years ago.

McCain and Obama each won contested nominations — the Democrat outdistancing former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton — and promptly set out to claim the mantle of change.

Obama won California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.

McCain had Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming.

He also won at least 3 of Nebraska's five electoral votes, with the other two in doubt.

At JSU, Tim Wyatt said he was looking forward to the next four years. "I'm looking forward to cooperation and unity," Wyatt said. "I'm looking forward to understanding between the different peoples that make up this government. Hopefully we can do away with this horrible hatred and division that has infested our country."

Zach Childree contributed to this report.

Waiting: election returns

votes as they updated them on the news. She too cast an absentee ballot earlier this month for that state of Georgia where she voted for Obama, who appeals to her because of his promise of change.

"I just like Obama's new stance and I think it's time for a change. I don't like the Republican platform right now," Hawkins said. "I don't agree with everything in the Democratic platform, but the majority I do."

Also pulling for Obama, Danielle Ewine, who just turned 18 years old in June, was proud to vote in this election and hopeful of a historic win.

"I'm very excited," Ewine said. "This is a major election and I'm glad I was able to vote so that one day I can tell my kids that I voted for Obama, the first African American nominee to be on the ticket. It's exciting."

Though these three young women were but a tiny portion of those that celebrated the announcement of Barack Obama's win over Senator John McCain, they did not allow the difference of political views get in the way of others celebrating this election day with them.

"We invited any and everybody to come watch," Hawkins said. "We're celebrating no matter who wins."



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Youth vote turned out for Obama Tuesday

Youth vote turned out for Obama Tuesday

By Andy Kroll, Uwire

If there was any voting bloc Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama knew he could count on to deliver on Election Day, it was young Americans.

And deliver they did: Nearly seven in 10 voters between the ages of 18 and 29 chose the Illinois senator over Republican presidential candidate John McCain. According to the CNN presidential exit polls, Obama won a majority of the youth vote in 41 states.

If Obama's impressive margin among young people stands as more voter data is released in the coming days, it would represent a significant increase in youth support compared to the previous presidential election, in which Democrat John Kerry won only 53 percent of the youth vote.

What remains unclear, however, is how much of an impact young voters actually had in Obama's comfortable victory Tuesday night.

Voters between the ages of 18 and 29 made up 18 percent of the electorate, according to Tufts University's Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE).

If the youth vote's total percentage of the electorate remains at 18 percent as more polling data is released, it would represent a 1 percent increase from the 2004 presidential election.

That said, John Della Volpe, director of polling at the Harvard University Institute of Politics, said looking at the youth vote's share of the electorate can be misleading.

He insisted that the youth vote played a crucial role in Obama's convincing victory.

"I think if it wasn't for the youth vote, at this hour we would still be figuring out who the next president is going to be," Della Volpe said early

Wednesday morning. "When you break down the difference of 68 (percent) to 30 percent, that's a 38 point margin. That's five times better than Kerry's performance among this demographic four years ago. I believe it's the reason Barack Obama won."

Della Volpe, who leads a bi-annual public survey of young people published by the Institute of Politics, said it's more important in the coming days to look at how many eligible young voters did indeed vote in the election.

Between elections in 2000 and 2004, the percentage of eligible voters who cast ballots increased from 40 percent to 49 percent. This year, Della Volpe said he anticipated an even greater youth vote turnout.

"The raw numbers, I guarantee, are going to be more, and you'll have more voters overall," he said.

This certainly appears to be the case, according to a release from the Student PIRGs New Voters Project, as a number of precincts on campuses across the country reported impressive increases in voter turnout.

A precinct at Indiana University at Bloomington reported 3,114 people voted today, while only 804 voted in 2004. At one precinct at the University of Maryland, 1,440 people had voted this year while only 740 voted in 2004.

Sujatha Jahagirdar, a program director for Student PIRGs, said despite the three-hour lines and numerous voting problems on different college campuses, the impressive support among young people for Obama illustrated how passionate young people were about participating in the election.

