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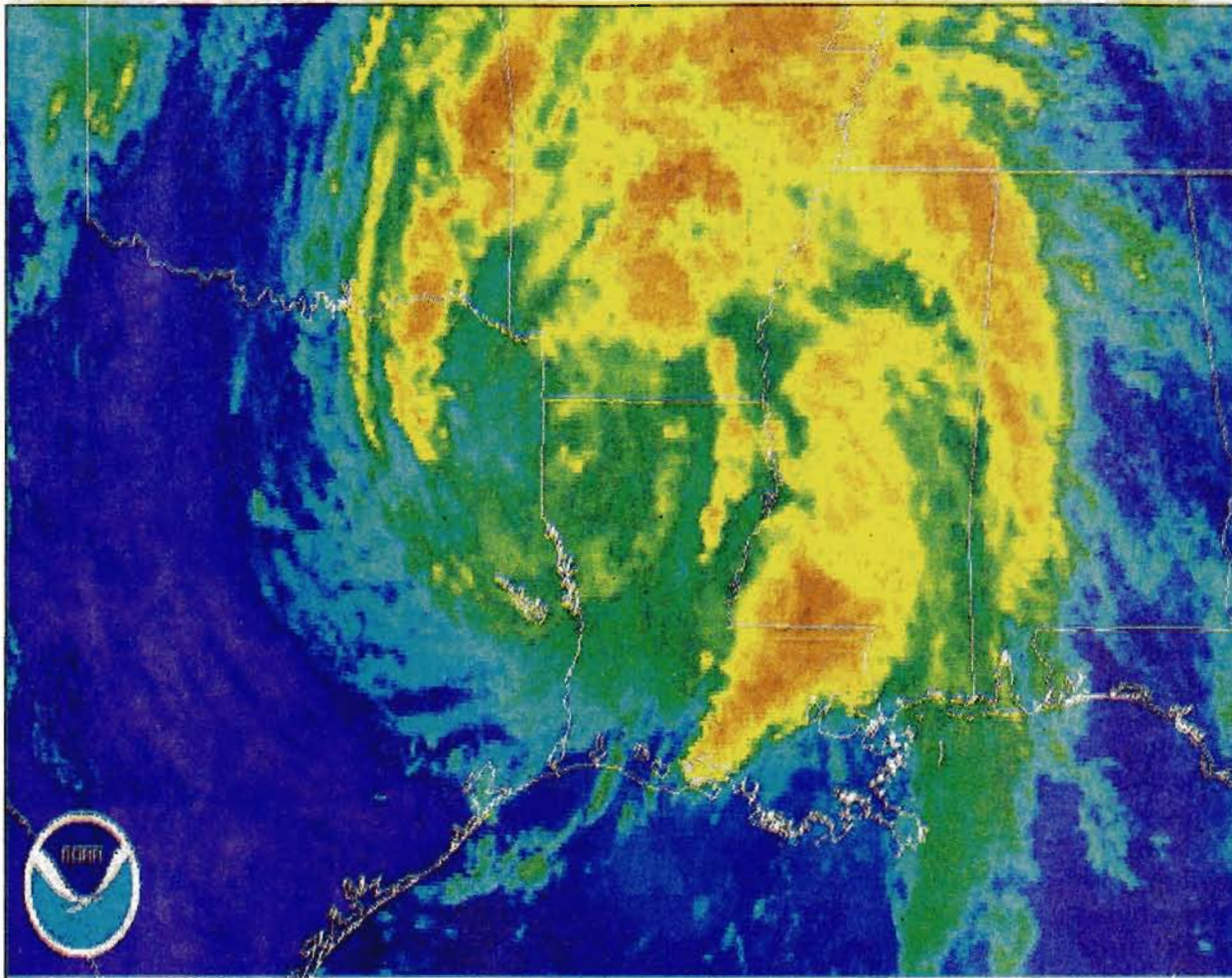
The Chanticleer

"Read every week by
America's Treasure
Maya Angelou"

Volume 57, Issue 2

The Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

September 4, 2008



Hurricane Gustav made landfall on Monday, sending thousands of people northward to escape the wrath of the storm. Image courtesy of NOAA

Shelter from the storm

Local churches, businesses and
residents take in evacuees

By Zach Childree
Editor in Chief

As Hurricane Gustav made landfall this week, evacuees from the New Orleans area made their way northward to escape the storm. Area hotels are feeling the effects as people search for places to take refuge.

Sharon Thomas, a front desk clerk at the Country Inn and Suites in Oxford said her hotel was full.

"We were very busy this weekend," Thomas said. "We're sold out, we had to turn people away at one point."

Thomas said that hotels are booked as far away as Birmingham and Atlanta.

Thomas couldn't say how many

people were evacuating from the storm.

"I'm not sure of exact numbers," Thomas said. "It's a lot though."

Danny Lee, General Manager of Hampton Inn and Suites in Oxford, said his hotel was full. "I would say [evacuees] make up about 40% of our guests today," Lee said. "Sunday and Monday it was more like 70%"

Lee said his hotel was dedicated to helping those in need. "We're offering discounts for evacuees who are facing financial hardships," Lee said. "We also donated linens to Camp Lee for the 40 families who are staying there."

Hotels aren't the only ones housing evacuees. Ted Embry of Grace Baptist Church said

See "Refuge," page 3

Physical Plant keeps JSU working

By Elania Garrett
Staff Writer

It is the end of the day. You have just finished your last class and you can't wait to get home. You get to your car only to find that you've left your lights on and your battery is dead. You need someone to jump-start your vehicle, and there isn't a familiar face in sight. Who would be willing to help you?

The employees at Jacksonville State University

cal Plant is responsible for the repair and maintenance of campus facilities. It is composed of several technical and skills shops that offer landscaping, carpentry, custodial services and various other things.

The physical plant consists of over 150 employees whose duties include everything from changing light bulbs to street marking to overseeing the construction of a 35 million dollar stadium.

JSU Physical Plant is

halls of the campus are all compliments of the physical plant.

Mr. David Thompson, assistant director of the JSU physical plant, has been working with the plant for almost six years. He says that it's been a very rewarding experience for him.

"Working at the plant is sometimes very busy and at times unpredictable," Thompson said. "The most challenging time of the year is the first semester because of



one to jump-start your vehicle, and there isn't a familiar face in sight. Who would be willing to help you?

The employees at Jacksonville State University Physical Plant would be glad to help you. The JSU Physical Plant is no longer the steam plant that heated the entire University decades ago. The Physi-

ees whose duties include everything from changing light bulbs to street marking to overseeing the construction of a 35 million dollar stadium.

JSU Physical Plant is the primary source of service for the entire campus. The beautifully landscaped grounds, the cool air-conditioned classrooms and the brightly lit

working at the plant is sometimes very busy and at times unpredictable," Thompson said. "The most challenging time of the year is the first semester because of the new students and new faculty who are unfamiliar with the operation of the campus."

Whether you are un-
See "Physical Plant," page 3



JSU employee Lee Swenson mows the lawn in front of Bibb Graves. Landscaping is just one of the many jobs that physical plant employees do every day. Photo by Mandy Pearson / The Chanticleer

SGA dives into semester

By Natalie Dempster
Special to the Chanticleer

Chlorine and laughter permeated the air in the lobby of Pete Matthews Coliseum Tuesday afternoon, in lieu of the Student Government Association's Pool Party hosted by Student Activities Vice President, Jacolby Parks. Parks handed out flyers and posted bulletins in the Theron Montgomery Building for the event and was pleased by the turn out.

"We used to do cook-offs, but this year I wanted to try something a little different," Sparks said. "So far it's been great. Everyone has really high energy and is having a great time!"

SGA President Jennifer Nix said the student participation was surprising for a first-time event and she was happy with the turn out.

"I think it would be re-

ally great idea to put this on again," said Nix. "I think next time we'll have refreshments, maybe pizza or something. A lot of the freshmen didn't know where the Coliseum was so it was a really good turn out considering."

There was a big draw at one end of the pool as many students showed off their acrobatic skills on the diving board. One student did a summersault mid-air that seemed to defy the laws of physics.

Preston Walker, a first-year grad student, and member of Omega Psi Phi, got in on the fun as well.

"I really love watching the competitive diving," Walker said. "Everyone's here to have a good time, and it's great to attend an event that isn't centered around partying."

