

# THE CHANTICLEER

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All photos by Allison McInnis/SPECIAL TO THE CHANTICLEER

JSU residents and resident advisors participate in RAW activities.

## Residents appreciated

**EMERALD DUKES**  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Students are usually rewarded for good grades, completing a project, volunteering or achieving goals. Recently students were rewarded just for living on campus.

Each spring, the Jacksonville State University Housing and Residence Life Department plan a week long event to reward residents with food, fun and games. Resident Appreciation Week (RAW) was the first week of April.

During RAW, residents can attend various fun filled events throughout the week. They are also available to use the laundry services in the residence halls for FREE!

"I loved the free laundry for the week," said Ashley King, a JSU student. "The laundry room was packed all week with people trying to wash everything they own."

A new event this year was a parking ticket raffle. Residents were able to bring a parking ticket they had received this semester and enter it into a drawing to have housing pay for the ticket.

RAW began with a cook-out behind Sparkman Hall. As 4:30 rolled around, the sound of music and laughter filled the campus as residents enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs and the "fixings."

The second day of RAW brought fun and games for all ages. Games2U, a mobile game company, joined the

residents on the TMB lawn providing a giant hamster ball, laser tag and video games. Video games could be played outside of the Games2U van or even inside, where game consoles lined what spaces would normally be seats.

RAW's third day brought each resident a free car wash. Volunteers from the JSU Housing Department and several Resident Assistants donned tie-dye shirts for a wet and wild day. The car wash took place between Dixon and Crow Hall. Seventy three cars, one maintenance van and a golf cart later the day was finally over.

"I really needed my car washed to get all of this pollen off," said Marcus Dial, a JSU student. "Now I won't have to

pay for it!"

Even the rain could not stop RAW's fourth day of activities. A dunk tank was placed on the lawn of the TMB where students could pay \$1 to dunk a member of the JSU Housing Staff.

Each member of the staff, dressed to impress in their slacks and ties, took a splash for a great cause. All the money collected from the dunk tank went to Heather Minor's son, Jaiden. Heather served as an RA in Stadium Tower last year, and passed away last fall.

RAW culminated with a

slip and slide Friday afternoon behind Sparkman Hall where residents could relieve some stress from the week and look forward to Easter weekend.

"I really enjoyed RAW and think it's cool that JSU has a week to reward us," said Josh Smith, a JSU student.

Resident Appreciation Week was a success and brought residents from all areas on campus together to celebrate housing. As a resident, or future resident of JSU Housing, look for more fun events from housing each semester.

## Students skeptical about JSU's IDEA

**EMILY HAYES**  
NEWS EDITOR

"Reminder: End of Semester IDEA Course Survey for ..."

Look familiar? Students' accounts fill with these emails daily, and will continue until Sunday's deadline.

"The surveys are a little aggressive, and I feel like I'm being harassed," said senior Anna-Marie Moor, a political science major.

So what exactly is JSU's IDEA?

"Individual Development and Educational Assessment. It is JSU's system of student ratings of instruction," said Coordinator of Assessment Tienhan Ma, from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.

"Through this, we are able to get feedback from students so we can use the data to improve our course content and course instruction, and hopefully use the data generated from students to guide any needed changes in course content and instruction."

Communication instructor Charles Waddle sums it up in an email to his students.

"This course benefits from the comments and judgments of those who took it previously.

"I hope you will help me and your successor students by completing the survey."

Most professors support the IDEA survey, and some go to great lengths to get high student participation. Students have been given bonus points or scored an easy quiz grade. Some professors march entire classes to the nearest computer lab.

Extreme measures? Perhaps not when you look at the numbers.

"In general, in the fall semester we tend to get higher response rate than the spring semester," said

Ma. "Hopefully, in this semester we will break that change. But in fall 2011, the response rate was at 41 percent. That was a five-point increase from spring 2011."

So what's stopping the majority of students?

"Back a couple of years ago, I would fill out the surveys," said senior Matthew Tyson. "I guess because I always heard by the teacher, 'If you fill out the surveys something will get changed. We won't know what to fix if you don't fill out the surveys.' And so I went and filled them out but then I didn't feel like anything really got changed."

"Because I have no evidence that it does. Personally."

Sophomore Sara Pettit, a Secondary Education major, has a similar view.

"I only fill them out if a teacher begs because I just don't see them making a huge difference," she said. "Teachers I have given low scores before still stick around and do the same thing."

Waddle admitted to changing aspects of his course based on direct results from the IDEA. But junior Andrew Holderfield, a communication major, doubts many professors do the same.

"If there's no person designed to check the surveys, look at them, come in, sit down with the teacher and say, 'Hey, you have all these comments saying, 'You're this way or you're that way — what are you going to do about it?'"

"If it's just left up to the teacher then the entire thing's pointless. The teacher's not going to take that criticism."

Ma explained that the surveys do provide instruction. "All courses are evaluated using the same instrument and method, providing the opportunity for increased consistency and reliability. The IDEA results are intended to be used in helping

guide improvement efforts, either in teaching or in course content."

Faculty Senate President Dr. Teresa Gardner concurred.

"Faculty take student evaluations seriously. We need student input to decide how material should be presented and to know how we come across to our students," said Gardner.

In addition, "Student evaluations are a part of the faculty evaluation process. We use the results to drive instruction and to improve our teaching effectiveness."

The notion of anonymity and the timing of the surveys is a concern among students, as well. The survey guarantees anonymity "unless you supply information that identifies yourself" in the comment section.

"I have added comments before but only to compliment a teacher," Pettit said.

Some find it alarming that professors have access to the surveys so quickly.

Factoring in the Sunday deadline, Ma said, "Normally, the turnaround time, I would say, like 10 working days."

According to her, "Before the semester ends, they will get their reports back."

