Student voters prepare for November elections

SGA holds voter registration drive

By Zach Childree
Editor in Chief

More than 350 students registered to vote at Jacksonville State University during the “Rock the Vote” registration drive. The Student Government Association participated in the national movement that encourages college students to vote. The registration drive took place over two days, September 4 and 9.

“It worked out really well,” Mardracus Russell of the Office of Student Life said on Tuesday. “Today is disbursement day, so people are getting their checks and registering to vote.”

Russell said there were more students registering on Tuesday than the previous week.

Terry Casey, director of student life, said he was surprised at the number of students that registered.

“Students this year are really energized about the election,” Casey said. “They register today and in just a few months they get to vote.”

Russell said it was important for students to play a role in the democratic process.

“Important decisions are made by the people we elect,” said Russell. “You don’t have much to say if you didn’t vote. The decisions made now definitely affect us in the future.”

“Rock the Vote” was founded in 1992 in order to encourage college-age people to register and vote. Beginning with public service announcements by Queen Latifah, Aerosmith and others, “Rock the Vote” debuted in partnership with MTV, VH1 and other channels specifically targeting voters under the age of 24.

According to the group’s website “Whether it’s Madonna wrapping herself in the flag for the first Rock the Vote PSA or Snoop Dogg launching our bus tour in 2004, Rock the Vote works with artists who really believe in and promote our mission.” The website claims to have registered more than 1.4 million people online.

UPD to step up traffic, parking enforcement

By Shalon Montgomery
Staff Writer

If you are a Jacksonville State University student with a car or have a friend with a car, you may have noticed a lot of upset people. The reason for this is the amount of traffic violation tickets that have been issued this year.

The main reason for an increase in tickets is the new parking arrangements on campus, which in much part, has been more beneficial to JSU staff than the students.

Last year, students were allowed to park in front of Mason, Sparkman Hall, the JSU mail center, the JSU health center and Daugette Hall. Now, these arrangements have changed.

“They need to give students more time to adjust to the new parking arrangement,” Daugette Resident Assistant Jeremy Prothrow said.

“I felt heated,” said one student, who asked to remain anonymous.

and informed students about issuing tickets though newswire,” Chief of Police Shawn Giddy said.

Another reason for the increase in tickets is a change in who has the ability to give out tickets. Last year, security was in charge of issuing traffic tickets. This year, JSU has a Parking Enforcement Officer, Buddy Smith, who goes to every parking lot on campus during business hours and looks for traffic violations.

Alongside Officer Smith is the University Police Department.

According to Chief Giddy, if the UPD sees any violations, they have the right to issue a ticket. UPD also has a new ticket machine in their patrol cars to make issuing tickets more efficient.

“It’s irresponsible by the student, because if they get hit what are they going to say?” Student Today Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) President Candice Young said.

According to the UPD, traffic violations have
Students react to Olympics

By Shalon Montgomery
Staff Writer

The 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic Games will go down in history as one of the most memorable Olympic Games, and the most-watched U.S. event of all time. During the 2008 Olympic Games, spectators saw 87 countries win at least one medal in the Olympic competition, 132 new Olympic records and 43 broken world records.

“The Olympics were exciting and America dominated,” Jacksonville State University Sophomore, Darnell Cole said.

America showed its dominance in the world of sports by leading all countries with the most Olympic medals. Throughout the Beijing Olympics, American athletes won 110 Olympic medals (36 gold, 38 silver and 36 bronze).

“We did really well and all most outperformed China in a majority of the events (track, swimming and gymnastics),” I saw,” JSU sophomore Sophia Smith said.

“America will always have a stronghold on the Olympic medal count,” George Kip-lagat, a cross-country runner from Kenya said. “America has the facilities, and they send over 400 people to the Olympics when a country like Somalia sends two people.”

Although America earned the most medals at the Beijing Olympics, hosting nation China took home 51 gold medals. “China did very well,” Take-hin Sato, a JSU student from Japan said.

China’s 51 gold medals was the second largest amount of gold medals earned by a nation in modern history. The nation that won the most gold medals in a single Olympics during modern history is the United States. The United States accomplished this feat during the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. America earned 83 gold medals that year, and 174 medals in all.

“I think America has a chance to be dominant like it has in the past,” Chris Moore, a senior biology major said. “Just certain variables have to match up for it to happen again.”

Countless records were broken at the Beijing Olympics. The records ranged from individuals to worldwide accomplishments.

Each country spent a lot of money to develop good athletes and hire great coaches,” Shogo Nakamura, an RA for Sparkman residence hall said.

Although records were being broken throughout the Olympics, JSU students had clear-cut favorites when it came down to which individuals stood out to them. “Usain Bolt stood out to me,” said Darnell Cole.