Walker added that he

See "Pool," page 3

JSU to implement new emergency alert system

By Jalon Turner
Senior Staff Writer

Chief Shawn Giddy and the Jacksonville State University Police want your phone number. They don't want it for solicitation or for any of those other "Big Brother" agendas to watch you, but actually to help in case of emergency.

The University Police have a new electronic system to alert you in case of emergencies, such as bad weather or other tragic events like those that have taken place on campuses such as Virginia Tech.

The Virginia Tech massacre of 32 students occurred on two different attacks, and the second attack may have been prevented with a system like this.

The new system, which has been in the works for over a year, has finally reached its day with a campus-wide test going out Tuesday, September 9th, at 12 p.m.

To register for the emergency alert system, follow these easy steps:

- Sign into your "My JSU" account.
- Click on the "Self Service Banner" link on the right.
- Click on the "Personal Information" link.
- Click on the "Update Addresses and Phone Number" link.
- Click current.
- Then type in the date, click phone type and put cell, add your number
- Check unlisted and click submit.

When you answer the phone, you will push the number two to alert the system that you have received the message. If your voice-mail picks up or you hang up on the system, that also will alert the system of your action. Either way it will be noted that you were contacted. If you do not receive a notification at noon on Tuesday September 9th, contact

the university police.

"Put the number you want to be reached at. I don't want to bother people who live in Birmingham or those who take day classes and aren't here in the evening," Giddy said.

Giddy also said that he would like to build another list of off-campus students, so if you live off campus you won't be notified.

"Were trying to do this by working with the people at the university to try and fix it where we can incorporate students who stay off campus but in Jacksonville, by adding another tab," Giddy said.

The message is a pre-recorded automated text that will alert you by telling you what the warning is such as saying "Tornado warning take shelter." It will alert you to anything that can be life-threatening.

"If there is a tornado, but it is not likely to hit Jacksonville, it will not call you." Giddy explained.

Dr. Meehan appointed a committee to look into this idea that has become popular at other campuses. The committee evaluated different companies and put out bids; they decided on the Schoolcast Company out of Birmingham.

Jacksonville has learned from other schools the pros and cons of the system. They don't want to harass students with insignificant messages, just the ones that are life threatening.

Jacksonville State University is the first university in the state to be accredited as storm-ready, which includes having weather radios in all of the dormitories.

Chief Giddy encouraged all students and faculty to register for this alert system. If you have problems or can't figure out how to register, call the campus police or stop by for details. This could be the difference between life and death.

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Securing Campus

JSU adds security cameras around campus to ensure safety.

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Sarah Palin

Editor Zach Childree takes fellow liberals to task for rampant sexism.

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2008 Football Preview

Check out our special section on the 2008 football season, including the '08 roster and football schedule.

Page 5

QUESTION of the WEEK

How do you feel about security cameras on campus?

- I feel safer 53%
- It's too much like "Big Brother" 33%
- I don't care either way 14%



Next week's question:

What recent televised events did you watch the most?

ONLINE @ thechanticleeronline.com

ON Campus

Briefs

JSU featured on ESPN

JSU quarterback Ryan Perrilloux appeared on the ESPN program "Outside the Lines" last Sunday. The segment is available in its entirety at www.jsugamecocksports.com.

Announcements

The David L. Walters Department of Music will present a faculty voice recital featuring Dr. Patricia Corbin, mezzo soprano, accompanied on the piano by Dr. Gail Steward, in the Mason Hall Performance Center. The recital will be held September 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Campus Crime

Monday, August 26, 2008

Abby Lynn Showers reported a theft of property at Pete Mathews Coliseum. Stolen was a blue Wachovia credit card, a Starbucks gift card valued at \$1.50, an American Express gift card valued at \$3.75 and an assortment of bills valued at \$120.00.

Kristina Maria Ward reported harassing communications at Fitzpatrick Hall.

Monday, September 1

Lisa Marie Triplett reported a theft of property in Sparkman Hall. Stolen was \$45.00 in cash and a chase credit card.

What's Happening

Thursday, September 4

- SGA Foam Party, Gamecock Field, 7:00 p.m.

Cameras on campus bring to light security, privacy issues

By Julie Skinner
News Editor

Since the deadly shooting at Virginia Tech in April of 2007, campuses across the nation have mourned and realized what can happen in the span of just one day.

A day that began just as any day, but with the motives of a single gunman, left a macabre ending to that seemingly normal day.

Jacksonville State University hopes to soon install security cameras across campus to let students and faculty feel more at ease not just when it comes to heinous crimes such as the Virginia Tech shooting, but for more common crimes around campus such as those involving theft.

Brooke Bell, assistant director for the department of university housing and residence life, says that the shooting at Virginia Tech played a role in the talk of installing security cameras throughout campus.

"In light of the tragedy at Virginia Tech, JSU has placed a high priority on safety," Belle said. "I don't know of one person specifically who proposed the idea of installing security cameras, as it was

a joint effort to increase safety measures for our students."

Crime statistics on JSU's University Police Department's website list burglary as being the most common offense for years 2005, 2006 and 2007. For actual arrests, liquor and drug law violations win by a landslide.

University Police Department Chief Shawn Giddy describes many of the crimes around campus as those of "opportunity". Crimes, for example, where students leave car windows half down and items in the front seat, giving thieves easy access to valuable belongings.

"The more cameras, the better," Giddy said. "I like as many things as I can have that will provide information to assist me in doing my job better."

Where it stands, the cameras will be placed in the entrances and exits of all residence halls, in academic buildings and in parking lots. An official date to begin installing the cameras has yet to be released, as well as what company will supply the security equipment.

Giddy also hopes to have security cameras in patrol cars around campus, and thinks that with cameras in parking

lots and intersections, many student disputes over wrecks can be solved easier.

"It's hard to sit and look at a picture and see yourself doing something," Giddy said. "People think about that and that's a deterrent in itself."

According to John-Bauer Graham, dean of library services, the plan he is aware of includes placing cameras in the residence halls first and then in academic buildings. The library, though subject to change, is proposed to be the first academic building to receive security cameras.

"From the library standpoint, it makes sense that they start with this building as an academic building," Graham said. "We are open later and open to the general public as well."

Graham says the library would welcome the cameras, but that the cameras would not record what book a student is checking out or reading.

"Basically, we're talking of covering the doors of this building and monitoring who is coming in and out," Graham said.

He also says that most of the crimes that occur at the library are toward the end of the semester when

unattended items, such as bookbags, laptops and cellphones are stolen.

"Within a book bag, a lot of students carry their life," Graham said. "One book bag could mean everything. Every bit of a student's life that semester is gone because they just happened to leave it unattended."

The library's Service Quality Group hopes to start a system that will leave friendly reminders to students who expose themselves to being possible victims of theft. This system, that Graham unofficially refers to as the "Gotcha Program," will have librarians leave flyers near unattended belongings to remind students of the possibility of their valuables being stolen. They also hope to deter thieves with this program.

With the possibility of security cameras being in the near future at JSU, Bell thinks students as a whole will feel more protected.

"I cannot speak for each student," Bell said. "But if I were a student, I would feel safer on campus knowing there's an added measure of security that the university is providing."

**Important
message for
students**

FINANCIAL AID TUESDAYS

What's Happening

Thursday, September 4

- SGA Foam Party, Gamecock Field, 3:00 p.m.

Friday, September 5

- All Sports Pep Rally & Mixer, Paul Snow Stadium, 7:00 p.m., Leone Cole Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 6

- JSU Football, JSU vs. Alabama A&M Tailgate, Paul Snow Stadium, 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 8

- SGA Student Senate Meeting, TMB Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.
- SGA Traffic Court, Office of Student Life - Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.

Oops LOL

- On the front page of last week's issue the results for the Question of the week added up to 116%. The total for the answer "I'm conflicted on the issue" should have read 8%.

The Chanticleer regrets this error and apologizes to anyone who was affected.

What if page two of *The Chanticleer* looked like this?

~~Rutgers basketball team under gag order~~

While hoping that the furor caused over remarks made by [redacted] dies down, [redacted] have come under fire again, this time for [redacted].

The American Association of University Professors has criticized the Rutgers administration for [redacted].

with reporters at *The Daily Targum*, the campus newspaper.

"We condemn the attempt to stifle the free speech of the members of the Rutgers men's basketball team," [redacted].

[redacted] other must not be curtailed simply

because they are [redacted]. Two days after student protesters demanding the resignation of [redacted] halted the Scarlet Knights' game against the University of Massachusetts, guard Damon Santiago told a *Targum* reporter that he thought [redacted].

