

JSU campus voice Wells, dead at 26



Donnie Wells poses in front of Leon Cole Auditorium. File Photo

By Zach Childree
Editor in Chief

Donnie Wells Jr., former program director and DJ for Jacksonville State University campus radio station WLJS, died Monday of complications from an epileptic seizure.

"I heard the news Monday morning," current Program Director John Nickolson said. "I thought I was some kind of sick joke."

Listeners of Rock 105.9 and 97.9 WVOK will remember Wells as a weekend DJ on those stations. His time with 97.9 began in 2005 and in 2008 he began his time on the air as "Slider" for 105.9.

"He worked Saturday mornings for us and he really got somewhat of a following because he enjoyed playing some of the newer music and branching out from the mainstream," said Whit McGhee, program director of WVOK, adding that his tendency toward rock music made 105.9 a good fit for Wells.

Students gathered outside the station Monday night to remember Wells and share their stories. "Even when I was down, it was Donnie who was usually cheering me up," Nickolson said. "He forced you to have fun."

The students gathered agreed that Wells had affected their lives tremendously. "I'm going to miss his energy," former Chanticleer Sports Editor Patrick Swafford said. "There was something about Donnie's life and personality that almost everyone could enjoy. He was a warm, caring person that could pick you up instantly."

The news spread around campus as students text messaged and called each other with the news. Within hours, Wells' Facebook page wall was filled with students offering their condolences and mourning their loss.

Billy S. Ramsey, the upcoming program director for WLJS said he was in class when he heard the

See "Wells," page 2

Funeral services for Donnie Lynn Wells Jr. will be 2 p.m. Friday, April 10 at Wilson Funeral Home Chapel with burial following in Walkers Chapel Cemetery. The family will receive friends Thursday from 4 until 8 p.m. at the funeral home. The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to family.

Sorority focuses on heroes of the Red Cross

By Kira Reeves
Staff Writer

In this day and age, the need to help out a fellow man seems to be increasing. Our world, nation and communities have all in some way been affected by war, disaster, terrorism or some other issue related to the current state of our economy. These themes are not new, but instead date back centuries.

The Red Cross was founded during one of the country's most tumultuous times, the Civil War. Clara Burton, founder of the Red Cross, ventured into many things throughout her life. A nurse, humanitarian and teacher, she helped aid the Confederate and Union Soldiers. Her forward-thinking in the midst of slavery only saw equality.

Building hosted an event organized by the national Gamma Sigma Sigma, Sorority Inc. It was focused on the "Red Cross Heroes," individuals in the military stationed overseas in the current war.

The proceeds are used to make care packages and send them to soldiers. Also, victims of Hurricane Katrina will be helped.

Shaneka Wallace, president of the national Gamma Sigma Sigma sorority, said she became involved because, of the community service it provides. "The campus needs a positive force to uplift us," Wallace said.

The focus here at JSU is on education, but there are several organizations that can benefit not only you, but entire com-



the Civil War. Clara Burton, founder of the Red Cross, ventured into many things throughout her life. A nurse, humanitarian and teacher, she helped aid the Confederate and Union Soldiers. Her forward-thinking in the midst of slavery only saw equality.

Today, the Red Cross has more than a million volunteers and 30,000 employees. They accept blood donations, help in disasters and provide health education in communities, military aid and community service. The Red Cross is not only a national organization, but an international one as well.

Recently, the Theron Montgomery

became involved because, of the community service it provides. "The campus needs a positive force to uplift us," Wallace said.

The focus here at JSU is on education, but there are several organizations that can benefit not only you, but entire communities.

The choice upon graduation is not only the ability to think of one's self, but to realize that you are part of a much bigger movement: our community. It is through the selfless act of humanitarian efforts that a community, nation, or world, can be helped and changed.



News in Brief

99-mile bike ride to Mobile raises cancer funds



MONROEVILLE, Ala. (AP) — Organizers of the annual "Peddlin' for a Cure" bike ride from Monroeville to Mobile expect to raise donations for cancer research.

More than a hundred participants signed up for the ride Friday from the courthouse in Monroeville to Hank Aaron Stadium in Mobile. That's more than a 99-mile trek.

Fred Kelley started the ride six years ago. He made a challenge, saying if he raised a thousand dollars for cancer research, he would make the ride from Monroeville to Mobile's Battleship Park. Since then, hundreds have joined Kelley on the ride.

Before this year, Kelley says Peddlin' for a Cure had raised more than \$500,000 for cancer research.

Grand Rapids group approves money for Parks statue

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) — A Grand Rapids economic development group says it will donate \$100,000 toward a \$350,000 statue of civil rights icon Rosa Parks to be installed in a downtown park that bears her name.

Mayor George Heartwell says he hopes the pledge will renew interest in the project.

The Grand Rapids Press reports the Downtown Development Authority has pledged \$75,000 to cover upfront costs and another \$25,000 as a matching grant once the rest of the money that's needed is secured.

Private sources have pledged about \$60,000 toward the life-sized statue, which is expected to be erected in Rosa Parks Circle in September 2010.

Parks' actions sparked the yearlong Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott. She died in 2005 in Detroit at age 92.



Parks

Residence Halls raise funds for cancer fight

By Matt Tyson
Staff Writer

Every year, Jacksonville State University does its job in conjunction with Relay for Life to help fight cancer by having different fundraisers on and off campus. On the battle front, is JSU's Residence Hall Association. This group of leaders has been, and will be, holding events for students to come and donate money to be given to Relay for Life for cancer research.

Wesley Todd, the residency life coordinator for Logan and Patterson Halls, recently headed up the idea of having a car wash for the cause.

"It's been a philanthropy project that we wanted to work on and we figured a nice car in April would be a good way to raise some money," Todd says.

When brainstorming for ideas, Todd knew that he could get the manpower behind him to have the car wash because of his position.

"Any money is good money for this cause. As long as we are doing something productive, I feel like we've accomplished something," Todd says.

The projects do not just stop at a car wash. In a recent interview, Kerry Hightower, the secretary of housing, spoke about all the different fundraisers that have been going on this year. Last week they held a basketball tournament and on April 9th, there will be the "Pie in the Face for the Human Race" event on the quad in which students can come out and pay to hit someone in the face with a pie.

INDEX

On Campus 2

Campus Crime 2

Opinions 3

Sports 4

What are we reading?

