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The Chanticleer

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

Volume 57, Issue 6

The Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

October 2, 2008

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 chal-

"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 engineer will report back sometime this week. 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 pipelines surrounding the site as well as the capacity of the pipes already in place. The

The city of Jacksonville and JSU must then decide how to finance needed renovations to the sewers and what the City's contribution will

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

See "Stadium," page 3



Jacksonville State University students keep an eye on the television at the TMB as the Wall Street crisis continues. Photo by Ryan Rutledge / The Chanticleer

Feeling the crunch

Students worry about their future as financial crisis looms

By Haley Gregg Senior Writer

and **Zach Childree** up the stationary credit markets that created the bank death watch.

billion bail out," said JSU sophomore

investor confidence, and open back be able to get loans and that includes

JSU freshman Carolyn Pollock, is "I have mixed feelings about \$700 afraid that the government will start making Americans pay back loans

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 cross walk, 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 pass-

"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 sidewalk," 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."

On Thursday Sept. 25, the University Police Department and JSU Peer Educators 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.

See "Pedestrians," page 3

By Haley Gregg Senior Writer and **Zach Childree Editor In Chief**

Monday was an event in history that Wall Street will never forget. When the House voted to reject the \$700 billion bill to rescue the failing stock market 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 \$700 billion bail out," said JSU sophomore Meaghan 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

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

Banks are hesitant the 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 To-

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 recieve from banks," Adams said. "This is a grant and eligiblity 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 sophmore, said he was worried about the situation as well. "I feel like this is going to hurt my pocket. I already

See "Crunch," page 3

verybody 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

dent and SGA senator, was struck and killed by a SUV when she was riding her bike to class.

See "Pedestrians," page 3



Chief of University Police Shawn Giddy and Pedestrian Safety Day Volunteers hand out flyers to students crossing to Brewer Hall.

Photo by Ashley Gaither / Special to The Chanticleer

Lack of response forces UPD to re-test Emergency Alert System

By Julie Skinner News Editor

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. 45 of the recipients are unknown.

"There's no reason to not put your information in," University Police Department Chief Shawn Giddy said. "You can click now and bring up a local address tab. If you live in this area and you need to be notified at 3:00 in the morning if a tornado is coming through Jacksonville, it's important that you put your local address in."

Giddy says adding a local address is important for instances like a tornado in the middle of the night because if school is not in session, then students and faculty will not be notified by other means. He stresses the importance of updating information in case of an emergency

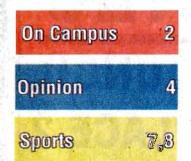
"People just don't update information and just don't take the time to do this kind of stuff,' Giddy said. "It's just so important to do this."

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 oncampus 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.

To change your information, sign into you're my JSU account and click on the "Self Service Banner." Then, click on the "Personal Informa-

tion" 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 contacted during the testing. If you update your personal information after the test is given or too late to be notified by the October 7 test, your information will still be in the system and available to be reached if an emergency ever does occur.



Obama Vs. McCain

Two candidates duke it out for your vote. Writer Shalon Montgomery covers both campaigns.

Page 2

Music Reviews

The Chanticleer reviews some new albums in stores now.

Page 3

Standing Alone

Gamecocks are clear favorite in OVC. Page 7

QUESTION of the WEEK

Who is your favorite cartoon character?

Stewie Griffin- 28%

Fred Flinstone - 13%

Peter Griffin - 21%

Scooby Doo - 18%

Homer Simpson - 13%

Eric Cartman - 8%

Next week's question:

How do you get around on campus?



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ON Campus

Briefs

On Thursday, October 2, the Public Relations Organizations (PRO) will host a movie night at 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Self Hall, room 236. The movie shown will be "An Inconvenient Truth," a documentary by Al Gore concerning Global Warming. Light refreshments will be served and friends, popcorn and other snacks are encouraged.

Flu shots will be given by the Public Education Employees Wellness Program on Thursday, October 2 from 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Leone Cole Auditorium. There is no cost to you or your adult dependents if you have the PEEHIP medical coverage or one of the Southland Supplementals. Employees are required to show proof of insurance before the vaccination can be given. No appointments are necessary, but the vaccines will be given on a first-come first-serve basis.

Campus Crime

September 23
•A burglary was reported at Penn House Apartments, Items stolen include a black playstation valued at \$300.00, an NCAA 2008 Playstation football game valued at \$60.00, a "Transformers" dvd valued at \$30.00 and an Eastern Illinois scout film dvd.

