Stadium expansion still faces challenges

By Zach Childree
Editor in Chief

Last week, the Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees met and approved a $61 million plan to sell bonds to finance the stadium expansion. The vote was almost unanimous, with Trustee Ronnie Smith the only board member dissenting.

University President Dr. William Meehan indicated the University still faces many challenges. "The current Wall Street crisis and the sewer bond mess in Jefferson County may make the bond market difficult," Meehan said. "We will follow this issue through our bond underwriter Merchant Capital."

Meehan asserted that even with these challenges, the University expects the project to remain within budget.

"Our construction management team, Volkert and Associates, anticipates a good return on bids both in price and in number of contractors to respond," Meehan said.

Another question brought up at the meeting was whether or not the city's sewer system is equipped to handle the strain of the new dorm. JSU 'has hired an engineer to study the sewers and what the City's contribution will be. Jacksonville Mayor Johnny Smith said he hopes the city wont be required to do much. 'I'd like [the City's contribution to the sewer renovations] to be zero," Smith said. "It would be dangerous;' Green said. "Traffic laws apply to bicycles. As a matter of fact one of our officers put somebody in jail for DUI on a bike."

On Thursday Sept. 25, the University Police Department and JSU Peer Educatrors held Pedestrian Safety Awareness Day. UPD and Peer Educators spread knowledge about pedestrians and driver safety. They gave cards out to students that had tips on pedestrian safety on one side and driver safety on the other. The UPD also worked the crosswalk in front of Brewer Hall.

"I think the main fact is that with the size of our campus, we do not have enough students who walk or ride bicycles to their classes for it to be on our minds, but have just enough students that do walk or ride bikes to most of their classes for it to be dangerous," Green said.

JSU isn't the only university with this problem. Recently at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Sarah Chapman, a third-year business student and SGA senator, was struck and killed by a SUV when she was riding her bike to class.

Crossing Safely

Event focuses on pedestrian safety

By Shalon Montgomery
Staff Writer

The love / hate relationship between pedestrians and drivers is apparent to many here at Jacksonville State University.

An overwhelming number of pedestrians on campus say that they have almost been hit by an automobile while walking to class. There are many reasons for near accidents when it comes to pedestrians and drivers on campus, but not all fault can be placed on the drivers.

"From my experience with previous accidents on the main part of campus, the blame is usually on the pedestrian," University Police Department Chief Shawn Giddy said. "Instead of going to the crosswalk, they will try to cross the road 20 feet in front of the crosswalk."

There are a number of rules and regulations at JSU when it comes to driving on campus, but most agree a lot of those rules are not followed by students, faculty or people just passing by.

"Campus-wide speed limit is 20 miles per hour, and I don't think everybody obeys that speed limit. I think (drivers) have the ability to know how to drive, but I don't think everyone consciously obeys the campus speed limit," Peer Educator Counselor Adam Green said.

"When riding bikes, you are supposed to stop at stop signs and yield at the crosswalk. You are not supposed to ride bikes on the sidewalks," Giddy said. "Traffic laws apply to bicycles. As a matter of fact one of our officers put somebody in jail for DUI on a bike."

"Try as we might, we still can't see Russia from our office"

Feeling the crunch

Students worry about their future as financial crisis looms

By Haley Gregg
Senior Writer
and
Zach Childree
Editor in Chief

Students worry about their future as financial crisis looms investor confidence, and open back up the stationary credit markets that created the bank death watch.

"I have mixed feelings about $700 billion bail out," said JSU sophomore Sarah Chapman, a third-year business student and SGA senator, was struck and killed by a SUV when she was riding her bike to class.

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"Try as we might, we still can't see Russia from our office"
Monday was an event in history that Wall Street will never forget. When the House voted to reject the $700 billion bailout, it created a widespread panic in markets around the world. Many students at JSU are worried that the economic situation will affect them here at school.

“I’m afraid of having to drop out of school because of not being able to afford it,” said Justin Hanson, a freshman at Jacksonville State University.

According to the S&P 500 stock index, the U.S. stock market experienced an 8.8% plummet. This is the biggest percentage decline since the stock market crashed in 1987.

President Bush urged the House to pass the $700 billion bailout bill saying it was the best way to improve investor confidence, and open back up the stationary credit markets that created the bank death watch.

“I have mixed feelings about the $700 billion bail out,” said JSU sophomore Meghan Ray. “Our government is already in so much debt and I think it’s just going to make the economy worse, and in the end it will hurt us.”

