

# THE CHANTICLEER

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bopat.com



www.keepfriendshipalive.org

## Upshaw speaks on alcohol-related deaths

**EMILY GLASER**  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Five students die every day from an alcohol-related death, said Erica Upshaw, as she began her keynote speech "Keep Friendship Alive." The January 24 event was mandatory for all Greek students, but other students helped pack the Leone Cole Auditorium.

Upshaw attended Ohio State University with her brother. Joey was two years older and Upshaw described him as her best friend. They were both actively involved in Greek life, he a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity and she a sister of Delta Gamma sorority. The two loved to party. They and their social circle saw it as a reward for hard work, difficult classes, and endless studying. To them, partying involved everything from drinking to experimenting with recreational drugs.

It was a recreational drug that killed Joey in April of 2000. At a fraternity party that Upshaw did not attend, a drunken Joey took a big drink of the popular recreational drug at the time, Gamma-Hydroxybutyric acid.

The combination of alcohol and GHB rendered Joey's motor skills useless and he collapsed to the floor. His fraternity brothers put him in his bed, agreed to check on him every so often, but Joey died within two hours of drinking the GHB. No one, including Upshaw, blamed his friends. In fact, Joey might still be alive had they known what signs to look for that night.

According to the her web site, keepfriendshipalive.org, the speech had three main goals. "To prevent senseless deaths by educating students on how to party smart, identify and approach a friend

See "Alive," page 4

## Aid modifications begin soon

Students take note. Changes are coming for those who receive federal and/or state funds to finance higher education.

**EMERALD DUKES**  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

According to an interview with Vickie Adams, Director of Student Financial Services, "Beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year, the financial aid office will no longer be able to accept signed copies of federal tax returns from students and parents for FAFSA Verification purposes. IRS tax transcripts will be required."

Another major change for the 2012-2013 academic year begins this summer. Due to lack of funding from the federal government, Pell grants will no longer be offered year-round. Only students who did not attend full time in the fall and/or spring may qualify for the remainder of their 2011-2012 federal Pell Grant.



utmb.edu

See "Financial aid" on page 4



articles.dailypress.com



silve.com

**ABOVE:** Spice and other synthetic versions of marijuana and cocaine are under scrutiny in Alabama

**LEFT:** Spice is a man-made synthetic chemical, glazed onto things like dried leaves. (Diane Mathews, Daily Press)

# Spice: uncovering "The Real Truth"

**KARA COLEMAN**  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

For the first time in United States history, more teens and college-age adults died last year from drug overdoses than from car accidents. This was just one of many statistics presented last Wednesday night at the SGA's "Spice and The Real Truth" seminar.

The seminar focused mainly on the dangers of synthetic marijuana, known on the street as "spice," but also touched on synthetic cocaine, or "bath salts."

The Calhoun County Drug Task Force was present for the event, and Lieutenant Mike Reese with the ABC Board was primary speaker. Reese

showed graphic photos and videos displaying what can happen when people experiment with the drug. He travels around the state, trying to drive home a point students have heard their entire lives: "Don't Do Drugs."

As its name implies, spice is a blend of spices and herbs. But what makes it dangerous and addicting is a synthetic chemical compound that closely resembles THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. Spice is sold in slick, colorful packaging that looks similar to Pop Rocks or a pack of trading cards. Many brands do not feature a warning about the harmful effects it can have, such as heart attacks, hallucinations,

anxiety, seizures, vomiting and elevated blood pressure. It has also been known to make users agitated, to the point where they cut, or in rare cases shoot, themselves while on the drug.

JSU student Nick Reeves knows firsthand how powerful and dangerous spice is. At the seminar, he shared that he and a friend decided to try the drug just once. Moments after inhaling, Reeves began bleeding from his nose and ears, seizing, and hallucinating that the devil was standing in front of him. Reeves awoke in the hospital to find his parents, aunt and two police officers at his bedside. Drug-free since then, he now encourages his peers to learn from his mistake and not experiment with

drugs.

Another statistic revealed that 11.4 percent of high school seniors have tried spice. One of them was Brandon Clark, a local teen who died from trying it. Clark's father, Joe, spoke at the seminar and had this warning to offer to students. "You are here for a purpose," he said. "Make right choices and things will work out. It's easy to get sidetracked, so remember, it only takes one mistake."

SGA President Bryant Whaley believes it was no mistake that this seminar was scheduled the night after a similar presentation was held by a different group on campus. "I'm not the kind of guy who believes in coincidence," Whaley said. "Everything happens for a reason. Students really need to be informed so they can be responsible."