But communication instructor Mike Stedham said that he has never seen an IDEA survey from a class before he has turned in his semester grades. "Normally I see them at least a week or more after."

Tyson admitted to rarely answering the comment section of the surveys. Asked if he thought his grade had ever been affected by survey answers, he shook his head.

"If that was true, I would raise all kind of s---."

# CAMPUS & LOCAL

COMMUNITY, CAMPUS AND SOCIAL NEWS YOU CAN USE

## CAMPUS CRIME

### Monday, April 9

- Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Oak Avenue
- Theft of Property, Pannell Hall
- Booted Vehicle & Assist Other Law Enforcement Agency, Jack Hopper Cafeteria Parking Lot
- Minor in Possession of Alcohol, Crow Hall

### Tuesday, April 10

- Information Report, Curtiss Hall
- Receiving Stolen Property, Houston Cole Library
- Assist Other Law Enforcement Agency, Daugette Hall
- Theft of Property, Alumni House Parking Lot
- Lost Decal, Off Campus
- Violation of Student Code of Conduct & Trespass Issued, Crow Hall
- Arrest for Possession of Marijuana, Stone Center Parking Lot
- Arrest for Possession of Marijuana, Stone Center Parking Lot

### Wednesday, April 11

- Possession of Marijuana, Patterson Hall
- Arrest for Possession of Marijuana & Drug Paraphernalia, Dixon Hall
- Information Report, Kennamer Hall Parking Lot
- Information Report, Salls Hall
- Theft of Property, Fitzpatrick Hall
- Noise Ordinance, Crow Hall Parking Lot
- Theft of Property, Stone Center
- Theft of Property, Stone Center

### Thursday, April 12

- Fire Alarm, Stadium Tower
- Arrest for Stalking, Brewer Hall Parking Lot
- Discharging Firework in the City Limits, Stone Center Parking Lot
- Burglary, Dixon Hall

### Friday, April 13

- Arrest for Receiving Stolen Property, Dixon Hall
- Information Report, The Grove Apartments

### Saturday, April 14

- Medical Emergency, Paul Carpenter Village
- Information Report, Sparkman Hall

### Sunday, April 15

- Criminal Mischief, Alumni House Parking Lot
- Unlawful Breaking and Entering a Vehicle, Crow Hall Parking Lot
- Assisting Other Law Enforcement Agency, The Reserve Apartments
- Noise Ordinance, Crow Hall Parking Lot
- Information Report, College Apartments
- Arrest for Possession of Marijuana, Houston Cole Library Parking Lot

## BRIEFS

There will be a planned power outage on Friday, April 20 at 12:00 p.m. The power outage will only affect the Computer Center, Hammond Hall and Anders Round House. However, it will impact all computer network services including email, JSU website and Internet connectivity (wireless and wired). These services will be unavailable for the duration of the power outage. There is no estimate on when the power will be restored, but JSU will make every effort to keep the outage as minimal as possible. However, power restoration at these facilities is not expected before the business day ends.

Nationally recognized WMI/NOLS curriculum in Wilderness First Aid will be offered on the Jacksonville State University campus on May 9-10. This two day training prepares leaders with the skills to manage accidents and illnesses in the back country when definitive medical treatment is more than one hour away. The heart of the training is a series of realistic emergency scenarios that will offer hands-on training for participants. Training each day begins at 8 a.m. in Room 326 of the Pete Mathews Coliseum. The cost of the program is \$127.50 for JSU students and staff; \$145 for community. For more information or to register, please call 256-782-5515.

## CALENDAR

### Thursday, April 19

Table Scapes for UCP  
Where: Leone Cole Auditorium  
When: 6 - 8 p.m.  
Sponsored by Circle K International  
Contact: Larissa Kellum at lkellum@jsu.edu

JSU Holocaust Remembrance Program  
Where: Stone Center Theater  
When: 7:30 p.m.  
Admission: FREE  
Sponsored by JSU Holocaust Remembrance Committee  
Contact: Kim Stevens at weather@jsu.edu or (256) 782-5762

Midnight Snack in the Cafe  
Where: Jack Hopper Dining Hall  
When: TBA  
Sponsored by SGA  
Contact: Bryant Whaley at sgapres@jsu.edu

### Saturday, April 28

Growing up WILD for Preschool Children:  
Worms  
When: 11 a.m. - noon

&  
River Rhythms Family Fun Programs: Hisssss & Sssssither  
When: 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Where: Little River Canyon Center, Fort Payne, AL  
Fee: FREE; pre-registration is encouraged  
Sponsored by: JSU Field Schools  
Contact: Renee Morrison @ rmorrison@jsu.edu or (256) 782-5697



### Friday, May 4

# Congratulations, Graduates!



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Andrew Holderfield/SPECIAL TO THE CHANTICLEER

# OPINION

CASUAL CONVERSATION. TRENDY TOPICS.



## Fight. Rebel. Question.

### Parting words from a revolutionary

**MATTHEW TYSON**  
STAFF COLUMNIST

It's been four years since I nervously submitted my first article to the Chanticleer. It was a terribly written story, with multiple stylistic errors, about the Drama Department's production of Sweeney Todd. Nonetheless, it opened a new door for me.

A year later, I was asked to write a sexual advice column under the guise of a sweet old lady by the name of Aunt Edna.

For those of you that even remember, Auntie E caused a bit of a stir.

See, I was astounded at the number of 18-20 something's who were utterly clueless about sex and STDs. And even though every column was fact checked and researched, and even though we went out of our way to make sure every word was written in a professional manner, it was ultimately decided that it was better to just not talk about it. Words like 'penis' and 'vagina' were just too vulgar for college students.

The editor and I got a lot of flack from administrators and teachers for posting the column. Regardless, we had a conviction and a reason for doing what we did, and we stuck by it.