"There's no question that young people were engaged and excited and made their voices heard loud clear," she said.

Charlie Smith, the national chairman of the College Republican National Committee, did not respond to calls Tuesday night for comment on the youth voting results.

Having traveled to swing states and college campuses throughout the country as the president of the College Democrats of America, Katie Naranjo said she saw firsthand the importance of young people in electing Obama.

Young people were the ones who helped Obama win Iowa in the January caucuses, Naranjo said. And again, in June, it was young people who played a crucial role in helping Obama secure the Democratic nomination.

"I can tell you that the young people were the heart and soul and the nuts and bolts of this campaign," said Naranjo, a student at the University of Texas at Austin.

And in overwhelmingly choosing Obama to be the next president, Naranjo added, young people have made it explicitly clear who they believe will best represent them in the White House and who speaks to their interests, desires and concerns about the future of this country.

Even more, Naranjo emphasized the role of young people working behind the scenes for the Obama campaign -- "licking the stamps, making the phone calls, volunteering for the campaign."

It's this inclusiveness that she believes will keep young people connected to Obama when his administration takes over in the not-too-distant future.

"This is something that we've all done together as a collective unit," she said. "We're all in it together."

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Jered Staubs

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Staubs-er- vations

Do companies in Jacksonville require laziness, ignorance and poor people skills from their employees, or is it just a bonus?

Anyway, here's some random football thoughts while reveling in Spurs' win over Liverpool (When Oklahoma putting up 326 points against Nebraska and Texas losing aren't the highlight of my sports weekend, well, it was a good weekend):

Some people actually still believe that Devin Hester is a better return man than Josh Cribbs.

It's ironic that Bum Phillips was a good coach and his son Wade is a bum.

Brad Johnson would be the 10th best quarterback in the Big XII. And that's if Cody Hawkins is having an off day.

OK, you might remember after three weeks when everyone was touting the Cowboys as Super Bowl favorites, and I said to slow down, this team has major holes. Anyway, that's what I'm saying about the Titans now.

They win at most one game in the playoffs. Zero if they are matched up against the Chargers in their first game, as it appears they will be.

What exactly does it say about the disparity in the NFL that a 3-5 team can be a 15-point favorite? All I know is I'd hate to be playing against LT in fantasy football this week. Oh, s---

A team coached by Herm Edwards got uber-conservative and blew a

Back to business

Gamecocks get back to winning ways, defeat Austin Peay 35-22

By Jered Staubs
Sports Editor

Jacksonville State jumped out to a 21-3 lead early and cruised to a two-touchdown win against bottom-of-the-league Austin Peay.

The Gamecocks (6-3, 4-2 OVC) showed no ill effects from a heartbreaking loss a week earlier, as they scored on their first three possessions, leaving some leeway for the mistakes that would follow.

JSU scored on the opening drive for the fourth consecutive game, as quarterback Ryan Perrilloux scored on a 14-yard run.

Perrilloux, who again won OVC Newcomer of the Week Honors, accounted for the first three touchdowns as he added a 9-yard pass to James Wilkerson and 4-yard pass to Eric Johns.

Wilkerson was one of the stories of the game, as he had a career performance. The junior receiver caught eight passes for a career-high 123 yards and took a large step moving towards establishing himself as the team's number two receiver.

Still, the early offense was not enough to kill off 1-8 Austin Peay.

JSU continued its recent trend of keeping inferior teams in the game by turning the ball over multiple times. Austin Peay cut the 18-point deficit to under a touchdown twice by capitalizing on JSU fumbles.