Find out a couple of the books students are reading now.

Page 6

Dating/Love

Julie Skinner helps readers solve relationship problems.

Page 3

Streak Ends

JSU's winning streak is over.

Page 4

QUESTION REWIND

What do you think of the new logo?

You're still voting on this poll, so the editors of The Chanticleer opted to give you an updated look at the results

I Love It! - 12%
I Hate It! - 67%
Meh. - 21%



Next week's question:

Which of the student media do you use most?

ONLINE @
thechanticleeronline.com

ON Campus

Campus Crime

April 1

- Harassing communications were reported at Sparkman Hall.

April 2

- An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Penn House Apartments. Items stolen include two credit cards.

April 3

- Criminal mischief was reported at Ayers Hall. A window was broken.
- Theft of lost property was reported at Houston Cole Library. Items stolen include a Flex card worth \$19.59.

April 4

- Unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Daugette Hall. Items stolen include a Motorola cell phone worth \$100, a Motorola cell phone charger worth \$30 and a Math book worth \$100.

April 5

- Criminal mischief was reported at Daugette Hall. A fire alarm was pulled.

April 6

- An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Dixon Hall. Items stolen include a calculator worth \$50, a Biology book worth \$100, a Western Civilization book worth \$200, a Statistics book worth \$100, a Literature book worth \$100 and a Biology lab book worth \$100.
- A theft of property was reported a Jack Hopper Dining Hall. Items stolen include a \$100 dollar bill.

What's Happening

Thursday, April 9

- Fundraiser for American Red Cross
2nd Floor TMB Lobby
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Picture of the week



Nature takes over vandalism at Weaver Cave as moss grows over the number 420 carved into a rock. If you would like to see your photo as 'Photo of the week', email it to chantyeditor@gmail.com. Photo by Zach Childree/ *The Chanticleer*

Wells: Helped others find their way into radio

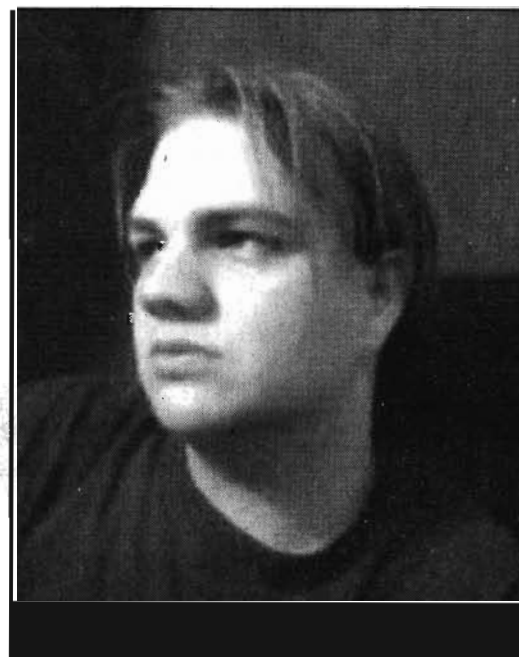
news. "It feels like my heart has been ripped out," Ramsey said.

Wells was program director from 2005 until 2006 and helped train both Nickolson and Ramsey.

"Donnie is the reason I became a communication major," Ramsey said. "He told me I had a great voice for radio and that I should consider going in to broadcasting."

Nickolson said Wells was program director when he came to the station in 2006. "He was able to help me a lot," Nickolson said. "He knew so much because he had been there and he offered his help to me as I took over the job."

Nickolson and Ramsey sat in the audio production lab on Tuesday night and remembered how much Wells had made them laugh. "He loved sushi," Ramsey said. "He would offer you the shirt off his back, usually because he had it pulled up showing off his



Wells missed out. "He was one of the finest human beings to walk the face of this planet," Ramsey said.

Swafford said Wells was a friendly person from their first meeting. "It took the guy ten seconds to strike up a conversation with me and he and I hit it off from there," Swafford said. "That was Donnie. I don't think he ever met a stranger."

On Tuesday night, friends of Wells were still leaving memories and good-byes on his Facebook page even as his last updated status message lingers above them. "Had a pretty awesome Sunday, and now just needs the prayer dial turned up to 11 for this week. He is anticipating a phone call, and will probably explode from joy if he receives it," it reads.

Wells' family will receive friends from 4 to 8 p.m. tonight at Wilson Funeral Home Chapel in Fort Payne.

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What's Happening

Thursday, April 9

- Fundraiser for American Red Cross
2nd Floor TMB Lobby
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - Mixer: Sponsored by Freshman Forum
Leone Cole Auditorium
8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 - Pie in the Face for Human Race
The Quad, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- * Come out the quad to put a pie in the face of housing staff members. \$2 per pie, all proceeds go towards Relay for Life.

Saturday, April 11

- Gamecock Gala
Leone Cole Auditorium
5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt
In front of Bibb Graves Hall.
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Monday, April 13

- Faculty Senate Meeting
1103 Houston Cole Library
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
- Trustee Meeting
11th Floor Houston Cole Library
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 14

- Hot Dog Eating Contest
TMB Lawn
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Karibbean Night
Quad, 7:00 p.m.
- On-Campus Recruiting for US Marines
Lobby of Jack Hopper Dining Hall
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Donation Set Up
2nd Floor TMB
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15

- Comedy Show
TMB Auditorium
7:00 p.m.
- Admission: \$5

**Have some news?
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he offered his help to the students over the job.”

Nickolson and Ramsey sat in the audio production lab on Tuesday night and remembered how much Wells had made them laugh. “He loved sushi,” Ramsey said. “He would offer you the shirt off his back, usually because he had it pulled up showing off his belly.”

“He had an infectious laugh,” Nickolson said. “He had as much fun on the

air as off, though, off the air, he probably had more fun because he didn’t have to worry about the FCC regulations.”

Ramsey said students who didn’t know

Sunday, and now just needs the prayer dial turned up to 11 for this week. He is anticipating a phone call, and will probably explode from joy if he receives it,” it reads.

Wells’ family will receive friends from 4 to 8 p.m. tonight at Wilson Funeral Home Chapel in Fort Payne, Ala. The funeral will be held there Friday at 2 p.m. with burial following in Walkers Chapel Cemetery.

U. New Mexico to go tobacco free

By Donald Duran III
UWIRE

The University of New Mexico will go tobacco-free on Aug. 1.

