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# The Chanticleer

"Cupid hates us...with a  
passion."

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The Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

February 12, 2009

## SGA kicks off election season

By Cecily Sanders  
Staff Writer

On Monday, the Jacksonville State University Student Government Association kicked off its 2009-2010 election season with candidate speeches in the TMB Auditorium.

Even as the auditorium was mostly empty, many of the candidates pointed out that students need to become more involved in the SGA, and they are all here to help make that happen.

Current SGA President Jennifer Nix called the meeting to order. First up were the candidates for Vice President of Organizational Affairs (VPOA). The VPOA candidates are Kayla Chandler, Timothy Long and Justin Martin.

Chandler was the first to speak. Her platform is Unity. She made it clear that she wishes to unify all of JSU's students, and pointed out that discrimination of any kind will not

be tolerated. She also believes in more community service for the SGA officers.

Timothy Long's platform is "Star Treatment." Long stressed that every student at Jacksonville State is a star and would be treated as one under his vice-presidency.

Justin Martin said that the SGA's image has been tainted and that he is "Just-IN time for 2009." His platform is a "three-point turn." "I believe there is always room for improvement," Martin said. "If we all do it together the SGA's future will be bigger and better."

The candidates for Vice President of Student Activities are Jasmine George, Jacolby Parks and Jessica Younce.

George stated that she would bring diversity to all events, and give the students a chance to plan the events. "It is all about you, the students" George said.

She said that a leader is a dealer in hope, and that is what she has for the next academic

year.

Next was Jacolby Parks. He began by apologizing for all of the rumors and misunderstanding from his 2008-2009 term. He said that it was a "wake-up call" and that he has washed his hands of it, and is here for a second chance at a second term. His platform is "ESPN" and his plan is "ACE," which stands for attractions, creativity, and elaboration. He stated that he felt as if he had planned many enjoyable events during his first term, and he knows he can do even better his second time around. Parks said that he has a "passion for this job."

Jessica Younce started out by saying, "Let me lead tomorrow." She says she "knows what it takes to be a leader," which is why she is the one for the job.

The candidates for Vice President of the Student Senate (VPSS) are Kelsey Butler,

See "Election," page 2



Campaign sheets for SGA elections have already begun popping up all over campus.  
Photo by Mandy Pearson / The Chanticleer



## Feeling the love

### Students get ready for Valentine's day

By Meredith Garrett  
Staff Writer

Jacksonville's chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association, Lambda Alpha Epsilon, organized a rose sale Tuesday in the TMB. Although the sale acted as a fundraiser for the fraternity's trip to the national competition in April, LAE also wanted to provide students with an affordable alternative to expensive florists.

Laura Rowell, a senior at JSU and member of Lambda

tioned, is a traditional gift unlike any other. No other Valentine's Day gift is able to imply such a wide range of emotion as concisely as the simplistic rose. For centuries, either as a subtle romantic icon or a powerful emblem of war, the rose has symbolized passion, beauty and fortitude.

Our modern Valentine's Day, though the contemporary customs are lighthearted and optimistic, is a celebration and a tradition rooted in struggle and sadness. During the third cen-

oned and awaiting death. Valentine fell in love with the jailer's daughter. Upon the delivery of a secret love letter sent centuries ago and signed "From Your Valentine," our romantic tradition began.

Today, we regard this holiday almost as a whimsical novelty. Depending on a person's relationship status, Valentine's Day is either celebrated with bubbly enthusiasm or completely ignored and almost boycotted.

Brandon Self, a junior at JSU, has a few ideas for Valentine's





Gayle West and Pam Ellis pose with the roses they were selling on Tuesday in the TMB. Photo by Mandy Pearson / *The Chanticleer*

Tuesday in the TMB. Although the sale acted as a fundraiser for the fraternity's trip to the national competition in April, LAE also wanted to provide students with an affordable alternative to expensive florists. Laura Rowell, a senior at JSU and member of Lambda Alpha Epsilon, explained why the group was selling roses. "We wanted to offer a traditional Valentine's Day present as a service to the students," Rowell said.

The rose, as Rowell men-

erful emblem of war, the rose has symbolized passion, beauty and fortitude.

Our modern Valentine's Day, though the contemporary customs are lighthearted and optimistic, is a celebration and a tradition rooted in struggle and sadness. During the third century in Rome, an Emperor declared that married men proved to be weak and distracted soldiers, so he banned marriage. Disregarding penalty, Saint Valentine performed marriages in secret and was eventually thrown in jail. While impris-

Today, we regard this holiday almost as a whimsical novelty. Depending on a person's relationship status, Valentine's Day is either celebrated with bubbly enthusiasm or completely ignored and almost boycotted.

Brandon Self, a junior at JSU, has a few ideas for Valentine's Day, but "the plans are only a rough draft," he said. "My girlfriend is a Ballerina and she practices all day," Self said. He was adamant about planning something special because of her hard work and long days

See "Roses," page 2

# Stalling actions shut down Alabama Senate

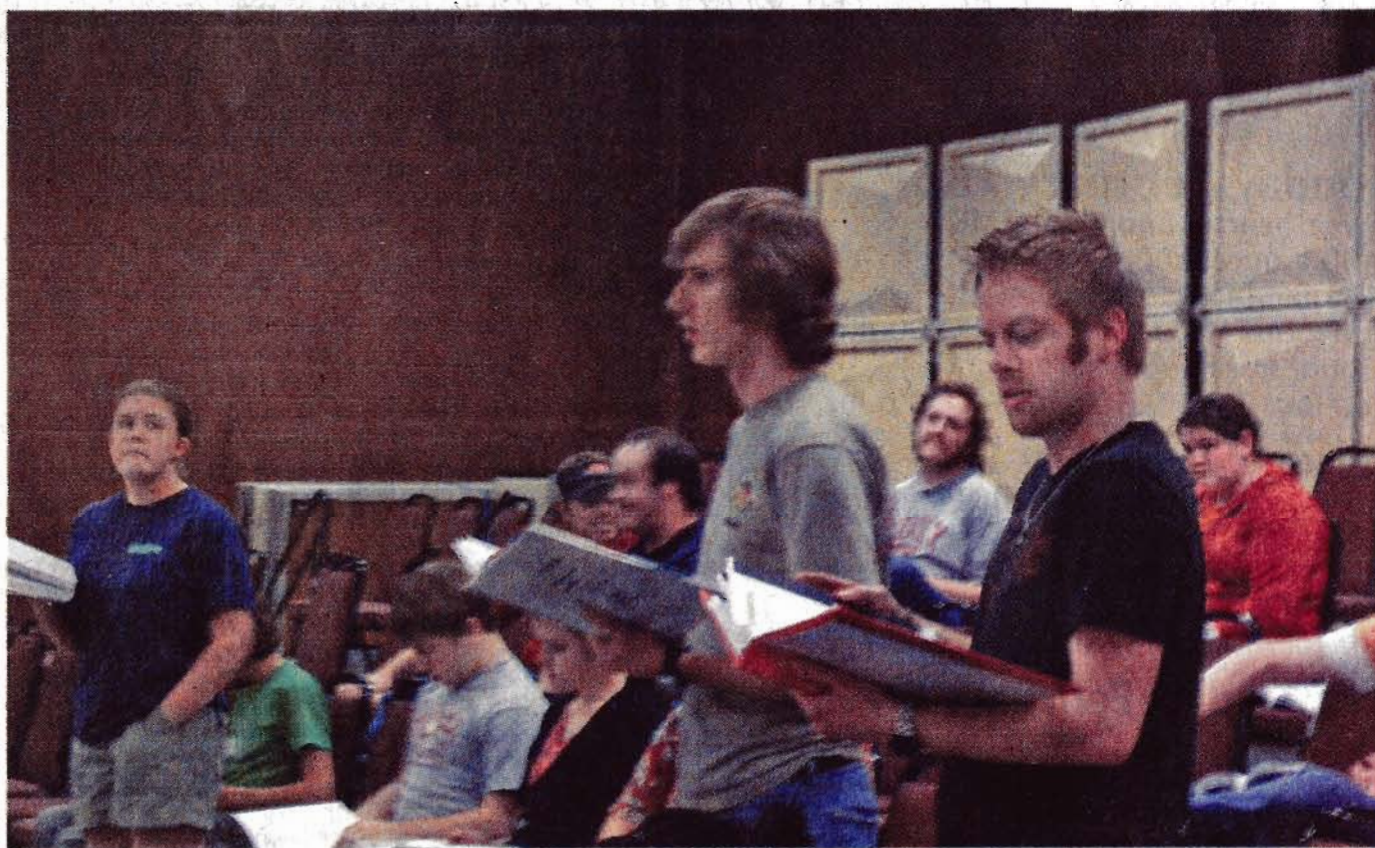
MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — The Alabama Senate has returned to its old habit of stalling.