See “Olympics,” page 3

By Julie Skinner
News Editor

As the seventh anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center approaches, people around the country may find themselves recalling where they were when they first found out. The question, “Where were you when you found out about the Twin Towers being attacked?” hardly ever receives the answer of “I don’t remember.” Most can remember exactly what they were doing, and some even remember minute details about their surroundings and what they were wearing.

Around Jacksonville State University, students recall their own personal memories of first hearing of the terrorist attacks and how that day, seven years ago, has shaped their lives and the lives of those around them forever.

Jay Robinson, campus minister of the Wesley Foundation at JSU, recalls being in a teleconference while working at home that terrifying Tuesday and how he never seemed to watch TV, but he decided to turn it on after finishing his work that morning.

“Every generation has a moment, that ‘where were you when’ kind of moment,” Robinson said. “Those moments tend to affect each generation differently. I can remember my mother telling me the story of when she heard of JFK dying and where she was.”

JSU freshman, Emily Hoth, was in her 7th grade art class when another student ran into the classroom announcing that the Twin Towers had been struck.

“We weren’t allowed to watch it on TV because it was too graphic,” Hoth said. “I felt violated in my rights because I watched so many violent things on TV, so I thought, why can’t I watch news?”

Today, Hoth wishes that the terrorists could have expressed their beliefs in a different way than hurting and killing so many people that day.

“I believe it had a major affect on everyone,” Hoth said. “First, people wanted to strike back and now, they’re not so sure if the hot-headed decision was such a great idea. I just wish the terrorists could have said what they needed to without blood.”

JSU senior, Jason Wright, was a junior in high school on this day and how he never seemed to watch TV, but he decided to turn it on after finishing his work that morning.

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Seven years later...
On Campus

Briefs

On Tuesday, September 16 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Counseling and Career Services alongside the Jacksonville State University Peer Educators are hosting the annual health fair that will be entitled “Take a Friend to the Health Fair” this year.

The health fair will offer free testing for HIV/AIDS, cholesterol, diabetes and blood pressure. There will also be information available regarding nutrition, birth control, depression, stress management, dental awareness, fibromyalgia, tuberculosis and various other issues.

For more information about the health fair, please contact Linda Shelton of Counseling and Career Services at ext. 5954 or ishelton@jsu.edu.

Campus Crime

September 2

• A rape was reported in Dixon Hall.

September 4

• Tameka Latrice Momnet reported a theft of property in Patterson Hall. Stolen was a red student ID valued at $83.29.

September 5

• Brant Obraun Caudle was arrested for obstructing government operations and resisting arrest.

September 7

• Rachel Justine Gordon reported harassment in Pi Kappa Phi Parking Lot.

• Meyosha Jacquise Jones was arrested for

Obama opens schools debate with McCain

By LIBBY QUAIM
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) – Democrat Barack Obama reached middle ground on education this week, opening a debate with John McCain over who would do more to put good teachers in classrooms and help parents find alternatives to bad schools.

Conceding that both parties have worthy ideas, Obama set out to prove that he’s not captive to teachers unions, as his rival claims, and that there is more talk than action in McCain’s plans for schools.

McCain tossed red meat to Republicans at their convention last week, saying Obama wants schools to answer to unions and entrenched bureaucracies, while aimed at giving parents more choice. McCain would make improvements to that; for example, he would expand children’s access to tutoring services.

No Child Left Behind lets parents transfer their children from failing schools to better-performing public or charter schools — assuming there is a better school in the area, which is not always the case. Obama doesn’t think vouchers are the answer; many Democrats agree.

McCain emphasized that sentiment at the GOP convention. McCain said he means to attract and reward good teachers — and help bad teachers find another line of work."

"But the question remains just how the candidates, Obama in particular, would “fix” the law. No Child Left Behind requires annual state tests in reading and math. The goal is that by 2014, every pupil will be able to read and do math at their grade level. The law imposes sanctions on schools that fail to make progress.

Obama has criticized annual tests, which has the law’s supporters worried he might gut an essential requirement. And he has the backing of teachers’ unions, which strongly dislike the law.

"Don’t tell us that the only way to teach a child is to spend most of the year preparing him to fill in a few bubbles on a

"We can do this," Obama said Tuesday. “From Prince George’s County in Maryland to Denver, Colo., we’re seeing teachers and school boards coming together to design performance pay plans.”

He added that he wants teachers doing a poor job to get extra help, but that if they don’t get better, they’ll be replaced.

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MONEY.

Democrats have chastised the Bush administration for spend-
What's Happening

Monday, September 15
• SGA Poster Sale on the Quad 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 16
• SGA Organizational Council Meeting, TMB Auditorium 6:00 p.m.
• SGA Poster Sale on the Quad 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
• JSU Health Fair, TMB Auditorium 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
• “Ring the alarm: Red Alert” Mixer, Leone Cole 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 17
• Water Balloon Wars on the Quad 4:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Olympics: Reactions

"Bolt's world records were better than Phelps eight gold medals. Bolt broke a 12-year record (two hundred meter dash-19.30), and he is the fastest man in the world. While he ran the hundred meter dash he let up the last twenty meters and ran a 9.69," Kiplagat said.