That means no cigarettes and no chewing tobacco, except within designated smoking areas around campus, said Pug Burge, co-chairwoman of the Smoke Free Environment Committee.

The committee has presented its revised campus smoking policy to campus groups, including GPSA and ASUNM, Burge said.

After the campus groups review the policy changes, the paperwork will go out to the rest of the University for a 30-day review period, which will begin sometime in the middle of this month, she said.

The policy states that enforcement of the initiative will rely on faculty, staff, students and visitors to comply and report violators. Student violators would be reported to the Dean of Students Office, and repeated violations by faculty and staff would be referred to their dean, director or department head, Burge said.

Individuals reported for repeated violations would be subject to discipline, as laid out in the student and visitor codes of conduct.

Vicky Kauffman, pre-calculus director and math lecturer, said she has been bothered by cigarette smoke and is in favor of the policy.

However, enforcing the changes will be difficult, she said.

“I think it’s hard to enforce things like this because we are such a big campus, and I don’t

know that it would be enforceable,” she said. “It would be difficult for me to walk up to a complete stranger and tell them they shouldn’t be smoking and that they weren’t in the designated area. I don’t think that I could enforce it.”

Burge said Main Campus will have at least three designated smoking areas but that the committee has not yet decided where to place them.

“We already have two smoking areas in the Health Sciences Center,” she said. “What we are trying to decide now is what to do with the law school. We are thinking of having one either solely for the law school or in a place where both the North Campus and the law school can share.”

The committee also hasn’t decided where to set up smoking areas on UNM’s Continuing Education area, Burge said.

The Outreach and Appointments committee of ASUNM recently conducted a survey seeking student feedback on the smoke-free campus issue.

Vice presidential candidate Michael Westervelt said the survey addressed the key issues surrounding UNM’s smoking policy but that not many students participated.

“The survey asked students things like what they would and would not like in smoking corridors, if students want smoking on campus or if they don’t,” Westervelt said. “Unfortunately, only about 360 students participated in the survey, and to be accurate and statistically representative of the total population, we need more numbers.”

Westervelt said ASUNM

will conduct another survey soon to get greater student input. He said students should become more active in matters like the smoke-free campus initiative, which will directly impact them.

“We need to get the broadest spectrum of input from the undergrad population so that we, as the undergrad representation, can vouch for the majority of students while still keeping in mind the voices of the minority,” he said.

ASUNM vice presidential candidate David Conway said

there are many students who would support a smoke-free campus but that enforcing the policy would be difficult and might lead to more problems.

“Personally, I just don’t know how they are going to enforce the smoking ban, and it just doesn’t seem very feasible to me,” he said. “This is an issue that is not going to go away. Obviously, it is going to be in the minds of the administration for the next five to 10 years, so this is something that we need to continue working on.”

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Dating/Love: More letters from our readers

By Julie Skinner

Dear Julie,

I've been dating my girlfriend for four months. We go out to dinner at least twice a week. Sometimes, we go to dinner and a movie. Lately, when she calls me and asks what I want to do tonight, I tell her I'd rather just stay at home and cook dinner, but she says "no, let's go out." I would rather stay in and save money. I don't know how to tell her that I want her to start paying for some things. What would be the easiest way to get that point across?

- Confused

Confused,

Dates these days can be ridiculously expensive, so I feel where you're coming from.

After four months of dating and going out at least twice a week, I'd say that you and your girlfriend should be communicating enough to openly talk about the problem at hand. Obviously, when you do want to stay in, you still want to spend time with her. This says that you really do care about her, but you just don't have the funds necessary to keep up the dating style you started out with.

I would cook her dinner. Make something she likes and is not expecting. Tell her you're taking her out, but that you want her to meet you at your house instead of picking her up. Then, surprise her with dinner and tell her that you'd really enjoy doing this more often.

Maybe, she'll love it as much as you and want to stay in more. Or, if she keeps pushing going out, just tell her straight up that you can't always afford it, and that it would be helpful if she pitched in, too. Nothing wrong with old-fashioned dating, but ladies, we need to help out when we can.

Dear Julie,

I don't have a boyfriend, but I do occasionally go out on dates. I can't seem to find a guy who understands me or someone that I can relate to. I

Opinion

Sometimes you just need to breathe

By Sara Adams
Columnist

An absence of breath...a failed attempt to gasp...a feeling of catastrophe...a knot in our throats preventing breathing.