Our tiny sexual revolt may

not have meant much to many people, but for me it was huge. It was the first time I ever really took a stand for something I believed in, and despite anything else, I am proud of myself.

This is my farewell article. I dig up that old battle, not because I hold a grudge, but because it's a good example of the message I want to leave to all students and especially future Chanticleer staff.

Question authority. Stand up for what you believe in, ESPECIALLY your free speech rights. If you have something to say, then say it.

But don't just challenge government officials, administrators, or police officers. Challenge the law. Challenge everything. A good American should never put all their trust in the government. It's there to serve you, not the other way around.

That's all I really have to say anymore. I sat down to write a long, inspiring, farewell article, but there just isn't that much left to say. Anything past this is in the hands of the next generation. Our generation.

Fight. Rebel. Question. Don't be a criminal. Be a revolutionary. There is a difference.

I'm on to the next step. Peace out, bitches.

## Is JSU prepared?

I have been attending JSU for the past three years, but I grew up in Chardon, Ohio. Chardon is a small town located about thirty miles east of Cleveland, Ohio. I attended Chardon High School from 1996 to 2000.

On Monday, Feb. 27th, a student entered the Chardon High School cafeteria with a handgun and fired the weapon at a group of fellow students; they were sitting at a table in the cafeteria. Five students were injured in this attack. The shooter was chased out of the building by a teacher. The shooter left the school grounds and was later picked up by local authorities. Three of the five victims died.

Once I found out that the shooting occurred, I began to search the internet for updates. I read every article and watched every video that I could find on what had occurred in my hometown high school.

The more that I read and watched, the more convinced I became that, even in the wake of such a tragedy, all parties involved (the students, faculty, police officers, EMTs, sheriff's deputies, K-9 units and FBI agents) worked in perfect unison to resolve the conflict.

"Several years ago, the Chardon school district and local law enforcement began conducting drills, training, practice, if you would, for an event just like (what) occurred today. As a result of that we were well-prepared for the response," Geauga County Sheriff Daniel McClelland said.

Chardon's current policy directs school teachers and staff to lock the door, turn off the lights, draw the blinds and stay

in the classroom if a shooter enters the school. Students and staff typically are not evacuated until an entire building or school wing is declared safe by authorities.

JSU does have a great Emergency Operations Plan, but the majority of the student population and faculty would not know what to do if an emergency situation were to arise.

JSU needs to practice EOP drills much more often than our current level, so that in the event of an emergency, all parties involved will know exactly what to do. I hope that this article can be seen as a wake-up call to the JSU administrators; if you truly value the safety of the students and faculty, then we need to practice the life-saving drills outlined in the EOP.

I am very saddened by the tragic loss of life in the place that I will always call my home. Emotionally, it hit me pretty hard when I watched a video of a mother escorting her daughter away from the school.

The mother looked so relieved, knowing that her daughter was out of harm's way. The daughter looked like she was still in shock; not knowing how such a tragedy could have occurred in her small, quiet town. My thoughts have been, and will continue to be with, the victims; their families; the shooter; his family; CHS students & faculty; and Chardon EMTs & law enforcement officers.

*Paul McCummins*  
Senior/Geography

## RIP Chicken Scratch

### FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT TUTORIAL

When: Thursday April 19, 2012  
Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. CDT  
Location: TMB Auditorium

Students and Alumni of all majors are encouraged to attend!

### RESUME WORKSHOP

When: Thursday April 19, 2012  
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT  
Location: TMB Auditorium

Hosted by: Career Services 207 Merrill Hall  
[www.jsu.edu/careerservices](http://www.jsu.edu/careerservices)



From all of us at The Chanticleer,  
have a wonderful summer!

## THE CHANTICLEER

The Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 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. Letters may also be e-mailed to [chantyeditor1@gmail.com](mailto:chantyeditor1@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 before the 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.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## JSU alumnus paints in 'Plein Air'

**BEN NUNNALLY**  
STAFF WRITER

Gina Brown is a JSU alumnus who graduated in 1991 with a degree in art and marketing. She's now a full-time artist and participated in the Gadsden Plein Air event last week. She lives in Glencoe with her husband and three children. Brown agreed to talk with *The Chanticleer* about her artwork.

**Q:What can you tell me about Plein Air? What is it, how are you involved?**

**A:**Painting "Plein Air" means painting outdoors in natural light. I paint plein air as well as in my studio in my home. I'm a member of the Alabama Plein Air Artists, which is an open group that meets monthly in different locations to paint together. I've painted in the Southeastern Plein Air Festival for four years in Gadsden. The Gadsden Museum of Art invites fifteen artists from around the southeast to participate each spring in painting different locations in and around Gadsden for a week.

**Q:What made you decide to leave behind marketing and graphic design and take up painting?**

**A:**I was able to work from home as a graphic artist and had my own advertising agency for several years, but my heart wanted to paint and be a fine artist. My husband actually encouraged me to "go for it" in

**A:**I'm sure I've been influenced by several artists, but I am drawn to bright colors, strong contrasts, heavy application of paint, and loose brushwork. My style is constantly evolving. That's what keeps me

**Q:Your Daily Paintworks profile mentions that your paintings have stories behind them. What's the most interesting painting and story that you have, in your opinion?**

**A:**That's very hard to do, because with several paintings I have an emotional attachment... but I guess I have to mention two paintings that first came to mind.

The first one is "Jordan's Angel," which was a commissioned painting for a woman that I met while painting in Selma. She wanted a painting of the angel garden statue that I had painted, but it had already sold. So I offered to paint a similar one for her, before hearing the reason behind her wanting the painting. She told me that every year, she buys a garden ornament or a piece of art in memory of her son that died. His name was Jordan. So I painted the angel statue for her, and included her son's name within the painting, but the viewer has to look for it.

The second one is a painting of the machine shop where my husband works. It's actually a barn. I titled the painting "He Provides." I painted this for my husband's birthday to show my appreciation for how hard he works to provide for his family.