# CAMPUS & LOCAL

COMMUNITY, CAMPUS AND SOCIAL NEWS YOU CAN USE

## CAMPUS CRIME

### Monday, January 23

- Gas Leak, Dixon Hall
- Theft of Property, Stadium Tower
- Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Pelham Road

### Tuesday, January 24

- Threat Assessment, Daugette Hall
- Leaving the Scene of an Accident, Trustee Circle
- Burglary, Stadium Tower

### Wednesday, January 25

- Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Jacksonville Police Department
- Arrest- Possession of Marijuana, Central Station
- Automobile Accident, Martin Hall, Parking Lot On
- Harassment & Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Dixon Hall
- Criminal Mischief, Curtiss Hall
- Information Report, Stone Center, Parking Lot
- Assist Other Law Enforcement Agency, Pannell Hall
- Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Stadium Tower

### Thursday, January 26

- Lost Property, Jack Hopper Cafeteria
- Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Crow Hall

### Friday, January 27

- Domestic Dispute, Trespass Issued, Jax Apartments
- Arrest- Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor, Paul Carpenter Village
- Arrest- Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor, Paul Carpenter Village

### Saturday, January 28

- Theft of Property, Crow Hall
- Arrest- Criminal Trespassing, Dixon Hall
- Domestic Dispute, Trespass Issued, Stadium Tower
- Theft of Property, Crow Hall

### Sunday, January 29

- Theft of Property, Dixon Hall

## BRIEFS

The Division of Academic and Student Affairs welcomes Ms. Janet Moore as the new Director for Academic Enhancement. A key role fulfilled by the new Director includes providing a comprehensive academic skills enhancement program through academic workshops, tutoring services, mentoring programs and structured study halls, both for undergraduate students in general and special student populations.

Stacey Mann, an assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Management, was recently named the recipient of the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration's (SECoPA) Morris W. H. "Bill" Collins Award. The annual award recognizes the most outstanding paper written by doctoral candidates in the southeastern region of the American Society for Public Administration.

Gamecock Basketball and Cooper Chevrolet-Buick in Aniston present Free Faculty and Staff Day at the JSU vs. Tennessee Tech Basketball Game on Saturday, Feb. 4 at Pete Mathews Coliseum. All faculty, staff and their families get in free with faculty or staff I.D.

## TEASES

Jacksonville State University's Honors Program is sponsoring their annual S.H.O.E. (Scholars Helping Others Excel) drive for the needy throughout the month of February.

The students have placed collection boxes in buildings campus wide and invite the campus community to donate new and gently used shoes for their distribution to the area's needy through the Jacksonville Community Outreach Center.

The offices of Career Services and Academic Advisement will sponsor an Academic Majors & Minors College Fair Wednesday, February 29. The event will take place in the Leone Cole Auditorium beginning at 8 a.m. and will give students an opportunity to research majors and minors at one central location.

JSU Drama presents RENT by Jonathan Larson this February. Show times are as follows: Feb. 16-18 and Feb. 23-25 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 19 and 26 at 2 p.m. Ticket prices vary. For more information contact Randal Blades @ [rblades@jsu.edu](mailto:rblades@jsu.edu) or (256)782-8429.

The SGA will feature "Soul Food Night in the Cafe" on Wednesday, February 15 as part of Black History Month 2012. Sponsored by the SGA, the event will be held from 4:30-7 p.m. in the Jack Hopper Dining Hall. For more information contact Debbie Taylor at [dbtaylor@jsu.edu](mailto:dbtaylor@jsu.edu).



## JSU CAMPUS EVENTS

### Thursday, February 2

The B.L.U.E. Print Fashion Show, Leone Cole Auditorium, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, Admission: \$2 w/out clothing item; \$1 w/clothing  
Contact: John Lesley Morton at [jmorton1@jsu.edu](mailto:jmorton1@jsu.edu)  
\*\* Benefits JSU Wear You're Going Campaign. All clothing will be donated to a local charity\*\*

Meeting for College Democrats, 123 Brewer Hall, 5:00 pm,  
Contact: Dr. Ron Mellen at [rmellen@jsu.edu](mailto:rmellen@jsu.edu)

### Friday, February 3

Community Service with Uganda Children, Wesley Foundation, 6:00 - 10:00 pm,  
Contact: John Lesley Morton at [jmorton1@jsu.edu](mailto:jmorton1@jsu.edu)

### Saturday, February 4

Brotherhood Night Basketball Game, JSU Coliseum, 4:30 - 6:00 pm,  
Contact: John Lesley Morton at [jmorton1@jsu.edu](mailto:jmorton1@jsu.edu)

Spring Preview Day

### Tuesday, February 7

Big Man on Campus, Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:00 - 9:00 pm,  
Admission: \$3 or \$2 if you wear pink  
Contact: Emerald Dukes at [edukes@jsu.edu](mailto:edukes@jsu.edu)

Mixer, Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:30 pm,  
Contact: [jsu0714p@jsu.edu](mailto:jsu0714p@jsu.edu)



# OPINION

CASUAL CONVERSATION. TRENDY TOPICS

## Nicotine still side dish of choice in Alabama

EMILY GLASER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Restaurants all across the country have been blowing out the ashes. Cigarette ashes that is. Twenty-nine states have jumped on the band wagon and are trying to make dining experiences pleasant for all in their dining establishments by passing no smoking legislation. Alabama is one of the eight states that have not.