Tuesday was the first day of the 2009 legislative session that senators could pass bills. But the Senate quickly bogged down with stalling tactics by Democratic Sen. Phil Poole of Tuscaloosa. Poole said he was upset that legislators from outside Tuscaloosa County were getting involved in a sewer line issue in his home county.

The Senate Rules Committee had proposed several bills for consideration Tuesday, but the Senate never got to them because of Poole's stalling. The list included a bill to license and regulate commercial tax preparers statewide.

House Speaker Seth Hammett said the Senate has followed the same pattern for three years, with different senators talking at length to keep bills from coming to a vote.

# Practice makes perfect



From left, Meg Griffin, Matt Headley and Chad Miller rehearse the opening of *Sweeney Todd* on Tuesday night. It was one of the cast's first rehearsals with the orchestra. *Sweeney* opens February 19 Photo Zach Childree / *The Chanticleer*

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## QUESTION of the WEEK

What are your plans for Valentine's Day?

- Enjoying the day with my friends - 19%
- A romantic night with my sweetie - 34%
- Hiding under a rock - 10%
- Kidnapping Cupid and beating him up - 31%
- I proposing (Shh) - 5%



Next week's question:  
Who would you like to see run for SGA President?

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# ON Campus

## Briefs

JSU Auctioneer School will be performing an auction for the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center, who will use the money to help those in need of the community. Dates for this auction will be Saturday, Feb. 14 – Sunday, Feb. 22 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. each day at JSU McClellan Rm. 2107.

## Campus Crime

### February 2

- An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Stone Center parking lot. Items stolen include a sociology book valued at \$120 and a communication book valued at \$120.

### February 4

- A theft of property was reported at Merrill Hall. Items stolen include a T-Mobile SideKick cell phone valued at \$150.

### February 5

- An unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle was reported at Penn House Apartments. Items stolen include a camo wallet, a Regions bank card, a Georgia driver's license, an insurance card and \$100.

## What's Happening

### Thursday, February 12

- Rudy Currence (R & B Singer) Performance  
Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- Sweethearts  
2nd Floor TMB, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- 100 Year Appreciation/Information Table, 2nd Floor TMB, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Fundraiser sponsored by: JSU Potter's Guild. 2nd Floor TMB, 11:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- JSU LGBT Meeting

## Picture of the week



Kim Sieb (left) and her friends get a photo-op with Cocky at the JSU Men's Basketball game on Thursday. If you would like to see your photo as 'Photo of the week', email it to [chantyeditor@gmail.com](mailto:chantyeditor@gmail.com). Photo Submitted by Kim Sieb

## Don't pity yourself this V-day

By Sara Adams  
Columnist

Valentines day...just the mention of it drives some people to shudder. It bestows upon us images of sappy cards, vomit-worthy gifts, and couples trying WAY too hard to be functional.

If one more person calls it "Singles Awareness Day", they are going to become violently familiar, very quickly, with the back of my hand.

Self-pity. Its a holiday staple. But it doesn't HAVE to be. Instead of sitting at home alone, cynically thinking about romance and expensive stuff that you KNOW you don't need, why not have fun, even if you DON'T have a special someone?

I'm thinking that Valentine's Day just isn't a huge deal.

Don't view it as a St. Valentine's Day Massacre on your heart, because Al Capone is NOT after you.

Valentine's Day is a good idea in theory, and the history of it is actually more romantic than the present day adaptation of the Hallmark Cards conspiracy. However, the whole idea prioritizes telling that special "someone" that you love them just one day a year. I wasn't brought up like that. My mom and dad have been married happily for 25 years. Yet, they don't treat the day as anything significant. When I asked my mom "why" a few years ago, she told me "Your daddy and I love each other every day of the year. If he could only say it ONCE a year, it wouldn't be worth hearing." I agree with my

ing your friends and yourself? After all, you love your friends and yourself, don't you?

Spend the day and the night having an amazing time. One amazingly fun idea is hitting up nightclubs and bars. Some of my favorites include: Club 1120, who will be throwing "the best dance party in Five Points"; The Quest (my favorite "alternative" club) will be throwing a Red-Hot Mardi Gras party and handing out free beads at the door; and Brother's Bar will be playing host to Abject Humanity, who will be playing there that night.

I personally adore the idea of throwing a party. Particularly a "pink, red, and white" party, featuring Cosmopolitans and Strawberry daqueries, the special Valentine's day M&M's, strawberry

you *are* with someone (but they're a rebound!!!SHHH!!!), you might end up throwing on your walking shoes and taking a long stroll down memory lane.

Stop. Cease and desist.

Don't fill your head with "whys" or "what-could-I-have-done-differents". Despite what may have happened, they are exs for a reason: It wasn't supposed to work out! Revisiting the incident and assaulting it with a barrage of possibilities or circumstances only reopens old wounds. And trust me, the angry, pus-filled, infected, bleeding battle scars of old relationships are NOT attractive.

So, don't call it Single's Awareness Day, celebrate your friends and yourself (because you are one hot piece), and go out and have fun, rather than sitting at home thinking about how



100 Year Appreciation/Information Table, 2nd Floor TMB, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- Fundraiser sponsored by: JSU Potter's Guild, 2nd Floor TMB, 11:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- JSU LGBT Meeting  
3rd floor Brewer Hall, 4:30 p.m.

## Friday, February 13

- Alpha Omicron Phi Founder's Day  
Leone Cole Auditorium, 12:00 – 11:00 p.m.
- Bake Sale  
2nd Floor TMB, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

## Saturday, February 14

- Valentine's Day
- Alumni Soul Food Dinner  
Leone Cole Auditorium, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- Spring Ballerina Auditions  
TMB Auditorium, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## Monday, February 16

- Sweethearts, 2nd Floor TMB  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Scholarship Pageant  
2nd Floor TMB, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Doughnut Fundraisers  
2nd Floor TMB, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, February 17

- SGA Organizational Council Meeting  
TMB Auditorium, 6:00 p.m.
- Breast Cancer Info/ Donations / T-shirt sale.  
2nd Floor TMB, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, February 18

- SGA Coffee House/ Open Mic Night  
TMB Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- Mr. & Mrs. NAACP Pageant.  
Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

## The Chanticleer

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of sitting at home alone, cynically thinking about romance and expensive stuff that you KNOW you don't need, why not have fun, even if you DON'T have a special someone?

I know, its a radical idea on the most romantic (barf) day of the year. Going out alone? Not attached at the hip to someone? Having to look at all those happy couples? Come on Sara, what are you thinking????!!