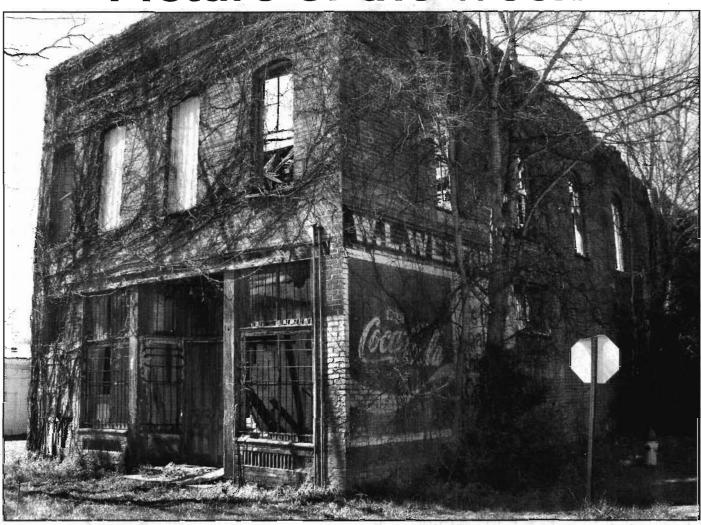
•An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported on Abbott Drive in Jacksonville. Items stolen include a Sanyo video camera valued at \$2,000.00.

• A theft of property was reported at Pete Mathews Coliseum. Items stolen include 4 pairs of white women's basketball shorts (current uniform) valued at \$160.00, 2 pairs of red women's basketball shorts (old uniform) valued at \$80.00, 3 pairs of gray women's basketball shorts (old uniform) valued at \$120.00 and 1 black folding chair with a JSU Gamecocks basketball logo valued at \$100.00.

•A theft of property was reported at Stephenson Gym. Items stolen include \$261.00 in cash, a Wal-Mart gift card valued at \$200.00, a wallet valued at \$15.00, a Region bank card and an insurance card.

What's Happening

Picture of the week



"NAME OF STORE" in Spring Garden was featured in the book "All Over But The Shoutin" by local author (and former Chanticleer editor) Rlck Bragg. If you would like to see your photo as 'Photo of the week', email it to chantyeditor@gmail.com Photo by Ryan Rutledge/ The Chanticleer

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 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,

primaries.

"To be honest, I voted for Hillary in the primary," Wyatt said. "But both Hilary 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 election day. The two front -runners in the election

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

do what is best for the country," said Associate Professor of Political Science at Jacksonville State University, Lori

McCain spent over 20 years in the U.S. Navy. He attended the United States Naval Academy and graduated in the bottom five of his class. 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 Na-

phenson Gym. Items stolen include \$261.00 in cash, a Wal-Mart gift card valued at \$200.00, a wallet valued at \$15.00, a Region bank card and an insurance card.

What's Happening

Thursday, October 2

•Educational Technology Showcase, Houston Cole Library, 2:0-4:00 p.m.

•NPHC Block Party, Quad (rain location is TMB auditorium). 3:00-7:00 p.m.

•Flu Shots for JSU Employees, Leone Cole Auditorium. 1:30-3:30 p.m.

. Introductory Meeting for Gamecocks for Life, University Chapel (McClure), 6:00-7:00

· Apartment Area Appreciation Day, Campus Inn Apartments' Lawn. 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 3

•Applications due for Go! Leaders 2009, 2nd floor TMB. 12:00-2:00 p.m.

•Bake Sale, 2nd Floor TMB. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday, October 6

•SGA Traffic Court, Office of Student Life Conference Room. 4:00 p.m.

•Penny Wars, 2nd floor TMB Lobby. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 7

•Breast Cancer Awareness, 2nd floor TMB 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 8

•Understanding Depression: Suicide Prevention, TMB Room 303. 3:00-4:00 p.m.

 Breast Cancer Awareness table and bake sale, 2nd floor TMB. 12:30-4:30 p.m.

•Bachelor Beauties, Leone Cole Auditorium. 6:00 p.m.

The Chanticleer

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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 be a serious candi-

"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, because he has not let his lack of experience slow 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 Wy-

Beside Obama being the first legitimate African American presidential candidate, he defeated the first legitimate female presidential candidate, Hillary Clinton, who is the wife of former President Bill Clinton, in the Democratic Since Obama's victory in the Primary, Obama has focused his attention election day. The two front -runners in the election Obama and Senator John McCain. Both men seem to have opposite views on

social justice and equality.

how the country should be run. Obama's beliefs and policies imply that a stronger government is needed to fix the problems Amer-

ica is going through. Also in his policies, he states that a lot of government policies need to be reformed to restore liberty, equality and stability to the country.

"What we cannot continue to do is operate as if we are the weakest nation in the world instead of the strongest one, because that's not who we are and that's not what the US has been about, historically. It is starting to warp our domestic policies, as well," Obama said at the Democratic Presidential Debate in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on October 30, 2007.

Obama's economic policies favor working families, seniors and the unemployed over big corporations.