The laws that those twenty-nine states have enacted in the past decade ban smoking in three establishments: workplaces, restaurants, and bars. These laws not only protect the customers, they protect the employees as well. Another nine states have banned smoking in two of the three listed establishments. Alabama and seven other states have somewhat created restrictions on smoking in establishments. But the restrictions are nothing like the other states' and still leave customers and employees in great danger of inhaling someone else's smoke.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, secondhand smoke exposure causes lung cancer and cardiovascular disease [https://dl-web.dropbox.com/get/NFL.jpg?w=d16c1cfc\\_r](https://dl-web.dropbox.com/get/NFL.jpg?w=d16c1cfc_r) and respiratory diseases in nonsmoking adults and children, resulting in an estimated 46,000 heart disease deaths and 3,400 lung cancer deaths among United States nonsmoking adults each year.

Somehow, the smoke free freight train skipped right over Alabama, leaving nothing but slow movement of smoke free bills in the Legislature. Some cities in Alabama have enacted their own policies regarding smoking in public places. Under the city of Jacksonville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13, Article II Smoking in Public, Sec. 13-21, "Smoking shall be prohibited in all enclosed public places within the city . . ." That ordinance includes restaurants with attached bars.

Some restaurants are making the change, even if not required by law. This includes places that have always allowed smokers the option of cigs as the second side dish.

Cooter Brown's Rib Shack of Jacksonville, Alabama allowed smoking inside from its opening in April 2000 until September 17, 2011. Cooter Brown's did not ban smoking because of legal requirements, because it is not within the Jacksonville city limits. Owner Barbara Johnson said that they decide to switch to smoke free because of how society now views smoking.

Johnson is from a family of smokers, so it isn't that smoking bothers her. It is the simple fact that the restaurant seats only 50 people and in such a

small area, good ventilation is hard to come by.

Another reason that sparked the change was that Johnson had heard people saying that they would be more likely to dine in Cooter Brown's if it was non-smoking.

Just because the restaurant is in a college town doesn't mean that the main customers are college students who like to drink and smoke. Eighty five percent of sales are of food, with only the remaining fifteen percent being alcohol sales. The clientele is very mixed, with students, families, and just people passing through the area.

Since making the change to a non-smoking establishment, Cooter Brown's has not lost any business, according to Johnson.

Joe and Katie Donahue have been loyal customers of Cooter Brown's for nine years now. They said that the smoking in the restaurant never really bothered them, but now that there won't be any smoke inside, their dining experience will be even more enjoyable.

According to the Alabama State Legislature, for the past 13 years, bills have been introduced in the Alabama Legislature to ban smoking in some way, shape or form in public establishments. They have yet to be passed.

Johnson believes that the state of Alabama will eventually pass legislation that requires all restaurants to go smoke free. She believes that society is making the change, by deciding that we don't want to breathe in second hand smoke while we're eating.

"Not even smokers want to be around smoke when they're eating," said Katie Donahue, a former smoker.

Alabama is not alone in this southern love affair with nicotine. According to the CDC, no southern state has a comprehensive smoke free law in effect.



**SMOKE  
FREE  
ZONE**



## Making the most of Super Bowl weekend

Hangover relief, food pep talks and bathroom advice.

EMILY HAYES  
NEWS EDITOR

Aah, the Super Bowl. Nothing like a Sunday night full of football, food and commercial fun. Whether you're watching the actual game, the commercials or the half-time wardrobe malfunction, here are three tips and tricks to make the most of your weekend.

### 1. Hangovers

Need a magic pill to keep away the hangover? It's not a pill, but it sounds magic. Dr. Leonard Grossman is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon with one of the most prominent practices in New York City. In 2011, Grossman teamed up with a friend to formulate Bytox, the specially formulated hangover-remedy patch that effectively replenishes the vital levels of vitamins and nutrients your body loses when you consume alcohol.

According to its web site, "the Bytox patch is comprised from a complex of B vitamins that are essential to helping your body function on a day-to-day basis. The Bytox patch is safe, natural and effective, which means your body will quickly replenish what's lost during the consumption of alcohol."

Although Birmingham and Atlanta are the closest purchase locations, don't despair. Bytox offers next-day shipping, which gives you plenty of time if this is something you'll need to make it to Monday classes.

### 2. Food

For people still sticking to a weight-loss resolution, Super Bowl Sunday might be the first major challenge. WeightWatchers.com can be a vital resource for advice and low-calorie game food recipes.

Before entering your buddies' house, give yourself a mental pep talk and then "stick with your plan," advises Jay Fleming, a Weight Watchers leader

who's maintained a 65-pound loss for four years. "Ask yourself why you are at the game. Is it to eat or is it to watch the game?"