25 years. Yet, they don't treat the day as anything significant. When I asked my mom "why" a few years ago, she told me "Your daddy and I love each other every day of the year. If he could only say it ONCE a year, it wouldn't be worth hearing." I agree with my very smart mommy.

So what do we do about that pang of bitterness that still exists in the stomach of even the most avid "Anti-V-Day" activists? Why don't you spend the day celebrat-

## Election: SGA season

Eric Osborne, and Terrence Windham.

Butler said there are two reasons why she is right for the position: experience and passion.

Osborne came up with the platform of "LIGHT", which stands for: "Lead, involve & integrate, grow, habilitate, and time. He wishes to reach out to everyone and ended by saying, "Help me light up the future."

Windham pointed out that every student here at JSU is a member of the SGA. His platform is "PAC": proactive, accountability, and communication. He mentioned "The Chanticleer" as a way to better communicate with the student body about the SGA.

The candidates for the position of President are Rafael Ferrell, Michael Finn, Jerry Marzette, and Bryant Whaley.

Farrell said, "A vote for me is a vote for change." His platform is "For the students. By the students. With the students."

Finn's platform is "GOALS": Getting everyone involved, offering everyone the very best, aligning student life and academics, lifetime commitment to JSU, and striving for excellence.

Jerry Marzette spoke of getting longer hours for the library, food court, and cafeteria. Whaley wants to get JSU out of the shadows of Alabama and Auburn. He hopes that JSU will stop being a "suitcase" college.

All of the candidates said they are dedicated to making their ideas a reality.

There will be a debate on February 23 at 7 P.M. in the TMB auditorium

there that night.

I personally adore the idea of throwing a party. Particularly a "pink, red, and white" party, featuring Cosmopolitans and Strawberry daqueries, the special Valentine's day M&Ms, strawberry frosted cake, chips and dip, and ketchup with tater tots and french fries, neatly arranged on a party platter of course.

My final tip is this: don't use this day as an excuse to revisit the past. If you're single, or even if

bleeding battle scars on old relationships are NOT attractive.

So, don't call it Single's Awareness Day, celebrate your friends and yourself (because you are one hot piece), and go out and have fun, rather than sitting at home thinking about how tasty a bullet would be. Follow these steps, and you are sure to have a happy Valentine's Day.

How do I know? Because I'm single, and its going to be a great day.

## Roses: love in the air

at practice.

Thinking that his girlfriend might read this article and discover the plans, Self decided to keep his ideas secret. Nonetheless, he guaranteed he had a special Valentine's evening prepared for his girlfriend.

Others just prefer to disregard the holiday and use their time for the dull, yet practical task of homework. Landon Parris, a nursing student swamped in homework, does not have typical plans usually associated with Valentine's Day. "I have a date at the library with nursing books," Parris said with a grin.

Kelcey Moffett, a freshman, described a classic Valentine's Day date. After going to the museum or the movies and out to dinner, Moffett plans on going the park. "Maybe

we will just sit and have a romantic night, under the stars," Moffett said.

Everyone has a different way of commemorating Valentine's Day, but each is unique. For some, the holiday may come and go without a moment's consideration. For others, the holiday is highly anticipated and filled with secrets and surprises. Apart from that, the importance of the holiday revolves around thoughtfulness, devotion and the belief that love triumphs any other negative emotion. Whether it's a predictable heart-shaped box of chocolate, a cliche poem on a card or a giant fluffy bear, the material components of Valentine's Day are not complete without memorable time spent with the one you love.

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# Opinion

## Dating/Love: Overwhelmed with pink and red possibilities

By Julie Skinner

Valentine's Day – the one day of the year where a little rosy-cheeked man has the potential to swoop down, shoot you with an arrow and deliver love.

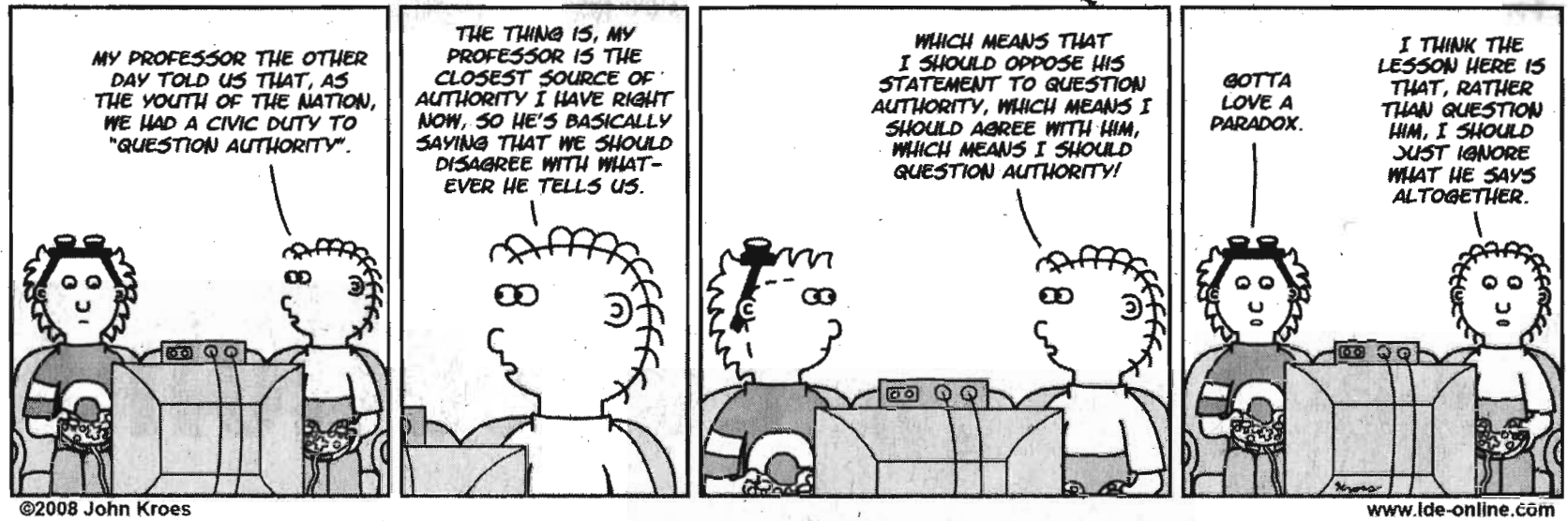
Or, the day of the year where girls hope their boyfriends will turn into hopeless romantics and sweep them off their feet, and guys pray that their girlfriends will be too distracted with eating chocolate to give them hell for not planning a moonlit picnic on a lake somewhere.

I've been there. I can remember some years when I didn't have a valentine, and I would be waiting around all day on February 14 for something to happen. Anything. A rose might be left on my car, a note taped to my door, a box of chocolates in my mailbox. Right. I can also remember being totally let down by boyfriends in the past because I felt like they just didn't "get it."

The thing is, we build little holidays like Valentine's Day up to be so much more than they should be. Valentine's Day shouldn't be the one time of year where your girlfriend/boyfriend makes you feel special and loved. If you're in a relationship, you shouldn't expect something extravagant. You should feel like you believe in your love, not like you're waiting around on it to be proven to you. The proof is the commitment you make over time. That certainly can't be built in one pink and red-drenched day.

Single people always tend to get a little down around this time. Who wouldn't? Every store you go into looks like Cupid threw up everywhere. It's easy to get caught up in the hype, and it's hard to free yourself from feeling like you're the only person without somebody. The truth is, I think more people dread the holiday than look forward to it.