JSU alumnus Gina Brown paints during the Plein Air Invitational in Gadsden last week.

Marc Golden/THE GADSDEN TIMES

2009. Working from home all those years taught me discipline to set hours aside to work.

**Q:Your style seems to be realistic but also very colorful. What influenced your art style?**

going. I love the work of Van Gogh and Paul Gauguin. In fact, one of my assignments while a student at JSU was to choose a master artist's work and try to duplicate the shapes and colors. I chose Gauguin's "When Will You Marry?" painting, and I have that hanging in my studio for inspiration.

## Wind ensemble honors Dr. Walters

**SIERRA TILLMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

Instructing the Marching Southerners at JSU from 1961 until 1991, Dr. David L. Walters is one of the nicest people you will ever meet in your life and he has always been that way. He taught for an astonishing 30 years at JSU, and something many may not know about him is that he directed both the current director, Ken Bodiford and percussion director Clint Gillespie.

One of the key fundamentals about being a Marching Southerner is pride. When Dr. Walters came in, one of the first things he did was personally arrange the music which gave the Southerners their unique sound and trademark. He also arranged music specifically for the Marching Ballerinas making these ladies one of the most recognizable dance line groups in the country. Not only did he write the iconic sound of the Southerners, but he also wrote the unique drill that is signature of today's Southerners. He also established the leadership format that is used today with section leaders and drum majors. He aimed to teach everyone to be teachers and not to follow but to lead. It was this exact thing that is what sets this band apart from others—their pride & ownership in all that they do. Even though his final year teaching was back in 1991 for the past 20 years he has still been active as an adjudicator and clinician, and is the Emeritus Director of Bands at Jacksonville State University.

On Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the First United Methodist church in Anniston, the Jacksonville State University Wind Ensemble honored Dr. Walters in a concert. All of his children were there to support and honor their father. In fact, Dr Walters' son Tim spoke a few words about his father, saying, "He [Walters] opened my eyes to music in a new way". How so? Tim was one of his father's students in a music theory class.

The church was filled with Marching Southerners, young and old alike. One woman said, "I was a ballerina back in the 80's, and to see that he is being honored makes me smile". A trumpet player who is a current Southerner said, "I don't know Dr. Walters personally but I believe in knowing where I come from—Thank you Dr. Walters".

Throughout the night there were note cards passed around for all to write their thanks and well wishes on them. At the end of the concert these note cards were presented to Dr. Walters along with the score of music that was played. The piece of music played was commissioned by two JSU graduates, Patrick Roszell and Justin Williams, and is the only of its kind being made specifically for JSU alone. The score was entitled The Shepherd and was dedicated to Dr. Walters. The back of the program note said it best when speaking about Dr. Walters and the traditions of excellence, "...a legacy that, no matter how far away we go, always brings us home".

## Music festivals rock the summer

**ANDREW HOLDERFIELD**  
STAFF WRITER

Every summer, thousands of music and art fans flock to festivals all over the country in hopes of enjoying the best that today and tomorrow have to offer. Here is a short rundown of just a few of the best fests this summer, all within driving distance of JSU.



**Secret Stages**  
May 11 & 12  
Birmingham, AL  
[secretstages.net](http://secretstages.net)

If you're like me and music festivals are about more than just hearing your favorite bands, then Birmingham's Secret Stages is for you. Over 40 unsigned acts from all across the south will converge on the Magic City's historic loft district for 2 days of raw energy. DJs, rappers, punk bands, pop acts, comedians, singer-songwriters, jazz quartets... the eclectic list of entertainment goes on and on. 2012 is only the second year of Secret Stages and the party is only going to get bigger.



**Bonnaroo**  
June 7-10, TN  
[bonnaroo.com](http://bonnaroo.com)

Just in case you've been living under a rock since 2001, Bonnaroo is one of the largest and most important music festivals of the summer. Bands from all over the world flock to small-town Manchester, Tenn. for three days of camping, music, art and general buckwild-ery. Where else are you going to see Radiohead, Childish Gambino, St. Vincent, SBTRKT, City and Colour, Alice Cooper, Bon Iver and Ludacris in the same place? If you can afford the somewhat hefty ticket price, your patronage will be rewarded with some of the world's best music in a fun atmosphere less than 3 hours from home.

**Hangout Music Fest**  
May 18, 19 & 20  
Gulf Shores, AL  
[hangoutmusicfest.com](http://hangoutmusicfest.com)

Many people don't know that Alabama actually hosts one of the nation's best music festivals every year, and the 2012 Hangout lineup is proof positive. Dave Matthews, Jack White, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Coheed & Cambria are just a few of the amazing acts performing this year. Hangout 2012 even provides the one-in-a-lifetime chance to see The Flaming Lips perform Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon in its entirety, if you need more convincing than that... then I simply can't help you.



**Wakarusa**  
May 31 - June 3  
Ozark, AR  
[wakarusa.com](http://wakarusa.com)

Some have referred to Wakarusa as the 'new Bonnaroo', but don't let that confuse you; Wakarusa is a different party beast completely. Music, art, camping and community collide in the beautiful Ozark Mountains to the soundtrack of groups like The Avett Brothers, Primus, Balkan Beat Box, Girl Talk, Gary Clark Jr. and Matisyahu, just to name a few. Some festivals are like big concerts; Wakarusa is like stepping into a different world. Bring extra socks.

**Birmingham Artwalk**  
September 7 & 8  
Birmingham, AL  
[birminghamartwalk.org](http://birminghamartwalk.org)

Every year, amidst of the last gasps of summer, Birmingham hosts one of the nation's best art festivals. Listen to live music as you enjoy beautiful art, the great taste of Birmingham's best restaurants and heartfelt local cinema. Get the kids back to the hotel early, though, because once the sun sets, the real Artwalk begins. Rub elbows with the South's most charming and creative people as the spirits begin to flow at some of hippest nightspots in town. Think of it as our own private little Sundance.