"Every proposal I've put forward during this campaign

See "Obama" page 3

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served in the wed in the Vietnam War and on his 23rd During McCain's current presidenbombing campaign, was shot down and his long duraheld captive for tion in the US five and half years. Congress, mili-Seven years after tary record and his release, McCain nickname have attended the Naserved him tional War College 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

in Washington D.C. and received a promotion to captain. With the new position, McCain got his first taste of real politics. McCain became the Navy liaison for the US senate. In 1982, McCain became a legitimate

mission

See "McCain," page 3

rock the vote!

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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, Maurie 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 onstage, the new CD should give the avid music lover something to look forward to.

Fans of trance, dance, and other techno genres should feel right at home with Lights' musical style.

For this critic, the word that comes to my mind when listening to this CD is euphoria.

The first song "Ice," written and produced by Lights/ Tawgs, is the kind of song to share with someone else.

Other songs, such as "Drive My Soul," written and



produced by Lights/Tawgs, "February Air," written and produced by Lights/Dave "Dwave" Thomson, and "White," written and pro-

duced 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.

Lights is the type of music you can listen to at a party or traveling home from a long day at the office.

And that's refreshing.

- Alan Rhodes

Stadium: Sewers need expansion

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

going to pay for other projects that need to be done?

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

Beezely 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 good timing'," Beezely said. "How are we is estimates that could put the expansion and new dorms at a deficit each year.

"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."

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 just might 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 money very soon," said Anderson.

Washington will vote again on the \$700 billion bill and try to come up with compromises in case it doesn't pass again.

"I just hope that our future president can bring [the economy] back to where it used to be," said Anderson.

Adams urged students to remain calm about financial aid. "Students and parents should not be concerned at this point with the availability of federal stafford loans," Adams said. "The financial aid office will keep students abreast of any changes in the student loan market, if any, through their MyJsu."

Pedestrian: Accident every eight minutes nationally

According to the National Highway Traffic Association, every eight minutes, a pedestrian is involved in a traffic accident, and every 11 minutes, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic accident. From 1975 to 2005 over 180,000 pedestrians were killed in traffic accidents.

Daily students at JSU find themselves confronted with these situations, and the question, whose fault is it? Adding insult to injury, JSU's campus is divided by Highway 21.

"I don't feel safe walking to class, because most of the time, drivers aren't as attentive as they should be," JSU sophomore Tierra Harris said. "I have almost been hit by a car going to class."

According to the UPD, these problems can be avoided by simple things. One that UPD really emphasizes, is no parking in the crosswalk.

"Don't park in the crosswalk, we have a lot of students that are seeing-impaired. I have seen more than one student get hurt over students parking their car in the crosswalk," Giddy said. "People don't think about that, and if the students get hurt, the driver is held responsible."

Along with the walking signals on campus, the busing system at JSU is being setup to make its debut next fall to help drivers and pedestrians.

"We took out a bunch of parking places on the circle in preparation for this transient system. We're hoping to make small adjustments so we don't have to do something drastically at one time," said Chief Giddy. "Were hoping to have this done by next fall. It will be a positive experience, you can park your car, catch a bus and go wherever you want to go. On campus (buses) will be running

ALSO IN ROTATION

Schwavze 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, living a dream. Slid 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 - al-

McCain: Appeals to mods

part of congress when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives to represent Arizona. In 1985, McCain was elected to take the Senate seat of retiring Arizona Senator, Barry Goldwater. McCain spent three terms in the Senate and was on numerous committees, but he had one major setback in his political career.

In 1989, McCain was investigated along with four other senators steaming from the indictment of American Continental Convention and American Continental Corporation employee Charles Keating. Keating was convicted of fraud, racketeering and conspiracy. Keating had made

that don't work.

"Government has grown by 60 percent in the last eight years, because the Congress and this administration have failed to meet their responsibilities," McCain told the NAACP in July. "Next year, total federal expenditures are predicted to reach over \$3 trillion. That is an awful lot for us to be spending when this nation is already more than \$9 trillion in debt--or more than \$30,000 in debt for every citi-

Although Obama and most Democrats hope to see a with-

Obama: Leading slightly

we have paid for, and we have specified where that money is going to come from. Let's just look at our tax code because it's a great example of how we could provide relief to ordinary citizens who are struggling to get by," Obama said at 2007 Des Moines Register Democratic Debate on December 13, 2007.

With the election approaching students and professor at JSU are starting to pick

"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," Wymayor of Wasilla, Alaska.

Biden has been a part of the U.S. Senate since 1973. He has lead numerous committees (Foreign Relation Committee, Senate Judiciary Committee, and many more) while in the Senate, and has attempted to be the Democratic presidential representative in 1988 and 2008.