Senior forward Jamal Philips told a reporter that [redacted]. [redacted] he said.

The next day, head coach Bob Wenzel asked team members not to discuss the issue with reporters.

[redacted]

where or when the game would be replayed yet, and we didn't want to jeopardize any possible decision by [redacted].

Since the Feb. 7 basketball game [redacted], in which 150 students flooded onto the court, [redacted] has issued a warning to students that they may face punishment if they interfere with [redacted]. "The forum has been used to make a point, and no further disruptions will be tolerated," [redacted].

In late January, the AAUP released a [redacted] of a [redacted] made by [redacted] in November in which he said [redacted].

[redacted] has since apologized for the remarks.

Important message for students

From JSU News wire

The late registration fee scheduled to be charged to students registering August 28 and later will not be charged until Tuesday, September 2, 2008.

Also, students who have not met their financial obligation to the institution by 4:30 pm Sept 4th will have ALL their classes canceled/voided. Students are encouraged to monitor their account balance on-line regularly prior to this date to ensure an unpaid balance does not result in classes being voided/canceled. View charges and payments at MyJSU by clicking "Pay Bill. Payment in full or financial aid must be in order by 4:30 pm Thursday, Sept. 4th in order to retain classes.

Any questions should be directed to the Bursar's Office, ext. 5458.

Remember, the First Amendment is more than our right to print.

It's your right to read, too.

FINANCIAL AID TUESDAYS

STUDENTS GET FULL MEALS EVERY TUESDAY FOR \$4.49

– COUNTRY STYLE FISH DINNER –

– 2PC BATTER DIPPED FISH DINNER –

– BITE-SIZE SHRIMP DINNER –

– 8PC PREMIUM SHRIMP DINNER –

– SHRIMP & MORE –

– CLAM DINNER –

– SEAFOOD STUFFED CRAB –

– FISH & CHICKEN DINNER –

– BAKED FISH DINNER –

– 3PC FISH AND CHIPS –

INCLUDES CHOICE OF 2 HOME-STYLE SIDES, HUSH PUPPIES & 16 OZ. DRINK

TO QUALIFY FOR THE CAPTAIN D'S FINANCIAL AID PLAN, PLEASE PRESENT YOUR STUDENT I.D. WHEN YOU ORDER.



Eat Upstream.

Southerners' show creates controversy

By Haley Gregg
Senior Writer

On August 28 the Jacksonville State University Marching Southerners Band put on a brief but controversial show at JSU's first football game against the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. Little did they know that their performance would cause an uproar among some Georgia Tech fans, JSU alumni and students.

The Marching Southerners show is entitled "From Russia with Love." The performance features works from famous Russian composers.

The controversy erupted over a symbol that was featured on the Colorguard's uniforms and flags.

The Hammer and Sickle is a part of

Communist symbolism and its usage indicates an association with Communism. It was featured prominently on outfits worn by the JSU Colorgaurd.

Ken Bodiford, band director at JSU, received emails of complaint from JSU alumni about the usage of the symbol in the show.

One email, from an unrevealed source, was posted by Bodiford, with his reply on marchingsoutherners.org.

The email claimed that a true Southerner would never bear the symbol of the former Soviet Union and that it was a slap in the face to the Southern tradition and the values that we hold dear in the South.

Bodiford's reply talked about how everything had been taken out of context, that their musical consists of all Russian

composers, and that the hammer and sickle was featured on the Soviet Union's flag during that time period. Their hope was that the audience would make that connection with the flags at the end of the show.

"Personally, I think when some people notice that something is successful they will try to find anything to tear it down," said Aaron Garland, a senior Marching Southerner trombone player. "Because of ignorance, we cannot incorporate the kind of artistry we always do in our shows."

This topic has been discussed through emails, forums, discussion boards and even Facebook.

Bodiford and other head personnel of the Southerners have decided to remove the hammer and sickle from the production entirely, according to Corey Newton,

Southerners senior head drum major.

"We are trying to fix it, and be classy. We want to please everybody," said Ryan Morris, freshman color guard for the Southerners.

The Southerners have endured some harsh comments about this part of their show and have even been accused of supporting Communism. "The irony of the complaints is that Shostakovich, one of the composers used at the end of the show, was extremely against communism. The triumphant ending of his fifth symphony is meant to celebrate the fall of communism that he hoped would come," Newton said.

Some Southerners seem to think the recent affairs between Russia and Georgia brought more attention to the show than what it originally would have received.



Pool: Nix pleasantly surprised by student participation at pool party

would definitely be coming back next year.

Freshman Ashley Barnes, who plans to major in Communications, is glad she attended the event.

"I didn't know there was a pool on campus until earlier today," Barnes said. "I wasn't going to go at first, but I'm really glad I did. I've met some new people, and got to go swimming for the first time all summer."

Barnes said she would be bringing everyone she knows the next time the SGA puts on a pool party.

Events to welcome the incoming freshmen will continue as the week goes on. Parks is looking forward to the Foam

Party held at Gamecock field Thursday Night at six o'clock.

"The foam pit will be about as big as the TMB floor," Parks said. "It will be a great way for freshmen and other students to get to know each other and dance, or just chill out."

Friday night the SGA will host the annual All Sports Pep Rally and Mixer, and Saturday there will be a tailgate party at 4p.m. with free pizza.

"I really feel welcomed by JSU," Barnes said. I was really scared about coming to college, but these kind of get-togethers really help calm my nerves. I'm glad people actually care enough to do this."

Left: Students enjoy the indoor pool at Pete Mathews Coliseum during the SGA pool party. Photo by Natalie Dempster / The Chanticleer

Physical Plant: helping students out when needed

familiar with your surroundings, or simply having an unlucky day, the employees have no problem helping you resolve your issue.

No problem or request is too absurd. Believe it or not, a large number of cell phones have found their final resting place in toilet

University are patient, understanding and have good attitudes," Thompson said. "We are the customer-service part of the campus. I do feel that the students appreciate the work we do."

Any time that you walk across the freshly cut grass on the quad or step inside

**Can you write?
Want to learn how?
Call us at 782-5701 and
see your name in print**

have no problem helping you resolve your issue.

No problem or request is too absurd. Believe it or not, a large number of cell phones have found their final resting place in toilet bowls all through out the campus. When asked if he feels the students and faculty of the university appreciate the labor of the physical plant, he replies affirmatively.

"The most enjoyable part of my job is the people. The people of Jacksonville State

"We are the customer-service part of the campus. I do feel that the students appreciate the work we do."

Any time that you walk across the freshly cut grass on the quad or step inside the heated buildings during the winter, keep in mind that the physical plant is what keeps it all running smoothly. They play a major role in making sure that JSU truly is right for you by providing you with the services that you need the most during your experience in college.

Refuge: Hotels offering discounts to those in need

120 people have sought shelter at the church. "There was a lighted sign off of exit 185 directing people to shelters around town," Embry said. "We also informed law enforcement and the Department of Human Resources of the shelter." Embry said the church has also been providing meals to people in hotels nearby.

Gladys Denizard, a local nurse, is housing some of her friends who escaped the storm. "It was quite a drive for them to get here," Denizard said. "They left New Orleans at noon on Saturday and didn't get here till 7 a.m. on Sunday. The traffic was in gridlock."

Denizard said her friends haven't been told when they will be allowed back home. "We've been told they will be able to return to their homes in the next few days," Denizard said.

Steve Ballas and his wife Dianne, who live just north of lake Pontchartrain,

are staying at the University Inn in Jacksonville to escape the storm.

"[Evacuating] was the prudent thing to do," Ballas said. "We're not so much concerned with the flooding where we

live, but the trees."

Ballas said 3 years ago, during hurricane Katrina, he lost 9 trees. "One tree fell about 3 feet from the house," Ballas said.

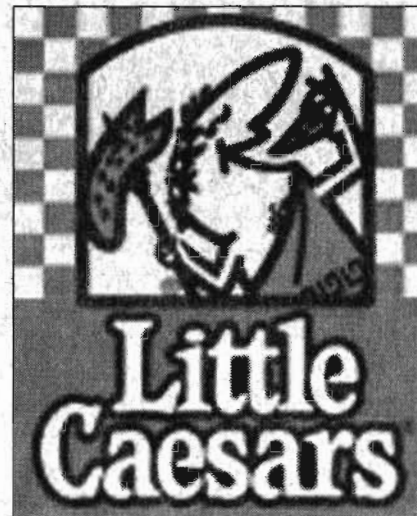
A family member discovered the tree while inspecting the property. "He told me 'you either need to go to church or the casino,'" Ballas said.