The damage created Monday didn’t just affect the U.S. stocks. It hurt Brazil, Germany, Iceland, Great Britain, and Tokyo.

Banks are hesitant to lend money to anyone, including other banks, which is threatening a possible credit drought for many businesses.

“We are going to go through a significant recession even if the bill passes. Without it, we could have the worst recession,” said Lyle Gramley, a former Fed governor now at Stanford Financial Group told USA Today.

The biggest fear for most Americans is that the credit markets will freeze so much that people will not be able to get loans and that includes students.

JSU freshman Carolyn Pollock, is afraid that the government will start making Americans pay back loans and that financial aid at universities will suffer.

“I’ve heard rumors that financial aid won’t be available next year, and that the government will make us pay back our loans sooner than originally planned,” Pollock said.

Vickie Adams of the JSU Financial Aid office said students shouldn’t worry about Pell Grants. “Federal Pell Grants are not monies students receive from banks,” Adams said. “This is a grant and eligibility is determined by the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). We have not had any students affected so far with the Wall Street situation.”

Demarion Anderson, a sophomore, said he was worried about the situation as well. “I feel like this is going to hurt my pocket. I already have the ability to send a confirmation back saying that you have received the message and get the replay message. If a missed call is left on your phone, the number can be called back and will play the message back.

To change your information, sign into your My JSU account and click on the “Self Service Banner.” Then, click on the “Personal Information” link and click on the “Update Addresses and Phone Number link.” You can now choose between local and current tabs; be sure to fill in both if you wish to be notified. Next, type in the date, click phone type and put cell and add your number. Check unlisted and click submit. After that, you’re all set.

Be sure to not put phone numbers in extension boxes and double-check all information before hitting “submit.” All updated information needs to be submitted before Monday, October 6 so that you will be notified during the testing. If you update your personal information after the test is given on Tuesday, October 7, it will not be affected.

To reach the number of students actually answered, 330 students actually answered the message. 45 of the recipients are unknown.

The Emergency Alert System that will be used to alert students and faculty at Jacksonville State University to emergencies around campus will be tested again October 7 due to lack of responses. The alerts are issued concerning weather, an attacker or various other emergencies.

The first test, which was given September 9 at 12 p.m., only concluded that 649 students had received the test, thus resulting in suspicions that students were not going into their My JSU accounts and updating their information. Out of the 649 students who received the test, 604 answered the call and 45 did not. 125 of the students confirmed that they received the message by pushing two and 524 did not confirm the message. 330 students actually answered in person, while 276 were reached via voicemail.

“People just don’t update information and just don’t take the time to do this kind of stuff,” Giddy said. “It’s just so important to do this.”

The second test will be given on Tuesday, October 7 at 12:00 p.m. for all faculty, staff and students. Then, at 1:00 p.m. on the same day, a test will be given for all local and on-campus residents. It is important to listen to the call fully and press two to send a confirmation back saying that you have received the message. Pressing one will replay the message. If a missed call is left on your phone, the number can be called back and will play the message back.

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Picture of the week

Two parties, one campaign
Presidential candidates vying for votes in close race

Obama makes history
McCain has experience

By Shalon Montgomery
Staff Writer

A campaign that started on February 10, 2007 in Springfield, Illinois will reach its climax in less than two months.

Senator Barack Obama has been a part of one of the most memorable Presidential elections in modern history. Obama has progressed from young presidential hopeful to the Democratic representative in the 2008 presidential election.

In the early stages of his campaign, Obama went through the Iowa and New Hampshire primaries.

"To be honest, I voted for Hillary in the primary," Wyatt said. "But both Hillary and Obama have strong service records and I see a lot of similarity between Obama and Hillary. They are both agents of change and both stand for social justice and equality."

Since Obama's victory in the Primary, Obama has focused his attention on election day. The two front-runners in the election are Obama and McCain.

By Shalon Montgomery
Staff Writer

Senator John McCain has earned the name "Maverick," because he stood up in Congress when he felt his fellow Congressmen were wrong or that Congress was becoming corrupt.

During McCain's current presidential campaign, his long duration in the US Congress, military record and nickname have served him well. He and his family have served the country for over 20 years. McCain served in the Vietnam War and on his 23rd bombing mission was shot down and held captive for five and half years.