Now that the Beijing Olympics are over, JSU has a chance to discuss both the greatest and disappointing of the 2008 Olympics, but not for too long.

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Voting: Civic Duty

"Young voters, especially college voters, are concerned with creating a decent standard of living as a student," Wyatt said. "Tuition, gas and financial aid are just a few of the issues at the forefront of students' minds."

Wyatt said it doesn't matter what party you choose, just that you vote.

"If you do not participate and vote for change, whichever political party you believe will bring about that change, then you don't have a right to complain about the direction in which the country is going," Wyatt said.

9/11: Remembrance

In honor of those who lost their lives on 9-11, the JSU ROTC will hold a memorial service on the front lawn of Bibb Graves by the three flagpoles at 8:10 a.m. The 10-15 minute service will include speakers Lt. Colonel White, University Police Department Chief Shawn Giddis and a local fireman.

"Michael Phelps stood out to me, but coverage was biased to Michael Phelps. We didn't get a chance to see other American athletes or countries and disappointed of the 2008 Olympics, but not for too long."

"Giddy and a local fireman."

Facebook unveils new look with a new approach

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U.S. Attorney Alice Martin, whose office prosecuted the former two-year Chancellor Roy Johnson, who has pleaded guilty to money laundering, bribery and other charges.

Johnson, who agreed to testify against Schmitz in other cases in hopes of receiving a lighter sentence, testified that he found a job for Schmitz after being asked to do so by House Speaker Seth Hammett and state teachers union head Paul Hubbert.

"I think that whenever you're charged by the United States government you have not only financial hardship, but emotional hardship," he said. "I think that this prosecution needs to end now, and we would hope that the government would reconsider and not pursue this further."

Schmitz is one of three legislators to be charged in the wide-ranging federal investigation, but is the first to go to trial.

"I think the jury for their service. While disappointed they were unable to reach a verdict, the United States stands ready to retry this important case at the court's earliest setting," she said Tuesday in a statement.

Watson said the judge has talked about setting the new trial for the end of the year or the start of 2009. But the exact timing remains uncertain, he said.

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Lawyer: 2nd Schmitz trial could start by December

By DESIREE HUNTER
Associated Press Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — A new trial for state Rep. Sue Schmitz on charges she took a "no work" job with the two-year college system could begin as early as December or January, her defense attorney said Tuesday.

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About some changes to some Web site.

Although he is still hoping to persuade Zuckerberg to retreat from some of the changes included in the redesign, Sanders suspects resistance might be futile this time.

But Zuckerberg, still only 24, is hoping he has found a way to ease the journey down a different road so he won’t have to issue public apologies like he did in each of the previous two years after springing new products on users.

His theory will face a major test Wednesday when Facebook begins forcing its 100 million users to adapt to a redesigned Web site, whether they like the new look or not.

Since unveiling the makeover seven weeks ago, Facebook had left it up to users to decide whether they wanted to switch over. If they didn’t like what they saw, the converts could just click on a link to switch back to the old format.

But that option will be taken away from all users by the end of the week, a shift that Zuckerberg already knows...
By Tokhir Radjabov
Special to The Chanticleer

Are some things just obvious? Is it obvious that the United States has three branches of government? Is it obvious that the President is elected for a maximum of two terms, each at four years length? Is it obvious that our government is not a religious government? Then why is it not so obvious for many Americans that one's religious affiliation or opinion does not make one eligible or ineligible for any government office, which includes the executive presidency? Therefore, it becomes irrelevant, almost inappropriate, to choose a candidate for the presidency of the United State based on his or her religious beliefs.

You may ask me, where is the proof? The proof is in the Constitution and the words of many founding fathers. One of the most brilliant presidents of the United States, Thomas Jefferson said, "Neither Pagan nor Mahomedan nor Jew ought to be excluded from the civil rights of the Commonwealth because of his religion."

This statement clearly shows us that one could be a Muslim, a Jew or even a Pagan and still become the president of the United States.

Thus, my question to you is why there is such an attempt by our current candidates to make themselves appear better Christian than the other candidate? It seems to me that there is some sort of competition between the candidates for their Christlikeness. Who is a better Christian?

There has to be a reason why, for instance, Barack Obama, even though denied accusations that he was a Muslim, did not say that even if he was a Muslim, that would not and should not make a difference in the people's minds when they make a choice to choose which president they would vote for. So why is this Christian affiliation by the candidates have such an importance? It was not in the past. When the founding fathers were forming our government, they did not give preference to any religion. As Jefferson said, "Christianity neither is, nor ever was, a part of the common law."