Here's a tip for the guys. If your significant other likes sweets, make them something. The thought will outshine any blackened cookies. Take time writing something re-



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## Children of "Funky love"

### Age can matter, at least in the eyes of one child

By James Burton  
Special to The Chanticleer

I can honestly say that seeing a 40-year old man with a 20-year old girl makes me uncomfortable, but at the same time I can't criticize the relationship because if it weren't for people like them, I wouldn't be here.

When my parents got married on Dec. 23, 1983, my mom was 22 years old. My dad was 40. I am the world's worst when it comes to relationships, but my insight into other people's problems somehow seems fairly accurate.

So here is why I think some women date much older men (and vice versa). Often young women will go out into the world, be it college or the workforce, and consciously she feels and even knows that she is ready to go out on her own. Subconsciously, however, she feels the inseparable bond she had with her father and being away from him is traumatizing. How it gets to this is likely through over-sheltering, babying or something along those lines.

But the stubbornness of herself as a new player in the world makes her insistent that she can go out there, be successful, marry a good man and have lots of children... to make Daddy proud. What she doesn't realize, is that the lack of Daddy in her life to help guide her ways has caused her to find the next best thing: A relationship with a man who reminds her of Daddy. Someone who is willing to fill the gap

left by Daddy, but at the same time, fulfills all the needs of a relationship. The best of both worlds, right? Like those TVs with the DVD player built in? Not quite. Its always best to have a DVD and a TV separate, in case one breaks. You still have the other one. If a combo breaks, both have to be sent off for repair.

That's why you don't do the Daddy/Boyfriend combination. When one goes sour, they both go sour. And you may be able to do without the boyfriend part, but you can't live without the daddy part and often the young woman finds herself trapped in a situation she doesn't know how to get out of. My sister (a product of my father's first marriage to a woman who was around her age) is 39 years old, and she commented once that when she met my mother's father (who was only two months older than my dad), he strongly resembled our father.

So you see, my mother, (as many young women do) tried to replace her father with someone who was similar (or at least appeared that way) when she was looking for potential husbands. It's a reverse Oedipus Complex, if you will.

My recommendation for young women: I have no objection with you falling in love with men a lot older than you. Love is love is love. However, look for these signs:

1. If you are say, 21, and your love interest is 40, see how he acts. Does he act his age, or does he also act like he is 21? If you answer the latter,

then chances are his fun spirit and youthfulness will become a nuisance because when you mature, he won't. He's stayed acting 21 for the past 19 years for a reason.

2. If he does act his age, expect patronization. If he's old enough to be your father, then there will come a time when he will explain things to you like you were his child. Its not that he doesn't care about you, it's just programmed.

3. If he has more in common with your parents (who are probably around his age) more than you do, then you obviously have a generation gap that is often almost impossible to fill. (I know. I often had to translate things between my parents because they didn't have a clue what the other was talking about.)

What I want to say in closing is that love does overcome all obstacles, and if you love someone enough to look past things like them being your parent's age or not understanding your "generation" or whatever, then go for it. Best of luck to you. But don't jump into things half-cocked, because you may find yourself in a situation you can't get out of. And when you're in college, don't be so anxious to get married and have fifty children!

Don't rush things, and most importantly don't settle for anyone. If your relationship fails, or you walk away because you know it won't work, don't fret. As the great philosopher Victor Bullinger once said, "Another bus will be along in ten minutes."

## Phelps still all-American golden boy



up in the hype, and it's hard to free yourself from feeling like you're the only person without somebody. The truth is, I think more people dread the holiday than look forward to it.

Here's a tip for the guys. If your significant other likes sweets, make them something. The thought will outshine any blackened cookies. Take time writing something really sweet and meaningful in a card. Spending time and putting effort and thought into something is worth more than spending loads of money. The worst thing you could do on Valentine's Day is act like it's not a big deal.

Here's a tip for the girls. Calm down. Don't expect to be bathed in diamonds and massaged with pearls. It's one day. It is easy to get your hopes up and want to be surprised, but realize it's 24 hours of your relationship.

And this is for the single people. You do not need a "better" half to have a good Valentine's Day. You are whole. Go out with friends or munch on chocolate you bought yourself (because no one ever buys you your favorite anyway). Love can be shared between many things, not just between two people in love.

Even though I'm pumped about spending Valentine's Day with my boyfriend this year, I don't have unrealistic expectations. I just want to remind him how much he means to me the other 364 days out of the year, and how every day feels a bit like Valentine's Day when we're together.

The things that matter on February 14 are the same things that matter any other day of the year. It matters that you feel loved, remembered and respected. And you don't need a significant other to feel that.

in the world makes her insist that she can go out there, be successful, marry a good man and have lots of children... to make Daddy proud. What she doesn't realize, is that the lack of Daddy in her life to help guide her ways has caused her to find the next best thing: A relationship with a man who reminds her of Daddy. Someone who is willing to fill the gap

My recommendation for young women: I have no objection with you falling in love with men a lot older than you. Love is love is love. However, look for these signs:

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And when you're in college, don't be so anxious to get married and have fifty children!

Don't rush things, and most importantly don't settle for anyone. If your relationship fails, or you walk away because you know it won't work, don't fret. As the great philosopher Victor Bullinger once said, "Another bus will be along in ten minutes."

# Phelps still all-American golden boy

By Tony Manfred  
Uwire

Prominent TV commercial actor and occasional swimmer Michael Phelps publicly apologized Sunday for smoking weed. Phelps was compelled to apologize not because he ripped his first bowl and felt just oh-so awful afterwards, but because some British newspaper published a photo of him smoking out of a bong. As it turns out, weed-smoking swimmers — at least unapologetic ones — lack the ability to sell inappropriate beachwear to old, fat Europeans.

The photo and subsequent admission of guilt have spawned the obligatory backlash from various news and sports media squafes — the main objection being that Phelps is a role model and smoking the reefer is a very un-role model thing to do. Yet, I'd like to point out that even before the bong incident, a kid who modeled himself after Phelps would (a) spend the vast majority of his non-sleeping life swimming back and forth in a vat of chlorine and gross YMCA germs, (b) eat a painful 12,000 calories of crappy food everyday, (c) get a DUI at the ripe old age of 19, (d) date a Vegas cocktail waitress and (e) single-handedly ruin an entire episode of Saturday Night Live.

But reality doesn't really matter when it comes to role models. Here are some insights, both light and heavy, considering the notion of the American Golden Boy:

1. People only care about swimming for approximately 45 seconds every four years, and this probably helps Phelps' case. I mean, Kobe had to play road games while he was still on trial and widely con-

sidered a kinda-rapist, but Phelps has four years to let this thing blow over by default.

2. Phelps' sponsor Omega, a Swiss watchmaker, dismissed the incident as a "non-issue," which, for the record, seems to be the Swiss stance on everything, including World War II.

3. Speedo finds itself in the precarious position of having to stand by Phelps no matter what he does. As the only important company in a sport with exactly one marketable asset, Speedo's survival is disproportionately dependent upon Phelps' ability to woo the 12-and-under crowd. And because his fans are nearly all little kids who will be heartbroken by the fact that their "hero" smokes weed, the bong photo hurts Phelps in this respect. But show me a little kid who knows what a bong is, and I'll give you a million bucks.

4. If you had to put odds that either Phelps or Jamaican sprinter and possible "Half Baked" extra Usain Bolt would be photographed smoking weed, what would they have been? I'd say somewhere around Bolt - 420420420420. If Usain does roll up the occasional blunt, which is likely considering something like two-million percent of Jamaicans blaze, that means that the fastest humans in the world on both land and water smoke weed. That's funny for all sorts of reasons, not the least of which is the possibility of potheads sincerely citing Phelps and Bolt as examples of how weed should be legalized because it makes you sick-nasty at sports.