"Make better food choices," says Neil Anderson, a master personal trainer. To make that easier, prepare and bring healthier items such as shrimp with cocktail sauce, veggie or fruit trays or bags of low-fat microwavable popcorn.

And for those of you not concerned with caloric content, you can find a wealth of game recipes by googling a few key words.

### 3. Safety

Dr. Jeff Kalina, associate medical director of emergency medicine at The Methodist Hospital in Houston, sees all sorts of injuries -- some fatal -- occur on Super Bowl weekend, because people pay more attention to the game than to their health and safety.

"Super Bowl game day usually brings on a rise in drunken driving accidents and stomach ailments because of the mixture of alcohol and junk food."

And people who drink too much and fail to get up and go to the bathroom can also develop a problem called urinary retention, a condition where the bladder gets so full that the muscles are not strong enough to generate a stream.

"During most sporting events people will get up and use the restroom during the commercials and not have any problem," Kalina said. "However, most of the time the commercials are the best part of the Super Bowl, so we have seen people who have to come in and have a catheter put in to relieve themselves."

"People have to remember that the Super Bowl is just a game," Kalina said. "Don't drink too much, don't eat too much, and get up and go to the bathroom. Doing all these things will make your gathering and viewing of the Big Game much more enjoyable."

## We need a new government not a new face

MATTHEW TYSON  
STAFF COLUMNIST

In 2008, as the Bush era began to creep into its final days and the public attention turned towards an important and monumental election, I heard a cry coming from the left that was born from a fatal mentality.

"Anyone but Bush"

In January 2009, Barack Obama took to the White House with a Christ-like following. He was the man that was going to finally fix this country. Not only was he NOT George Bush, but he was a Democrat, a fresh face, and a new mind in the oval office. Obama reversed the political playing field. The Republicans, who had spent 8 years as the dominant party, suddenly found themselves as the political underdogs. They soon began to stage a slow and deliberate attack on Obama to ensure that he would be a one-term president. Now with the 2012 election just months away, it seems the right has adapted the same rallying cry, but with a different target.

"Anyone but Obama." Anyone.

This philosophy, this way of thinking, this idea that one political party is superior to another, bipartisanship in general, has failed, and will continue

to rip this country apart. We are no longer a country that works together. We are divided by colors. We align ourselves with a certain party, and then believe whatever the leaders of our respective parties tell us to believe. That isn't a democracy. That is two power-hungry, dominating forces competing for control of our country while operating under the guise of a democracy.

I am not a Republican, nor a Democrat. I was raised in a strong Republican household, but the Republican party that I grew up believing in, the one I was proud to be associated with, isn't the one trying to take office. To me, being a Republican meant that I could be a hardworking, self-reliant American who could make a name for myself without any opposition from the government. The Republican Party has become an exclusive club for the rich and fortunate.

Ask any regular, middle class, GOP supporter and I guarantee they will tell you that they don't vote democrat because they don't like big government. They don't like the idea of their hard-earned money being taken away and given to someone who doesn't deserve it. Most people opposed to Obama will tell you that he's a threat to our constitutional rights. They will tell you that he wants to turn our country into an "entitlement society" and abolish capitalism and ring in a terrible era of communists and dictators in the land of the free. They are looking for a

savior, just like the Democrats were in 2008, and if my predictions come true, then Mitt Romney is going to be the man who answers the call.

Sadly, Mitt Romney is the last person a Republican should want in office.

Let's take taxes, for example. Taxes are a massive part of debate between Democrats and Republicans. The general opinion of the people seems to be that Democrats raise taxes, Republicans lower taxes. By that logic, I'm sure many believe that if Romney takes office he will lower taxes. But does Romney want lower taxes for everyone? Or just lower taxes for himself? Romney recently released his 2010 tax information after pressure from Gingrich, the media and the public. Romney, who by the way is unemployed, made over \$40 million and paid only 13.9% in taxes in 2010. No, Romney didn't do anything illegal, but you would have to be void of all moral value to accept this fact as "right". To make matters worse, back in 2007, Romney and his company, Bain Capital, lobbied to keep certain taxes at a low rate, making it possible for him to make millions and barely pay a dime in taxes. He wasn't fighting to cut taxes on middle class workers, just himself.

"But wait," you say, "Romney worked for that money! He should be

allowed to do what he wants with it, right?"

No. Like I said, Romney is unemployed. His income came from investments, not hard work.

"But what about when he worked for Bain Capital?" you ask. "What about the money he earned there?"

Oh, you must be referencing the money Romney made by putting tons of hard-working Americans out of a job and out-sourcing the jobs overseas for cheaper labor.

Now, I'm not saying that re-electing Obama will be any better than putting a self-righteous rich man in office. I'm saying that no candidate is going to be able to give the country what it wants. Why? Because of public mentality. Many seem to think that Romney will be the answer to their prayers, but will he? So far he's proven himself to be anything but an advocate for the people. We live and breathe by what our respective parties say. We have to stop the bipartisan mentality.