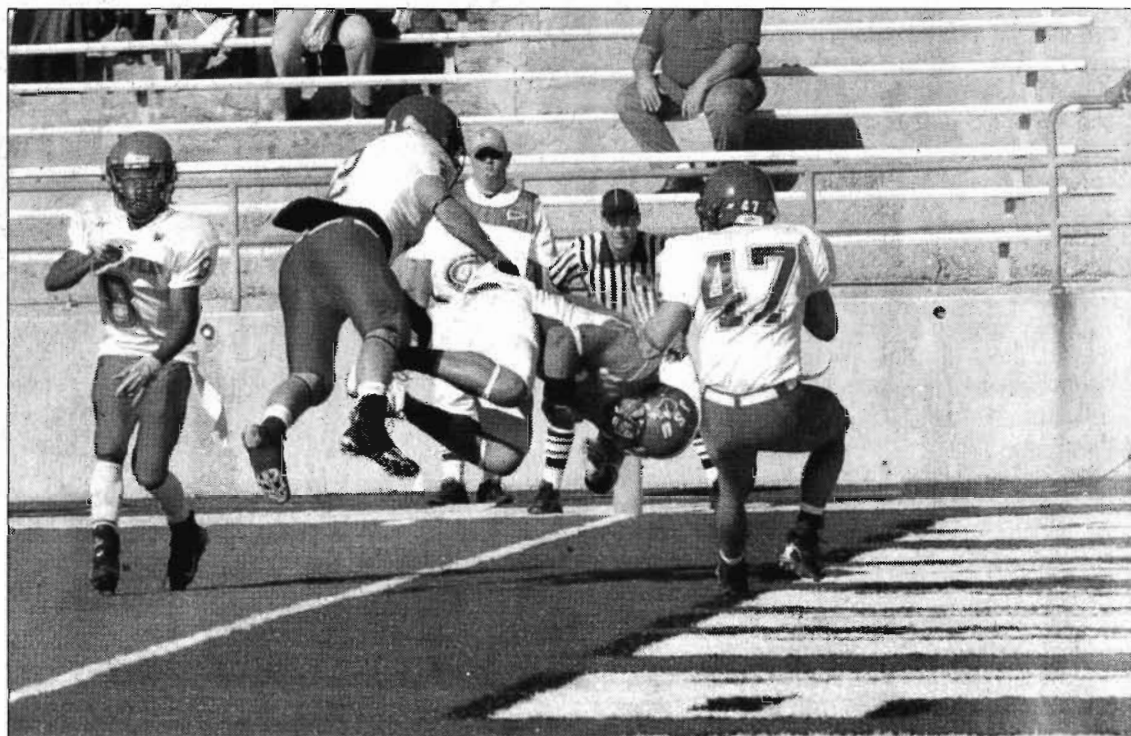
JSU also fumbled on the Austin Peay 1, which ended JSU's impressive run of 30 straight scores in red zone opportunities.

Coach Jack Crowe said his team didn't get complacent, but that Austin Peay made JSU work for everything it got Saturday.

"I was proud that we rose up for the last touchdown and then held them off at the end," he said. "We had a mentality to finish the game; we weren't just coasting."

As the game tightened, the Gamecocks turned more to running back Daniel Jackson, who ended the night with 111 yards. Jackson only had 11 carries on the afternoon, but managed to surpass 100 yards for the third time this season.

Austin Peay had a 100-yard rusher of its own,



James Wilkerson dives into the end zone after catching a nine-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Ryan Perrilloux in JSU's 35-22 over Austin Peay on Saturday. Wilkerson had a big day against the Govs, catching eight passes for 123 yards. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

Ryan White, who finished with 116 yards. Terrence Holt also nearly reached the century mark with 87 yards of his own.

Crowe said the Governors did well to continue focusing on the running game even in the face of a large deficit.

"We were up 21-3 and nothing changed (with them)," he said. "They stayed with the plan to run the ball and broke off some long runs. They kept a good balance in their offense. They stayed with us and made it tough for us to finish the game."

The defense wasn't particularly impressive — JSU gave up nearly 400 total yards on over 5.5 yards

per rush and 5.2 yards per pass attempt — but the Gamecocks made the critical plays that ensured the victory.