Seven years after his release, McCain attended the Naval Academy and graduated in the bottom five of his class. McCain served in the United States Naval Academy and graduated in the bottom five of his class. McCain served in the United States Naval Academy and graduated in the bottom five of his class.
memorable Presidential election in modern history. Obama has progressed from young presidential hopeful to the Democratic representative in the 2008 presidential election. In the early stages of his campaign, Obama was thought to be too inexperienced to be a serious candidate.

"Obama has not been in the Senate very long so he doesn't have the record to match McCain," Associate Professor of Economics Dr. Shawn Carter said. "But I believe Obama is a better politician than McCain. He has not let his lack of experience show him down at all."

Obama's ability to communicate with the American public has played a key role in his campaign success. "I believe the enthusiasm he has been able to generate will not just carry over into his presidency, but his enthusiasm will be felt throughout the nation and make the country stronger," President of College Democrats at Jacksonville State University Timothy Wyatt said.

Beside Obama being the first legitimate African American presidential candidate, Hillary Clinton, who is the wife of former President Bill Clinton, in the Democratic

With the current political campaign, his long duration in the US Congress, military record and nickname have served him well. "His leadership experience and his overall experience in life, I think, make him a suitable choice for president. He has a broader view in foreign policy, and if you are looking at protecting national interest, Senator McCain will

See "McCain," page 3

See "Obama" page 3

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See "Obama" page 3
Music Corner

ALBUM OF THE WEEK

Lights
Lights

Lights, a new band from Toronto, has put out its first self-titled CD to introduce themselves to America’s music scene.

The band, lead by founding members, Mavie and Adam, is known for its artistic album covers. The artistry fits the music, creating a very uplifting feeling.

The band has been busy touring small universities and cities abroad.

But if you can’t catch them on stage, the new CD should give the avid music lover something to look forward to.

In this genre, dance, and other techno genres should Lights has taken advantage of. The artistry fits the produced by Lights/Tawgs*, "Drive My Soul," written and produced by Lights/Dave "Dwave" Thomson, and "White," written and produced by Lights/Tawgs, are dance tunes that stick in your mind throughout the day.

The CD and the group’s first music video, produced by Lights, was released last month.

The group is currently on tour.

Lights has taken advantage of the Internet by showing a lot of her colorful ideas on iTunes and MySpace.com, as well as other Web sites.

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Schwayze

Schwayze

This California rapper paired with his sidekick, Cisco Adler, creates island-style melodies with smooth rapping to nod along to on the new album Schwayze.

Perfect for laying on the beach or driving with friends late at night, this album is also full of songs perfect for dancing.

"Buzzin’" is not only the duo’s single, but according to Rolling Stone magazine, it is also the name of their upcoming MTV reality show.

"Don’t Be Shy" is a fresh sound is hip and ripe with flavor, some of the songs resemble each other too closely. My favorite track is "Roamin," which from the first 10 seconds locked me in and made me an instant fan. "Hollywood" is also one of my top picks.

Paired together, Adler and Schwayze make for an array of sounds and beats not soon to be forgotten.

"I’m just a kid, liv- ing a dream. Stid in the scene like an old pair of jeans," Schwayze sings.

The album is impressive with its ability to make the listener an instant fan — almost every song is a winner.

Crisis: Students concerned

work two jobs just to make ends meet and my fear is that the current problems with the stock markets is going to raise my tuition and taxes, and that will really hurt me," Anderson said. "I come from a single parent household, and I must have to move back home to help out."

Wall Street is urging people not take all their money out of their banks and "stuff it under their mattress" because it will damage the economy even more.

"I use Wachovia and I’m probably going to withdraw my financial aid to a job and I’m probably going to withdraw my financial aid" said Anderson.

McCin: Appeals to mods

be very difficult for us to do as there aren’t a lot of funds to do it." Smith said he looks forward to hearing from the engineer sometime in the next week.

Dr. Paul Beezley, of the history department, who opposes the expansion, said the money being raised for the expansion could be put to better use in other places around campus.

"The question comes back to ‘is this good time’," Beezley said. "How are we going to pay for other projects that need to be done?"

Beezley cited Ramona Wood Hall and the music department’s facilities as examples of buildings that also need renovation.

Beezley said he is most opposed to the luxury skyboxes.

"It appears the average person is going to be subsidizing luxury boxes for wealthier folks," Beezley said.

Another issue with the expansion plans is what would the expansion plans be if they were to be the expansion plans.

