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January 25, 2012

Volume 1, Issue 3

**NEW PURCHASES**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**1ST MONTH OF PRACTICE**



## 1ST MONTH OF PRACTICE

The 2012 Dolphins have been picked to repeat as both the regular season and Atlantic Sun Tournament Champions. Since their first practice on January 16th, they have been extremely focused on defending their conference title. The coaching staff is dedicated to designing practice plans complete with "Inning Challenges." The "7 innings" help prepare the athletes by simulating pressure similar to that experienced in a game. After four full weeks of practice the Dolphins will be anxious to face an opponent other than themselves! The Dolphins kick off their season with their home tournament on February 10th in which they will face Buffalo, St. Louis, UNC-Greensboro, and Virginia



## COMMUNITY SERVICE AT THE JACKSONVILLE ZOO

The JU softball team helped fill 400 sandbags at the Jacksonville Zoo this month. The sandbags will be used in the construction of a new butterfly exhibit. They will also be used to protect trees and other shrubbery in low lying areas along the river. The girls were excited to help...and see the giraffes!

## NEW PURCHASES!!! (MOVIN' ON UP)

Team fundraising has been a primary focus for the 'Phins this season. Success has been attributed to the Monday night hitting clinics, the 25 for 25 letters and private donors. A special thanks goes out to all who contributed to our program this year. AND the best part of raising money is...(drumroll) spending IT!!! There have been many additions thus far in the form of equipment and facility improvements. In terms of equipment, one of our larger purchases was a new hitting machine!

The double wheel machine has the capability to throw tennis balls, baseballs and softballs. In addition its curve and screw ball have enough movement to capture the A-Sun Pitcher of the Year Award. It is definitely challenging our hitters and helping them improve. A few smaller additions include a locker room key pad, Earl the tackling dummy and the infamous Red T. Earl has been used to increase bat whip and improve contact points of various pitches. The Red T is great for reinforcing an angle down path to the ball. Immediate feedback will be given to those with loopy swings...muhaha

Facility improvements include re-vamped bull pens and a freshly painted backstop. In addition the team will be installing a brand new sound system for the spring season. Get ready for a whole new level of Eddie Money's "Take me Home Tonight!" Our plan to enclose the back of the stands is another facility improvement goal set for this year. The addition will create additional storage at the field; as well as complete the stadium look of the JU Softball Complex.