# SPORTS

## Tiffany Harbin named OVC Pitcher of the week



Harbin. Sportswire

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. — Jacksonville State sophomore Tiffany Harbin has been named the Ohio Valley Conference's Pitcher of the Week for her efforts in guiding the Gamecock softball team to a 3-1 record last week, the league office announced on Monday.

A native of Hazel Green, Ala., Harbin earned every decision in a week that saw the Gamecocks (23-22, 17-7 OVC) wrap up the season sweep of Tennessee State on Tuesday and then take two games in a three-game series with SIU-Edwardsville over the weekend.

She posted a 3-1 record in the circle to go along with a 1.48 earned run average. She opened the week with her best performance, a nine-inning shutout of TSU

in Nashville that saw her strike out seven Tiger batters.

She then dropped the first game of the weekend against the Cougars, a 2-1 decision in which she surrendered just one earned run.

She finished strong, working 2.2 innings of relief to help the Gamecocks claim a 9-8 thriller in the finale of Saturday's doubleheader before tossing them to an 11-3 rout on Sunday.

The weekly honor is the second of the season for Harbin, who also received it on March 12. She was a three-time recipient as a freshman in 2011.

- Sportswire

## Gamecocks Roll to 11-3 Win Over SIUE To Claim OVC Series

JACKSONVILLE — The Jacksonville State softball team rolled over SIU-Edwardsville in Sunday's Ohio Valley Conference series finale, using an 11-3 mercy-rule win to claim the rubber match of the weekend at University Field.

The Gamecocks (23-22, 17-7 OVC) jumped on the Cougars (18-23, 10-10 OVC) early, thanks to a two-run Krystal Ruth homer in the first, and never looked back.

They rattled off 12 hits to score 11 runs and climb above the .500 mark for the first time in 2012.

Ruth, a junior from Wylie, Texas, came up after SIUE starter Amanda Lambrecht issued a two-out walk to senior Kristin Graham and drilled the first pith she saw over the wall in center.

JSU grabbed two more two-out runs in the second, when sophomore Tyris Branford laced her first career triple down the right field line to score sophomore Hayden Crawford. Branford would come in moments later on an infield single by freshman Sara Borders.

Borders, Branford and Crawford joined senior Kaycee Crow and freshman Savannah Sloan in a group of five JSU players that recorded two hits in the win, just the Gamecocks' second mercy-rule win of the season.

The Cougars made their lone threat against JSU starter Tiffany Harbin in the fourth inning, when they scored three runs on two hits, two walks and one JSU error.

Harbin (14-6), a native of Hazel Green, Ala., tossed all five innings and allowed three runs, one earned, on four hits for her second win of the series.

Lambrecht (14-11) was tagged with the loss after surrendering eight runs on nine hits in four frames in the circle. Rebecca Gray recorded two outs but allowed the final three runs on three hits and two walks.

JSU answered that three-run fourth from SIUE with three of its own in the home half, an inning that was started by Crawford's fourth homer of the year, a leadoff blast the curled inside the foul pole in left.

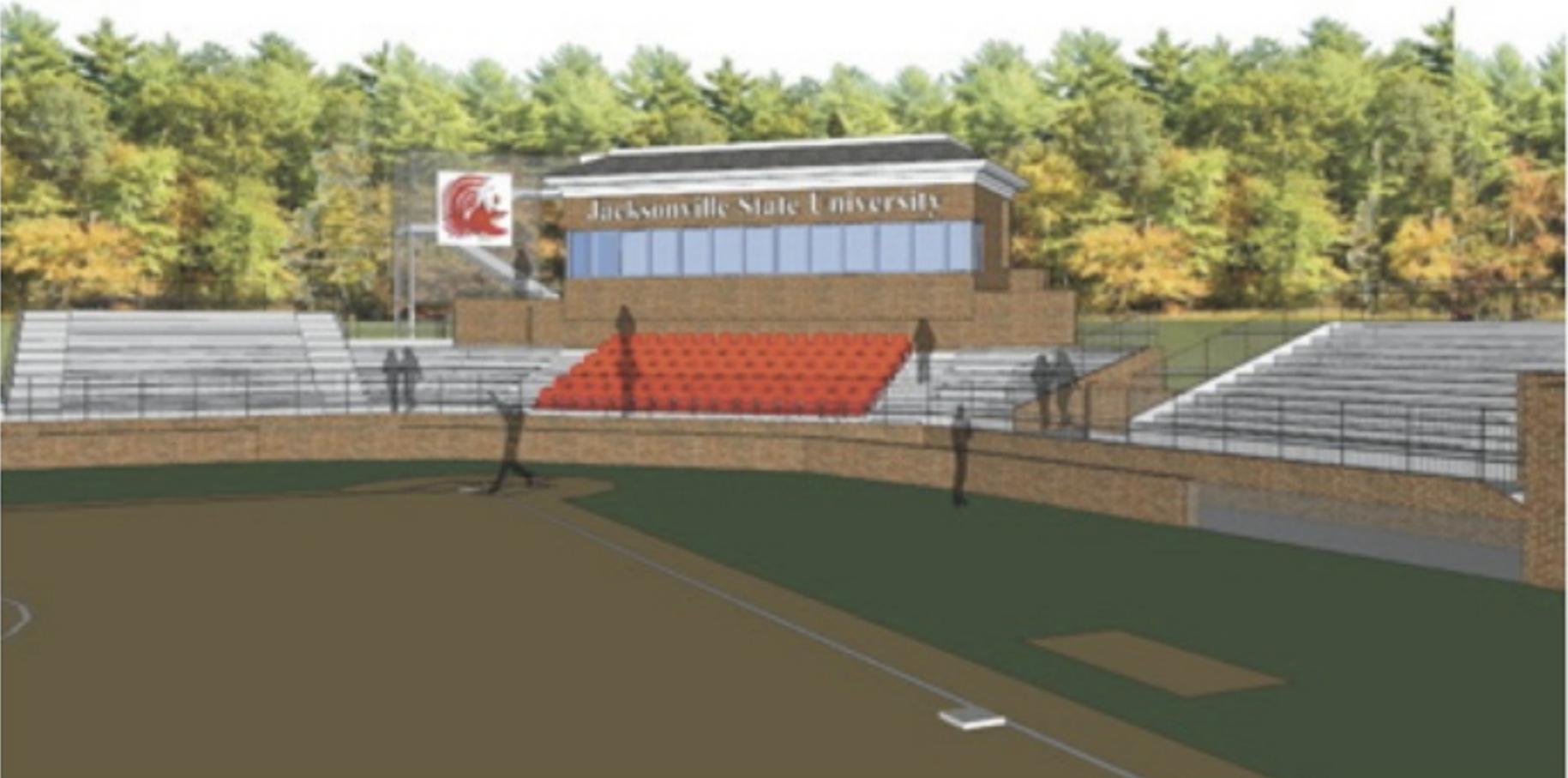
Crow drove in the next run on an RBI single, right before a sacrifice fly from Graham drove in the third run that gave the Gamecocks an 8-3 advantage.