In this writer's opinion, we don't need a savior candidate, or a Republican, or Obama. As far as I'm concerned we've reached the end of the road. It's time for more than a new face, we need a new government.



Opinion

# JSU's parking situation: by the numbers

NOELLE MILLIRONS  
SPECIAL TO THE CHANTICLEER

If you ask most students what their least favorite thing about Jacksonville State University, they will likely tell you: "Parking."

In the fall of 2009 a parking system was put into that has been met with both positive and negative reactions.

The reasons for the change in parking system are numerous. According to university police, when university officials decided to install a transit system, they were told by the planning company that it would never work with the current parking system. There was too much traffic on all roads on the main campus, especially Trustee Circle, and directly around campus.

Therefore, the current system was devised where commuters would stay off of the main campus and residents would park at one location and remain there throughout the week. This way, the transit buses can easily travel through the campus.

Many students argue that there is not enough parking. The problem may not be that there is not enough parking, but maybe there just is not enough parking where students want it. Residents want parking close to Stone Center and commuters want parking closer to interior buildings such as Ayers Hall.

Specific majors want to have parking close to their main building. Communication majors have no parking around their main building of Self Hall. Music majors cannot park close to Mason Hall, home of the department of music, unless they have a green parking pass. If they do, they likely live in one of the residence halls directly behind Mason Hall anyway.

The Jacksonville State University

Factbook 2010-2011, published by the Office of Institutional Research and Advancement includes details of the parking system.

For commuters, parking is allowed only at the Theron Montgomery Building, Stone Center and the parking lot behind Houston College Library and Martin Hall. The total parking spaces allotted for commuters is 1,822 and 850 additional spaces up for grabs for any color at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

This seems to be plenty of spaces, but when you compare that to the fact that 81% of JSU students in 2010 were commuters, totaling 7,703 students, there is an obvious lack of spaces. If even only half of the commuters were on campus at the same time, that would leave about one space for every three students.

Obviously, not all commuters are on campus at the same time, but at peak class times, that close park is hard to find. Students often circle parking lots looking and lose valuable time that they need to walk across campus to their actual classroom building.

The reason, according to Chief of Police Sean Giddy for the commuters being on the outskirts of campus is to reduce traffic on Trustees Circle and then main part of campus.

Students living in housing have a total of 2,200 spaces available; although, only 18% of students lived on campus in 2010. That is 1,801 students living on campus including all residence halls, apartments and Paul Carpenter Village. There are only 2,015 beds available on campus all together.

In the idealistic situation as planned by Skipper Consulting Inc., who

planned the parking layout, students would park beside their residence hall and walk or take the Gamecock Express to all their classes. However, with the timing issues of the GX, or due to inclement weather, or laziness most drive to their building anyway.

Faculty and staff seem to have the best situation. There are a total of 1,022 gold parking spaces dispersed over campus. There are gold parking lots beside every major academic and service building.

JSU, in 2010, had 876 full-time employees. That leaves 146 spaces open on a regular basis if every employee took a car to work. Not all drive to work though, and that leaves even more spaces open. Some employee lots stay full while others always have open spaces.

With a lack of spaces or lack of ideal location students are getting creative and often making their own space. Students cram into the end of an aisle of parking, which is obviously warrants a ticket and is also unsafe, as it congests the parking lot's traffic flow.

Students also resort to parking in locations off campus such as the Ladiga Trail parking lot, previous to JSU blocking off the entrance. Students also park at local apartments, churches and businesses in hopes that the owners find pity and allow them the space.

Other students find ways around tickets by parking at the Alumni House, which is an undeclared parking lot.

Though the UPD holds that they have never encountered a situation where all parking lots were completely full; still, when running late or in disregard of the rules, many park their vehicle as close

as they can get to the building they are going to.

"When I'm running late, I have to park [in an incorrect zone.]" Angela Marino, a freshman who already has a collection of tickets, stated.

At JSU, students pay 35 dollars for a parking decal and 15 to 50 dollars for violations.

At the University of Alabama at Birmingham, students pay 100 dollars or more for a parking spot in a deck. That is, if you can get one, as there is a waiting list. Student workers can apply for a parking permit that allows them to park close to their department building for a fee of 15 dollars per month.

At the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, student parking permits for perimeter parking are 150 dollars and residents pay 175 dollars. They also have the option of parking in a reserved lot for four hundred and fifty dollars per year.

The University of North Alabama is closer to JSU in size. Their students pay 32 dollars per semester to park on campus and their system is similar to JSU's. Violations range from 20 to 50 dollars.

"The parking at Alabama seems to go smoother." Nathan Harris, who has been a student JSU and UA, stated. "The transit system also takes a lot of student surveys asking where students go and what routes they take. They even changed a few."

He also states that there is just as much ticketing. The parking system has both critics and supporters, as it has benefits and draw-backs.