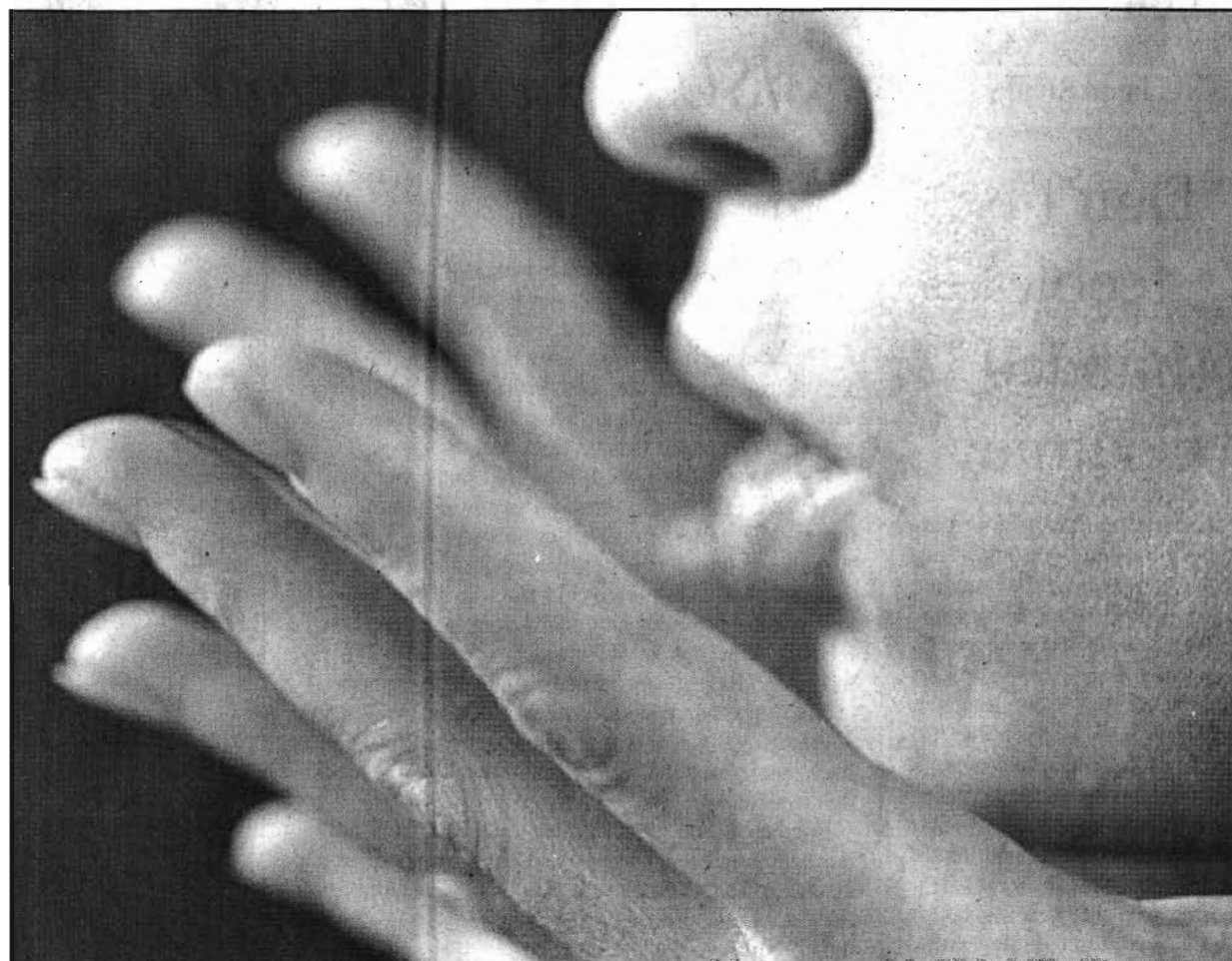
I'm talking about, of course, choking. However, I'm not talking about choking on anything tangible. I speak of choking on an idea, an emotion, a feeling, whatever you want to call it. I'm talking about choking on regret.

Regret. A solid, stubbornly lodged rock in our throats. Bitter-tasting and slimy, it cuts off our air any time a past event with an unfortunate outcome pops into our heads.

Everyday, we choke ourselves on regret. Pieces of "shoulda, coulda, and woulda" resign themselves to rest in our lungs, heavy on our hearts. They form knots in our stomachs and clog our thoughts. These words escape our mouths everyday.

Our problem is that we attempt to work through our past situations, adding alternate endings or special circumstances, like a special feature on a DVD. We all recognize that this changes nothing, but still, believing it will bring us closure, imagining the positive outcomes that might have been. "He wouldn't have left me if I did this."; "I should have done that differently."; "I could have done better." These rose-colored thoughts do nothing to alleviate our regret. They only exacerbate it. It only causes anger at ourselves for NOT doing what we "shoulda/coulda/woulda" done.

The harsh truth is this: we can't change our past. No matter how many alternate endings we work through, it still exists. Nothing changes except the amount of negativity in our bloodstreams. If we continue to suffocate on our past, it will eventually do us in. It isn't possible to live without air, and it isn't possible to look forward if we are constantly staring behind us.



imply that past decisions were poor. While they might have been, is it really productive to constantly be thinking about what we perceive as a "failure"? No. It does nothing but choke us and stunt our personal growth. This tip I am taking from a very good friend of mine, Shannon Coyle. She has shown me what it really means to be positive, and she did it through a single piece of advice:

Replace shoulda/coulda/woulda with "will" and "won't".

Here's an example of what I'm talking about. Take my ex, for instance. Surely at some point, he can learn from his mistake. And where slashed tires do nothing, a desire to rid himself of regret does so much. Instead of "I shouldn't have cheated" (which he freaking shouldn't have), it is much more constructive, though less satisfying to me, for

any more. Maybe he will attempt to be a better person, especially since he has absolutely NOWHERE to go but up. Maybe the large woman he's with now won't suffer the same way I did.

The power of positivity, namely in the use of words that reflect a learning from the past, rather than constant regret from it, will make us happier in our lives. Constantly staring at our pasts creates negativity. The past should be nothing more than a glance, and a promise to ourselves to learn from it. Remember this phrase: "LIKE ATTRACTS LIKE." Taken from a book I HIGHLY recommend, called "The Secret" by Rhonda Byrne, this phrase is a veritable Heimlich maneuver from the choking of regret. Basically, positivity attracts positivity, and vice versa. Try it sometime. I promise it works.

repeat our mistakes. I thought today of three things I learned. Rather than being negative, I'm being positive. "I won't put up with Shady-McShaderson anymore."; "I will study for my Anthropology class."; "I won't deal with someone with enough baggage to choke an airport terminal".

And you know what? I can breathe. Suddenly the regret isn't lodged in my throat anymore. Air is certainly a nice thing. I'm glad that I can have as much of it as I want, so long as my past isn't dwelled upon.

Inhale. It certainly is good to feel air in my lungs instead of sharp little shards of pain from the past. It feels amazing to be positive that the future will be amazing as a RESULT of my past, rather than tainted

with old-fashioned dating, but ladies, we need to help out when we can.

Dear Julie,

I don't have a boyfriend, but I do occasionally go out on dates. I can't seem to find a guy who understands me or someone that I can relate to. I usually rely on my friends to set me up with guys they know or who are friends with their boyfriends, but it never works out. I would really like to meet someone who I can have fun with and also start a relationship with. Where can I find this guy?

- Searching

Searching,

Isn't this the question every woman asks herself at some point in life? Where is Mr. Right? Where does he live, what does he look like and where will I be when I run into him?

I, too, have been set up with guys my friends have picked out for me. In most of those cases, it just didn't work out. Even though we are under the impression that our friends know us so well, when it comes to dating, I don't think anyone knows what you're looking for in a significant other better than yourself.