They sealed the mercy-rule win in the fifth, thanks to an RBI single from Sloan and then back-to-back runs-scoring singles from Crow and Graham.

Crow, Graham and Ruth each drove in two runs in a game that saw seven different JSU players drive in at least one.

- Sportswire

## Approved!



Projected image of the new softball field which will be able to seat 550 fans. Sportswire

## JSU Board of Trustees approves renovations

JACKSONVILLE — The Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees voted to move forward with major renovations for both the Gamecock Softball and Tennis facilities during the Board's quarterly meeting on Monday.

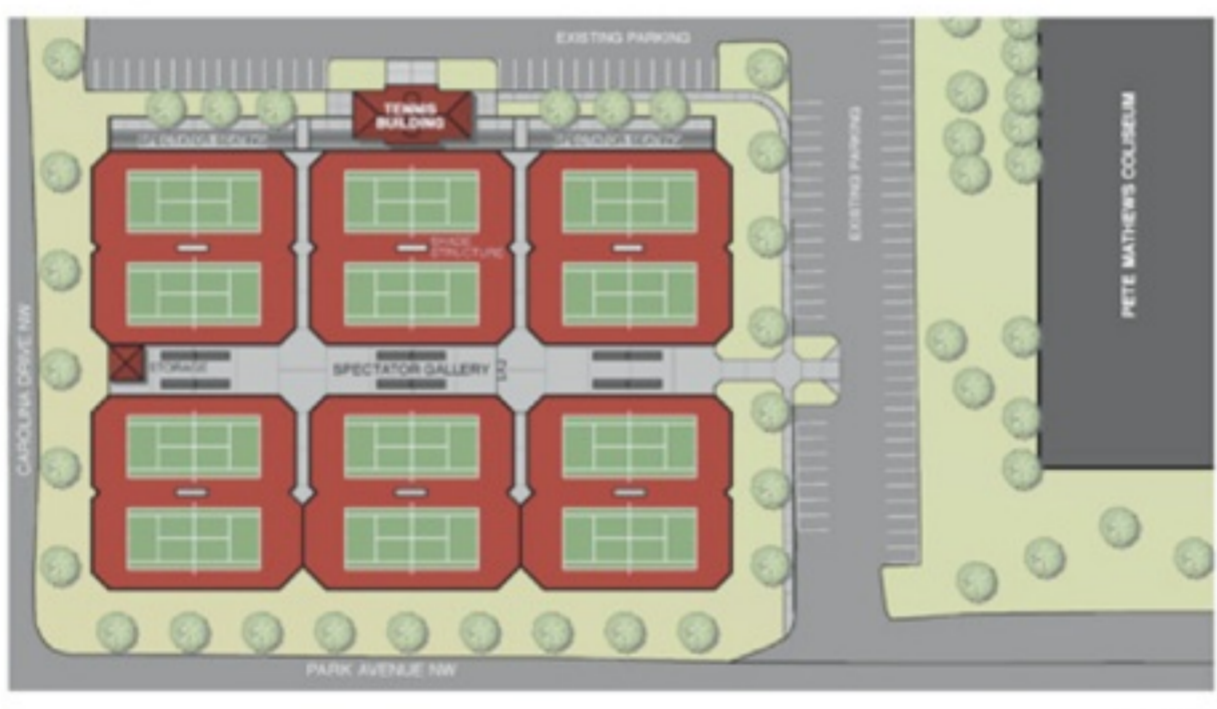
The motion from the Athletic Committee and approved unanimously by the full Board authorized University President Dr. William A. Meehan to proceed with plans and bids for renovations to softball's University Field and also to the University's tennis courts.

"These are exciting times at Jacksonville State University," said JSU Athletics Director Warren Koegel. "We have a great opportunity to improve our softball and tennis facilities and I want to thank the Board of Trustees and also Dr. Meehan for their support in both of these projects.

"We feel like once we get both of these projects complete, it will allow us to host NCAA Tournaments for both softball and tennis," added Koegel.

The softball renovations will in-

### Upgrades for next season



Plans for the new tennis complex will attract fans and potential recruits alike. Sportswire

clude replacing all the current grandstands with new stadium seating for more than 550 fans, including chair back seating. The project will also include a state of the art pressbox, with radio booths and also an overflow

See "Approval," page 6

## JSU Softball vs. UAB Rained Out

JACKSONVILLE — The Jacksonville State softball team's game with UAB at University Field on Tuesday night has been rained out.