Therefore, they deemed their religious beliefs, understandings and opinions to be between them and God. Thus, this trick of making one particular religion a commodity was never used by our founding fathers. What we have now is an insane struggle for position and power by commodifying every aspect of our lives. In it, religion is one of the biggest commodities.

Therefore, to gain votes, to become popular among people, to be accepted by the people and to purchase people's minds, our candidates use their personal religious affiliation to further their own agendas. Thus, religion, this sacred trust between man and God, is used to deceive people.

Me and you, common people, will think that just because someone says that his favorite philosopher is Jesus Christ (peace be upon him), it means that he will act according to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Well, you and I know that is not necessarily true.

Therefore, my conclusion is that our decision to choose a particular president should not be based on his or her specific religious affiliation. The second point, is that we must recognize that for many years religion has been used and is being used by people in power to advance their own goals. The last aspect, is that our choice of a new president should be whether he will to the best of his ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.
Review: Russell Brand hosts the VMAs with candor

By JAKE COYLE
AP Entertainment Writer

Russell Brand seemed a little out of place as the host at the MTV Video Music Awards. Not because he's British or relatively unknown in America, as most of the chatter was about whether Sunday night's show from Los Angeles. It was because Brand injected the VMAs with blunt politics, self-deprecation, unashamed sexuality, and, yes, plenty of off-color remarks. Didn't he know where his? The VMAs? In La-La Land? No, this was no place to voice anything like an opinion on world affairs or joke about young Christian pop stars. This is a place to look cool and thank the almighty for the honor of little moon man statuettes.

Early in his opening monologue, Brand pleaded: "Please, America, elect Barack Obama. On behalf of the world." Most of the crowd, seemingly caught guard, cheered, though at least a few pop stars didn't. The camera caught Britney Spears — who in 2003 said citizens should "just trust our president" — sitting quietly.

Partisanship, of course, can hurt sales. But Brand was refreshingly ignorant of many of the concerns that keep the lips of American pop stars zipped. For good measure — and surely stepping over the line — Brand referred to President Bush as "that retarded cowboy fellow."

After all, Brand has built his image on his candor and edginess. He's well-known across the pond as a standup comic, TV show host and radio DJ — but more so as an outlandish and hedonistic figure who speaks unabashedly about his prior drug and sex addictions.

Brand was a surprise choice as host for MTV for the 25th anniversary of the VMAs, and the gig was clearly meant to boost his star in the U.S. After a supporting role in this spring's "Forget Sarah Marshall," he's got several prominent film roles in the works.

"I'm famous in the United King-

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"... for instance, Barack Obama, even though denied accusations that he was a Muslim, did not say that even if he was a Muslim, he would not run for president."

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Letters to the Editor

To promote diversity at JSU, President Meehan appointed the university-wide Affirmative Action Committee, now called the Diversity and Employment Equity Committee. On behalf of the Diversity and Employment Equity Committee, you are invited to participate in the JSU Diversity Survey. Due to a recent court settlement, universities in the state of Alabama produced Diversity Strategic Plans to use in advising university presidents on issues of diversity.

JSU moved ahead and completed its Diversity Strategic Plan. We are now beginning to implement it. Our Diversity Strategic Plan, as approved by our Board of Trustees, is available on-line on the JSU Human Resources page.

The Diversity Survey is a very important initial component of the JSU Diversity Strategic Plan. Therefore, it is critical for us to have your participation in the survey so that we may effectively implement our plan. Please take a few minutes of your time, go to the link, and complete the survey now. The survey link is also available in your Personal Announcements box on MyJSU. Last day to complete the survey is Friday, October 3. Thank you for your participation and cooperation.

Isreal Eady, Chairman Diversity and Employment Equity Committee
Review: A few of my favorite things

By Doran Smith
Staff Writer

"The hills are alive with the sound of music." You don't have to be an avid theatre attendee to recognize the striking lyrics from one of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s most famous musicals, The Sound of Music.

A production of this classic presented by CAST, Community Actors' Studio Theatre, is underway at the McClellan Theatre in Anniston.

Director Kim Dobbs worked with the CAST Board of Directors to pick out this year's season which opened with The Sound of Music on Thursday, September 4.

"We are looking for big name musicals," said Board of Directors President and Jacksonville State University faculty member Michael Stedham. "Two years ago we did Oklahoma!, and last year was South Pacific."

The production held its auditions earlier this summer and has had a short three months to prepare. However, in their performance this past Sunday, one could not see any lack of preparation.

Sumer Buckner in the role of the main character, Maria, was a casting choice by Dobbs. Maria is a character of humor and sincerity, and Buckner was a near perfect conduit for those emotions. In the high parts of Maria's character, she gave a stunning and completely convincing performance.