"The conservative estimate by our construction management team gave us the highest estimate for planning (worse case scenario)," Meehan said. "This indicated that Housing and athletics would need to raise additional money annually beyond rentals, game guarantees, ticket sales, specialized seating and other revenues. The final figure won’t be known until project costs are identified after the bid process."
Continental Convention and American Continental Corporation employee Charles Keating. Keating was convicted of fraud, racketeering and conspiracy. Keating had made significant contributions to the five senators and when he was put on trial those senators asked for preferential treatment for Keating.

During his three terms in the Senate, McCain never seemed afraid to show his passion to anyone on the other side. He has been vocal and among the first to reach across the aisle to work with Democrats.

The 2008 presidential election is not McCain's first attempt to become President. He ran for the Republican nomination in the 2000 presidential election, but lost to George W. Bush. Although McCain supported Bush's reelection in 2004, he defended Bush's opposition to the 2004 presidential election, Senator John Kerry, and his service record in Vietnam and voiced his concerns about former Secretary of State, Donald Rumsfeld's handling of Iraq.

"McCain lost that year, because McCain campaign was dirty and he was attacking President Bush," JSU student Jeny Mahmood said. "I remember my 6th grade teacher telling us McCain's campaign was based on integrity, but he had ads out attacking George Bush.

Senator McCain's second attempt to seek the republican presidential nomination has proven to be fruitful. During the 2008 primaries, Senator McCain became the frontrunner early on. McCain garnered 1,575 delegates when he only needed 1,191 to win the Republican presidential nomination.

"There was some disenchantment in the Republican party with the Bush administration over the past few years, so the Republicans, to a certain degree, are looking for another Ronald Reagan," Owens said. "The dynamics are just strange in this presidential cycle.

After his win in the primary, Senator McCain has taken on the Democratic nominee Senator Barack Obama. Both candidates feel strong about their plans for reform, but each candidate seems to have different plans. McCains plan for governmental agencies is getting rid of programs a trillion in debt—or more than $30,000 in debt for every citizen.

Although Obama and most Democrats hope to see a withdrawal in Iraq soon, McCain has a different agenda.

"I believe that if we had set a date for withdrawal or if we do set a date for withdrawal, Al Qaida will then win and we'll see chaos and genocide in the region," McCain said in an interview with Fox News. "One of the obligations, unfortunately, of being a great superpower is that we have to take care of the world's security.

When the first presidential polls were being released to the public McCain saw himself behind Senator Obama. Obama stayed ahead of McCain in the polls until recently when both members picked their running mates. McCain chose Governor Sarah Palin from Alaska. Since the announcement of both running mates, McCain saw an increase in his poll numbers. Though, a recent Rassmusen poll put McCain behind Obama by 3 points nationally.

"McCain knows he can appeal to moderates and to independent voters, so he chose someone who would assist in rallying that Republican base," Owen said. "I don't think the Obama campaign has fathomed that the McCain ticket would be this energize and I feel they are still struggling to figure out how to react to it."

"Each pair balances each other out really well. Biden helps Obama with his lack of experience, and you have McCain with a bunch of experience and Palin who is new and fresh and is coming into it. They are both really good pairs, but McCain and Palin are the better of the two," said Holly Horn, chairwoman of JSU college republicans.

"No matter the outcome, I think it will be one of the most memorable elections in history, because of the new issues that have come up," said Sparkman Hall Resident Assistant Kendall Hollum.

"As a southerner I am conflicted. In the South we are born and bred to oppose any form of taxes, and that's why in particular Alabama has such horrible schools," Wyatt said. "But I have to agree with Obama, we can't continue to let corporations hemorrhage money in the way Republican and Democratic congress have allowed them to do in past and today. It is time to start supporting the country first and stockholders second.

"McCain is the better presidential candidate in an economic stand point, because McCain is generating tax cuts to spark small business, the number one employer in the nation. McCain idea for the economy is to get out of our way and let the economy grow itself," Carter said. "Obama is saying he will lower taxes for 95% of the nation's population, but 40% of the nation's population doesn't pay income taxes. Their tax cut will be a welfare payment."

Recently, both candidates have picked their running mate. Obama chose Senator Joe Biden of Delaware to be his running mate, and Senator McCain chose Governor Sarah Palin. Both running mates have different service record backgrounds.

Palin is the current governor of Alaska and former mayor of Wasilla and the current governor of Alaska and mayor of Wasilla.

"The numbers could mean anything to anyone; you just have to have the right slant. A good poll has a 1.5 to 2.5 percent margin of error, plus or minus. The polls you see on CNN, MSNBC, and one found on the Internet have a 3.5 to 5% margin of error, plus or minus," Wyatt said.