In recent polls taken by top news stations and newspapers (CNN, USA Today, ABC, Washington Post, CBS, and FOX) it shows Obama and McCain are neck and neck, or Obama is trailing McCain by

duo's single, but according to Rolling Stone magazine, it is also the name of their upcoming MTV reality show.

ing MTV reality show.
"Don't Be Shy" is a fresh love ballad with a catchy chorus, while "Lazy Days" is laid back.

While the CD's overall

like an old pair of jeans," Schwayze sings.

The album is impressive with its ability to make the listener an instant fan — almost like trying on a new pair of jeans that fit just right.

= Julie Skinner

Solange

SoL-AngeL and the Hadley Street Dreams

Solange Knowles' sophomore album SoL-AngeL and the Hadley Street Dreams sounds a little bit as if it was recorded in the wrong decade. Indeed, Solange credits her inspiration for this album to Dusty Springfield, The Supremes and The Marvelettes; the sound is evocative of all of these artists. The song "Dancing in the Dark" is an excellent example of the entire feeling of the album. One could imagine Ms. Solange on stage with a microphone and back-up dancers doing hand motions as she sings. Solange recognizes that her sister, Beyonce, is who she will be compared to quickly. Such a comparison is perhaps a little unfair as Solange has a more classic sound and focuses on beautiful songs rather than vocal acrobatics. The younger Ms.

Knowles is no stranger to songwriting having co-written songs for her sister and Michelle Williams. Solange also has a sense of humor about her musical family. In the liner notes of the album, Solange stands in front of two signs with "I will not have a famous family" and "I will not get pregnant at 17" handwritten repeatedly. Solange's album is perfect listening for a rainy day or when you just need some upbeat songs to bring you out of a funk.

-Zach Childree

Uknown Component

In Direct Communication
Unknown Component, more like unknown band, and they will continue to stay that way if their next album has this unknown direction. Slitting my wrists, vomiting uncontrollably, having my eyes gouged out with knives sounds painful right? All of these would have been more pleasant than enduring through this "album". This might

"album". This might be the worst album I've ever heard. The saddest thing about the album, "In Direct Communication", is that it had potential.

I knew this was going to be a long, painful process as soon as I heard those awful drums, which are hopefully electric and not acoustic, and the nasal off beat voice of Keith Lynch, lead singer of Unknown Component. "Into the Sun" is off beat, off key, and just plain terrible. I'm sure Keith Lynch is a good guitarist, if he could just learn to

play the correct notes, with the rest of the band.

The song, "On Your Mind", made me actually want to kill myself. It was that terrible. I thought I was finished with the terrible solos by the pianist in, "Somewhere A Light Has Gone Out", but no

they reappeared in the next song "On Your Mind". It was then that I asked myself, "Wait, why is there only one band member listed on here? There are all these instruments and only one band member Öwait, noo" Then I realized it was just one person sucking this

I never realized one person could suck at so many instruments. Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, Ronnie MilsapÖ all blind, all could play better music. I wish someone would just tell this poor bastard that his music is absolutely crap before he makes another album. Hopefully I did, and he gets the hint and doesn't make

-Ryan Rutledge

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 trail those senators asked for preferential treatment for Keating.

During his three terms in the

During his three terms in the senate, McCain never seemed afraid to show his passion to anyone in Congress. He has been very 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 in the 2004 presidential election, Senator John Kerry, and his service record in Vietnam and voiced his concerns about former Secretary of State, Donald Rumsfield's handling of Iraq.

"I feel McCain lost that year, because McCain campaign was dirty and he was attacking President Bush," JSU student Hena 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 becmae the front runner 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 two different plans. McCain's plan for governmental agencies is getting rid of programs

\$30,000 in debt for every citizen."

Although Obama and most Democrats hope to see a with-

trillion in debt--or more than

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 Mc-Cain 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," Owens said. "I don't think the Obama camp had fathomed that the McCain ticket would be this energize and I feel they are still struggling to figure out how to reaction 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 pres-

idential 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 stating 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 Mayo said.

(CNN, USA Today, ABC, Washington Post, CBS, and FOX) it shows Obama and McCain are neck and neck, or Obama is trailing McCain by a small margin.

"The numbers could mean anything to anyone; you just have to have the right slant. A good poll has a 1.5 to 2% percent margin of error, plus or minus. The polls you see on CNN, MSNBC, and ones 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.

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October 2, 2008



Clark Barron On The Verge

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)Ö walking.