Ballas said he hasn't been able to get any news about damage to his property. "We haven't been able to make direct contact with anyone," Ballas said. "Cell phone and hard line systems are down, but I brought my laptop and I've been checking my Parish website for any information."

Embry said people at the church shelter were told they could possibly return home on Thursday or Friday, but many people aren't sure what they have to come home to. "The fear of the unknown is a strong fear in itself," Embry said.

Ballas said he wasn't sure how long he would be staying in Jacksonville. "I'm here with my in-laws and my dog in tow," Ballas said. "But it's been a very positive experience. It's just like being at home."

Call us at 704-5701 and see your name in print



STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY

NOON - 10 p.m.

**Large Cheese Pizza
or Pepperoni Pizza**

\$4.00 plus tax

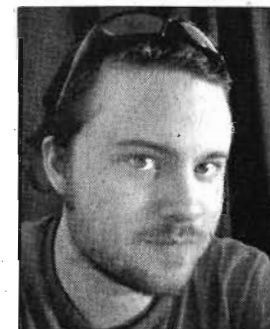
**Requirements: Student ID/Staff ID
Limit 2 per ID**

NO NEED TO CALL AHEAD!

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www.thechanticleeronline.com



Clark Barron

On The Verge

It's extremely difficult to give meaning to the title of my column, *On the Verge*. One could say that we are all "on the verge." On the verge of what, however, seems to be the question that drives this journalist. As all of us are seemingly at the same point in our lives, we could all claim that we all are on the brink of several things: success, happiness and even sometimes madness.

It all comes into view when we realize that no matter what we do, there will always be something to distract us from what our main goal is while we are here.

We seem to think that this particular juncture in time that is our college career is just another way of learning what it is that we are really supposed to do in the real world. The reality, however, is just that. This actually is the real world. There are those here that completely support themselves, those that have their parents pay for everything, and of course those that cheat, beg, borrow and steal anything they can just to get by. Who knows which category the majority of us fit into, but the point is that at this time in our lives, we have no idea where to look for help and advice. Thrown to the wolves, if you will, we find nothing but unanswered questions and endless nights of deceit and despair where we often look to the sky, wondering if the answers we seek will ever come.

Sexism has no place in criticism of Palin

Last week Republican presidential candidate John McCain announced his pick for Vice President, Alaska Governor Sarah Palin.

I had the same reaction to Palin as most people: "Who the #%!* is Sarah Palin?"

The move is being called a cheap political ploy by talking heads on network television, and they may be right. The blogosphere has been set ablaze with people investigating Palin's background.

First, there was the rumor that Palin's infant son was actually her grandson, and now the admission

by Palin that her oldest daughter is 5 months pregnant by a young man who isn't her husband.

Scandal!

The thing is, it shouldn't be.

So far, most of the criticism of Palin has been about her gender, who is actually her baby's mama and even snide jokes about her beauty queen past. This has to stop.

Now before you crown me the next Fox News anchor, let me assure you, I am no fan of McCain or



Zach Childree

chantyeditor@gmail.com

Palin. That being said, I think that criticism of Palin can come from a variety of places that have nothing to do with her gender.

Palin's pick as VP may have cost McCain more votes than it bought him.

Palin has even less experience than Obama when it comes to foreign policy, so McCain

can't play that card anymore. Palin is a darling of the religious right as an anti-choice candidate when a

majority of Americans think abortion should remain legal.

All of these are legitimate arguments against Palin and they should be made. Arguments that focus on what's going on (or went on) between her legs should not even see the light of day. Liberals are supposed to be the ones who fight sexism and promote equality. We're supposed to be above disgusting comments about her looks and her sexuality.

Leave arguments that demean Palin as a woman in the trash where they belong.

be right. The blogosphere has been set ablaze with people investigating Palin's background.

First, there was the rumor that Palin's infant son was actually her grandson, and now the admission

her beauty queen past. This has to stop.

Now before you crown me the next Fox News anchor, let me assure you, I am no fan of McCain or

when it comes to foreign policy, so McCain can't play that card anymore. Palin is a darling of the religious right as an anti-choice candidate when a

gusting comments about her looks and her sexuality.

Leave arguments that demean Palin as a woman in the trash where they belong.

Technology shouldn't replace etiquette

By Aurelia Gooden
Staff Writer

Modern technological advances have simplified or perhaps, eliminated even the most basic tasks. Creativity has given us an abundant supply of appliances, electronics, machines, etc. that bombard us with the tempting option of merely executing a task and walking away – no cleaning up, no double checking, and most importantly, no responsibility. Yet, as a society, we are incapable of being pleased. As we continue to receive, we continue to want. Our appetite is insatiable. However, it is this crude voraciousness that will cause the bricks of our modern society to topple.

At this rate, we are fighting a losing battle.

There is something wrong with society when it is commonplace to enter a technologically-advanced restroom and find dwindling

unmentionables amidst a pungent odor. Usually, in these cases, the fugitive who stands convicted of leaving his or her mark behind was too lazy to make sure that the porcelain robot disposed of the not-so-secret evidence. It only takes a few seconds to make the world a better place; nevertheless, we are too lazy to finish even the minor tasks that our machines expect us to complete.

We should be ashamed. If we are not, then the task at hand is larger than we'll ever be.

There is something wrong with us when we allow innovations to make our decisions. For instance, many parents allow digital televisions to decide which shows their children should watch. Parents may read a list of categories of ratings and choose which types of shows to block or allow to be viewed. From a very shallow point of view, there is nothing wrong with this practice. However, from a

more subjective view, ratings are based upon standard values. Ethics vary from home to home. Therefore, the only foolproof method for keeping children safe is to screen shows by watching them rather than selecting to block shows based upon pre-selected ratings.

Nonetheless, most people already know this and most people know what they are supposed to do when the toilets forget to flush.

Laziness is getting the best of us. We are substantially late to our appointment with diligence.

Undoubtedly, technological innovations have made life simpler than could ever be predicted. Nevertheless, there are some human characteristics that cannot be replicated. We must not let our longing for simplicity destroy our dignity, humanity, integrity, and our ability to distinguish right and wrong.

Letters to the Editor

Headline misled about University's relationship with Coca-Cola

I would like to respond to the headline in last week's Chanticleer of "JSU Kicks Coca-Cola to the Curb". This headline was very misleading and gives the impression of dissatisfaction with a company who has been a strong partner to JSU for many years.

JSU's relationship with the Coca-Cola Company was positive for a long time, and they were supportive of our University in many ways other than just financially. The decision to change was a difficult one for JSU because of this

strong relationship, but was made based on the best interest to the University in the coming years and not because of any service or product issues in the past.

As a State-funded institution, JSU is required by law to make all our auxiliary services available by bid. These bids are thoroughly evaluated to determine which would be the best decision for the university based on many factors, including financial impact. The bids in this case were extremely close, and after extended evalu-

ation it was determined that the offer from Pepsi would be more beneficial to the University in the long run. It should be noted that Coke wanted to stay on campus and made a very competitive bid, but the bottom line fell just short of its competitor. During this time of shrinking state appropriations and increasing tuition, it is important for JSU to maximize its revenue from other sources, and this process is evidence of our efforts to do that.

Parting with Coke was strictly

a business decision, and they understood that. Our transition had been professional and very amicable with everyone involved, but this headline cast a poor shadow over the process. No one was "kicked to the curb," and as we look forward to a strong relationship with Pepsi, we should also be thankful and respect our past relationship with Coke.

Joe Whitmore
Director, Institutional
Support Services

lives, we have no idea where to look for help and advice. Thrown to the wolves, if you will, we find nothing but unanswered questions and endless nights of deceit and despair where we often look to the sky, wondering if the answers we seek will ever come.

However, if they do ever come, will we even know what the question was to begin with?

That is where we come to the point of what being "on the verge" actually means. Often, it comes to mind that maybe we are all absolutely crazy. Are we? Sometimes, we see that no matter what is happening in our lives, there is something that we can all remember as fact; the average college student is more than likely on the verge of madness.

With so many studies being done relating stress and college students, it becomes apparent that there is something out there that is driving us crazy. For instance, a study at Cambridge University shows that the majority of college students will stress more over a final exam than the death of a close relative. Often I think, "Can this possibly be true?" Then, I think to times where I have either experienced such an occurrence or felt it through someone close to me, perhaps through a friend. While the results in this study are obviously fact, what else can we attribute to stress while in college?