With November 4 fast approaching, each candidate has a few more stops on their campaign trails and each is trying to sway an extra million or two votes their way before election day.

"Senator Obama is a true paragon of the type of change we need in America, unlike Senator McCain who only fabricates his desire for a positive change," President of NAACP Terrence Windam said.

"Although in this presidential election both candidates do not share all my views, I still feel strongly in my choice to vote for Barack Obama," JSU sophomore Quentin Mayo said.
Clark Barron
On The Verge

If you take a look around, there's one thing that becomes evident; this town has lost its mind.

The strange thing is that it is not anyone's fault. The fact that only one gas station in Jacksonville had gas last week drove people absolutely insane. Every time I saw someone on the side of the road, I just wondered whether or not they had run out of gas. I wouldn't have been surprised if that had been the case every time.

I spoke with several different students around JSU to find out exactly how the gas shortage was affecting them. Of course, everyone was affected by this, but to what extent?

I found out that several people in Jacksonville simply couldn't drive anymore. More people than you would think — actually went to other alternatives such as bicycles and (oh no, here it comes) walking.

I recently learned from the third shift manager at the local Grub Mart station that they recently dropped their BP label, and they have now gone to a much cheaper supplier. I was informed that the company BP would simply not bring them any gas. Period.

The gas situation in Jacksonville had gotten pretty ridiculous. However, if you think that was bad, you should have driven to Atlanta. I had never seen anything like it.

This past weekend, I was about 40 miles north of Atlanta with a few friends for the weekend. We made it there just fine, had our fun and then started home. Not really paying attention to the gas meter, we head on our way and hit the interstate. After the gas light in the car came on, we obviously decided to pull over, get food and gas and take a break from driving. This is where things started to go bad, by the way.

Pulling into the first gas station we saw, we noticed the same scene we all were used to seeing in Jacksonville. They had bags over the pumps.

Opinion

Where have all the Deadheads gone?

By Jalon Turner
Senior Writer

Being my first attempt at an opinion piece, I want to make it clear that I am not trying to convince anyone of anything. What happened to college kids and college music?

I know I am about 10 years older then the average freshman, but where have all the Dead Heads gone? How about the Phish fans? Though most of my music consists of over 1000 live Grateful Dead and Phish shows, I still listen to other things. I even like Bowie and the Beatles, but I guess I have to have someone give me something to listen to if it was made past the turn of the century.

Top 40 radio programming has lost me. If they would play stuff like Radiohead or Beck or even some Flaming Lips, I would listen.

I feel bad for the kids in college not knowing what it's like to be a Deadhead.
Pulling into the first gas station we saw, we noticed the same scene all over the place.zem was no big deal. So, we decided to keep looking around the area. Surprisingly, no gas stations on the entire exit had gas. The next exit down, we saw the most ridiculous event I might have ever seen. To preface this, there were five different gas stations on the exit. There were cars everywhere, and I mean everywhere. Although we were not happy about waiting, it became worth it to actually get gas. Oh, if only that was the case.

We drove from station to station trying to figure out what was really going on. We finally got our answer from the owner of a car who was literally about car number 25-30 in the line at one of the gas stations. These people had been waiting, literally waiting, on the gas trucks to come and service the stations so they could get gas. The longest amount of time spent waiting on gas that we could find was six hours. SIX hours. People were asleep in their cars. People were outside smoking. (I suppose it didn’t matter considering there was no gas, and I joined these people wondering how furious and stressed out we all were.)

After waiting for hours, we decided to just drive as far as we can and see what happens.

The moral of the story is, don’t do that. Then, you end up at a sketchy Burger King and have to wait three hours for your friend’s dad to drive to Atlanta just to bring you gas.

So, if you thought things were tough here, you have no idea. I would have certainly taken my one gas station over that mess any day of the week. Also, if no one has noticed yet, it is beautiful outside. Go outside.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was moved by your article about peace in last week’s paper. I feel that in the state we, as a country, are in everyone needs a little reminder of compassion and a desire for peace. I am thankful for you and your friend’s courage to spread the idea of harmony to this community. I get it.