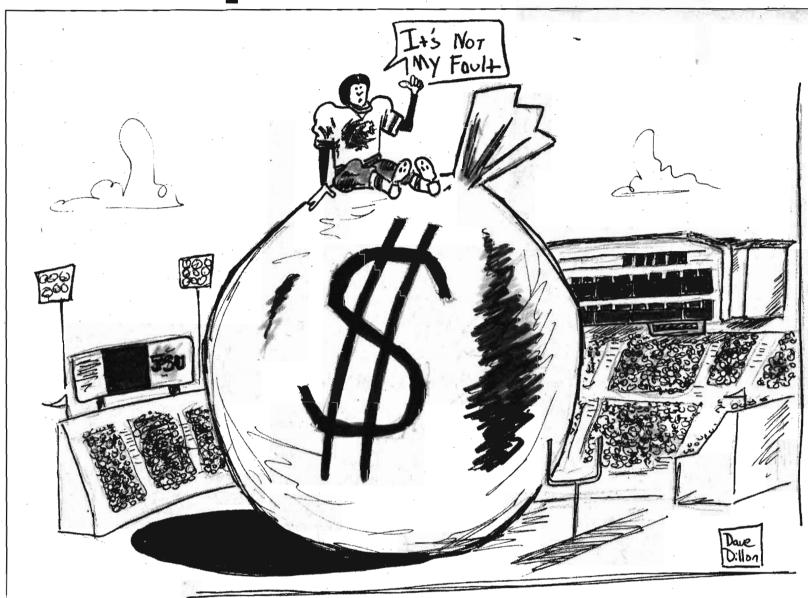
I recently learned from the third shift manager at the local Grub Mart station that they recently dropped their BP label, and they have now gone to a much cheaper supplier. I was informed that the company BP would simply not bring them any gas. Period.

The gas situation in Jacksonville 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



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 Radio Head or Beck or even some Flaming Lips, I would listen.

I feel bad for the kids in college not knowing 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; that was no big deal. So, we decided to keep looking around the area. Surprisingly, no gas station 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 considering 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.

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? They aren't even dead; in fact, they are working out the kinks for a new album. I don't even see Panic fans anymore on cam-

I know times have changed since I was a freshman, but music now is so mainstream, or it is 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 actually selling to capacity. Where did you go, Bo? Brother's was getting bands like Cool Beans, Left Foot Down and Skydog Gypsy.

I know that 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

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 100,000 dope smoking hippies. Though, members of Phish are actually music nerds from the University of Vermont in Burlington.

ming has lost me. If they would play stuff like Radio Head or Beck or even some Flaming Lips, I would listen.

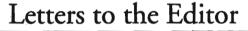
I feel bad for the kids in college not knowing the fun of jam bands. I love to go to concerts and close my eyes and dance.

There is nothing more fun then staring at the lights and dancing like it's 1999. The fun of jam bands is the freedom of expression, not just the band going into a deep jam, but the fans grooving all on the same page,

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.



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 one 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 gutwrenching \$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 lunchroom" was to be an affordable option for its students. This is just absurd. We ate lunch at the Caf during what is normally its busiest time -- the noon

hour on Wednesday. A couple of years ago I ate there reguarly at that time of day, and it was always packed. Last Wednesday, it was nowhere near full. People obviously aren't eating at the Caf as much as they used to, and I can't help but wonder if high prices is the reason. JSU could really do itself a favor by lowering prices at the Dining Hall. More students would start eating there, which would keep more student money on campus instead of the more affordable (and more fattening) fast food joints lining Pelham Road. JSU, please help us out. Lower the prices at the cafeteria. I am sick of 99-cent cheeseburgers for lunch.

- Whit McGee

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.

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Jered Staubs chantysports@gmail.com

Midnight drive to Georgia

While all of you are partying, sleeping or doing whatever you do on Friday nights, I have the unenviable task of covering high school football for the Anniston Star.

Really it's not that bad my boss is cool, the games are sometimes mildly entertaining and talking to the players and fans is enjoyable (more on this later) - but sometimes it really gets to me.

Such was the case Friday, as I covered Cleburne County at Cherokee County. I never knew these counties adjoined one another until Friday (more on this later as well).

By the way, these schools need to make up their minds as to what they want to be called. Cleburne County High School has "Heflin" on their jerseys. Everyone in Cherokee County calls the school "Centre."

Anyway, the Cherokee County/Centre Warriors have one of the best offenses I've ever seen, and they just beat the Cleburne County/Heflin Tigers like a drum.

Well, I was wearing my Oklahoma visor at the game, and I had a couple fans come up to me at halftime and ask me if I was from Oklahoma. Since I was born there, I answer in the affirmative. They ask "Who are you looking at?"

Later in the game, I get the same question from two scrubs (I don't know what else to call them, they never

Sports October 2, 2008 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 Freeney 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, nutting ISII



Gamecocks defenders swarm Eastern Illinois running back Desmin Ward as Carnell Clark (left) looks on. The Panthers rushed for only 20 yards in the 23-10 loss to JSU. Photo courtesy of Sandra King / EIU Photographer

play of the drive came on a 66yard completion to Maurice Dupree. Perrilloux capped off the possession with a 16-yard run, giving the Gamecocks a 14-point lead.