Of biggest import was a stop on an APSU fake punt in a 28-22 game in the fourth quarter. The Governors gamble was thwarted when Jeff Lyle was stopped short on fourth-and-10.

JSU put together a 65-yard drive that Ronald Murray capped with a 3-yard touchdown run to effectively ice the game.

The win assured JSU of its sixth consecutive winning season, though the team obviously still has larger goals in mind.

Searching for more than .500

After three consecutive 6-5 seasons, the Gamecocks look for more against Tennessee Tech

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

game.

"Tennessee Tech has some

as it appears they will be. What exactly does it say about the disparity in the NFL that a 3-5 team can be a 15-point favorite? All I know is I'd hate to be playing against LT in fantasy football this week. Oh, s---

A team coached by Herm Edwards got uber-conservative and blew a 24-3 lead against a horrible offensive team? What is this world coming to?

You know, all these people who campaign for more black coaches in the NFL would have more of a point if Edwards, Denny Green, Romeo Crennel and Marvin Lewis weren't four of the five worst coaches of the past decade.

That said, Mike Tomlin is a hell of a coach. I'll take him over anyone but Belichick and Fisher.

I might be alone on this, but it seemed like to me that Mack Brown actually out-coached Mike Leach — which I would have given about 20-1 odds — but that Texas Tech had better players — odds of which would have been off the board.

I have no clue why Texas Tech isn't #1 in the nation, and am even more confused as to why Oklahoma is ranked ahead of Texas in some polls.

Both issues will resolve themselves when OU blows out the Red Raiders in a couple weeks, but still.

Not sure why Colt McCoy is no longer considered the Heisman favorite. That was the second most impressed I've been with him in his career (And he CAN throw the ball more than 12 yards downfield).

McCoy is the fourth best QB in the conference, just like he has been all year. Team results shouldn't affect it that much.

It seems odd that Tim Tebow claims to have suffered an ankle injury in the third quarter against Georgia. I could have sworn I saw him dancing the Rhodesian Rumble or something in the fourth quarter.

I'm not sure I would have been so classless if I was Florida, with Moreno and potentially Stafford coming back for revenge. That said, Georgia Fan, you don't have a right to complain about Meyer's antics.

Don't be shocked if Vanderbilt gives Florida a

Searching for more than .500

After three consecutive 6-5 seasons, the Gamecocks look for more against Tennessee Tech

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

With expectations of making the FCS playoffs still alive, the Jacksonville State football team is looking to finish the regular season strong, beginning this weekend at Tennessee Tech.

The Gamecocks (6-3, 4-2 OVC) haven't made postseason play since 2004, finishing 6-5 in each of the past three seasons.

For JSU coach Jack Crowe, another 6-5 season would be disappointing, as the Gamecocks entered their 2008 campaign as the preseason favorite to win the conference championship.

"We have had three mediocre years at 6-5 and I do not think anyone was particularly satisfied with that," Crowe said. "We have an opportunity now to raise the bar."

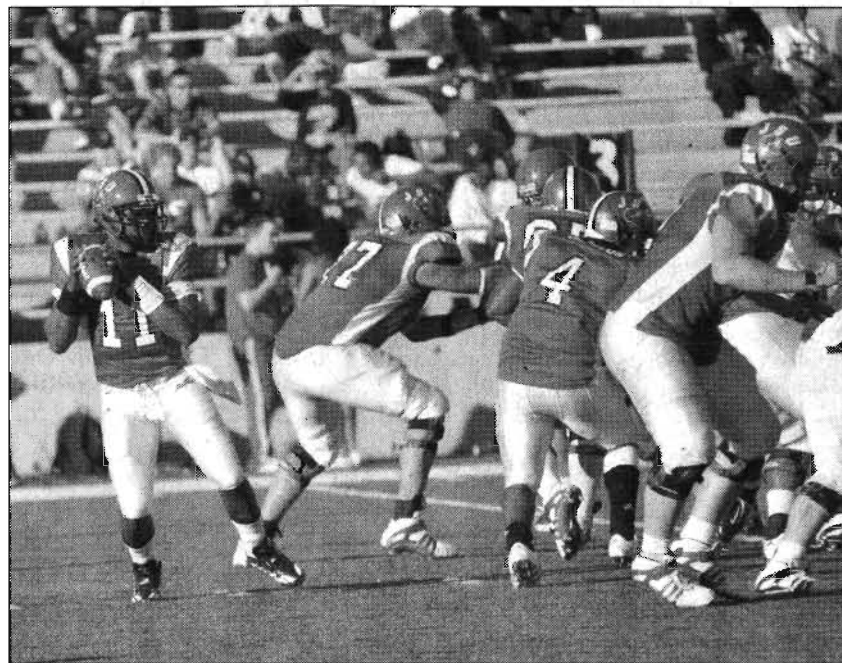
With a playoff berth still up in the air and the regular season finale against Tennessee State on the horizon, the Gamecocks have to be wondering how things will shake out.