-Sandy (A JSU Student)

I’m a senior at JSU, and in my time here, I’ve eaten a lot of meals. Over the past four years, one of my favorite lunchtime stops has been the Jack Hopper Dining Hall. The food is good, I love the atmosphere, and it’s right here on campus. There was a time when the “Caf” was my first choice for lunch. Sadly, those days are long-gone. My girlfriend and I decided that we would go to the Caf for lunch last week. Neither of us had eaten there in a long time. When I arrived at the register to pay, I was shocked to discover that the price of a single meal in the Dining Hall has shot up to a gut-wrenching $6.50. I paid for my girlfriend’s meal too, which set me back a whopping thirteen bucks for our lunch! Thirteen dollars for two people to eat in the Dining Hall?! Why is that happening? I love JSU, but I thought the whole idea of a “school that’s way too opinionated for me to do, and if you know me, you know that I am full of opinions.

I will never tell you what kind of music to listen to or what is cool.

In fact, most people who listen to jam bands are usually the nerdy type. I went to the Phish tour closer of 2003 in Greensboro, North Carolina with some friends from University North Carolina at Chappell Hill.

It was like having revenge of the nerds among the fans anymore on campus.

I know times have changed since I was a freshman, but music now is so mainstream, or is it so independent that no one has heard of it.

I remember when Brother’s Bar was getting the best local jam bands in the South, and they were usually selling to capacity. Where did you go, Boy? Brother’s was getting bands like Cool Beans, Left Foot Down and Skydog Gypsy.

I know these bands are far from here now, but I still keep up with college jam bands, and there are even bigger and better ones out there.

I’m not trying to tell you that jam bands are cool; that’s way too opinionated for me to do, and if you feeling one with the band, one with the music and one with each other. Those who listen know the experience and love it, those who have never tried, should.

Two classic jam bands, The Allman Brothers Band who are known for songs like “Ramblin’ Man” and “Melissa” and Phil Lesh, former bass player of the Grateful Dead, with his band Phil and Friends, will be in Birmingham next Tuesday night.

Get some friends to pitch in on gas and go dance your ass off, and have a good time. I will see you there.

Whit McGee
JSU Career Fair & Education Fair

October 8, 2008 & February 19, 2009
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Merrill Building Atrium
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Merrill Building Atrium

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February 19, 2009
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
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# Career Placement

## Fall Career Fair
**October 8, 2008**

8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Merrill Building

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<tr>
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Standing Alone

Gamecocks dominate EIU, are clear favorite in OVC

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

Ryan Perrilloux had his best game as a Gamecock on Saturday, but it was the Jacksonville State defense that was the catalyst in the Gamecocks’ 23-10 victory over Eastern Illinois.

The win ended a three-game losing streak to the Panthers and was the Gamecocks’ first road win over a ranked opponent since moving to the FCS in 1995.

“We needed to win that game for a lot of reasons,” JSU coach Jack Crowe said. “One is that we had lost to them three years in a row. EIU really represented the only team on our schedule that we had a losing record against, at least in the tenure that this staff and team has been together.

“They are a standard in our conference and really a standard for Football Championship Subdivision football. We really took winning the game as an affirmation of our credibility as a contender.”

The Gamecocks were dominant in the first half, outscoring the Panthers 21-0. After the JSU’s first offensive possession stalled, Perrilloux went to work, leading the Gamecocks to three consecutive scoring drives.

On JSU’s first scoring drive, the Gamecocks traveled 90 yards in three plays. Alphonso Freemy got the drive started with a 45-yard run, and Perrilloux did the rest.

On the next play from scrimmage, Perrilloux found Deonte Carter for a gain of 28, which was followed by a 17-yard touchdown strike to James Wilkerson, putting JSU up 14-0.

The Gamecock defense was equally as impressive in the first half. Aside from EIU’s first possession, the Panthers were unable to muster a drive of more than 31 yards.

The defense continued to impress in the second half. The Panthers were able to put 10 points on the board before the final buzzer sounded, but both came after miscues by JSU’s offensive and special teams units.

EIU got on the board after a Perrilloux interception, setting up a short field goal. The Panthers’ final score of the afternoon came when Kenny Franklin blocked a punt of the afternoon came when Kenny Franklin blocked a punt.

The Gamecocks have still not allowed a passing touchdown this season.

If this year’s squad can accomplish what others have accomplished, Crowe said. “I thought we played good on defense for four quarters.”

With wins over Alabama A&M, Chattanooga and Eastern Illinois, the Gamecocks are quickly becoming a force in the FCS, leaving Crowe wondering if this year’s squad can accomplish what others have failed to do.

“If there are people keeping up with the Gamecocks that are beginning to see the possibility of this being a really unique football team, I would say that there is definitely the possibility.”

Florence, Ala., currently leads the OVC in rushing at 81 yards per game.