The Von Trapp children were, and I rarely use this word, adorable! The two youngest children gave impressive performances given their ages and ended up competing with each other for the title of "show stealer" which is judged in terms of overblown and dramatic gestures that target older audience members with aspirations of melting their hearts.

On the other end of the family tree are the two oldest children; Friedrich (Jacob Cummings) and Liesl (Ellie Mellen), both of whom are students at JSU. Although they delivered power-house performances where it was expected of them, at times they didn't quite blend well enough into the ensemble of the other children. What college student would?

Other main characters such as Captain Georg Von Trapp, Mother Abbess and Rolf were more than exceptional. The Captain (David Rice) was a little too stiff in his movements. However, the character is a navy officer so the firmness may have been a measured effect. Also, the flaws of Rice were only apparent when sought after; it never interfered with his performance.

Mother Abbess (Jennie Wall) was superb from beginning to end. She ended both acts with a very heartfelt, inspirational solo. As a whole, the nuns were a slightly different story. In the opening numbers, the nuns' voices didn't blend as well as I had hoped to start off the musical. But by their final appearance, they had redeemed themselves in my book.

Rolf, played by Cody Harrell of JSU, was a fine casting choice to complement that of Liesl. At his first appearance on stage, Harrell seemed somewhat uncomfortable. Of course, his discomfort could be explained by a simple character profiling of a "shifty Nazi." Any discomfort in

the eyes of the audience, is washed away by waves of harmonious melodies that erupt from Harrell's vocal cords. He may be the strongest male tenor I have heard live.

The lesser characters had very few problems as well. In some cases, actions interpreted the character better than the voice and vise versa in other cases. Nonetheless, the musical received from me that which it received from the rest of the audience: a standing ovation! Between the very technical and elaborate set and the blocking of the cast, Kim Dobbs painted a stunning picture.

An attendance of this musical should be on your schedule sometime this month. The show begins at 8:00 p.m. on September 11, 13, and 18-20. On September 14 and 21, the curtain rises at 2:30 p.m.

The offer gets better. Every Thursday night is "pay what you can night." If the usual ten dollars is too much, then CAST allows you to simply make donations for Thursdays only.

Tasty treats you can't beat

By Adri Hayes
Staff Writer

Cooking can be very difficult in college especially in a residence hall when you are without a significant amount of money. The best way to remedy that is to go on a budget preferably under ten dollars.

When doing so your best bet is Wal-Mart. Now for the actual budget: although some things may look tantalizing in the store you should pick the inexpensive brands or the store brands.

There are some inexpensive name brand products like Bush Beans, Minute Ready-to-

Serve rice and Campbell's soup and Hormel sandwich meats.

Another inexpensive food I found just last weekend is single Idaho potatoes, which are great for baked and mashed potatoes. In addition to that are salads, canned olives and the smaller bottles of Kraft dressings. I have also found that instead of Top Ramen Nissin Original is much better and close to the price. And if you like drinks other than sodas, I find that juice, tea and water are great substitutes and inexpensive.

I would prefer the small bottles of Welch's juice, Crystal Springs or store brand water, and Lipton tea packs, I prefer decaffeinated.

Here are some recipes to try:

Bush Beans with Goya Seasoning with white rice:

Step 1: Cook Bush Beans.
Step 2: Cook Minute Ready to Serve white rice.
Step 3: Drain and wash beans.
Step 4: Add Goya Seasoning and water to beans.
Step 5: Serve.

Baked Potato with all the fixings:

Step 1: Bake a potato.
Step 2: Cut in half.
Step 3: Add butter, sour cream, chives, and cheese.

Wanda the Honda: My car, my rustbucket, my friend

By MARTHA IRVINE
AP National Writer

CHICAGO (AP) _ I've never considered myself materialistic. I don't like to shop. I own maybe five pairs of shoes, and would much rather spend money on an adventure, a good cause or a gift.

That said, once I find something I like, I am loyal.

A creature of habit. So this might explain my response the day I donated my trusty Honda Civic to the American Cancer Society.

I cried, OK? Embarrassing as that is, I stood in the street sobbing like a baby as the tow truck pulled away with the literally what I missed.

What I was mourning was the end of a 13-year life chapter that began when I walked into a car dealership in Bloomington, Minn., and bought a car, with no help from anyone. I probably didn't make as good a deal as I could've. But it was one of those moments in life when I knew I was really an adult.

Wanda was my responsibility and, for many years to come, my steady companion.

Among other things, she ushered me cross-country to my first job with The Associated Press, parked to the ceiling with all my worldly possessions, the largest of
Donating a car can be an emotional experience. In this story, the author, upon selling their Honda Civic to the American Cancer Society, was moved to tears. The car, affectionately named “Wanda,” was more than just a car; it was a companion and a source of pride. When Wanda was sold, the author felt a sense of loss, much like they would miss a dear friend. The author reflects on how attachments to objects can be just as strong as attachments to people, and the emotional reaction to selling Wanda highlights this sentiment.