### From Page 1 "Financial Aid"

In addition, "Students must keep in mind, if they received their maximum federal loan eligibility during the fall and spring semesters, they may not be eligible to borrow for summer term(s)," said Adams. However, parents may still apply for the Parent-PLUS loans for their students.

Another change in financial aid affects the payback of student loans. Following graduation, undergraduate students have a six-month grace period before student loan payments are due. In the past this period has been interest-free, but Adams warned, "For the year beginning 2012-2013, student loans will accumulate interest starting at graduation."

Graduate students will see a new change, as well. "Beginning 2012-2013, subsidized loans will no longer be available to graduate students, only unsubsidized loans," said Adams. "This will not change the annual loan limits that graduate students can borrow."

Adams stated approximately 80% of JSU students receive federal and/or state funds to lower the cost of higher education. Four years of college can cost tens of thousands of dollars, and tuition rates increases between four and seven percent annually. However, the amount of financial aid, such as the Pell Grant, does not necessarily increase as the cost of tuition rises. The maximum amount for a Pell Grant for 2012-2013

will remain at \$5550, said Adams.

Although many changes have been made to federal/state financial aid, JSU continues its part in helping students. Last year the university paid out more than \$14.5 million in scholarships, and scholarship amounts have continued to increase over the past years.

Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for any type of financial aid. Upon completion, many students are required to submit verification of income and/or tax information.

Scholarship applications are available online via the JSU Financial Aid website and are due by March 1. Summer financial aid applications will be

available in the financial aid office and online beginning March 12, 2012. Students must be registered for all summer classes before completing the application.

Students may direct all questions about financial aid or specific qualifications to the JSU Financial Aid Office, and monitor the Office of Student Financial Services web site for further updates.

"Students need to begin completing their 2012-2013 FAFSA as soon as taxes are filed," said Adams. "If they wait until June, July or August to complete the form, their financial aid may not be in place before due date to confirm fall classes."

### From Page 1 "Alive"

with a problem, and most importantly - what to do in an emergency situation."

Upshaw explained that to party smart meant to "know your limit." Most deaths by alcohol poisoning occur when a person's blood alcohol content (BAC) is .30 or higher, and Upshaw suggested everyone visit b4udrink.org to help better understand BAC.

More than 20 hands rose when she asked who in the audience knew someone with a drink-

ing problem, and she encouraged those students to speak up. Upshaw reiterated the danger of waiting, because by then it might be too late.

Before the program ended, Upshaw instructed the audience to enter the campus emergency phone number - (256) 782-6000 - into their phone. "The most important thing that you do is to call for help," Upshaw said, "because it may save their life."

"Erica revived [the] worn out topic of alco-

hol awareness and safety for me. Not only was her personal connection with the loss of her brother heart-wrenching, but her intense passion for preventing the same thing from happening to others was contagious," said social work major Amanda Moore. "I look forward to staying in touch with her!"

For more information on Upshaw's story or getting involved in her project, visit [www.keepfriendshipalive.org](http://www.keepfriendshipalive.org).



[www.keepfriendshipalive.org](http://www.keepfriendshipalive.org)

## GET COCKY ON OUR PAGES



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# Arts and Entertainment

## Surprises and upsets at SAG Awards

Alec Baldwin wins again; Brad Pitt, George Clooney and Sofia Vergara snubbed at this year's awards.

SIERRA TILLMAN  
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, the 18th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards aired and was one for the books. The blogs and social media sites were going crazy after all the winners were announced. One movie and cast that surprised everyone was the cast from *The Help*.

The movie took on a lot of heat prior to its release for the depiction of 1963's Jackson, Mississippi. Octavia Spencer, Viola Davis, and the rest of *The Help* cast were one hundred percent genuine in their acceptance speeches.

"I had to find my voice as a woman of color, an artist, and I never thought that I'd have to be put in a position like that" Viola Davis said. Many people are now saying that those girls better bring a wheel barrel to the Academy Awards, because sources say they are going to rack up on little gold men.

Some snubs from the night included Brad Pitt for *Moneyball* and George Clooney for *The Descendants*. Both Clooney and Pitt lost to *The Artist's* Jean Dujardin for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Leading Role. Many were perplexed with this, because Clooney was already a Critics' Choice and Golden Globe Award winner for *The Descendants*, but that is part

of the fun with award shows, you never know what can happen.

All eyes were on the ladies' race to see if the pendulum would swing in Viola Davis' or Meryl Streep's direction. Well, better luck next time Meryl. And while there are many people on the Betty White train, there are many others who can't understand why Sofia Vergara didn't win for *Modern Family*. One thing that wasn't a surprise to anyone—Alec Baldwin winning his 6th consecutive SAG award. Sorry guys, but Mr. Baldwin seems to have this one on lock.

Wrapping up the end of the night was the Lifetime Achievement Award. This year the recipient was Mary Tyler Moore. The 75-year-old actress, who "turned the world on with her smile" was honored. Here is a rundown of all the winners of the SAG Awards and remember to look for our coverage of this year's Academy Awards, coming up in February.