Perrilloux would add another rushing touchdown late in the first half, and JSU headed into the locker room up 21-0. He finished the game 20-for-25 with 281 yards passing and three total touchdowns and was named OVC Offensive Player of the Week for his efforts.

"Ryan was the Offensive Player of the Week," Crowe said. "I think Ryan is starting

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

was especially tough against the run on Saturday, as the Panthers only mustered 20 yards on the ground throughout the contest.

JSU's pass defense was stellar as well, allowing only 206 yards through the air. The Gamecocks have still not allowed a passing touchdown this season.

"I thought we played good on defense for four quarters," Crowe said.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Gamecocks went to the ground game in the second half, milking the clock. JSU finished with 201

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

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. This

me if I was from Oklahoma. Since I was born there, I answer in the affirmative. They ask "Who are you looking at?"

Later in the game, I get the same question from two scrubs (I don't know what else to call them, they never played. I think they were freshmen though.) who started talking to me when the game turned ugly.

These people think I'm a scout from Oklahoma. Briefly I thought about playing along, but for once in my life I decided to choose "Be a decent person" over "Be a jackass" (more on this later).

I'm telling you, Cherokee County is good, really good. I'm not a talent evaluator by any means, but they have four offensive skill players and a defensive back who I think could play lower-level FBS football or FCS football.

But thinking OU is recruiting any of these guys is the definition of naivety.

OK, whatever. These guys and I keep talking, and one is talking about how TCU is going to beat Oklahoma and how Sam Bradford sucks. Then he says he's just kidding and he had a youth pastor or something like that who was from Oklahoma.

He says, "You remember when Oklahoma lost in the Super Bowl?"

You mean the Sugar Bowl? "No, the Super Bowl." I give him a blank stare. "It was a few years ago." Umm, we don't have an NFL team, never have.

(Angry at my ignorance) "Yeah, you lost to the Buccaneers."

Are you talking about OAKLAND?

"Yeah. The Raiders." Other kid starts laughing uncontrollably.

Yeah, um, Oakland isn't in Oklahoma.

(Incredulously) "It's not? Where is it?'

So, to recap — Cherokee County/Centre football: really good. Cherokee County/ Centre geography teachers: really bad.

Speaking of horrible geography, trying to come back to J'ville I drove to Georgia.

Twice.

And the gas stations were closed so I couldn't even ask for directions.

See "Staubs," page 8

ards in three plays. Alphonso Freeney 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 7-0.

On the Gamecocks' next possession, Perrilloux led JSU on an eight-play, 99-yard march to the end zone. The big

room up 21-0. He finished the game 20-for-25 with 281 yards passing and three total touchdowns and was named OVC Offensive Player of the Week for his efforts.

"Ryan was the Offensive Player of the Week," Crowe said. "I think Ryan is starting to make a move that would be expected of somebody with his credentials. He is still evolving and not where he is going to be. He is being challenged in every way."

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 Kinchen blocked a Zach Walden punt. Adrian Arrington scooped up the ball and returned it 16 yards into the end zone.

The Gamecock defense

"I thought we played good on defense for four quarters,

Crowe said.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Gamecocks went to the ground game in the second half, milking the clock. JSU finished with 201 yards rushing for the game, the majority of which came from Daniel Jackson.

Jackson averaged 6.8 yards per carry and finished with 68 yards total. The senior from

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. This team gives every indication that it can achieve something for the first time ever at this university and do it in a way that brings excitement,' Crowe said.

No letting down

JSU looks to avenge its worst loss of '07

By Jered Staubs Sports Editor

A year ago, JSU was clinging to hopes of an at-large playoff spot when it went to SEMO the last week of the season.

The Redhawks were winless in the OVC and JSU built a 25-10 lead late in the third quarter, but SEMO fought its way back and scored the final 22 points in a 32-25 shocker.

A SEMO win this season would be even more surprising since the game is in Jacksonville, but coach Jack Crowe and the players who experienced that loss know what the Redhawks are capable of doing.

Crowe said he isn't trying to create a revenge mentality, but he emphasized how sick he and his team were a year ago.

"There is so much different of a team out there, some of the same players, but the guys they are playing with have changed their mind set and the chemistry," Crowe said. "I think it would pull them out of where they are if you started talking about last year. I don't intend to talk about last year. Now will some the players that were really hurt by it, talk about it? Yes, the ones that are affected by it."

The Gamecocks (3-1, 1-0 OVC) face another issue, the possibility of a letdown. There is no question that the win over Eastern Illinois makes JSU clear favorites in the OVC, and Crowe knows that the other teams in the league will be gunning for the Gamecocks.

He referenced the upsets that have been sweeping the nation over the past few weeks and said that his team must bring maximum effort each week or it will end up in the same position as USC and other heavy favorites that have lost to less than stellar teams.

"Every week is Oregon State," he said. "You don't show up one time, you get beat. We will obviously make that point."