However, Crowe knows that his team can't look past a pesky Tennessee Tech squad that has given the Gamecocks trouble in the past.

In JSU's last two trips to Cookeville, The Golden Eagles have put up quite a fight against the Gamecocks.

In 2004, Tech defeated JSU 16-13, handing the Gamecocks their only conference loss of the season. In 2006, it took overtime to decide the winner.

"Primarily, we have to focus and not be distracted in any way for our game against Tennessee Tech," Crowe said.



After giving up six sacks against Murray State, JSU's offensive line has allowed only two in as many games. The Gamecocks will need to continue to protect Ryan Perrilloux against Tennessee Tech this Saturday. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

"The last time we were up there, we won in overtime. The time before that, they kicked a field goal to beat us on the last play of the game. Every game up there has been a very tight and highly competitive game."

Luckily for the Gamecocks, this year's Tennessee Tech squad doesn't appear to be as strong.

After defeating SEMO, the Golden Eagles have been outscored 191-82 during their current five-game losing

streak.

However, Tech has the potential to disrupt JSU's offense by putting pressure on the quarterback.

The Gamecocks offensive line has been suspect at times this season, and the Golden Eagles currently have the third highest sack total in the conference.

JSU will also have to keep close tabs on Maurice Smith and Cory Reed, who both average over 10 tackles per

game.

"Tennessee Tech has some outstanding players in free safety Maurice Smith and Cory Reed, a linebacker," Crowe said. "They have gone to a 3-4 defense for the first time, which gives them a lot of blitz potential."

On the defensive side of the ball, the Gamecocks will look to get back on track after allowing nearly 400 yards of total offense in each of their last four contests.

JSU will have to contend with quarterback Lee Sweeney and wide receiver Tim Benford. Benford is currently tied with Maurice Dupree at the top of the conference with nine receiving touchdowns.

The Gamecocks will also have to keep an eye on Henry Sailes, who can do a little bit of everything on the offensive side of the ball.

"They are a hard team to figure out offensively, because they are a balanced offense," Crowe said.

"Of course, everyone knows Lee Sweeney their quality quarterback and Henry Sailes, who is a kick return, backfield player or can go out as a wide receiver. They are developing a great young receiver in Tim Benford, who is one of the leading receivers in the league."

If JSU can shut down Tech's playmakers, the Gamecocks should cruise on Saturday, setting up a very important contest with Tennessee State with playoff implications on the line.

OVC Standings

Team	OVC	Overall
UT Martin	5-1	7-2
Eastern Kentucky	5-1	6-3
Tennessee State	4-1	7-2
Jacksonville State	4-2	6-3
Eastern Illinois	2-3	4-5
Murray State	2-3	3-6
Southeast Missouri State	1-4	3-6
Tennessee Tech	1-5	3-7
Austin Peay	1-5	1-8

Volleyball ends losing streak, falls on Senior Night

Gamecocks snap seven-match losing streak with win over EKU

From Staff Reports

Jacksonville State had three players with double figure kills on its way to a narrow 3-2 win over Eastern Kentucky in front of 567 fans at Pete Mathews Coliseum on Friday.