Recipes:

**Bush Beans with Goya Seasoning with white rice:**

- **Step 1:** Open can and place Bush Beans in a microwave safe container.
- **Step 2:** Place beans in microwave for 1-2 minutes on high.
- **Step 3:** Take beans out of microwave and put into a bowl.
- **Step 4:** Add sour cream, bacon bits, and cheese (if you like cheese) onto potato and enjoy.

**Baked Potato with all the fixins:**

- **Step 1:** Take one Idaho Potato and place it in a microwave safe bowl.
- **Step 2:** Put microwave on low for six minutes.
- **Step 3:** Once microwave goes off take a metal fork and stick it in the potato. If it’s soft then it is ready.
- **Step 4:** Add sour cream, bacon bits, and cheese (if you like cheese) onto potato and enjoy.

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**Have some comments or questions to share with the staff of The Chanticleer?**

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Get on my level

JSU returns to FCS and dominates A&M

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State football team sent a message to the members of the Football Championship Series last Saturday, crushing Alabama A&M, 45-18.

Slow Start
The Gamecock offense got off to a great start on their opening possession, driving 60 yards in only four plays to take an early 7-0 lead.

Daniel Jackson capped off the drive with a 37-yard touchdown run down the sideline. Jackson had a career day on Saturday, rushing for 125 yards on 16 carries.

The pressure then fell on the A&M defense, which struggled to shut down A&M quarterback Kevin Atkins throughout the first quarter.

The Bulldogs combined for 101 yards on their first two possessions, but the JSU defense stiffened and held A&M to field goals on both drives.

The Gamecocks would add a field goal of their own to increase the lead to 10-6, but A&M would quickly take advantage of Perrilloux's only mistake of the night.

On the first play of JSU's next possession, Bulldog defensive end Jeremy Maddox came up big. Not only did Maddox sack Perrilloux, he also forced a fumble and came away with the ball, setting up A&M with great field position at the JSU 16-yard line.

Five plays later, Bulldog running back Anthony Green carried the ball into the end zone from one yard out, giving A&M their only lead of the game, 13-10.

Perrilloux struck again, this time with his legs. When his protection broke down, he saw a hole to run through and carried the ball 13 yards into the end zone.

Special teams would play a huge part in the Gamecocks' final touchdown of the half. After Perrilloux's touchdown run, Zach Walden skied a short kick towards the sideline that was recovered by JSU freshman Rod Byrd on the A&M 23-yard line.

From there, Perrilloux spread the ball around, ultimately finding Johns in the end zone on a 4-yard touchdown pass.

Perrilloux would not see any action in the second half, giving way to freshman Marquise Ivory. Still in just a half of football, he threw for 138 yards and rushed for another 45, totaling three touchdowns. For his efforts, Perrilloux earned Ohio Valley Conference Newcomer of the Week honors.

Ivory's Time to Shine
The second half started in almost the same fashion that the first ended. After A&M failed to convert a key fourth down on JSU's nine-yard line, Ivory took the field as a Gamecock for the very first time.

Ivory completed his first career pass attempt to fullback Alphonso Freeney, but JSU was forced to punt two plays later.

Walden boomed a 44-yarder that was muffed by Bulldog returner Frank Moore and recovered by JSU's Brandon Rogers on the A&M 16-yard line.

The Gamecocks would then use a series of running plays and punch the ball into the end zone on Freeney's...
Walden boomed a 44-yarder that was muffed by Bulldog returner Frank Moore and recovered by JSU’s Brandon Rogers on the A&M 16-yard line.

The Gamecocks would then use a series of running plays and punch the ball into the end zone on Freeney’s four-yard touchdown run.

JSU would add another touchdown early in the fourth quarter on a 4-yard completion from Ivory to Maurice Dupree.

The Gamecocks red zone defense was outstanding in the second half. The Bulldogs drove the ball inside JSU’s 10-yard line three times in the second half and only managed to come away with seven points late in the contest.

The Gamecocks are off this week but will return to the field September 20 to take on Chattanooga in their second road game of the year.

Letter to the Editor

I was extremely critical of JSU taking in troubled quarterback Ryan Perrilloux after his off-field issues. I even bashed the university on my own blog for the move.

Now, I realize that the only thing I was bashing was Perrilloux’s right to a second chance.

It really bothered me to read where a JSU Alum called Ryan Perrilloux a “cancer.” I’m not defending him for the choices he made in his past, but where in the rule book does it say he can’t make up for them?

The Alum went so far as to compare Perrilloux to former Gamecock quarterback Cedric Johnson when it came to his off-field issues. OK, really?