5. The media dog pile that's taken place over the last couple days is undoubtedly fueled by society's contempt for swimmers. Let's be honest, if anyone who went

to high school was forced to define male swimmers in a single word, wouldn't that word be douchebags? They were the guys who used the word "son" a lot and made sure you knew they practiced this morning at 5 a.m. They were the guys who got really drunk every weekend then tried to hookup with someone else's girlfriend. Maybe constant exposure to chlorine makes you fall in love with yourself. The arrogance is palpable. They're like rowers but without body hair and trust funds.

6. How is it possible that this sort of thing doesn't happen to every athlete, actor or celebrity under the age of 25? Facebook has not only enabled us to systematically organize, sort and comment on embarrassing pictures, it has created a situation where our generation feels obligated to photograph any embarrassing act. Now add this tendency to the terrifyingly intrusive, celebrity-obsessed culture in this country and you have a situation where any transgression will certainly be chronicled for the world to see. So where's the picture of Kevin Durant smoking the Pineapple Express cross joint? Where's Hilary Duff laying in a pool of her own vomit? Where's Shia LeBeouf passed out drunk, with stuffed soggy French fries up his nose and a lit cigarette wedged between his lips?

7. For some reason the vast majority of commentary has called Phelps' decision "stupid." In what way is it stupid? It would be stupid to blame yourself for having a stranger take a picture of you unknowingly. It'd be stupid to live like a priest for fear that Visa won't bankroll your strip club visits if you get caught living like a regular human. It'd be stupid to think about the little swimmer boys and girls in Thousand Oaks and Westchester

who adore you while you're having a good time at a party in South Carolina. And, dammit, it'd be stupid to think that taking the occasional bong rip makes you a bad guy and the object of national criticism.

To me, it's obvious that Phelps isn't actually sorry. So why apologize? Imagine if Phelps came out and said, "Yeah that's me in the picture, it's not that big of a deal. Someone can smoke weed and still be congratulated for his work ethic, bitches. Get over it." The media coverage would be a more substantive discussion about marijuana and America, not an obligatory mish-mash of condemnation and corny weed jokes.

He said...  
They said...  
We said...

Last week's story about alleged discrimination in a campus fraternity generated a lot of comments. To read others' opinions and to add your own two cents, visit [thechanticleeronline.com](http://thechanticleeronline.com) and let your voice be heard.

## The Chanticleer

Student newspaper of JSU since 1934

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

### Letters Policy:

The Chanticleer welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typed. Letters may be hand-delivered or sent through campus mail to our offices in Room 180, Self Hall, or to the mailing address to the left. Letters may also be e-mailed to [chantyeditor@gmail.com](mailto:chantyeditor@gmail.com).

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



# JSU Education Fair!

February 19, 2009

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*Education Fair*





# Education Fair

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# List of Schools Attending the Education Fair

## February 19, 2009, 8 a.m. - 12 noon

### Stephenson Hall

#### Alabama Schools Attending:

Anniston City Schools: All Majors

Blount County Board of Education: All Majors

Cleburne County Board of Education: Biology, Counseling, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Collaborative Teacher, Middle School Endorsement, Mathematics, General Sciences

Dallas County Board of Education: All Majors

Decatur City Schools: All Majors

Fairfield City School System: Elementary Education, Library/Media, Special Education, Mathematics

Huntsville City Schools: All Majors

Jefferson County Schools: All Majors

Leeds City Schools: All Majors

Oxford City Schools: All Majors

Pell City School System: All Majors

Randolph County Board of Education: All Majors

Roanoke City Schools: All Majors

Tallapoosa County Schools: Biology, English/ Language Arts, Collaborative Teacher, Special Education, Mathematics, Social Science, Spanish, General Science



Roanoke City Schools: All Majors

Tallapoosa County Schools: Biology, English/ Language Arts, Collaborative Teacher, Special Education, Mathematics, Social Science, Spanish, General Science

## Georgia Schools Attending:

Barrow County Schools: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Collaborative Teacher, Mathematics, Social Science

Bibb County Public School District: Counseling, Music Education, Instrumental Vocal/Choral, Early Childhood Education, Education Administration, Elementary Education, English, Collaborative Teacher, Middle School Endorsement, Family and Consumer Science, Mathematics, Social Science, Spanish, General Science, Technology Education

Bremen City Schools: All Majors

Carrollton City Schools: Early Childhood Education, Middle School Endorsement, Mathematics, General Science

Clayton County Public Schools: Music Education, Instrumental Vocal/Choral, Early Childhood Education, Collaborative Teacher, Family and Consumer Science, Technology Education

Cobb County School District: All Majors

Coweta County School System: Collaborative Teacher, Mathematics, General Sciences

DeKalb County School System: All Majors

Floyd County Board of Education: Early Childhood Education, English/ Language Arts, Middle School Endorsement, Mathematics

Gwinnett County Public Schools: Biology, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Collaborative Teacher, Middle School Endorsement, Mathematics, General Sciences

Harris County School District: All Majors

Muscogee County Schools: All majors

Rome City Schools: All Majors





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## Sports

## Not result-oriented

*Gamecocks start 3-2, but focusing on preparing for OVC schedule*



Jered Staubs

chantysports@gmail.com

## Handing out some hardware

Last week, I actually had a teacher say that grades are largely irrelevant when it comes to finding a job.

Instead what you do outside class matters, internships matter, what you do in the field matters.

That's how I've always approached college anyways, but it's nice to hear some honesty from someone who has been there.

So, yeah, I'm a terrible student. When I happen to be watching "Jeopardy" or "Cash Cab", I know more of the answers than my friends with 4.0 GPAs or my mother with her doctorate, but I don't do as well in class.

If a class isn't interesting or if I'm not learning anything, I either don't go or don't pay attention. That's just how I'm wired.

But I do a lot outside class, and hopefully that eventually leads to what I — and the aforementioned teacher — feel it should.

As you're reading this, I'm in Nashville accepting a sports-writing award.

The award is what it is. It's nice to be recognized — though I feel the only thing I do well that most legitimate writers don't is turn disinteresting material into an interesting story — but it's not really a life-altering thing.

But I figured I would pay it forward and hand out some awards of my own

By Jered Staubs  
Sports Editor

A lot of times people have a tendency to get worked up over results, both positive and negative.

JSU softball coach Jana McGinnis is of course looking for those positive results, but she is also aware that the non-conference schedule is largely a period of preparing for the OVC season, when her Gamecocks will be dealing with the expectations of winning almost every night.

So when games the Gamecocks aren't supposed to win — such as Sunday at Alabama and Tuesday against Auburn — don't see her team come out on top, she is able to keep things in perspective. Despite only two combined runs in those games, McGinnis feels her team is making progress offensively.

"I thought we did a better job (against Auburn)," she said. "(Auburn starting pitcher Jenee Loree) was named SEC Player of the week last week. She pitched 22 innings and didn't give up any runs. We scored two off her, so that is a plus.

"Our freshman are getting better. You know, they're not used to seeing this type of pitching. You look at Allison Svoboda, the first two times up she struck out and the third time she drew a walk. It's getting better, but I'm not going to worry about it. Early in the season it's sporadic. It's hard to put back-to-back-to-back hits together."

The Gamecocks did win their first three games at the South Alabama Jaguar Invitational in Mobile before ultimately losing to then #2 (and current #1) Alabama by a score of 9-0.

The story of the wins figures to be a familiar one this season, at least until the offense comes into its own. The Gamecocks won relatively low-scoring games on the strength of out-pitching their opponents.