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the offensive firepower to test JSU. Most importantly, running back Tim Holliman returning from suspension.

Holliman was leading the conference in rushing in 2007 before being suspended, and he and quarterback Houston Lillard, the OVC's leading passer, lead a balanced SEMO offense that is capable of scoring some points.

The problem with the Redhawks is they are a poor defensive team. A large part of the reason Lillard is the leading passer in the conference is because he has had to be. While quarterbacks like JSU's Ryan Perrilloux have played in games that were close or have had a lead, SEMO has been playing catch-up every week.

In the first half of their games this season, SEMO has been outscored 111-27, including 59-0 in the first quarters.

At his weekly press conference, SEMO coach Tony Samuel referenced that in a tongue-in-cheek manner.

"It would be nice to see what would happen if it was tied at halftime once," he said.

That seems unlikely against a JSU team that has thrived in the first half the past three weeks. The Gamecocks have led 31-12, 24-0, and 21-0 at the break in their three FCS games.

Because the second halves have not been so dominant, Crowe said he is challenging his team to put together a four quarter game.

If that happens, whether Crowe is creating a revenge mentality or not, the Gamecocks will crush SEMO and avenge one of the most disappointing losses in the Crowe era.

"Every week is Oregon State."

— JSU coach Jack Crowe, on other teams giving their best against JSU
**Gamecock Briefs**

- Jacksonville State quarterback Ryan Perrilloux was named the Ohio Valley Conference Offensive Player of the Week on Sunday. The junior from LaPlace, La., finished 20-for-25 with 281 yards passing and a touchdown. Perrilloux also scored twice on the ground, leading the Gamecocks to a 23-10 victory over Eastern Illinois.

- The Jacksonville State football team returned to the FCS Top 25 poll on Monday for the first time in more than two years. The Gamecocks are currently ranked No. 22 in The Sports Network poll and No. 23 in the FCS Coaches Poll. Jax State was last ranked in both polls on September 5, 2005.

- Jacksonville State golfer Portia Abbott earned her first career win on Tuesday, shooting a 218 to claim medalist honors at the Fred Marx Invitational hosted by the University of Louisiana-Monroe. The junior from Wiltshire, England, shot rounds of 71-74-73 to finish three shots ahead of ULM’s Sara Larsson. The Gamecocks finished in third place overall behind Samford and Central Arkansas.

- The Jacksonville State soccer team (3-5-3, 0-1-1 OVC) had a disappointing year running cross country and field season continues.

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**Volleyball’s up and down season continues**

**By Jared Gravette**

The Jacksonville State volleyball team finished up a five-match conference home stand over the weekend, splitting contests with Southeast Missouri and Eastern Illinois.

The Gamecocks (6-10, 2-3 OVC) were crushed Friday night, as SEMO cruised to a 3-0 (26-24, 25-16, 25-15) victory. JSU was plagued by errors throughout the match, committing 31 attack errors and six service errors.

“I thought, Saturday, we came out and from beginning to end we kept a lot of pressure on them. They got a few small runs on us, but we pretty much held them in check. Brittney Whitten led the offense, smashing 19 kills on a .469 attack percentage. The - junior from Boonville, Ind., was the only player other squad to record double-digit kills.

Sophomore Katy Krajnak also had a nice game, hitting .400 from the floor with seven kills.

The Gamecocks are still young and have plenty of room for improvement. However, if JSU can play with more consistency as the year progresses, Nold believes his squad could be just as dangerous as any team in the conference.

“We’ve also shown the other side. It’s more of just being able to consistently play at the level that we are capable of. Our intention is to improve every week until the end of the season. If we do that, I think we will be in very good shape. If we don’t, obviously it’s not going to be as good of a situation for us.”

JSU will hit the road this weekend to take on Morehead State and Eastern Kentucky.

“For us, we have to make sure that our focus level and intensity is where we need it every game. If we do that, I think we will pick up wins. Obviously, we need to win games, but we’re not exactly keying in on wins and losses yet. We have to make sure we are playing at the right level and competing.”

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**Track and field preparing for 2008 season**

**By Edisha Brown**

It is just the beginning for Jacksonville State’s track and field team and early indicators are that the team is off to a good start.

Coach Steve Ray speaks of a talented individual by the name of Veronica Citreanu, who is doing extra 200m (half a lap) sprints on the track over her cross-country workout.

“This will be her first year running cross country and from their peak performance during the outdoor season last year.