I don’t recall Perrilloux getting caught with a firearm or thrown out of campus housing while he was at LSU. His actions were never on those levels.

I don’t want to say that Perrilloux is a genius, but will surprise the Europeans at, without Tiger, Lefty and all the others who will play this year’s Ryder Cup.

I actually think that even if the guy has off-field issues? He’s a college student. We all have issues. The only difference in your issues and his are that his issues are put under

See “Swafford,” page 8
THE ARMY ADVANTAGE FUND.
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Coming a long way to run a long way

By Edisha Brown
Sports Staff Writer

JSU's cross country and track teams are bolstered by a pair of Canadians who have come to JSU and are helping to lead the team in the 2008 season.

Both Sarah Caine and Lesley Binning hold track and field records for Jacksonville State University in at least three events. Both have earned All-Ohio Valley Conference honors in the 5,000 meters and have had top-eight finishes at the OVC Championships since they were freshman.

Binning is a senior and two-time OVC scholar cross country and track athlete at JSU from Mitchell, a small town in Ontario, Canada, where she ran with a track club throughout her childhood.

She took it upon herself to make a highlight tape of her running experience that she sent to colleges in the northern United States since she did not think she was "good enough" to get recruited at a track meet based off sheer talent.

Binning found a place in the South that was warm and inviting and signed a contract scholarship with JSU.

However, the summer before her arrival was somewhat detrimental because new coaches arrived. Binning wondered how they would accept her as an incoming freshman, especially since she had suffered the first serious injury of her life, a stress fracture.

It was a big change but through new coaches, new injuries, new people and a new environment, Binning was determined to make things work.

Many college students and student-athletes can relate to the sudden change in Binning's life and the anxiety that comes along with it. But few can say they have traveled across the country to get here and have gone from spending every minute of every day with their family to seeing their family only three times a year.

Caine is a student and cross country/track athlete and a senior at Jacksonville State University. She is from the big city of Calgary in Alberta, Canada, who shares virtually the same story as Binning with a few exceptions.

Caine started off as a swimmer in high school and didn't transition to cross country/track until the month of December her senior year. She often practiced for races with a pool workout and a few strides outdoors right before the meet.

Caine had only one other person to run with in high school but a coach volunteered to sponsor the duo.

So it only made sense for Binning and Caine to be roommates because of their commonalities.

"Never lived in Jacksonville without Sarah," said Binning.

As one would imagine, the duo are now considered veterans in the game, it is only right that they have advice for those succeeding them.

"I've always had others to look up to, now others are looking up to me," Binning said. "Take care of self first, realize why you are here, respect yourself, your team, and your coaches.

"The first two weeks are shocking, but don't give up," said Caine. "I used to think I was a student without extra things to do but sticking with it is the key. It is very rewarding and I wouldn't change a thing."

As they head into their final year together, the seniors are confident that their aspirations with the Gamecocks' cross country/track team will be attained.

Volleyball downs SEC schools

By Jered Staubs
Sports Editor

The young JSU volleyball team managed two landmark wins, but Gamecock Invitational.

Brooke Schumacher, who is establishing herself as a team leader, said that it was important for the Gamecocks to focus on their own play.

Nold felt that his team made progress, but knows there will be periods of inconsistency with his young team.

"You have to train mental stamina as much as you do physical stamina."

Swafford: Talks Perrilloux

the largest microscope possible.

People expected to see Perrilloux work magic last week and knock off Georgia Tech in his first game at JSU. We were supposed to be the next

Since the Johnson debacle, JSU coach Jack Crowe's favorite word has been "accountability." If Perrilloux proves he can be the person we expect him to be, will you be accountable enough to ad-
By Jared Staubs
Sports Editor

The young JSU volleyball team managed two landmark wins, but also showed signs of inconsistency in splitting four matches last week.

Before last Tuesday, JSU (3-4) had never hosted a volleyball match with an SEC school. Now the Gamecocks have twice hosted and twice defeated SEC teams at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

JSU started the week with a thrilling five-set win over Auburn and later beat Ole Miss in four sets at the inaugural JSU Gamecock Invitational.

Brooke Schumacher, who is establishing herself as a team leader, said that it was important for the Gamecocks to focus on their own play. "The main focus was on us," Schumacher said. "We weren't worried about who we were playing, but it was exciting to play a big-time school."

Despite Rick Nold's exhortations to remain level-headed, JSU was unable to beat the lesser-known teams. Both Creighton and tournament champion UAB were able to beat the Gamecocks in straight sets.

Nold felt that his team made progress, but knows there will be periods of inconsistency with his young team. "You have to train mental stamina as much as you do physical stamina," Nold said. "It's something we talk about all through the match, trying to stay at that mental level on every point, and it's something we're going to be working on the next month or two."