The win snapped a seven-match losing streak for the Gamecocks while improving to 7-17 overall and 3-10 in Ohio Valley Conference action. Eastern Kentucky fell to 5-18 overall and 4-9 in the conference.

Eastern Kentucky won **game one**, 25-16, before JSU rebounded to **win game two**, 25-23. EKU captured game three, 25-16, before JSU took the final two games by the scores of 25-21 and 15-12.

The match was tied 28 times and there were 12 lead changes. In game five, the score was tied five times with only one lead change. Game two featured 12 ties and five lead changes.

Caitlin Vorbeck led JSU with 22 kills and three solo blocks. Brittney Whitten had 13 kills and 24 digs and Sara Slater recorded 12 kills. Brooke Schumacher registered 26 assists while Allie Schleisman handed out 22. Lauren Harkins was credited with 17 digs while Paige Beasley had 10.

Bridget Mustard's 17 kills followed by Amanda Wilson and Lindsey Loescher with 15 kills apiece for EKU. Abby O'Connor had a team-high 26 digs while Jill Henneman had 15 and Kelsey Rose had 11. Kate Hendle had 33 assists.



JSU coach Rick Nold congratulates Haley Booker on Senior Night. The Gamecocks split a pair of matches over the weekend. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

JSU swept by league leading Morehead on Senior Night

From Staff Reports

Jacksonville State put up a fight but in the end Morehead State grabbed a 3-0 Ohio Valley Conference win over the Gamecocks on Senior Night at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

JSU fell to 7-18 overall and 3-11 in the Ohio Valley Conference while Morehead State improved to 20-8 overall and remained in second with an 11-3 conference mark.

The Eagles held off a JSU rally to take game one 25-22 before rolling to a 25-8 victory in game two. Game three had eight ties and three lead changes before Morehead State again held off a rally to earn a 25-19 win.

JSU hit .146 for the match with Brittney Whitten leading with 11 kills and 13 digs. Allie Schleisman had 15 assists while Brooke Schumacher had 10 assists. Laruen Harkens recorded 11 digs.

Morehead State hit .328 and had three players record double figure kills. Ashley Doscher led with 15 kills and had 13 digs followed by Kaitlin Craven and Holly Evans each with 12 and 11 kills. Katelyn Barbour registered 32 assists and 12 digs. Craven led with 15 digs and Kristina Schoo had 14 digs.

The Gamecocks honored senior Haley Booker in pregame festivities. Booker is a native of Southside, Ala., and is JSU's lone senior.

Jacksonville State hits the road for its final four matches of 2008, beginning at Eastern Illinois on Friday at 7 p.m. and at Southeast Missouri State on Saturday at 2 p.m.

The hills have eyes

JSU Cross Country struggles in hilly conditions

By Edisha Brown
Staff Sports Writer

At last weekend's OVC Championship Cross Country meet held at the Jaycees Municipal Golf Course in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, JSU men's team walked away with a fifth place finish while the women trailed behind in ninth.

Sophomore George Kiplagat (9th, 26:13) and senior Jeff Rhodes (10th, 26:18) ran what "was probably the most difficult course that I have seen in all my years as an athlete or coach," according to Coach Steve Ray, to lead the Gamecocks in their fifth place finish.

Despite the difficult course, which may have contributed to the fifth place finish, Kiplagat and Rhodes put forth efforts good enough to merit second-team All-OVC honors.

This will mark the third time Rhodes garnered

(62nd, 30:22) to round out the scoring for JSU on the men's side.

The course's ups and downs did not help the Canadian runners, Lesley Binning (36th 20:42) and Sarah Caine (44th 21:08) who still managed to lead JSU's women team to their ninth place finish. "I don't think there were more than 400 or 500 meters at any one stretch where the athletes were not going up or down a hill" said Ray.