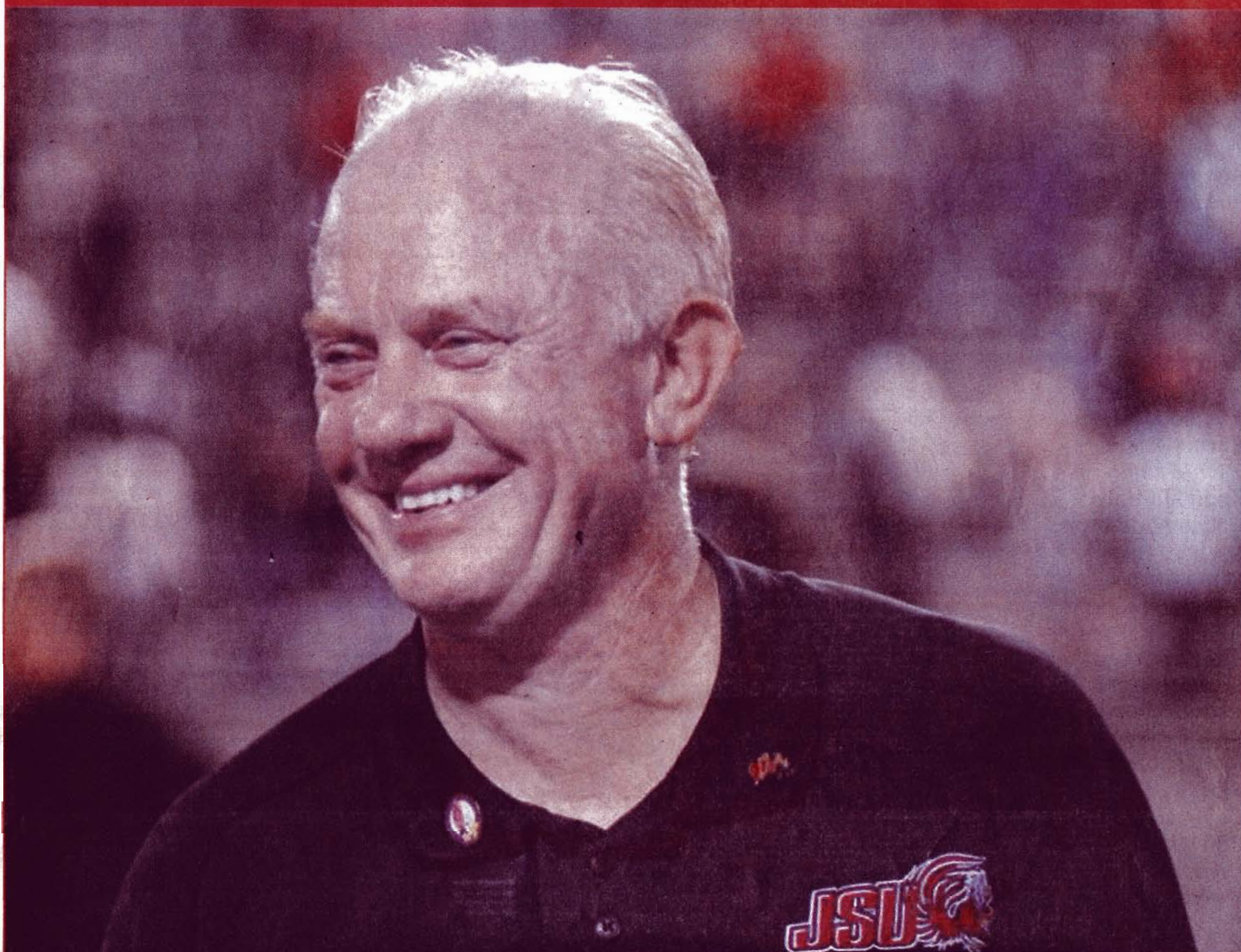
Through these unholy times we are going through in college, we must remember to stay the course. There are so many things that are working against us: money, depression, grades, war and America's seemingly crumbling economy. The list goes on forever. Again, one must remember to stay focused. We are here for several reasons, but the end result that is the object of our existence here, stays the same. Do not let the forces that are against us prevail. You have the power to control the light at the end of the tunnel. Remember, there is a war going on for your mind. If you are thinking, you are winning.

In regards to perhaps the only advice one struggling journalist can offer, I reference a paraphrased statement by Hunter S. Thompson, "Walk tall, kick ass, love music and never forget that you come from a long line of truth seekers, lovers, and warriors."

Mahalo.

Have some comments or questions
to share with the staff of
The Chanticleer?
Comment Online
<http://www.thechanticleeronline.com>

Gamecock Football Preview





Rolling the dice

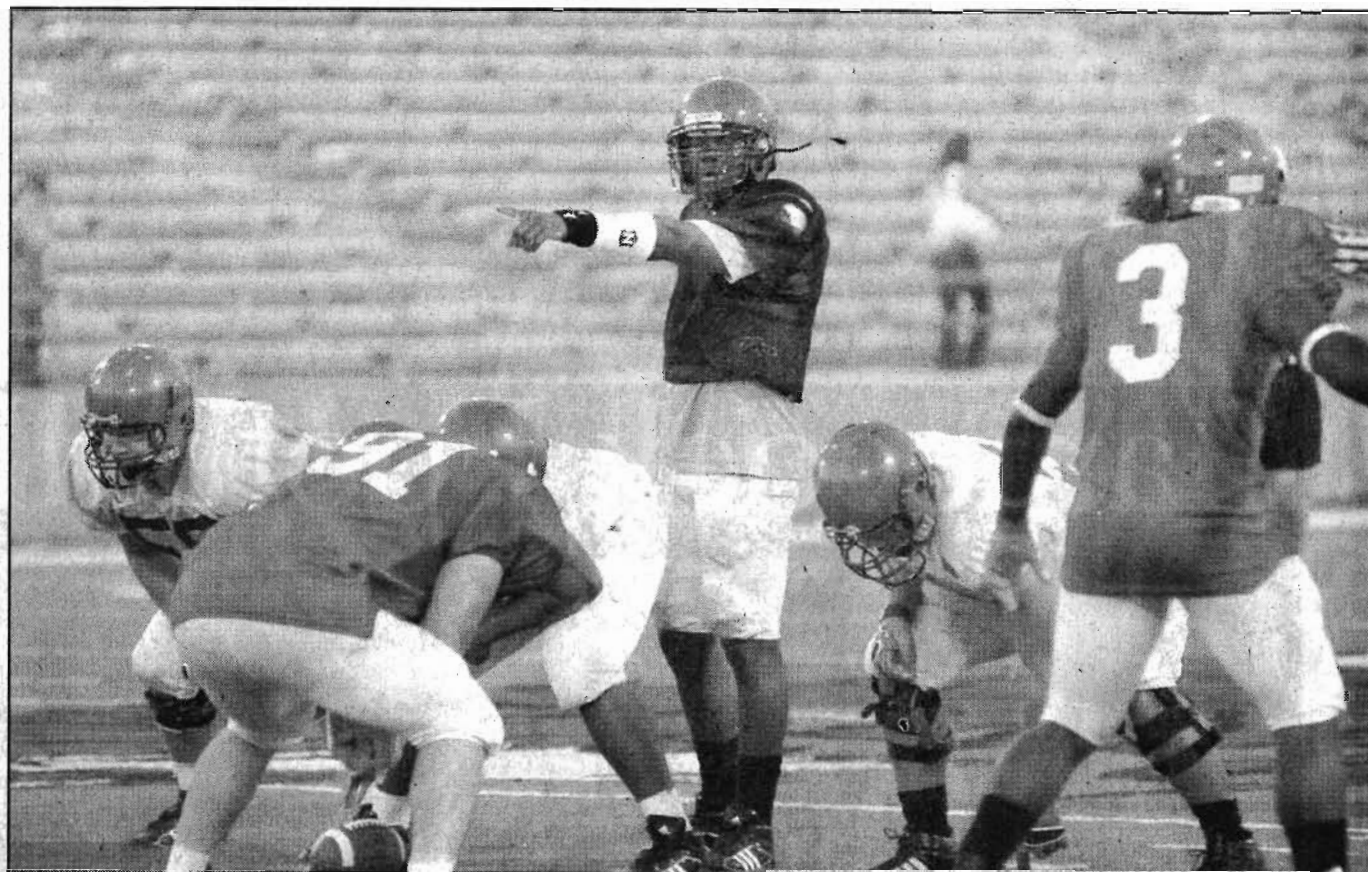
JSU football coach Jack Crowe is betting new quarterback Ryan Perrilloux's troubled past is behind him and he can lead the Gamecocks out of mediocrity.