And of course, the team could only have increased confidence after beating glamorous opponents. "Any time you beat an SEC team, it's obviously a big win," Nold said.

The Ball at Ryan Perrilloux

Since the Johnson debacle, JSU coach Jack Crowe's favorite word has been "accountability." If Perrilloux proves he can be the person we expect him to be, will you be accountable enough to admit that you made the mistake of judging him?

Everyone makes mistakes. Why can't Ryan make up for his like everyone else can? When looking at Perrilloux's past as a negative and start looking at his future as a positive.

---Patrick Swafford

Staub: trying to fill space with ramblings

Continued from page 7

people who don't watch golf can't stand that guy.
David Wright remains on the cut list. Yahoo! Clearly has this confused with the cut list.

Why does no one appreciate the brilliance of Depeche Mode?
I've liked said band for years and only recently learned what depeche means -- it's a Dutch word meaning communication ... I've got to start using that in everyday conversations.

When I first heard of the Cherry Poppin' Daddies, I was too young to understand their name, but I thought it was awesome. Then I forgot about them because they only had one hit. But seeing their name on Sirius and grasping the meaning of it ...

Shawn Johnson saying she likes her taco to pop on the Ortega commercial that is circulating the Internet is one of the most disturbing things I've seen in my life. Where are this girl's parents?

Should I dissociate myself from my buddy Guard, who thinks having Shawn Johnson as his computer desktop is acceptable behavior for a 22-year-old?
I would never hit a woman, but the mothers on "The Youngest Away Queen" or whatever that stupid show on VH1 is called all deserve to be slapped. Or to have their children put in the care of a competent mother. Britany Spears watches this show and is appalled.

I think everyone considers Queen a top ten all-time band if not for Freddie Mercury's sexual orientation and premature demise. Just looking at the catalog of their work, it's pretty staggering. You forget so much. I mean, "I'm in Love With My Car" is about my 30th favorite song by Queen, and I still turn up the volume every time I hear it.

Bands can emulate the Beatles, Zeppelin, The Who, AC/DC, Nirvana, but there's never been a band that I've thought for even a brief second, "Wow, they remind me of Queen."
Pink Floyd is the only other relevant band that maybe falls in this category. No, the Widespread Panic and Phish of the world don't come close.

If you have a Phish bumper sticker, a Jesus fish, one of those Darwin knockoffs of the Jesus fish, or anything on your vehicle that has anything to do with fish, you pretty much suck at driving. I defy anyone to point me in the direction of someone who is an exception to this theory.

A girl I was dating — despite being fishless/Phishless — nearly drove into oncoming traffic earlier this year as we passed, no lie, a South Park Elementary School. Not because she was distracted and amused by the sign, as I was, but because she was incapable of ignoring an incoming text message.

I'm very anti-text messaging, anti-voicemail and anti-Myspace/Facebook. Clearly I am an honest. I just included that last example, three years ago I predicted that Lorena Bobbit's ex-husband went on to star in "Clodck" by Coldplay and "Biad" by a girl I was hitting.

And of course, the team could only have increased confidence after beating glamorous opponents. "Any time you beat an SEC team, it's obviously a big win," Nold said.

THURSDAY THUMBS

The defensive coaching staff — Had a tough task transitioning from the triple option to the spread attack A&M presented. And JSU struggled early, but adjustments were made, and the defense started to impress.

The JSU running game — Every single player I talked to — as well as Jack Crowe — in the days leading up to the game talked to me about how important it was for JSU to establish a running game. Mission accomplished.

JSU soccer — Only lost 3-0 to Alabama and 4-0 to Arkansas. I've got to be honest, I was expecting at least 10-0 in both games.

The Southerners — For not caring what anyone thinks. I love the "Whatever, I do what I want" attitude. You think they're promoting communism? You think they should play more than a song or two? Whatever, whatever.

J Stab — For not making the "They should change the expression 'slower than Christmas' to slower than Daniel Jackson" joke after the Georgia Tech game. "Jack (edit that name should be reserved for fantasy football sleeper DeSean Jackson) Jackson was the best player on the field Saturday.

The 16 thousand how ever many were in the stadium — The enthusiasm was nice, but it seems 90 percent of the crowd didn't know when to get into the game. It was like going to an Aerosmith concert and no one knowing the words to "Sweet Emotion." To be fair, this wasn't helped by the band playing at all the wrong times.

Whoevers fault it is that we aren't getting paid for August until October — That seems fair. Pretty standard for JSU though. Although, on the list of reasons why I'm transferring at the end of the semester, this doesn't crack the top ten.

The Gamecock Invitational — Definitely cracks the top ten.

J Stab — For grasping at straws trying to come up with thumbs down after what was a commanding performance by the football team. Although, remember, I've been working pro bono.

Webb Dillard — For giving me the name J Stab. I hate that I like it. And for passing out during August Fest.