Remember, a watched pot never boils. Don't go out searching for love and then get discouraged when you don't find it. Also, don't go completely out of your way to places you wouldn't normally go to try and meet someone; you don't want to come off being interested in something that you're not. The only advice I can give to you is to never lower your standards or your hopes of finding the perfect guy. He is out there. He could be sitting on a park bench watching girls pass by wondering where in the world you are. Keep your head up; he'll want to see your eyes when he meets you.

through it and expect nothing changes except the amount of negativity in our bloodstreams. If we continue to suffocate on our past, it will eventually do us in. It isn't possible to live without air, and it isn't possible to look forward if we are constantly staring behind us.

My life-tip is this, ladies and gentlemen. "Shoulda/coulda/woulda/" are negative terms. They

learn from his mistake. And where slashed tires do nothing, a desire to rid himself of regret does so much. Instead of "I shouldn't have cheated" (which he freaking shouldn't have), it is much more constructive, though less satisfying to me, for him to say "I won't cheat anymore". Maybe he will learn something, and won't be such a sucky person

book I HIGHLY recommend, called "The Secret" by Rhonda Byrne, this phrase is a veritable Heimlich maneuver from the choking of regret. Basically, positivity attracts positivity, and vice versa. Try it sometime. I promise it works.

"Will" and "won't" reflect positivity. It implies that we learned from our pasts, and are less likely to

upon. Inhale. It certainly is good to feel air in my lungs instead of sharp little shards of pain from the past. It feels amazing to be positive that the future will be amazing as a RESULT of my past, rather than tainted with negativity because of it.

Breathe well, lovelies. The positive air certainly is sweeter.

Letters to the Editor

Enjoying the New York Times

I just want to express my gratitude and my excitement over JSU's new subscription to the New York Times. Sure, the Chanticleer does a pretty good job in discussing local matters, but we live in a global society, and I believe that there is a significant need for young students to be able to gain a global perspective.

However, I am certain that some students will simply snarl at the availability of the New York Times because of its reputation as a liberal, elitist newspaper. But let's be honest, Jacksonville is a community that's overwhelmed with die-hard

conservative values, so the addition of a different point of view will only add balance.

Also, with the emergence of internet news, many people have lost track of actually reading newspapers. Currently, newspapers are nearing the brink of extinction after many companies are complaining about its lack of subscribers and advertisement revenue. I find this surprising because once upon a time newspapers served as the heart and soul of American culture. It once was a habitual routine to sit, sip coffee, and browse a newspaper to gain insight about the current happenings in business, sports, and politics.

So, with the availability of the New York Times, we now have the opportunity to indulge in this American tradition once more. I am thrilled with the opportunity to catch up on global issues while I am awaiting class, and I encourage all of my peers to take advantage of this great American pastime.

Anthony Hall

Reader disagrees with Staubs

What in the world is Staubs talking about in his MLB projections for this coming up season? Does he watch baseball? The Cubs will win the central, and the Reds will finish just above the Pirates at the bottom of

the division. News Flash: The Reds stink and their bullpen is not consistent. They have plenty of holes on the team. What about the relievers? They will continue to be able to close out a win this year. Jeff Francoeur may be spending some time in AAA if he continues to play like he has in the Spring Training. No wonder you are a Royals fan, you are ignorant. This will be year to remember in baseball. The cubs will break their 100+ world series drought and riots will flourish outside of the vineline. Get a clue Staubs. Last two letters in Staubs' last name is BS, just pointing that one out.

A sports reader

Thechanticleeronline.com

The Chanticleer

Student newspaper of JSU since 1934

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The Chanticleer is the newspaper of the Jacksonville State University community. Copies of *The Chanticleer* are distributed across the JSU campus weekly on Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters.

Single copies are free from newsstands. Unauthorized removal of multiple copies will be considered theft and prosecuted as such.

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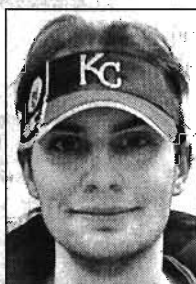
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The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous or defamatory. Letters may be edited for style, brevity or clarity. *The Chanticleer* reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to desired publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Rebuttals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.

Sports

SEMO = Streak Ends, Move Over

Southeast Missouri State makes convincing statement by stopping JSU's series win streak at 14 and grabbing hold of the OVC



Jered Staubs

chantysports@gmail.com

Don't be feeble-minded, Courtney

Ninety-nine point nine percent of the time, I would think less of someone if they made a promise and failed to keep it.

But I would not begrudge Courtney Paris for failing to live up to her word that she will pay back her scholarship after not delivering a women's national basketball title to Oklahoma.

If Blake Griffin had made the same promise, yeah, he's got to pay. After being taken No. 1 overall in the NBA draft, he could pay that after a week of practice.

But being the No. 1 overall pick in the WNBA draft is going to mean Paris makes about the same as a professor at JSU. The way the WNBA is structured, it's impossible for a player to make six figures.

Not that that's unreasonable, as nobody watches the WNBA and it's amazing the league still exists. What if the league, in this horrible economy, decides to fold? What if you get pregnant and miss a year? Or two? What if you have a career-ending injury?

You were great to Oklahoma and brought more interest in the women's basketball program there than ever before. That's payment enough.

Notes:

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN,

By Jered Staubs
Sports Editor

If JSU's baseball needed a wake-up call that this Ohio Valley Conference season won't be a cakewalk, they certainly got it this past weekend.

The Southeast Missouri State Redhawks (18-10, 8-1 OVC) dominated the Gamecocks in a three-game series in Cape Girardeau, Missouri and moved three games ahead of JSU in the OVC standings.

Only a rally from a 7-1 deficit — that came due to JSU ace Ben Tootle's worst outing of the season — in the middle game of the series stopped the weekend from being a total disaster for the Gamecocks.

Kyle Bluestein homered in the top of the seventh and Spencer Brandes hit an RBI double to score Daniel Adamson later in the inning to give JSU (16-12, 5-4 OVC) its fifth win in its final at-bat this season.

But other than that rally and the quality pitching of Jordan Beistline (4-1) that allowed his team to come back, there were few highlights for the Gamecocks this weekend.

Entering the series, JSU must have noticed SEMO's 6-0 conference record and offensive prowess, but still, as everyone's favorite to repeat as OVC champions, the Gamecocks appeared poised to reclaim control of the conference.

SEMO wasted no time making sure that would not be the case.

The Redhawks scored two in each of the first two innings, but that was only a glimpse of what the middle innings would bring.

Home runs by Todd Cunningham and Bluestein had knotted the game at 4-4 in the top of the 4th inning. And JSU starter Tanner Freshour quickly set down the first two men in the bottom half of the inning.