“Ryan admitted, ‘I did it wrong, I’m gonna do it right.’ He hasn’t said a negative thing, so yes it’s a second chance.”

— Jack Crowe

2008 JSU FOOTBALL ROSTER

1	Anthony Jones	WR
2	Jawaan Booker	CB
3	Jared Stewart	OLB
4	Daniel Jackson	RB
5	James Wilkerson	WR
6	Jeffrey Cameron	FL
7	John Houston Whiddon	FL
8	Maurice Dupree	WR
9	Marquise Elston	ROV
10	Eric Johns	TE
11	Marques Ivory	QB
11	Ryan Perrilloux	QB
12	Kevyn Cooper	WR
13	Josh Cain	SAF
14	Brooks Robinson	QB
15	T.J. Heath	DB
16	Kenny Walker	SAF
17	Steven Beegle	QB
18	Nick DeMuro	QB
19	Darrin Carter	CB
20	A.J. Davis	CB
21	LaRay Williams	FL
22	Brandon George	TB
23	James Shaw	SAF
24	Nick Johnson	RB
25	Ronald Murray	RB
26	Carnell Clark	SAF
27	Zach Walden	P
28	Keginald Harris	SAF
29	Calvin Middleton	RB
30	Michael Owens	SAF
31	Santez Mays	DE
32	Tremayne Coger	RB
34	Andrew Ridgeway	WLB
35	Brenton Davenport	OLB
36	Jason Horton	SAF
37	Josh Skelton	CB
38	Juan Finley	FB
39	Matt Thompkins	WLB
40	Rod Byrd	OLB
41	Gavin Hallford	PK
42	Cole Doolittle	FB
42	Drec Lindley	RB
43	Morrell Jones	SLB
44	Cory Freeman	TE
45	Alexander Henderson	SLB



JSU quarterback Ryan Perrilloux barks out signals to the Gamecock offense during a scrimmage this summer. Perrilloux is a large reason why JSU is favored to win the OVC this season. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com / File

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Answer?

The Jacksonville State football team enters the 2008 campaign with high hopes of once again becoming the cream of the crop in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Gamecocks entered the OVC in 2003 and proceeded to win back-to-back conference titles. Since then, JSU has struggled, finishing 6-5 and failing to reach the playoffs in each of the past three seasons.

Without a scholarship quarterback on the spring roster, the Gamecocks looked to be headed towards another lackluster season.

That was before Jack Crowe decided to roll the dice and bring in former LSU quarterback Ryan Perrilloux. With one key addition, JSU went from the middle of the pack to the consensus favorite to win the OVC in 2008.

With Perrilloux, the Gamecocks now have an emotional leader with big-game experience under his belt that wants nothing more than to bring a championship back to Jacksonville.

caliber do what he does after winning a championship — that's something we all want to accomplish, and he knows what it takes to get there. That's an extra motivation for us."

Perrilloux adds a new wrinkle to the Gamecock offense with his speed and elusiveness in the pocket. Add that to his ability to throw the football down the field, and JSU's offense should be very productive this year.

"(Having a quarterback with the elusiveness of Perrilloux) definitely takes a lot off our shoulders, because even if you get beat, he's going to make a play, he's going to scramble or he's going to make a good throw. That just gives us more confidence up front. He's going to help us, so we've just got to do our best to help him," senior offensive lineman Keith Gergel said.

Perrilloux's favorite target appears to be wide receiver Maurice Dupree. The senior from Centre, Ala., caught 10 passes last year for 120 yards.

Tremayne Coger, a transfer from Alabama, was expected to step in as the Gamecocks' starting running back but has been slowed by injuries early in the 2008 campaign. Last year's starter, Daniel Jackson is expected to get the bulk of the carries until Coger is ready to play.

The offensive line is likely the biggest question mark coming in for the Gamecocks this season. Curt Porter, Reggie Wade, Al Jefferson and Keith Gergel were supposed to be joined by Matthew Washington up front but an injury will likely keep him out for the foreseeable future.

Taking over for Washington is the freshman duo of Matt Jones and Tylor Chambers, making the Gamecocks very young across the offensive front. Inexperienced or not, Gergel is convinced that JSU will have one of the best lines in the conference.

"I thought our freshmen played really well, I was really proud of how they played. I think we've got a

last year's squad, most notably preseason All-OVC linebacker Marquise Elston. Antonio Bonner, Morrell Jones and Andrew Ridgeway join Elston to make up a very solid linebacking core.

"When you look at the players who could have stepped over and been in Georgia Tech's uniforms, the same caliber players, (Morrell Jones) was as good as any linebacker playing at Georgia Tech. I don't think we've had one of Morrell's talents around here," Crowe said.

The secondary should also be very solid this season. A.J. Davis and T.J. Heath man both the cornerback spots with Kenny Walker and Carnell Clark starting at safety.

Santez Mays, Brandt Thomas and Duane Tolbert are scheduled to start along the defensive line.

The Gamecocks' special teams unit is arguably tops in the OVC.

JSU brings back a pair of All-OVC performers in kicker Gavin Hallford and kick returner Maurice Dupree.

Hallford connected on 22 field goals last season, shattering Jon Felix's previous

41	Gavin Hallford	PK
42	Cole Doolittle	FB
42	Drec Lindley	RB
43	Morrell Jones	SLB
44	Cory Freeman	TE
45	Alexander Henderson	SLB
46	Alphonso Freaney	FB
47	Chris Findley	LB
48	Rylee Zalanka	LB
49	Ellis Bennett	LB
50	Joshua Carroll	C
51	Nolan Grange	LB
52	Jonathan Nwilogh	OLB
53	Travis Grandy	LB
54	Antonio Bonner	LB
55	Al Jefferson	OG
56	Russell Jackson	DL
57	Matt Washington	OL
58	Michael Ellis	OL
59	Cole Bostwick	OL
60	Sam Mills	OL
61	Brandon Rogers	DE
63	Duane Tolbert	DE
64	Reggie Wade	C
65	Matt Jones	OL
67	D.J. Lashus	OL
68	Justin Kirby	OL
69	Tori Mobley	OL
71	Taylor Chambers	OL
72	Tylor Chambers	OL
73	Keith Gergel	OT
75	Tyler Ogletree	C
76	Mark Bounds	OL
77	Curt Porter	OT
78	Devon Hayes	OT
79	Jason Vise	OT
80	Eric Russell	TE
81	Justin Howard	TE
84	Deonte Carter	TE
89	Al Chamanzad	P
90	Monte Lewis	DE
91	Brett Gloyd	DE
92	Brandt Thomas	NG
93	Jamison Wadley	DE
94	Justin Kay	NG
95	Michael Clark	NG
96	Dimetrio Tyson	DE
97	Antron Hart	NG
98	Baylor Bennett	DE
99	Devon Gray	DL

to win the OVC in 2008.

With Perrilloux, the Gamecocks now have an emotional leader with big-game experience under his belt that wants nothing more than to bring a championship back to Jacksonville.

"Ryan is trying to win a championship. That's the way he talks, that's the way he thinks," Crowe said.

"He's a great leader, he's a great person," senior linebacker Marquise Elston added. "As soon as he came in, he's made everyone around him better. Guys have been running faster, guys have been hitting harder.

"Seeing a player of his

us, so we've just got to do our best to help him," senior offensive lineman Keith Gergel said.

Perrilloux's favorite target appears to be wide receiver Maurice Dupree. The senior from Centre, Ala., caught 10 passes last year for 139 yards but made the biggest impact on special teams for the Gamecocks. Dupree averaged 29.38 yards per kick return on his way to earning Second Team All-OVC honors.

Wide receivers Anthony Jones and John Houston Whiddon and tight end Eric Johns are also expected to play big roles in JSU's air attack as well.

young across the offensive front. Inexperienced or not, Gergel is convinced that JSU will have one of the best lines in the conference.

"I thought our freshmen played really well. I was really proud of how they played. I think we've got a good line up front. We've got two seniors on the right side, our left tackle started some last year, and our center played at a junior college last year. We've got some injuries, but when we're healthy, I think we'll be one of the best in the league," Gergel said.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Gamecocks return three starters from

teams unit is arguably tops in the OVC.