"Our women were hit pretty hard with some unfortunate circumstances this season and the past two or three weeks proved too much to overcome," Ray said. "Our group of girls are a lot better than their ninth place showing, but when your top two are injured and one of your top five does not compete in the meet, well the eventual outcome is pretty transparent."

Miles to go ... but a good start

Women's hoops crush lower division school in exhibition

From Staff Reports

Jolie Efezokhae scored 33 points and pulled down 13 rebounds to help lead Jacksonville State to a 102-62 win over Miles College in an exhibition game on Monday at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

The Gamecocks had five players score in double figures on the night. Zenobia Pitts followed Efezokhae with scored 16 points and handed out four assists while Charlease Williams had 13 points and five boards. Destiny Lane and Candice Carmine chipped in 12 points apiece and Kelsey Johnnikin had 11 assists.

Miles College held three leads early in the contest before the Gamecocks took the lead for good at 14-13 on an Efezokhae jumper with 11:16 left in the first half. JSU went on a 5-0 spurt to take a 19-13 lead after a pair of Efezokhae free throws at the 9:01 mark

Charlesia Norman had 11 points and Delisaha Richardson had five rebounds.

Jacksonville State shot 52 percent from the field, including 62 percent in the second half, while holding Miles to 33.8 percent from the floor on the night.

Jacksonville State hosts Samford University on Saturday, November 14 at 7 p.m. to open the 2008-09 season.



probably the most difficult course that I have seen in all my years as an athlete or coach," according to Coach Steve Ray, to lead the Gamecocks in their fifth place finish.

Despite the difficult course, which may have contributed to the fifth place finish, Kiplagat and Rhodes put forth efforts good enough to merit second-team All-OVC honors.

This will mark the third time Rhodes garnered such honors and a first for Kiplagat.

"I know that both George and Jeff really wanted to make first-team all conference, but the OVC has really stepped it up in cross country over the past few years and there are fifteen or twenty very good runners in each division," Ray said. "I'm happy that they were able to hang in there and come away with a medal."

They were followed by the step up freshmen trio: Norman Stiegler (43rd, 28:15), Josh Hulsey (44th, 28:29) and Sonny Cunningham

... said Ray. "Our women were hit pretty hard with some unfortunate circumstances this season and the past two or three weeks proved too much to overcome," Ray said. "Our group of girls are a lot better than their ninth place showing, but when your top two are injured and one of your top five does not compete in the meet, well the eventual outcome is pretty transparent."

Transfer student Danielle Florey (49th, 21:23) and yet another first year runner, Megan Brooks (70th, 24:24) completed the scoring for the Lady Gamecocks' Cross Country season.

The men's cross country team's season is not yet over. By virtue of being the top finisher in the South region they earned the right to represent JSU at the South Region Championship on November 15th, which will be hosted by the University of Tennessee at Lambert Acres golf course in Maryville, Tennessee.

... Lane and Candice Carmine chipped in 12 points apiece and Kelsey Johnikin had 11 assists.

Miles College held three leads early in the contest before the Gamecocks took the lead for good at 14-13 on an Efezokhae jumper with 11:16 left in the first half. JSU went on a 5-0 spurt to take a 19-13 lead after a pair of Efezokhae free throws at the 9:01 mark

JSU followed the 5-0 run with a 12-2 run to go up 31-17 on a Candice Carmine layup with 6:09 to play. The Gamecocks closed the half on a 10-4 run to take a 44-29 lead at intermission.

The Gamecocks went up 61-39 on a 12-4 run with 12:25 left in the second half. JSU would net 58 second half points, hitting the century mark on a pair of Cassie Stuart free throws with 41 seconds remaining.

Ashley Orphey led Miles College with 19 points followed by Delcia White with 12.