Alec Baldwin at the SAG Awards

### Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture:

*The Help*

### Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Leading Role:

Jean Dujardin, *The Artist*

### Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Leading Role:

Viola Davis, *The Help*

### Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role:

Christopher Plummer, *Beginners*

### Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Supporting Role:

Octavia Spencer, *The Help*

### Outstanding Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in a Motion Picture:

*Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2*

### Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Television Movie Or Miniseries:

Paul Giamatti, *Too Big to Fail*

### Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Television Movie Or Miniseries:

Kate Winslet, *Mildred Pierce*

### Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Drama Series:

Steve Buscemi, *Boardwalk Empire*

### Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Drama Series:

Jessica Lange, *American Horror Story*

### Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Comedy Series:

Alec Baldwin, *30 Rock*

### Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series:

Betty White, *Hot In Cleveland*

### Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series:

*Boardwalk Empire*

### Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series:

*Modern Family*

### Outstanding Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in a Television Series:

*Game of Thrones*

### Screen Actors Guild Awards 48th Annual Life Achievement Award:

Mary Tyler Moore



The cast of *The Help* accepting their award

## "Once Upon a Time" gets rave reviews

The newest CW show has a fairy-tale story line that has caught many viewers' interest.

MADISON A. RHODES  
STAFF WRITER

Imagine that you are one of the greatest fairy-tale characters of all time, Snow White, but you are unable to remember who you are. You believe that you are someone else entirely. This is the storyline of ABC's new show *Once Upon a Time*.

The evil queen, played by Kristin Bauer, has cast a spell over the fairytale land sending everyone into a present day town, where time is frozen.

The town is called Storybrooke, Maine, and is causing all of the characters to forget their identities. The day of the curse, Snow White's daughter, Emma, is sent through a magical wardrobe out of fairytale land and into the real world. It is predicted that she will one day return to Storybrooke and break the curse.

Emma eventually returns to Storybrooke. When she does, she finds her son that she had given up for adoption many years ago. He tells her his ideas about how he thinks each person in the town is a fairytale character, based on the tales in a book that he owns. When Emma decides to

stay in Storybrooke temporarily, time becomes unfrozen and the journey begins.

You may see some familiar names in the credits of this show. Ginnifer Goodwin, from the film *He's Just Not That Into You*, plays Snow White in the series. Jennifer Morrison, from *House*, plays Snow White's daughter.

The series was written by some of the writers of the hit ABC show *Lost*. Some of the characters in the show are based on and named after the characters that Disney has made movies about, and the writers have written interesting parallels between the characters that are catching the viewer's interest.

The show has received many high ratings, and is set to go worldwide this year. It is a show that all ages can enjoy because of the notoriety of the characters and the interesting plot. The show airs on Sundays at 7 p.m. CT. You can also catch up on episodes on [abc.go.com](http://abc.go.com), where all episodes are currently available for viewing.



The cast of *Once Upon a Time*

## THE CHANTICLEER

The Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

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The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous or defamatory. Letters may be edited for style, brevity or clarity. The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday 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 and Entertainment

# Free speech and the right to good news

THAD BURTON  
SPECIAL TO THE CHANTICLEER

I am sure several people reading this know exactly how many days Kim Kardashian was married to Chris Humphries or know which teams in the NBA are doing the best.

I will also venture a guess and say that not too many people reading this, however I hope to be surprised, don't know who Julian Assange is or what he has done.

These are just two examples of "news" that is derived from two different worlds. There is nothing wrong with knowing the former as long as you realize that the latter is of importance to your life and the lives of those around you.

As college educated people we have an advantage over someone like a chalk inspector from Mapleton, Iowa, because we have a wide variety of resources for knowledge – professors, peers, libraries, databases, etc.

We, as the future leaders of this country, are tasked with preparing ourselves now for the days in which we will be in charge.

Part of preparing ourselves for the future is knowing the state of the world around us now. Two recent bills, SOPA and PIPA – which would have censored the internet in untold ways – were recently scrapped because of overwhelming dissent from IT companies and social networks.

Opposition only started to mass just a couple of weeks before Congress would have started voting on the two bills. Why? Because no one was paying attention to them. We have to start caring about the news now.

George Santayana, a Spanish born philosopher, essayist, poet and novelist, is attributed with the famous quote: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

Seems simple enough – go to history class, take notes, study, pass tests, and you are okay. Not so fast my friend. What is history? History happens all the time. You are making history right now. History is made every second of

every minute of every day, and if we don't know about things going on in the world around us, then we are doomed to repeat the mistakes being made right now.

2012 is an election year, if you haven't noticed. Debates between Republican candidates happen every week, and the State of the Union speech was last week.

I would venture another guess and say that a lot of people reading this didn't watch it and were mad that their Tuesday night network lineup was interrupted. I hope I am mistaken, but the odds aren't good.