That's when the trouble started.

An error by shortstop Heath Wall left a man on first with two outs. Despite being only one pitch away from the end of the inning, Freshour (0-2) did not respond well to the error, and that pitch never came.

Instead, he hit three of the next five batters and allowed hits to the other two. Freshour is a freshman, and pitching on the road against another of the conference's elite teams is never easy, especially when the defense isn't making your job any easier. These are the growing pains he and all freshmen endure.

But SEMO was not in the mood to be kind and generous to Freshour or fellow freshman Malcolm Thomas.

Thomas came in with the Gamecocks trailing 10-4 in the bottom of the fifth, and retired the side in order. But the sixth inning did not go so well for him.



Spencer Brandes waits to catch the pitch, but it never arrives as Tony Spencer drives it the other way. Spencer had a big series against the Gamecocks, including the game-winning hit in the series finale. Photo courtesy of Patrick Clark / SEMO athletics

and they coasted to an 18-4 win.

After JSU's rally to steal the nightcap of that double-header, SEMO narrowly avoided another Gamecock rally Sunday afternoon.

After falling behind 4-0, JSU made things interesting with a three-run sixth inning on the strength of doubles by Blake Seguin and Bluestein and an RBI single by Leach. Wall then scored as Seguin reached on an error in the seventh to tie the game.

no repeat of the previous day's collapse when they scored three runs of their own in the eighth inning.

Tony Spencer delivered a two-out single off Mitch Miller after Daniel Watts (2-2) had walked two men earlier in the inning. Spencer, the Redhawks' lead-off hitter, paced their offense all series, going 5-for-10 with two walks, four runs and five RBIs.

The Gamecocks now embark on a six-game stretch of non-conference games before returning to OVC action April 18 with a three-game series at

reer-ending injury.
You were great to Oklahoma and brought more interest in the women's basketball program there than ever before. That's payment enough.

Notes:

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, Ga. — The Jacksonville State women's golf team finished sixth at the inaugural Lady Mocs Intercollegiate. Due to a wintry mix of snow, wind and cold temperatures, the event was cut from 54 holes to 18 at the Lookout Mountain Golf Club on Monday.

The University of Kentucky (325) claimed the tournament title by a single shot over host Chattanooga (326), while the Gamecocks were sixth with a total of 346.

Laura Cutler posted the low score for Jax State with a 40-43-83 to tie for ninth place, while Portia Abbott turned in a 42-44-86 to tie for 22nd place. Lucia Fernandez finished with an 88 to tie for 33rd place, while Alexandra Espinosa shot an 89 and Ashley Cox carded a 90.

Jacksonville State is off until the Ohio Valley Conference Championship April 23-25 at London, Kentucky. The Gamecocks have won an OVC record four straight Conference Championships and will look to defend their titles in the three-day, 54-hole event at Crooked Creek Golf Course.

JACKSONVILLE — Jacksonville State tallied 122 points to finish second at the fourth annual Gem of the Hills Invitational on Saturday at the JSU Track and Field Complex.

Alabama State captured the overall women's team title to end JSU's three-year run as team champion. The Gamecocks brought home four first place finishes on the afternoon. Veronica Citireag won the 800-meter run with a 2:16.92 and ran a 4:56.03 for seventh in the 1500-meter run.

Ebony Briskey placed first in the 100-meter dash clocking a 14.79 and then tied for first in the high jump with a height of 1.65 meters.

Andrea Hoke grabbed top honors in the javelin with a throw of 41.14 meters.

- From staff reports

ference's late teams is never easy, especially when the defense isn't making your job any easier. These are the growing pains he and all freshmen endure.

But SEMO was not in the mood to be kind and generous to Freshour or fellow freshman Malcolm Thomas.

Thomas came in with the Gamecocks trailing 10-4 in the bottom of the fifth, and retired the side in order. But the sixth inning did not go so well for him.

The Redhawks roughed Thomas up for eight runs in the sixth to put the game completely out of reach,

After JSU's rally to steal the nightcap of that double-header, SEMO narrowly avoided another Gamecock rally Sunday afternoon.

After falling behind 4-0, JSU made things interesting with a three-run sixth inning on the strength of doubles by Blake Seguin and Bluestein and an RBI single by Leach. Wall then scored as Seguin reached on an error in the seventh to tie the game at four.

But the Redhawks ensured that there would be

scored three runs of their own in the eighth inning. Tony Spencer delivered a two-out single off Mitch Miller after Daniel Watts (2-2) had walked two men earlier in the inning. Spencer, the Redhawks' lead-off hitter, paced their offense all series, going 5-for-10 with two walks, four runs and five RBIs. The Gamecocks now embark on a six-game stretch of non-conference games before returning to OVC action April 18 with a three-game series at Eastern Illinois, who is 7-0 in the OVC.

No mo' Mo, but here comes ... Greg Smith?

Georgia Tech wide receiver coming to JSU, will replace Dupree

By Al Muskewitz
Consolidated Publishing

Jacksonville State has found the answer to a most pressing need and his arrival will make the Gamecocks' 2009 season opener even more intriguing.

Georgia Tech A-back Greg Smith told JSU coach Jack Crowe on Monday he will transfer to the Gamecocks once he graduates from the Atlantic Coast Conference school in May.

Guess who the first game with his new team is against? Georgia Tech.

"I'm excited about it already," Smith said of JSU's 2009 season opener. "It's going to be a great game."

JSU officials declined to comment on Smith until he

enrolls in school, but that shouldn't be too far off. Smith said he plans to enroll at JSU the day after he gets his diploma from Tech so he can start working with Gamecocks quarterback Ryan Perrilloux.

"He was a big factor in my decision to go there," Smith said. "We're already talking about working, trying to get better together. Anything I can do to make this team better I want to do."

The Gamecocks are looking to replace Maurice Dupree, who was Perrilloux's favorite down-the-field target last year. After recording only 10 catches the previous season, Dupree snagged 10 touchdown passes in 2008, including two in the Georgia Tech game.

Smith was Tech's lead-

ing receiver in 2007 — 37 catches, 588 yards — but was moved to A-back in the new offensive scheme introduced in coach Paul Johnson's first season. He had three carries for 14 yards and two catches for 37 yards in the opener against JSU and finished the season with 135 all-purpose yards. He did not play in the Jackets' final three games last season (coach's decision).