JSU brings back a pair of All-OVC performers in kicker Gavin Hallford and kick returner Maurice Dupree.

Hallford connected on 22 field goals last season, shattering Joe Hix's previous school record of 13.

With several new pieces in the fold, JSU could need a few games to reach their full potential. But as the season progresses, the Gamecocks should gel into a very solid team.

"I think time is going to make this football team better and better, but it's time to play," Crowe said.



Gavin Hallford attempts a field goal against Alabama State last year. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com / File

2008 JSU FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

8/28/2008	Georgia Tech	Atlanta, Ga.	L 14-41
9/6/2008	Alabama A&M	Paul Snow Stadium	6:00 p.m.
9/20/2008	Chattanooga	Chattanooga, Tenn.	6:00 p.m.
9/27/2008	Eastern Illinois	Charleston, Ill.	1:30 p.m.
10/4/2008	SEMO	Paul Snow Stadium	6:00 p.m.
10/11/2008	EKU	Richmond, Ky.	5:00 p.m.
10/18/2008	Murray State	Paul Snow Stadium	4:00 p.m.
10/23/2008	UT Martin	Martin, Tenn.	6:30 p.m.
11/1/2008	Austin Peay	Paul Snow Stadium	2:00 p.m.
11/8/2008	Tennessee Tech	Cookeville, Tenn.	1:30 p.m.
11/15/2008	Tennessee State	Paul Snow Stadium	2:00 p.m.

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Turning talent into a team

JSU must find cohesiveness if it is to start FCS season with a win



Jered Staubs

chantysports@gmail.com

Hey man nice shot

So, on a campus of about 10,000 undergraduates, zero males are interested in writing sports for The Chanticleer.

Luckily, we do have a couple females who expressed interest.

One is Edisha Brown, who has a story featured on this page. Brown is a former JSU athlete, which I find exciting.

Although, in the interest of full disclosure, Gravette and I are pretty good athletes ourselves. We were key members of the Wiffleball team that knocked Team Spot out of the playoffs. And I was the winning pitcher in last year's Dead Bowl romp over the whippin' rag radio station.

Anyway, whatever. Two writers is fine. The pressing need we have is for photographers. I am totally incapable of taking a picture.

This works both ways. I am incapable of taking a picture of others, and I am unable to look decent in any picture taken of me (see above).

Has there ever been an adequate explanation for "taking a picture" meaning two things that are so drastically different? Both people involved in the taking of a picture are taking a picture. There has to be a better solution. It's like flammable and inflammable meaning the same thing, only more confusing.

Regardless, I'm neither photogenic (which appears to be the only word in the dictionary with no antonym. I'd like to suggest

By Jered Staubs
Sports Editor

After Georgia Tech killed a little of the buzz (hopefully, two or three of you will catch that pun) surrounding the JSU program, the JSU football team is looking to prove that the pre-season expectations were warranted against a team on its own level.

As in, almost exactly the same level.

"We are into preparation for a football team that has been very competitive with us," head coach Jack Crowe said. "We have played (Alabama A&M) twice since I have been here and the game was won on the last play of the game both times. We kicked a field goal on the last play of the game here. Then, the last time we played up there, they had the ball first and goal-to-go from the one. I remember Mark Tibbs standing strong inside and we prevailed in that football game."

The three largest recorded attendances in Paul Snow Stadium history have come when these two teams have squared off, and with a whole community anxious to watch the new superstar on campus, the record of 16,861 could fall Saturday.

JSU's inexperienced roster stands in sharp contrast to the team that will be coming to Paul Snow Stadium this week. The Bulldogs (0-1) are one of the most experienced teams JSU will play this season.

Alabama A&M will present an especially difficult challenge for JSU's offense.

The Bulldogs were the best defense in the SWAC last season, and Crowe knows that his team must improve its offensive balance to have success against that unit.

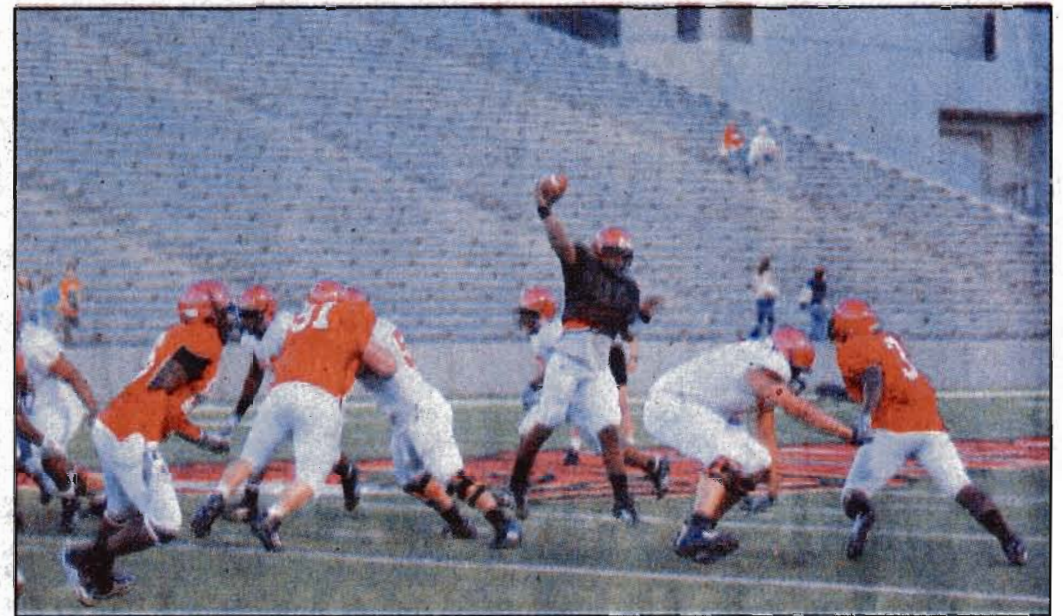
"Offensively, we didn't establish a running game (last week)," Crowe said. "We felt like we had to take advantage of the perimeter as much as we could. It really is not our style not to try and run the football more than we did. I thought we over used Ryan Perrilloux. If I remember correctly, there were only 14 plays that he wasn't throwing it or running it. That is way too much."

"Alabama A&M has a defensive bunch that is almost all seniors. There is only two non-seniors playing on their defensive team. They are talented and experienced and we are going to be challenged."

Offensive tackle Keith Gergel echoed Crowe sentiments that the running game must be brought back to the fore if the Gamecocks are to find success against Alabama A&M.

"I think we gave up the running game just a little too early, but when you get down 21 points early, you have to try to get big plays," Gergel said. "When the defense knows that you're going to pass, they just pin their ears back, and that makes it a lot harder for the line. We need to establish that running game to open up everything else."

The availability of projected starting running back Tremayne Coger remains questionable, as Crowe said



Paul Snow Stadium has never been a tough place to get a seat, but with a new star expected to draw an abundance of fans, that won't be the case Saturday as JSU hosts Alabama A&M. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com / File

he did not want to rush anyone back from injury early in the season. Still, Perrilloux said he expects Coger to play, and he added that establishing a running game is the focus of his team this week.

If Coger is able to play, he and Daniel Jackson will likely split the bulk of the carries. If Coger remains unable to go, Jackson will see the bulk of the action with some help from Drec Lindley.

Jackson and Lindley had five and four carries last week, respectively. Perrilloux was the team's primary ball carrier, with 18 attempts, though both he and Crowe said that doesn't need to happen again this week. For his part, Perrilloux accepted a lion's share of the blame and said that he "would

like to play Georgia Tech again" to redeem himself.

"I think I still have a lot of work to do," Perrilloux said. "It was only my third start ever in college. But four turnovers, that's unacceptable. Two interceptions on my part, a fumbled snap, a fumble, we just can't have it. We'll lose to anybody in the country if we have four turnovers, not just Georgia Tech."

The JSU defense will face a potent quarterback-receiver combination in A&M's Kevin Atkins and Thomas Harris. In the Bulldogs 34-13 loss to Tennessee State, Harris caught seven passes for 105 yards.

The Gamecocks will at least be able to return to an attack-minded approach to defense this week after dealing with

the mental aspects of the triple option. Linebacker Marquise Elston said his team likes to "fly to the football" and Crowe said that his defense has the speed to be a strength of the Gamecock team.

"Once we got over our little stage fright, in the speed of the game, there wasn't any difference in us and (Tech).