The Redhawks (2-3, 0-1 OVC) have

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 up at halftime once,"

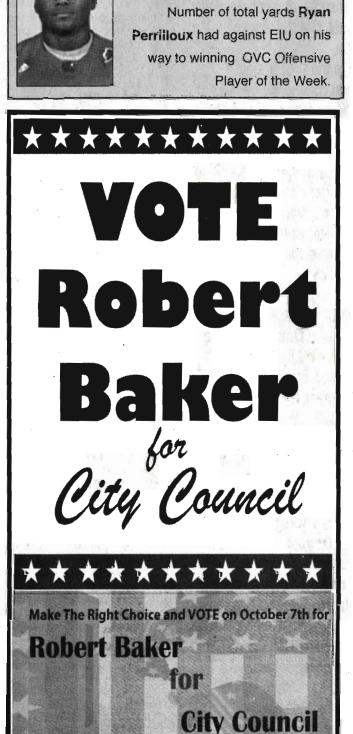
That seems unlikely against a JSU team that has thrived in the first half the past three weeks. The Gamecocks have led 31-12, 24-0, and 21-0 at the break in their three FCS games.

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 LouisianaMonroe. 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

Volleyball's up and down season continues

By Jared Gravette

Assistant Sports Editor

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.

"To me, it always starts with our intensity level," JSU coach Rick Nold said. "We came out really, really flat. When we're flat, we end up making a lot more errors, and it kind of snowballs on you. We can't afford to come out with that attitude.

"SEMO is a very good team, and it's going to take us coming out with our best effort and we didn't do that Friday."

The Gamecocks turned things around Saturday afternoon, defeating Eastern Illinois in convincing fashion, 3-0 (25-20, 25-14, 25-13). The victory was JSU's seventh straight over the Panthers and snapped a three-game conference losing streak.

The Gamecocks finished the contest with a .333 attack percentage, its highest of the season thus far. JSU's defense was clicking as well, as EIU only mustered a .034 attack percentage.

"I think we served and passed very well," Nold said. "I think we had some easy opportunities and really took advantage of them. In Friday night's game, we got some easy opportunities and we didn't do anything with them, so it just really snowballs when that happens.

"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 from either squad to record double-digit kills.

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

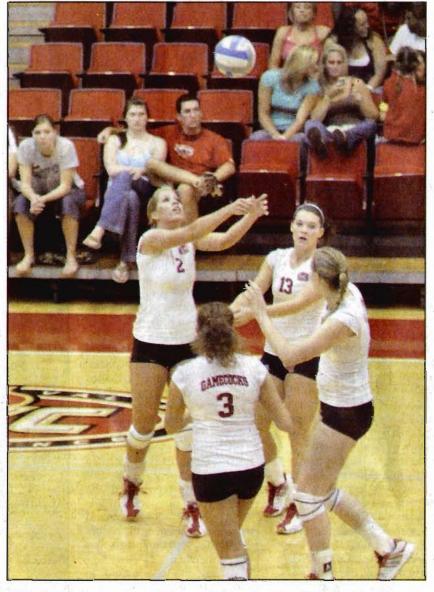
The Gamecocks are still young and have plenty of room for improvement. However, if JSU can play with more consistency as the year progresses, Nold believes his squad could be just as dangerous as any team in the conference.

"We have a lot of improving to do," Nold said. "We've shown flashes of where we can be and when we are playing at that level, we can compete and, I think, beat anybody 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 up 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."



JSU players surround a ball in a match against SEMO and middle blocker Kara Slater eventually takes charge. The Gamecocks won one of two matches over the weekend. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

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 indications are that the team is off to a good start.

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

"This will be her first year running cross country is the mindset we're trying to change here. However, I'm looking from afar because 99 percent of my time is involved with cross country, but Asha (Gibson) is a volunteer assistant. At this point, she's running the preseason practices and can probably allude to that more than I can."

Gibson is thinking ahead of the game this year to better prepare the team for the upcoming outdoorseason after injuries kept the Gamecocks from their peak performance during the outdoor season last year.

"We're doing a lot of core strengthening as injury prevention and developing functionality 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 upper classmen?

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

"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.

and field squad Jacksonville State has ever had. The team consists of four freshmen coming in as high school conference champs, five OVC contending 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

place overall behind Samford and Central Arkansas.

- 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 Matich 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 threegame 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 Govs.
- 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 nonconference play.

is off to a good start. Coach Steve Ray speaks of a talented individual by the

name of Veronica Citireaq, who is doing extra 200m (half a lap) sprints on the track after her cross-country workout.

"This will be her first year running cross country to better prepare her for the 800m (2 laps) and she looks like she is going to have a lifetime best in the track and field event," Ray said.

The team has been practicing for a couple weeks even though the season will not begin for over three months.