Rain moved into the Jacksonville area late Tuesday afternoon, forcing officials to call the game that was originally scheduled for 6 p.m. No plans have been made to reschedule.

The Gamecocks are off this weekend and will return to the diamond on April 28 to begin a three-game Ohio Valley Conference series at Austin Peay.

- Sportswire

## Lauren Harkins, Todd Hornsby Win 2012 Eagle Owl Awards

JACKSONVILLE — Athletics Director Warren Koegel presented volleyball player Lauren Harkins and baseball player Todd Hornsby the 2011-12 Eagle Owl Awards at the annual Jacksonville State Athletics Senior Banquet on the fifth floor of Stadium Tower on Monday night.

The Eagle Owl Award, which was established in 1995, is given to a male and a female senior athlete, who possess several outstanding qualities. To be nominated, the student athlete must be a starter or important reserve during his/her senior season and carry a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher. The student-athlete must excel in his or her sport, be a positive role model for others and exemplify the well-rounded student-athlete. The nominees are voted on by a selection committee, which is comprised of administration throughout the Jacksonville State campus.

Harkins, a 5-foot-7

libero on the Gamecock volleyball team, wrapped up an impressive career in the fall.

The native of Louisville, Ky., finished her four-year stint with the Gamecocks with a school-record 2,163 digs, 418 more than any player in school history and the fifth-highest total in OVC history.

She also holds four of the top eight single season digs totals in JSU history, including a school-record 662 in 2009. She is a two-time ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District honoree and was a first team selection in 2011.

Harkins recently earned the OVC Scholar-Athlete Award, the highest honor an OVC student-athlete can receive. She carries a 3.94 GPA as a political science major with a minor in English and has been a member of the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll in each of her first three seasons.



Harkins (L) and Hornsby (R) excelled this past year. Sportswire

In 2010, she was an OVC Academic Medal of Honor recipient after posting a 4.0 GPA in the classroom.

Harkins has been very active off of the court, serving as a senator in JSU Student Government Association and as chair of the SGA's Athletic Support Committee.

She is the treasurer for the Model Arab League, a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Pi Kappa Phi Honor Society and completed

a summer internship in 2011 with U.S Congressman Mike Rogers.

She will graduate from JSU this spring and receive her diploma on May 4 and has been selected to attend the 2012 with eth Gamecock baseball team as a Preseason All-American by Collegiate Baseball and has not disappointed. Picked by the league's head coaches as the Preseason Pitcher of the Year in the OVC, Hornsby has posted seven saves in 16 appearances as the Gamecocks' closer. A member of the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association's Stopper of the Year Watch List for the second-straight season, Hornsby set an OVC record for saves in a single season with 15th as a junior to rank 10th nationally.

Hornsby's career saves total is currently at 27, which is four away from the OVC record of 31 set by Eastern Kentucky's Joe Whitten from 1995-98.

He was recently named to the Lowe's Senior Class Award List, one comprised of 30 NCAA baseball student-athletes that excel both on and off of the field.

He assisted with tornado relief efforts after devastating tornadoes ripped through the State of Alabama on April 27, 2011.

He and other members of the Gamecock baseball team specifically assisted several families whose homes were destroyed in the tornados in Calhoun County.

Hornsby also works local baseball camps and youth baseball clinics with other Gamecock players.

On the field, he was a first team All-OVC performer and named to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll for his work in the classroom.

A Technology major with a 3.25 GPA, he is scheduled to graduate this summer. Hornsby is the fourth member of the JSU baseball team to win the Eagle Owl Award.

-Sportswire



# Gamecock Sports

## Women's season end as Men sweep Tennessee State, OVC tourney next

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Jacksonville State's men's and women's tennis teams wrapped up the regular season with wins over Tennessee State on Sunday. The JSU men claimed a 6-1 win, while the Gamecock women blanked TSU, 7-0.

The victory by the women's squad was bittersweet as they will not advance to next week's Ohio Valley Conference Tournament. JSU and Morehead State finished with 4-5 OVC marks, but the Eagles received the final berth in the post season event due to their win over Jax State earlier in the season. The JSU men solidified the No. 4 seed in the men's OVC Tournament that will begin on Friday, April 20 in Nashville, Tenn. In the men's duel, JSU swept the doubles point, including a win by default as TSU did not have a doubles team at No. 3. The Gamecock duo of Jordan



Nothing but smiles for JSU Men's Tennis team as they prepare for the OVC Tournament.

tos, moved back to the No. 2 spot, blanked Ingram, 6-0, 6-0. With the win, Santos put together a 7-0 OVC mark at No. 2 and 7-1 overall in OVC play. Marcec turned back William Simmons, 6-1, 6-0 at No. 3. Cowling quick

worked Jared Asher, 6-0, 6-0 for his sixth conference win of the season. In the women's match, Jax State swept the doubles point to gain the early advantage over TSU. The dominance continued in singles as four Gamecocks won in straight sets - 6-0, 6-0. Playing in her final match as a member of the JSU squad, senior Rafaela Wenzel won in ease 6-0, 6-0 over Lauren Thomas.

- Sportswire

### From Page 5 "Approval"

media workspace with video capabilities.

The lower level of the new pressbox will include a new concession stand, new public restrooms and other storage areas.

The stadium will also include a new plaza entrance for fans and guests.

"I'm very excited about the upgrades to our softball facility," said JSU head coach Jana McGinnis. "In our program, we not only want to be at the top of the Ohio Valley Conference, but also compete on the national level and we feel like this facility will be the class of the OVC and one of the best in the country."

The action taken by the JSU Board of Trustees on Monday also allows the University to seek bids to renovate the tennis courts, located near Pete Mathews Coliseum.