Ashley Eliasson started the opener for the Gamecocks against Memphis, and picked up where she left off a year

ago. The sophomore struck out seven and allowed only four hits and one run in the complete game victory. Eliasson, who would record a save in JSU's third win of the season, received OVC Pitcher of the Week honors.

The next two starters were only slightly less dominant.

Karla Pittman, making her first start since 2007 after being redshirted last season due to a knee injury, also pitched a complete game, allowing only two hits in a 6-2 win.

McGinnis and pitcher Melissa Dowling both feel Pittman is pretty close to returning to her form of a couple years ago.

"I think physically she is fine," McGinnis said. "I think mentally what frustrates her is she hasn't pitched since 2007, and when she came out this weekend, she expected to pitch the way she pitched back then. When she didn't, she started getting a little mad at herself and it was taking her out of her game.

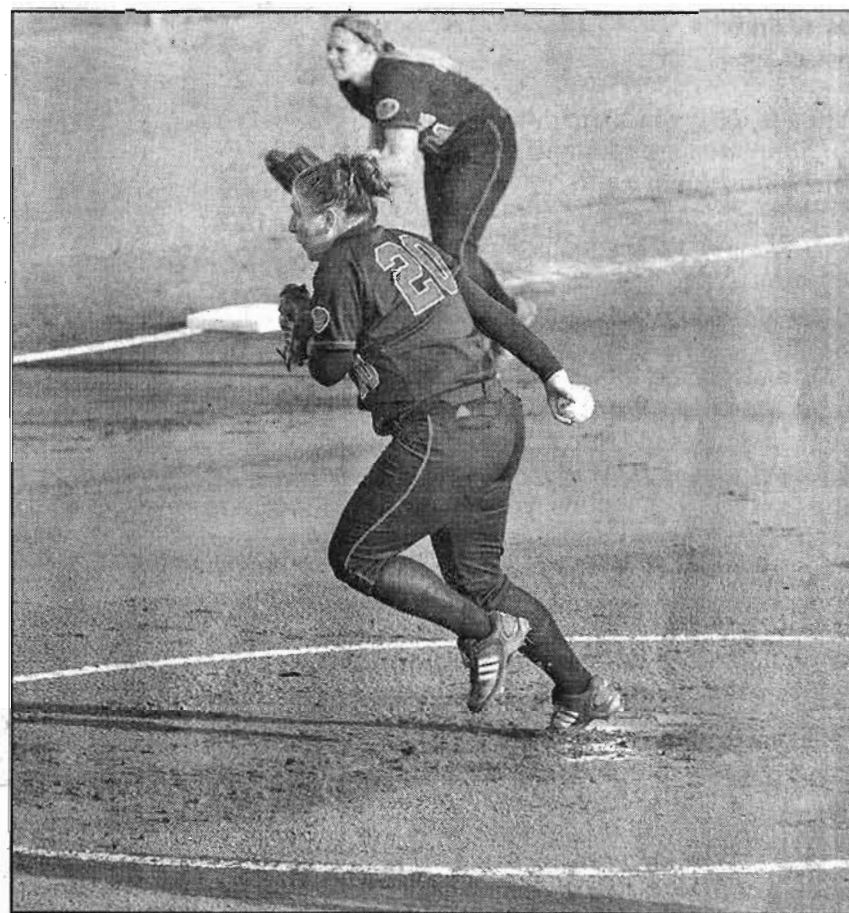
"That's a progress. The main thing is that we have her ready for the start of conference season. If she keeps working, I know she'll get it."

That would set up a rare situation for the Gamecocks, who have mostly relied on two pitchers in recent seasons, but have a bullpen surplus this season.

"We have five pitchers on this team, and every one of them is worthy of a start," Dowling said. "Any one of them can go out and dominate the way I pitched well (against Auburn)."

It's a blessing to have so many arms at her disposal, but the situation also naturally lends itself to some of the pitchers in lesser or unusual roles. An early example was Dowling — who won JSU's third game, going 6 innings and allowing one run — coming in to relieve a struggling Eliasson in the Auburn game.

Trailing 5-2 after 2 1/3 innings and facing a solid Auburn pitching staff, it was mandatory to keep the Tigers' offense off the board the rest of the way. Dowling did that, allowing no more



Melissa "Doc" Dowling pitched 4 2/3 scoreless innings against Auburn Tuesday night. Photo courtesy of James Harkins/JSUFan.com/File

than one base runner in any of her 4 2/3 innings of work. Though the JSU offense never crossed home plate again, it is that kind of performance that McGinnis realizes will benefit this team down the road.

"One of the bright spots of (the Auburn) game was seeing Doc come in in relief, because that's something that, in the past, she has struggled with," McGinnis said. "I thought she came in with a lot of confidence and control and did a very good job."

McGinnis said that last year Dowling may not have come in and had the same success because she would be too pumped up, but that the senior has shown a new level of maturity and

"wanting the ball" in the off-season and early part of this season.

With two other bona fide elite pitchers on the roster, Dowling realizes she must turn in quality efforts if she is going to keep being handed the ball. Still, she said having so many reliable arms is going to be a big plus when it comes to reaching the team's ultimate goal.

"Whatever my role on this team is going to be, that's the role I'm going to take," Dowling said. "It would be nice (to be recognized as the team's ace), but anything to make this team better and to win another championship ... you know, our goal is for the World Series, and anything I can do to get us there, that's what I will do."



... to be recognized — though I feel the only thing I do well that most legitimate writers don't is turn disinteresting material into an interesting story — but it's not really a life-altering thing.

But I figured I would pay it forward and hand out some awards of my own.

#### The John Nash Award

To the JSU men's basketball team, who has displayed schizophrenic characteristics all season. At times, it has convinced me (and most other followers) they are among the elite in the OVC, and at other times I have been convinced they will not even make the conference tournament.

#### The Beatrix Kiddo Award

To JSU's women's basketball team. Much like Uma Thurman's character in *Kill Bill* was buried alive and somehow escaped, the girls' team appears to be trying to rise from a premature burial.

#### The Shia LaBeouf Award

To DeAndre Bray. LaBeouf continues to receive marquee roles despite odd physical characteristics and no discernible talent. The angle of Bray making the most of his height (5'6" at best) has been beaten into the ground, but his performance against Eastern Kentucky (7 shots, all 3s, all made) was the epitome of maximizing shot selection.

#### The Geddy Lee Award

To JSU's pep band, the HardCorps. Much like Rush would be considered one of the greatest bands of all time if its lead singer, Geddy Lee, didn't have a voice that tends to grate on people, the HardCorps do a lot well, but a couple things that are really annoying.

They are good at pissing off the road fans and players, so that's a plus. The problem is they are loudest when JSU is shooting free throws. Also, how about some non-upbeat music after JSU loses? "Fell on Black Days" is a good song, it can show off your musical ability, and it kind of fits the situation better.

#### The Tool Academy Award

To the biggest tool in professional sports, Curt Schilling. Schilling has long taken it upon himself to throw everyone under the bus, and it shouldn't come as a surprise that he is blabbering on about God knows what now.

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## Efezokhae tops 1,000 points, JSU loses in OT

From staff reports

JACKSONVILLE — Jolie Efezokhae scored 19 points to become Jacksonville State's ninth member of the 1000-point club as the Gamecocks came up short in an 87-77 loss to Morehead State in overtime on February 5 at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

The Lynn, Mass., native has 1,014 points moving her past Jana Bright for eighth place on JSU's career scoring list.

Jacksonville State held a 53-33 lead in the second half before Morehead State chipped away cutting the lead to 69-68 on a Tiffanie Stephens three-pointer with 1:27 left in the contest.