“We’re doing a lot of core strengthening as injury prevention and developing the right strength, while targeting some areas that we rarely target in track and field,” said Gibson. “’If you can do that, the workouts will come and everything will fall into place come conference championships.”

How are the freshmen coping with practices and do they seem to mesh well with the upperclassmen?

Gibson singled out team captain Nolinda Garner for her leadership role as well as Ebony Briske and Takisha Parme.

“They — leading by example, being vocal — are developing chemistry with the freshmen who are responding well to what’s recommended from the team and learning every day,” Gibson said. “It’s a big change for some of the freshmen and we’re trying to slowly work them into it. In high school, their season and field squad Jacksonville State has ever had. The team consists of four freshmen coming in as high school conference champs, five OVC containing seniors and returning juniors and sophomores (some of whom hold OVC titles and others who have made their mark in the top eight as freshmen).

The coaching staff seems to have confidence that with the proper building and molding, physically as well as mentally, JSU’s Track and Field team can attain its first Ohio Valley Conference..."
The Jacksonville State soccer team (3-5-3, 0-1-1 OVC) had a disappointing 2-2 draw at Tennessee Tech (1-9-1, 0-1-1 OVC) on Sunday. The Gamecocks were ahead 2-1 after a Debbie Match goal in the 83rd minute, but a goal by TTU’s Ashley Smith with less than a minute to play cost JSU the victory.

In the soccer team’s first conference game of the season on Friday, the Gamecocks lost to Austin Peay, 1-0, snapping a three-game winning streak. Rian Barger scored the only goal of the contest in the 67th minute, which proved to be a game winner for the Lady Gows.

Former Jacksonville State forward Omar Barlett signed with the Miami Heat on Friday. Barlett played two seasons for the Gamecocks from 2002-04, averaging 14.6 points and 6.8 rebounds per game, while shooting .593 from the floor.

• The Jacksonville State basketball team announced its 2008-09 hoops schedule last week. In head coach James Green’s first season at JSU, the Gamecocks scheduled to take on South Carolina, UMass, UAB and Iowa State in non-conference play.

Staab: Thinking of headlines is the worst part of my job...by far

Continued from page 7

Number of signs directing passersby to any town = 0.
Number of signs directing passersby to a church = 17.
Number of times I said “insert random expletive here” == 
Finally, by process of trial and error, I ended up on the right road, and eventually AL-21. By this point, I was so late that I’m driving at an absurd pace, and I’m clocked going 65 in a 25 on that radar detector out front of Merrill Hall.

Takisha Penham (left) helps lead younger runners in uphill lunges in practice along with volunteer assistant Asha Gibson as Nolinda Garner (back) watches. Photo by Edisha Brown / The Chanticleer.

Sorry Penn State. The Buckeyes are going to have something for you anyway.

I’ve really changed my opinions on two former Big 10 players in their new gigs. Wisconsin head coach Bret Bielenda and ESPN announcer Chris Spielman.

I know Bielenda’s team blew a 19-0 lead against Michi last week, but he had his team in the game the whole way. And to see it as they did after everything went wrong the whole second half was pretty impressive. I also thought he out-coached Fresno’s Pat Hill - very difficult to do - the week before.

Other than running back P.J. Hill and tight end Travis Beckum, Wisconsin has very little in the way of playmakers, and Bielenda is making the most of it.

If the papers in Wisconsin didn’t do a feature story with the headline “End It Like Beckum,” well, there’s just no hope for this profession.

Spielman is the antithesis of the standard color commentator - that is, he actually has color when he announces (Todd Blackledge is very good too, but I’ve always liked him).

The main thing I love about Spielman is he doesn’t follow the same profiles other mentors of the media have, and he focuses on things that actually bother or impress him.

Saturday he was talking about how teams need to make sure players find helmets that stay on players’ heads. Other announcers wouldn’t say this because it seems silly. Spielman just said it, and right, it’s a legitimate issue. I don’t know if players feel that having a loose helmet is an advantage, but it’s all too common to see someone’s helmet come off five times or more in one game.

The announcers on Tiger Woods PGA Tour ’09 are the epitome of correctness. It’s weird that I get more upset by video game announcers criticizing me than actual people criticizing me.

I’ve played a couple thousand rounds of golf in my life and watched more golf than 99 percent of people my age, and I’ve never heard “filet” as a golf term. These whippen’ rag announcers say it every third shot.

OK, I’m done. If you can’t wait to read something by me until next Thursday, pick up Saturday’s Star for a mesmerizing story about Ochatchee football.