These renovations will include building 12 brand new competition courts and the addition of grandstands for spec-

tator seating. Future improvements will include team lockerrooms, players lounge, coaches office, a training room, public restrooms and an observation deck.

"We feel like we will have one of top tennis facility not only in the Ohio Valley Conference when this project is complete," said JSU tennis coach Steve Bailey. "I want to thank the University Board of Trustees and Administration for their commitment to this project."

Bids will be sent out in the coming weeks and the University is hopeful that work can begin on both projects this summer and be completed in time for next season.

Holcombe, Norton and Pritchett, of Birmingham, will serve as the architectural firm.

This firm has extensive experience in designing stadiums, including athletic facilities at Auburn University, Mississippi State, Purdue, University of Alabama, UAB and Samford.

- Sportswire

## Sophomore duo leads Gamecocks to series win

MARTIN, Tenn. - Jacksonville State won its sixth straight Ohio Valley Conference series after recording a season-high 20 hits as the Gamecocks claimed a 14-8 win over UT Martin on Sunday.

Hunter Rivers (2-3) scattered eight hits in five innings on the mound to earn his second win of the season, while Carter Smith (3-2) gave up eight runs in 3 2/3 innings to suffer the loss for the Skyhawks.

The Gamecocks (14-20) also recorded season-highs in runs (14), RBI (14) and doubles (4) to improve to 8-4 in the OVC and remain tied for second place, just behind Austin Peay's 9-2 conference mark.

Scott Underwood, Ben Waldrip, Kyle Bluestein and Michael Bishop each had three hits, while Sam Eberle, Cal Lambert and Kyle Stone each added a pair of hits for the Gamecocks.

The Skyhawks (10-25, 4-8) took a 2-0 lead in the

first inning, but the Gamecocks took the lead for good after scoring five runs in the top of the second inning highlighted by a three-run home run by Michael Bishop. It was the third home run of the season for Bishop.

UTM cut the lead to 5-3 in the home half of the second after Matt Young scored on a single by Sonny Mastromaturo, but Jax State answered after Blanchard, Eberle and Scott Underwood each had RBI singles with two outs to

extend the Gamecocks lead to 8-3.

Chase Okey hit a solo home run in the fifth inning for UTM to cut the lead to 8-4, but Jax State added two runs after Bluestein and Waldrip each drove in a run

with back-to-back doubles to make the score 10-4 in the top of the sixth inning. Waldrip extended his hitting streak to a team-best 10 games after finishing with three doubles in the game.

The Gamecocks tacked on four more runs in the eighth inning after Scott Underwood led off with a solo home run, hit third of the season, while Lambert had a two-RBI double and Bishop plated a run with an infield single to extend the lead to 14-4.

The Skyhawks scored a run in the eighth and three more in the ninth inning for the final margin. Okey, Jordan Owen and Grant Glassey each had two hits to lead UTM at the plate.

Jacksonville State returns to action on Tuesday as the Gamecocks travel to face Kennesaw State at 5 p.m., before returning home to host Murray State in a three-game OVC series next weekend.

- Sportswire



Gamecocks are on a roll after their sixth straight OVC series victory.

James Garner/MiLB.com

## For Todd Cunningham, experience as a former Gamecock has paid off lately

### Former JSU star finds his footing in the big leagues

DANIEL PORTER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Todd Cunningham may not be as well known around the JSU campus today, but soon he may be well known all around. Cunningham played baseball for Jacksonville State.

He left just two seasons ago after he had the chance to pursue the dream of every young ballplayer - making it to the big leagues.

Todd was well known long before he donned the Red and White of the Gamecocks.

In 2004 as a Freshman for the Golden Eagles of Jacksonville High he was named a second team All-State, but followed that up being selected first team All-State his final three years of high school from 05-07.

Todd finished his career for Jacksonville High with a total batting average of .446 and score over 200 runs while stealing over 100 bases.

Cunningham kept his talents near home when he decided to play college ball just up the road at JSU.

As a true freshman during the 2008 season Todd made an immediate impact for the

Gamecocks. He started 57 of the 58 games and games that he batted lead-off JSU had a record of 28-7.

He led the entire OVC in runs scored with 65 and was rewarded by being named to the Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American squad.

He hit his first home run of the season and of his JSU career in March in a 19-7 win at Austin Peay.

Cunningham's sophomore season was even better highlighted by him leading the OVC and finishing sixth in the NCAA with nine triples on the season. Also that season

Todd became the first player in JSU school history to hit a home run from both sides of the plate in a game after he slugged a 3-run homer from the left side and later a 3-run homer from the right side in JSU's 9-3 win over Murray State in the OVC Tournament.

Todd credits Coach Case's running drills with a great lesson learned, Todd never knew

how long the drill would be but that he just had to go all out.

He uses the same mindset now with his career in the minors, "Even when you have no idea what the future holds, do it full speed," said Cunningham.

Todd recalled one of his best memories, "One of the best was definitely having a chance to play in a regional at Auburn. This was right before the draft of 2010, my draft eligible year, but I didn't think about the draft at all. At that moment I had higher priori-

ties... we were under the lights at Auburn."

That summer Todd was drafted in the 2010 First Year Draft in the second round as the 53rd overall pick by the Atlanta Braves... his favorite team growing up.

Todd homered for his first time in the minors later in 2010 and last season playing in the Carolina League he was named a Mid-Season All-Star. He starts this season with the Mississippi Braves, the Double A affiliate of the Atlanta Braves.

"I'd be crazy not to be enjoying the path I'm on right now, so obviously I am enjoying the ride. There are so many new and exciting things happening at every turn."

The former outfielder Gamecock may one day be playing in the fields of Turner Field, which is only about 95 miles from Rudy Abbott Field, not too far for Gamecock fans to go see a former star.



Todd Cunningham, a former JSU Gamecock was the 53rd overall pick by the Atlanta Braves.

James Garner/MiLB.com