Junior Jolie Efezokhae takes a jumper. Photo courtesy of James Harkins JSUFan.com

Staub: Dear Tupac, we are ready to see a black president ... wish you could see it

great game this week. Very young team off misleading rivalry win — I've never seen a team win by so much in a game where the other team outgained them — traveling to a well-coached opponent off a bad loss and then a bye week ... Florida's talent will probably win out, but I think this game is close for three quarters.

Remember when Vandy was 5-0 and I said they wouldn't go to a bowl ... hey, good job me.

To appease Alabama fans — I'll be surprised if LSU doesn't win this week. You're welcome in advance for the reverse jinx.

Doesn't it seem like LSU is playing more afternoon home games than normal? That stadium is worth 7 points at night, only about 4 during the day.

The "news" section of last week's Chanticleer was a good idea compared to the sudden overwhelming desire of everyone to get rid of Tommy Tuberville.

Are you serious? The guy wins 9 games or more every year, beats Alabama every year, and you want him gone because of one year?

Unless you're bringing in Todd Graham or Chris Peterson, you're taking a step back at head coach.

Unlike another SEC school that sports orange.

I'm now convinced Phil Fulmer would have had to do something like kick Smokey or kiss a sideline reporter to get fired before the end of the season.

I don't know if anyone else is familiar with this sensation, but one of the most appealing looks for a woman is wearing a T-shirt and hat with a ponytail pulled through the flap in the back of the hat.

I noticed this phenomena with two girls in Geology the other day. A mediocre-looking girl looked attractive, and an already attractive girl made it impossible for me to concentrate for the entirety of the class.

Attractive women should be required to sit at the back of class.



This is the oft-referenced Amanda and I wasting time during Dr. J's class. The picture is grey for some reason. I desperately needed to shave, and was wearing sunglasses on my hat for some inexplicable reason. It's not the best picture Amanda's ever taken, but I'm vain, and despite the facial hair, I'm happy with how I look in it.

My hot friend Amanda cracked me up the other day when she saw the last girl I dated and asked if she was on crystal meth. Just a bad day I guess, but this girl smoked like one cigar and one cigarette in her life, and the thought of her doing anything more than that was amusing.

I've changed my rule on female smokers from totally off limits to this: If you're smoking, I can handle a little smoking.

I got to use Worm's line from "Rounders" about cigarettes the other day, which pretty much made my week.

I'm kind of burnt out on movies. Other than dates, I haven't been in a theatre in ... I don't know, three years. Some friends asked me to go to a movie the other day, and I kind of danced around it, but I was thinking, "God, that sounds horrible."

Like, I love Tina Fey to an arguably unhealthy extent, but I still waited until "Baby Mama" came out on DVD to watch it.

All that said, I sort of want to see this "Role Models" movie. I think Paul Rudd is great. I hope the annoyance that is Jonah Hill doesn't make a cameo, I can't stand to see him or hear his voice.

I wasn't even particularly a Barack Obama supporter — he's OK, I guess — but I got so mad at how everyone was losing their minds over him.

This doesn't apply to the 75 percent of people who are reasonable, but I hate how easily people are swayed.

The commercials that played around here, about McCain saying Obama was "just too risky" and tying Obama to that weirdo preacher even though that hasn't been an issue in months ... Let me just ask this: Do you think they're playing that commercial in California or Oregon, where the people are sensible and don't have tunnel vision?

And these inane comments about him being the Anti-Christ ... Geez.

Whatever. Life isn't bad at the moment. Tottenham is winning, Arsenal is losing, Oklahoma is crushing everyone, Texas is losing, Fat Phil is no longer a thorn in my side, and my personal life isn't bad either.

Take it easy.

P.S. — One last thing I promised someone I was going to write:

Dear Matt Stone and Trey Parker,

Please feel free to re-inject humor into "South Park" any day now. Still love you guys, but, umm, do better.



The man above (Harry Redknapp) is a genius and a born winner. The man below (Phil Fulmer) is a thorn in my side and a born loser. Look at that sweat on Fat Phil. Geesh. Good riddance.