Brittany Pittman's layup with 43 seconds left in the game gave the Eagles their first lead since 16:51 of the first half. Pittman would make another layup with 28 seconds left to push the lead to 72-69 before JSU's Eren McMichael connected on a long three-pointer to tie the game and force overtime.

Wiley scored 14 points as the only other Gamecock to finish in double figures.



Freshman Brittany Wiley catches the ball in the post and prepares to negotiate a double-team against Eastern Kentucky. The Gamecocks blew out Colonels 73-55. Photo courtesy of James Harkins/JSUFan.com

## Gamecocks break losing streak vs. EKV

From staff reports

JACKSONVILLE — Jolie Efezokhae scored 21 points, collected eight rebounds and blocked four shots to help Jacksonville State to a 73-55 win over Eastern Kentucky on February 7 at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

The Gamecocks snapped a four-game losing streak to improve to 5-18 overall and 2-11 in the Ohio Valley Conference. Eastern Kentucky dropped its second game of a two-game road trip, falling to 6-16 overall and 3-10 in league play.

EKU had an early 4-3 lead before Jax State went on a 13-0 run to take the lead for good. Efezokhae's three-pointer with 10:51 left in the first half gave the Gamecocks a 15-4 lead.

Brittany Wiley and Candice Carmine each scored 10 points while Wiley had eight rebounds. Danielle Benchy and Zenobia Pitts handed out six and five assists, respectively.

Kayla Drake was EKV's top scorer with 12 points. Nadia Mossong pulled down 12 rebounds followed by Cherie White with 11.

Jacksonville State travels to UT-Martin for a 5:30 p.m. game on Thursday in Martin, Tenn.

## What's going on around campus: Rifle wins fifth consecutive OVC championship

From staff reports

After claiming the smallbore portion on Friday, the Jacksonville State Rifle team finished with a 2,324 points to win the Ohio Valley Conference Air Rifle title on Sunday while sealing its fifth straight overall League Championship in the process.

The Gamecocks swept the league's top honors with Head Coach Ron Frost being named the OVC Coach of the Year. Brian Carstensen was selected the OVC Freshman of the Year and the Smallbore Athlete of the Year while Michael Dickinson was the OVC Air Rifle Athlete of the Year.

Carstensen and Dickinson were also named First-Team All-OVC in smallbore and air rifle while Carstensen also earned All-OVC Newcomer honors in smallbore and air

rifle.

Andrea Dardas was named All-OVC Air Rifle Newcomer and to the First-Team Air Rifle squads while teammate Phil Huckaby earned First-Team All-OVC Smallbore and Second-Team All-OVC Air Rifle honors.

• Jacksonville State Men's Tennis team is the preseason pick to win the Ohio Valley Conference title while the JSU Women's Tennis team was picked second in the preseason poll voted on by the League's head coaches.

The Gamecock men earned 62 points followed by Tennessee Tech, which received 55 points for a predicted second place finish. Eastern Kentucky is picked third with 53 points followed by Eastern Illinois and UT Martin with 38 points

each.

On the women's side, Eastern Illinois is the predicted winner with 81 points while Jacksonville State grabbed second place with 71 points. Murray State is third with 61 points while Tennessee Tech earned 58 points for a fourth-place predicted finish.

• Jeff Rhodes, Takisha Parham, Ebony Brisky, Amber Wiley and Veronica Citireag represented the Jacksonville State Track and Field well program at the New Balance Challenge over the weekend.

"This was a real eye-opening experience for our kids," said Head Coach Steve Ray. "Unless any of them are to ever make it to the national championship finals, I'm not sure there is a bigger indoor track and field environment in the country. The

folks at the Armory and New Balance certainly know how to pull off a major track and field meet. This meet had five times the number of competitors that actually make it to the NCAA championship meet."

Rhodes was JSU's top finisher, placing seventh in the men's collegiate mile-run with a time of 4:13.61. Tennessee's Michael Spooner won the event in 4:10.31 in a field of 51 competitors.

• Head football Coach Jack Crowe calls the 2009 Jacksonville State University signees the best he has ever signed, and it's hard to argue with that when you look at the credentials of the class.

Crowe announced the 2009 class during a luncheon on campus to more than 100 people, including the University Presi-

dent, members of the Board of Trustees, key officials, top boosters, avid supporters and members of the media.

"We're very excited about the class that we've signed," Crowe told the audience. "We feel like we've met all our needs for next season and the years to follow with this talented group of recruits."

• Jacksonville State has been picked as the 2009 preseason favorite to win the Ohio Valley Conference Baseball Championship, while junior Ben Tootle has been named the preseason Pitcher of the Year, in a vote of the 10 head baseball coaches and announced today.

The Gamecocks received five of the first-place votes and 61 total points to edge past Eastern Illinois.



# Home, sweet home

## *Gamecocks take two out of three during homestand*

By Jared Gravette  
Assistant Sports Editor

After a long road trip, the Jacksonville State men's basketball team came home with something to prove.

And the Gamecocks (11-12, 5-9 OVC) did just that, squeaking out two five-point victories over Morehead State and Eastern Kentucky over the weekend.

"We had played well for four games out on the road. We were 1-3 in that road trip but could have easily been 3-1," JSU coach James Green said. "I really wanted us to play well in front of our fans. Those two games gave us some enthusiasm and excitement amongst our fans."

"I thought it was big, and I think it proves that we can play with people when we are committed to certain things. I thought those were two really good wins — probably our two best wins in league play."

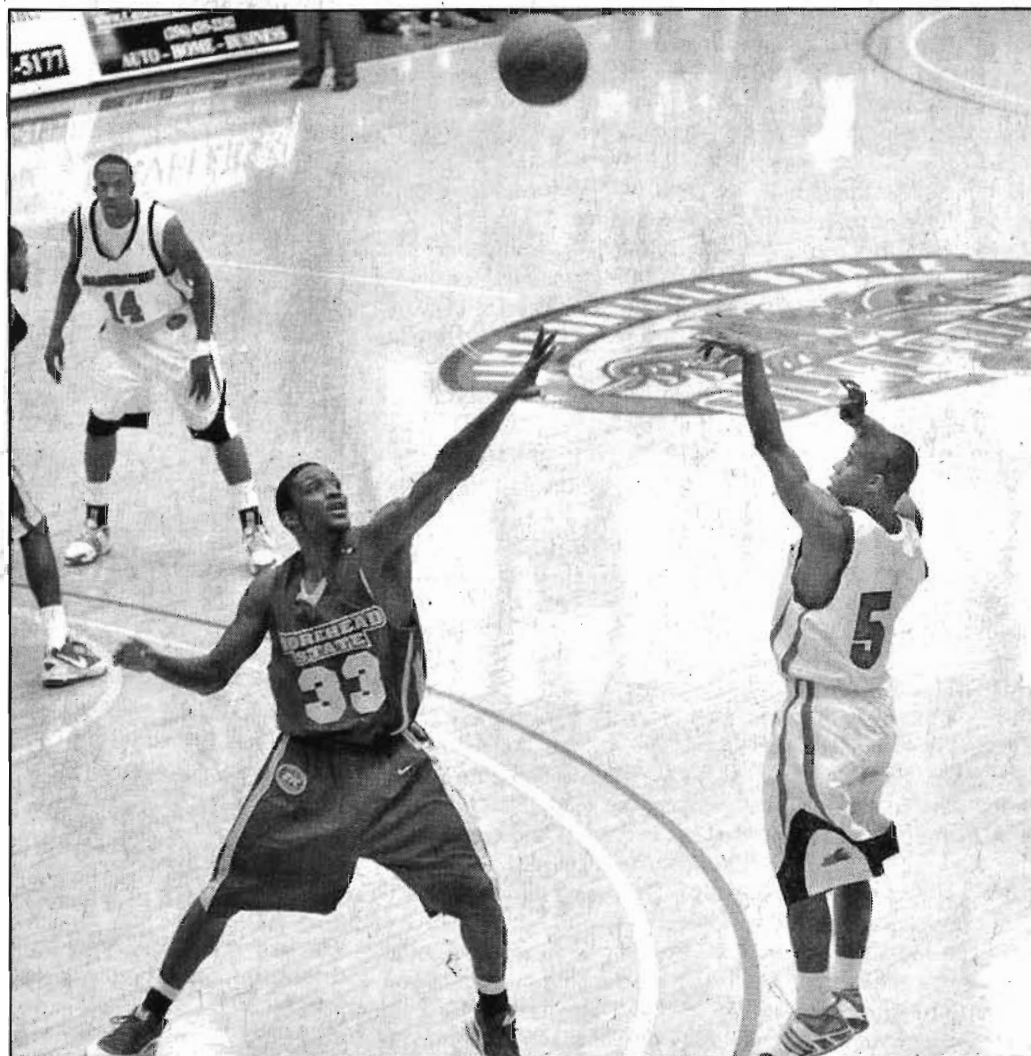
If there was a common theme in both of the Gamecocks' wins, it was DeAndre Bray putting the ball in the basket.