He admitted the position change was the biggest factor in his decision to play elsewhere.

"That's exactly what it was," he said. "I'm a wide receiver. I hate running the ball. That's my natural position. I've been playing it since high school. I feel more comfortable there."

He will be a receiver at JSU.

The Atlanta native visited Portland State and former Atlanta Falcons coach Jerry Glanville over the weekend before deciding on the Gamecocks.

"Portland State is a great institution — they throw the ball every play — but ultimately it came down to being closer to the house so my friends and family can see me play," he said. "It was an easy decision."

The Gamecocks may not be finished getting BCS-level players. The Star has learned they have received releases to talk with LSU defensive back Phelon Jones and Tennessee sophomore tailback Lennon Creer, although no contact

with either player is believed to have yet been made.

Jones, a Mobile native, played in nine games last year with two starts. According to the Mobile Press-Register, Jones, a redshirt freshman last season, could be looking to transfer to Auburn, but if he does so, would have to sit out a year.

He had 15 tackles, including six against Troy and North Texas.

Creer was the Vols' second-leading rusher last season (388 yards). His best games came against UAB (8-93), Mississippi State (17-68), Wyoming (16-82) and Vanderbilt (13-80).

Softball shows no mercy in three-game sweep of SEMO

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

Since Jacksonville State University joined the Ohio Valley Conference, its softball team has absolutely dominated Southeast Missouri State, and last weekend was no different.

The Gamecocks (24-9, 9-1 OVC) swept a three-game weekend series over the Redhawks in impressive fashion. All three contests ended by way of the mercy rule, as JSU improved its all-time record against SEMO to 21-0.

The Gamecocks opened Saturday's double-header with back-to-back home runs from Chrissy O'Neal and Nikki Prier. Meredith Sellers followed with a two-run bomb later in the inning to put JSU up 4-0 after the first frame.

The four run cushion would be plenty for Karla Pittman — who allowed only one earned run over five innings — but the Gamecock offense continued to pour it on.

Prier drove in another run in the second inning with a single to center field, and Courtney Underwood followed with a two-run double, putting JSU

up 7-0.

The Gamecocks pushed five more across in the fourth frame on the strength of a Jackie Jarman three-run homer, sealing a 12-1 victory.

The Gamecocks continued to dominate in the nightcap of the double-header behind the pitching of Ashley Eliasson, who threw five innings of one-hit softball.

O'Neal and Prier opened the contest with back-to-back doubles, and Jarman tripled in the second frame to give JSU a two-run lead.

The Gamecocks broke the game open in the third, driving in five on the strength of two home runs. Prier hit her second of the day and eighth of the season to open the inning, and Allison Svoboda capped the frame with a three-run shot.

JSU scored two more in the fourth to take a 9-0 lead, claiming its second mercy-rule win of the weekend.

Prier finished the day six-for-six with two home runs and five RBI. For her efforts, the junior from Raleigh, N.C., received OVC Player of the Week honors for the second time this season.

Sunday saw more of the same for the Gamecocks,

as they cruised to a series sweep with an 11-1 win.

JSU scored seven runs in the first inning after a Mary Beth Ledbetter grand slam.

The game was never in doubt after that, as the Gamecocks had Eliasson in the circle once again. The Vallejo, Calif., native pitched all five innings, allowing only one unearned run to grab her 10th win of the season.

Kayla Collins finished off the game with a three-run home run in the bottom of the fourth.

The Gamecocks hit eight home runs and outscored SEMO 32-2 over the weekend, setting a school record for runs in a series.

JSU's pitching staff was just as impressive, holding the Redhawks to just one earned run on a .148 batting average.

The Gamecocks are now sitting atop the OVC standings and will be back in action this weekend, as they travel to Eastern Kentucky for a three-game series.



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An Abundance of Katherines

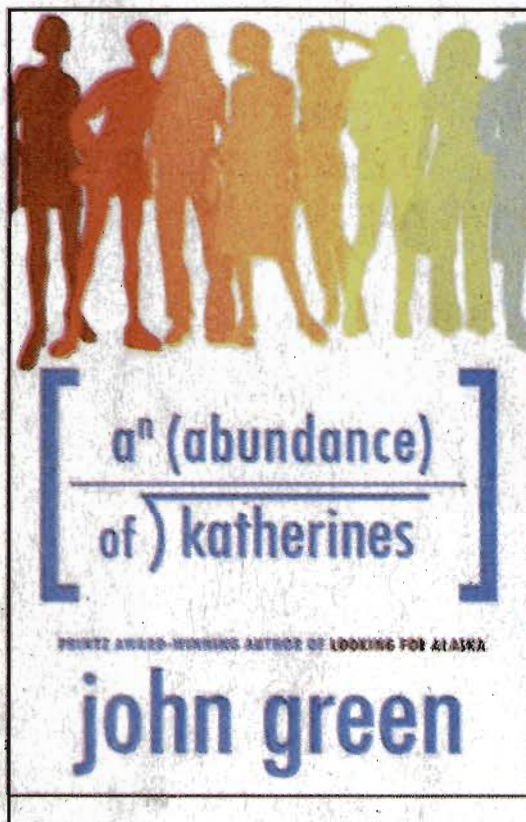
By Doran Smith
Staff Writer

John Green made his debut in 2005 with his award winning hit, *Looking for Alaska*. Since then he has published two other books; *An Abundance of Katherines* (2006) and *Paper Towns* (2008). He is not just an up and coming author, but in many ways has already found his way into the mainstream literary circles. He spent his childhood in Florida and attended a boarding school outside of Birmingham. His experience living in the south often finds its way into the setting of his novels. Furthermore, the boarding school (Indian Springs School) is the model of *Looking for Alaska's* school around which most of the book is set.

In the past few months I have had the privilege of reading several books. By a wide margin, the top of my list is dominated by *An Abundance of Katherines*.

I was quickly drawn into the world of the main character, Colin Singleton. He is an 18-year-old former child prodigy (former because one can only be a child prodigy when one is a child) with an obsession and/or coincidental habit of dating girls only with the first name of Katherine. Colin has just graduated from high school and was just dumped by his nineteenth Katherine.