"We're allowed 156 days by NCAA rules," Ray said.
"We go from the conference meet all the way back on the calendar and take off the necessary academic days."

"As with any sport, if these kids don't do preliminary work during the summer, they're always going to be a step or two behind, and that this point, she's running the preseason practices and can probably allude to that more than I can."

Gibson is thinking ahead of the game this year to better prepare the team for the upcoming outdoor season after injuries kept the Gamecocks 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



Takisha Parham (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.

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 seasons were from maybe March till May but we're planning from September all the way to May.'

"It's starting early for them, but we're going to give them a break when the time is here. They'll be ready to go come January," Ray added.

January is the mark of the indoor track and field season and what Ray uses to prepare for the outdoor season.

"Some teams have to choose one or the other and I think Jacksonville State's in a situation where we want to concentrate on the outdoor season," said Ray.

This is the largest track

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 Championship.

"Not only to win the conference, we have at least two if not three girls who could make it to the regional and even national meet," Ray said. "We are trying to encourage everyone and help them believe in their training. It could happen indoor although we are training our athletes for outdoor season,' Gibson added.

"We want to be the highest finishing team ever in the history of this school. If we finished second three years ago, then we've only got one place to go from there," concluded Ray.

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

Continued from page 7

Number of signs directing passers by 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'm so late that I'm driving at an absurd pace, and I'm clocked going 63 in a 25 on that radar detector out in front of Merrill Hall.

Which was BS. I was going at least 71.

I assume I can't get into trouble for that. Statute of limitations or something. I don't know, I don't ever pay attention in government.

I'm 23 and still taking government. Yikes. Here's some more questions and comments I've received recently.

How good is JSU?

I get this a lot, and I really don't know how to answer. Honestly, I said after the Georgia Tech game I didn't think they'd lose again until the playoffs, and I haven't seen anything that would change my mind. I was thinking we'd win about one playoff game, but if the defense keeps impressing and improving ... well, let's not get ahead of ourselves.

You're an idiot if you think Missouri is better than Florida (was told this Friday).

Ha. Haha. Hahahahahaha.

You still think Alabama's only a good team?

Yeah, I guess I bogeyed that one. I'd still rather see them than Georgia or LSU in the national title game against OU (knock on wood). Stoops has a score to settle with Saban.

You talk about your mom a lot. Why?

Well, I just love her to death (whatever that means). Oddly, my mom_seems to never really compliment me, probably because she thinks that I'm a cocky jackass (I see her point) and she wants to keep me grounded.

She said the other day she had a seven minute conversation with another teacher who shall remain nameless, and that teacher spent five minutes talking about how handsome I am and what a gentleman I am, and just talking about how great I am (I see her points

My mom's response? "Are you sure you're talking about Jered?"

I have some questions of my own:

Can we please get athletes to stop saying "For all intensive purposes?'

How does that even make sense? It's even more annoying than people who think "irregardless" is a word or the way everyone says "A-pre-cot" instead of "App-

Why does nobody understand how great a movie "The Color of Money" is?

Whenever someone asks me what my ten favorite movies are, this invariably makes the list, and the other person has invariably not seen it.

Obviously the reason I mention this is because of Paul Newman (R.I.P.). If you wonder why he is considered one of the best actors of all-time, watch this movie. While the Hanson Brothers carried "Slap Shot" (also one of my favorites, though not quite top ten), Newman was insane in this movie. He acted circles around Tom

Does being named Tom Kruse help or hurt the inventor of the Hoveround as he tries to market his product?

Also curious as to whether Wilford Brimley's bizarre pronunciation of "diabetes" is a positive or negative for whatever he is endorsing.

Here is Brimley's biography on imdb.com: "He was a farmer and rodeo rider who, after gaining weight, became a blacksmith and then a film actor.

If that guy can't market a product, who can? Are we certain the SEC is the best football conference?

Just wondering. Haven't heard anyone express that it might not be. The Big XII is pretty, pretty good. You can make an argument that the #5 team in the nation (Texas) is the 5th best team in the Big XII.

Of course, you can also make an argument that the #3 team in the nation (LSU) is the 4th best team in the SEC.

Either way, that's the four-team playoff everyone has been wanting. Big XII North champion vs. Big XII South champion, SEC East champion vs. SEC West champion. Winners play in BCS Title Game.

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 Bielema and ESPN announcer Chris Spielman.

I know Bielema's team blew a 19-0 lead to Michigan last week, but he had his team in the game the whole way and to see them rally 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 Bielema 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

The main thing I love about Spielman is he doesn't follow the same diatribes other members of the media have, and he focuses on things that actually bother or

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 trite, almost silly. Spielman just said it, and he's 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 putridity. Is it weird that I get more upset by video game announcers criticizing me than actual people

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 whippin' 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 Ohatchee football.

- From staff reports