"Now how's the speed of the game going to look against A&M and Chattanooga and those types of teams? I've found out that you don't know until you get out there, but there's every indication that we are a very fast, athletic team. There's a lot of encouragement in picking out pieces, but the bottom line is winning, and we haven't proved we know how to win."

Making in-Rhodes

Senior leads team to second place finish in opener

JSU announces new AD

From staff reports

Veteran college administrator Oval

opportunity to serve as the Athletic Director at Jacksonville State," Jaynes said. "As we move forward, I want

a better solution. It's like flammable and inflammable meaning the same thing, only more confusing.

Regardless, I'm neither photogenic (which appears to be the only word in the dictionary with no antonym. I'd like to suggest photostrophic. As in, every picture of me is photostrophic.) nor a photographer.

Photogenic people, feel free to e-mail me or come by the office. Photographers, please do so as soon as possible.

By the way, isn't it kind of weird that the band Filter had two legitimate hits, and both would have worked as the title of this column? (The other is entitled 'Take a Picture.')

This column is being typed sometime in the wee hours of the morning of our deadline — long story involving the sudden failure of my laptop's battery, many curse words and the stupidity of the author — so excuse any errors.

Speaking of the Royals, they won the World Series when I was five months old, and that will probably be the last one they win in my lifetime.

OK, the Ryan Perrilloux experiment was fun while it lasted, but it's obviously not going to work. I'm expecting Steven Beegle to be taking significant snaps in the Alabama A&M game.

Andrew Jones: 1977-2007. R.I.P.

I find the sudden hype over the University of Alabama football to be mildly amusing.

Speaking of programs that pay players are among the nation's elite, Oklahoma will be favored in every game this season, which is nice, but I am really worried about the September 13 game at Washington. I'm actually pretty high on the Huskies this year, and Jake Locker is the best player 95% of America doesn't know. He's a white Tim Tebow Juice Williams.

There isn't a woman on the face of the earth who could compel me to deface my car with one of those ridiculous "A House Divided" license plates. No, not even you.

In the annals — odd, annal isn't a word — of moronic Oklahoma Sooners, Josh Jarboe is a convincing number one. At least Rbett Bomar got money for nothing (and chicks for free?). Jarboe got nothing for sucking. (Search Josh Jarboe freestyle on youtube, though I must warn you, it's not for the faint of heart.)

Making in-Rhodes

Senior leads team to second place finish in opener

By Edisha Brown
Sports Reporter

It was a beautiful Saturday morning to relax and enjoy the sun for most, but it was a promising day for Jacksonville State since they were to host the Strut's sponsored season opener for the Men's and Women's Cross Country team.

This was just the first meet and far from the biggest cross-country meet of the season; however, it did not stump our team of their competitive spirit.

The men's team managed a second place finish on the strength of Jeff Rhodes' first place finish in the 5K.

The women's team finished third, and coach Steve Ray was mildly disappointed.

"The outcome wasn't what I wanted team wise and we need to close the gap between the fourth and fifth runners on both sides to make the overall team more successful in the front," he said. "However, there were some

good individual performances from Jeff Rhodes and Lesley Binning: Jeff winning on the men's side and Lesley getting a strong second place just three seconds off the first place finisher."

Rhodes was excited to get the team off to a good start in the new season.

"It felt pretty good," he said. "The team did really well but we still have a lot of work to do. The next meet will be at UTC where I am really looking forward to the competition so we will see what happens there and see if everybody can improve."

Ray added that there are reasons for he and his team to be optimistic.

"We have to have a starting point, we had some good freshman efforts with Veronica, Norman, and Josh; good kids to build with in the future. It was a good first effort."

The cross country team will next appear at Chattanooga where the women will compete in the 2-mile run and the men are scheduled to contend in another 5K at 6:15 p.m.

JSU announces new AD

From staff reports

Veteran college administrator Oval Jaynes has been hired as Athletics Director at Jacksonville State University, President Dr. William A. Meehan announced on Saturday.

Jaynes has served previously as Athletics Director at Colorado State, Pittsburgh, Idaho and UT-Chattanooga. He will begin at Jax State on September 2.

"We are very excited to have someone with the experience that Mr. Jaynes has to lead our athletics department," Dr. Meehan said. "His experience at four different Division I institutions was an overwhelming factor in my decision. He has outstanding credentials and contacts, which should only enhance our entire athletic department."

Jaynes, who spent three years as the head football coach at Gardner-Webb from 1975-78, began his administrative career as an Assistant Athletic Director and Associate Athletic Director at Auburn University from 1981-1986.

"I'm very excited about the

opportunity to serve as the Athletic Director at Jacksonville State," Jaynes said. "As we move forward, I want to continue the success that JSU has experienced over the last five years by winning 32 OVC Championships. I look forward to working with the University community, including the faculty, staff, students, alumni, former athletes and friends of the University."

He was the Athletics Director at Colorado State for five years before taking over at the University of Pittsburgh. He led the Panther athletic department from 1991 until 1996, when he moved to Director of Athletics at the University of Idaho. He then spent five years at Chattanooga as Director of Athletics and then another year as Special Assistant to the Chancellor.

Jaynes, a graduate of Appalachian State, has served on numerous NCAA committees, including the NCAA Council, District VII Post-Graduate Scholarship and the Nominating Committee and was the Third Vice-President in 1995-96. He served on the College Football Association Board of Directors in 1996-97.

THURSDAY THUMBS



Rylee Zalanka — The possession after a Georgia Tech defender hit Perrilloux three steps out of bounds. Zalanka picked up Tech backup QB Jaybo Shaw and threw him to the ground. The Tech fans thought it was a dirty play, and I know it sounds classless to applaud this action, but you have to protect your stars. I was actually disappointed that none of our offensive linemen went over and took a shot at the Tech defender after his borderline cheap shot on RP11.

Keith Gergel — Tech defensive end Michael Johnson is projected as a top five pick in next year's NFL draft everywhere you look, including #2 by the most famous draft expert, Mel Kiper. Well, Keith Gergel wasn't impressed. The right tackle was lined up against Johnson for most of the first half - before Johnson left the game for precautionary reasons with a mild injury — and Johnson never even sniffed a sack.

Ryan Perrilloux — We all knew he was talented, we knew he had the great arm and the mobility, but he is tough. First of all he played the entire game (to which I objected and still find puzzling, to be quite honest. If he had gotten hurt in a 41-7 game ...) despite the game being out of hand for the most part. But not only did he continue to play, he gave it everything. Under constant pressure, with his receivers struggling to get open, he continued to run and take big hits as he fought for every yard. I don't recall him sliding or running out of bounds of his own volition all night.

JSU fans — I've got to say, I was surprised and impressed. Both at the quantity and quality. I mean, there were some wackos there — which I fully endorse, and hope to see again at the A&M game.

Derrick Morgan — Georgia Tech's "other" defensive end was the best player on the field by a pretty wide margin. He disrupted everything the JSU offense wanted to do, and had a couple sacks on the night.

The oddsmakers — Installed Georgia Tech as a 28-point favorite in a game where there were unknowns across the board. If not for a missed extra point, that's the final margin.



Georgia Tech fans — Underwhelming. OK, you're playing Jacksonville State. But is it too much to ask to show some enthusiasm for the first game your team has played in eight months? Blurgh. And for as good a school as Georgia Tech is, the fans — at least in my section — were pretty clueless.

The JSU fan sitting next to me — Wore a yellow shirt with blue stripes. Pretty much the worst wardrobe decision since me wearing a pink shirt for the pictures to the left.

Both teams' special teams — Pretty miserable. Georgia Tech missed an extra point, muffed a kickoff and had a 39-yard field goal fall short of the end zone. JSU's punting was abysmal, and on the best punt of the night, a JSU player ran into the punt returner for a 15-yard penalty.

The GTGs — If you were there before the game, you know. Words simply cannot express my disdain for the horrible videos they created. Thinking of derogatory phrases that GTG could stand for was mildly amusing, however. Unfortunately, printing any would get me fired.

The Georgia Tech uniforms — Looked like we were playing Army or Navy, except if one of those schools inexplicably decided to wear puke-colored pants. I hope this was a one-time retro jersey or something, because I don't want those hideous uniforms on my TV screen any this fall. I will intentionally watch the non-HD channel if those eyesores are available in HD.

The rest of the ACC — With Clemson and Virginia Tech deciding not to show up for mediocre non-conference teams, it seems that JSU may have faced the best team in the Atlantic Coast Conference.