After a very rough few days of mourning, Colin's best and only friend (Hassan) convinces him to go on a road trip. After ending their drive in the middle of



supposed to have educational value, but that they are hanging out with old unusual friends. Hassan is the clown and reshapes every event into a joke. What adds to the humor is the noticeable contrast between Colin's and Hassan's personalities. They reminded me of a younger, more modern odd couple.

Another element I enjoyed about this book was the footnotes. Unlike other author's use of footnotes for their own personal voice outside of the story, Green writes footnotes from the perspective of Colin. He uses footnotes to show his readers how Colin's mind really works. While the conversation may continue on the page, Colin's mind is racing off on another subject or tangent that holds little relevancy but is very amusing.

I would recommend this book to most readers. If you are in college, you are mature enough for the subject matter and have the

Richard Arrington: There is Hope for the World

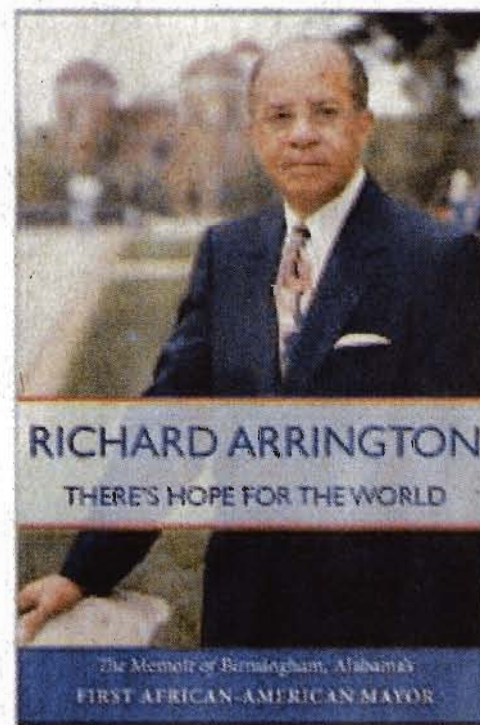
By Michael Bell
Special to The Chanticleer

Birmingham was once home to Eugene "Bull" Connor, who in 1961 used his authority as Commissioner of Public Safety to terrorize the African-American citizens of Birmingham. Connor ordered police officers to release dogs on crowds of civil rights demonstrators, and forced firefighters to douse innocent children with high-powered water hoses. These were the images broadcasted around the world when Birmingham was known as "the most segregated city in the world."

Eighteen years after Bull Connor ruled the streets of Birmingham, Richard Arrington was elected the city's first African-American mayor. In his most recent memoir, *There's Hope for the World*, Arrington reflects on his journey from Miles College to Detroit and back to Birmingham to serve an unprecedented five terms as the city's chief executive. Arrington tells of his efforts to revive the former steel city's ailing economy, school system, and public image.

There's Hope for the World begins in 1955 with Arrington boarding a bus headed for Detroit. The recent graduate of Miles College was on his way to become a graduate assistant at the University of Detroit. It is while Arrington is in Detroit that he experiences his first taste of racial integration. The social mixing between blacks and whites gives Arrington a new perspective on the Jim Crow laws of the South. In 1957, Arrington earns his master's degree and returns to Birmingham to become a professor at Miles College.

Arrington takes note of the city's increasing racial tension and violence during the 1960s. Arrington tells of the city's



numerous bombings and murders of innocent blacks and their white supporters. Arrington writes of his first time meeting Dr. Martin Luther King at a meeting of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. It is during these years that Arrington begins to contemplate the future of the African-American community in Birmingham. Arrington wishes that the integration he experienced in Detroit would soon come to his hometown of Birmingham.

Arrington continues his memoir with his election to the Birmingham City Council in 1971. Arrington becomes the second black to hold a seat on the council and uses his new office to champion reforms to the city's police and fire departments. In 1979, Arrington reluctantly begins a campaign for the mayor's office at the request of his associates. Arrington wins the election and becomes the first African-American mayor of Alabama's largest city.

Arrington becomes instrumental in Birmingham's transformation from an industrial center to the Southeast's leading center for banking, healthcare, and biomedical research. Arrington appoints the city's first black police chief, Johnnie Johnson. Under Arrington's leadership Birmingham reduces its crime-rate by 50 percent. Arrington pushed and achieved his goal of a \$250 million construction project for city schools and made Birmingham the only city in the Southeast with a \$100 million endowment fund.

There is Hope for the World is an in-depth look at the man who led Birmingham for 20 years. Arrington's memoir gives a refreshing look at post-civil rights America. There is truly hope for the world.



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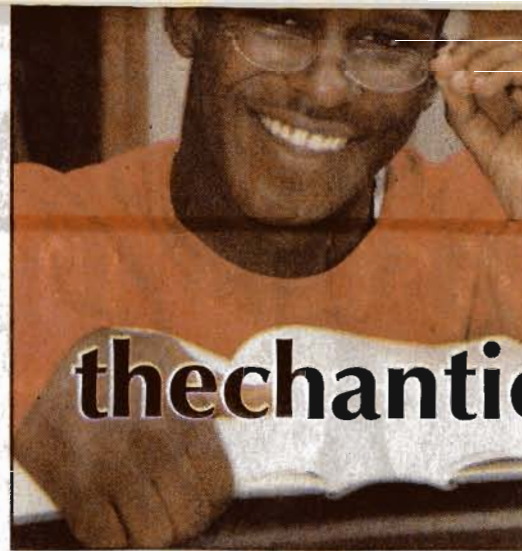
just graduated from high school and was just dumped by his nineteenth Katherine.

After a very rough few days of mourning, Colin's best and only friend (Hassan) convinces him to go on a road trip. After ending their drive in the middle Tennessee, they soon find jobs and decide to stay in the town until it has run through its usefulness. However, Colin's new found southern life is not without drama; some originating from back home in Chicago and some from his present location.

This book made me laugh. It can fool its reader's to believe not that they are reading a book that is

mind is racing off on another subject or tangent that holds little relevancy but is very amusing.

I would recommend this book to most readers. If you are in college, you are mature enough for the subject matter and have the necessary life experience to draw upon to understand *An Abundance of Katherines*. Although, there is some use of math in the book, one does not have to be a math major to enjoy it (I am certainly not). You can relax with this book and unwind for a while, but still learn a few random facts about history, Greek philosophy, yourself, and your environment. Have a good read!



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