Not known for his shooting prowess, the senior point guard from Atlanta started the weekend with an 18-point barrage against league-leading Morehead State, as the Gamecocks upended the Golden Eagles 57-52.

Morehead State took a four-point lead into the half, but Bray's 13 points after intermission was the difference.

"I just told myself that I was going to make my shots that I take," Bray said. "I feel like if I make my shots that we will definitely win because I already pass it a lot and distribute it well. If I make my shots, it gives us a better chance to win. I just felt like shooting."

Evidently he didn't feel like missing. Bray outdid himself on Saturday against



DeAndre Bray takes a shot from behind the arc against Morehead State Thursday night. The senior point guard carried the Gamecock offense throughout the weekend, scoring 39 points in two JSU victories. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

Eastern Kentucky, nailing all seven of his shots from behind the arc to set a career-high in points scored with 21.

"He (Bray) did a great job for us. He let it come in a natural rhythm," Green said. "He has shot the ball much better of late. It was very timely to do it at home against those two teams. We need him to be able to make shots when the

clock is running down."

Bray wasn't the only Gamecock to piece together a brilliant performance on Saturday. In fact three JSU players finished with a double-double.

Jonathan Toles didn't shoot the ball well but managed to set his teammates up with good looks all night long, finishing with 11 points and 11 assists.

Stephen Hall and Nick Murphy both scored 11 points and reached double-digits in rebounds, as the Gamecocks walked away with a 75-70 victory.

### Missing out on tourney security

After wins over two of the conference's best, JSU took the night off on Monday, falling to Tennessee State 80-70.

Despite what Green called a lack of focus, the Gamecocks could have easily been in the thick of things at the end of the game, but free-throw shooting killed any chance of that.

JSU shot 46.9 percent from the foul line, making only 15 of 32 attempts.

"If you are not making free throws, that takes energy away from you," Bray said. "If you are scoring, I think that gives you energy, but you still have to have your defense there. We were missing, so we had to fight extra hard. We could have made it easier if we had made our free throws."

The Gamecocks struggled on the defensive end as well, as the Tigers shot 58.5 percent from the floor.

"I didn't see the focus coming into the game that I felt like we needed," Green said. "One of the last things we said was — just in case we don't shoot it well — lets make sure we get stops. Lets guard every possession and that will lead to a win."

"We didn't play good offense, and we gave up 58.5 percent on our home court when we shoot 37."

The Gamecocks are currently in a three-way tie for seventh place with Tennessee State and Tennessee Tech with four games left to play. The first of those four games is tonight, as JSU travels to UT-Martin, who has won eight games in a row.

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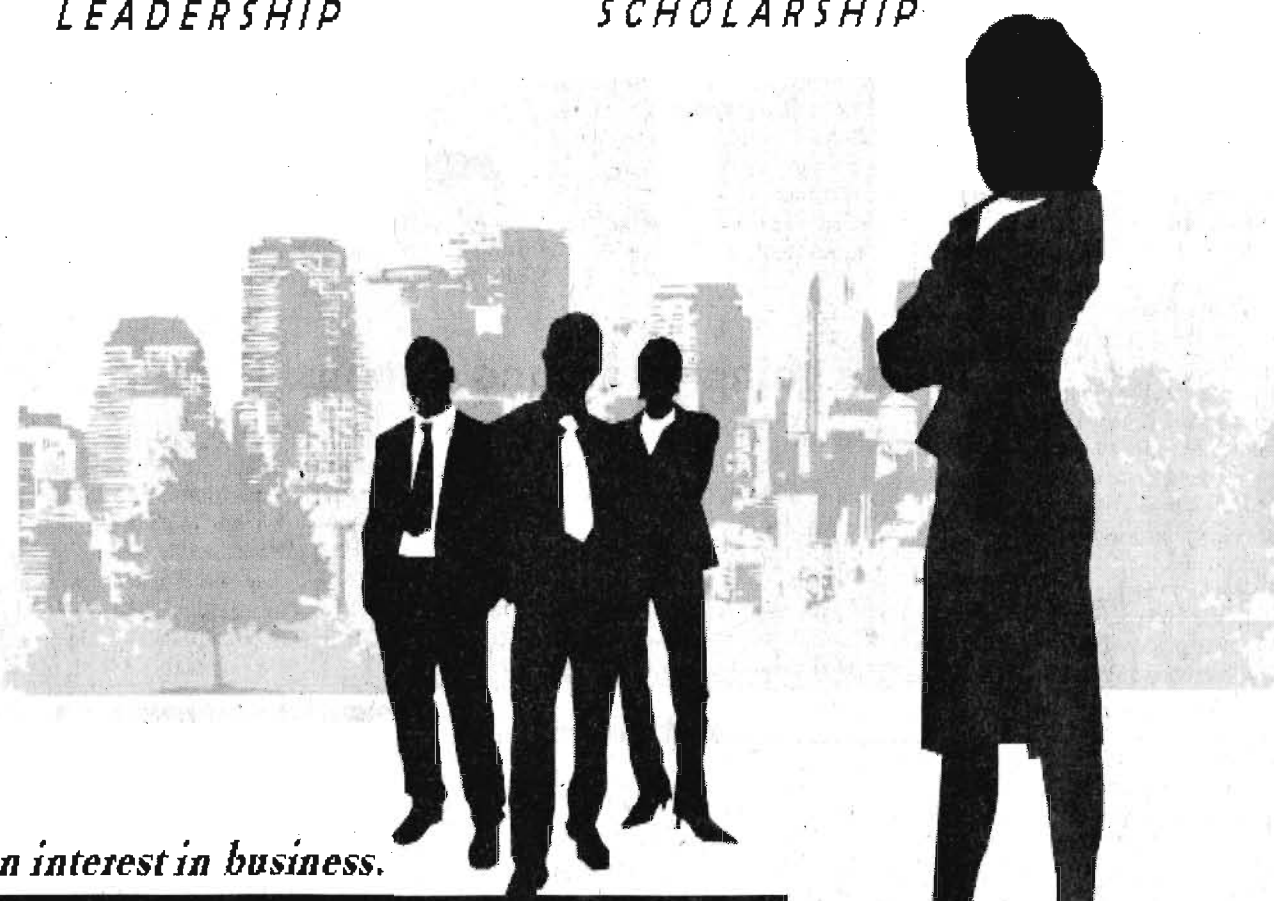
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