Things like last week's speech are very important to watch, and I don't mean watch FOX News, MSNBC, or CNN the next day to see which commentator is spinning it in which direction. You are smarter than that.

You don't need someone doing your thinking for you. There are people in America who do, but not you and I – college educated individuals.

You may disagree with President Obama or you might disagree with a specific Republican candidate or all of them. However, it is important to know what these people are saying because Barack Obama, Newt Gingrich, Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, or Ron Paul will be the leader of this great country in about ten months.

I am not advocating any specific candidate or any specific political ideology, instead I am advocating knowledge.

Knowledge can be empowering, but knowledge is useless unless you utilize it.

If I am ignorant of my own self and circumstances, then I have no chance to have the power to change any of it.

What good is knowledge if you don't



Julian Assange

nytimes.com

apply it to make not only your life better, but the lives of people around you better?

We can have a debate on whether or not the Kardashian/Humphries wedding was a set-up, or we can have a debate on the impact of Bashar al-Assad, the leader of Syria, finally stepping down. Which one is of circumstance to

our lives? The answer is pretty clear.

I think we all remember Schoolhouse Rock and their slogan "It's great to learn because knowledge is power!"

Special thanks to Dr. J. Patrick McGrail for inspiring me to write this piece.

# Are we on the verge of a new musical revolution?

ANDREW HOLDERFIELD  
SPECIAL TO THE CHANTICLEER

If you're a believer in the notion that history does indeed repeat itself, then ponder this: Are we in store for a new wave of popular music on par with America early 1990s? Well, in order to answer that question, we have to look backwards.

In the late 80's the world was riddled with huge bands and acts bellowing out hit after hit and filling arenas from Tokyo to Toronto and back again. Chart-topping acts preferred pyrotechnics and fancy mechanical gimmicks to actual song quality.

Bands like Styx spent more on a gigantic 'Mr. Roboto' prop than they did actually recording the song. Now, this is not to say that the songs weren't expensive to record. At the time, studio budgets for pop acts were off the rails. Guitar solos featuring dozens of guitars were not uncommon, even as the amount of vocal tracks from bands like

Poison required an almost orchestral arrangement to simply make

them sound realistic. Starlets like Tiffany and Madonna crisscrossed the nation on huge convoys of tour buses, wooing crowds with disaffected tunes about love in relation to shopping, even as the country's economy began to wane. To put it simply, popular music had lost touch with the world it was speaking to and about. Then... to put it simply... 'boom!'.

In the span of 2 years, from 1989-1991, groups like Warrant were reduced to driving to bars in vans as bands like The Smashing Pumpkins, Pearl Jam and Sonic Youth dominated the air waves with the antithesis of everything the country was so much about a few years prior. Songs were no longer overwhelming forces of production and money. They were simple, angry, distorted odes to a country in

peril. Flannel had replaced leather and the teams of record producers had... well, most of those early albums didn't even have producers. Songs were often self-recorded in the same basements in which the bands performed on Saturday nights.

The world was different and 24 months was all it took. Fast-forward to today. Is this where we are, 1988? Has music grown so autocorrected and flamboyant that it has lost its soul? Are the Lady Gagas, Ke\$has and Niki Minajs of today the 'hair bands' of yesterday? Are the songs they sing really relevant in the world we find ourselves in? Will our kids look back and laugh?

This article is not meant to bash (I, personally, love both Cindi Lauper and Katy Perry.) but it is a query that has been at the back of my mind for quite a while.

Are we poised for another musical

coup d'état? I cannot be sure, but as the bands inspired by groups like Nirvana grow into almost replicants soulless area-rock groups Cobain and company had helped destroy, one cannot help but suspect that we might not be far off from an 'Occupy Music' movement favoring relevant bands like Bleeding Knees Club while leaving overproduced party boys like LMFAO in the

definite 1%. Check back next issue as we take a deeper look into the possible past/future of music.

+Andrew Holderfield is the Assistant Program Director of WLJS and the host of 'The Pulse', a triweekly show focused on new music. [pulse919.tumblr.com]

# Battle royale erupts between Muppets and Fox News

There have been some fun entertainment-industry beefs, but it doesn't get much better than the Muppets taking shots at Fox News.

In "The Muppets," oil tycoon Tex Richman (Chris Cooper) nefariously plans to tear down the Muppet Theater. When Fox News and Fox Business Network anchor Eric Bolling caught wind of the film, he accused it of "liberals brainwashing children against capitalism" for its portrayal of Richman. In a press conference Thursday ahead of the film's release in the United Kingdom, the Muppets responded to the allegations.

"That's categorically not true," Kermit the Frog said of Bolling's accusations. "And besides, if we had a problem with oil companies, why would we have spent the entire film driving around in a gas-guzzling Rolls Royce?"

Miss Piggy also scoffed at the accusation. "It's almost as laughable as accusing Fox News of, you know, being news," Miss Piggy said.

Ouch. Fox takes a big "L" there, and rightfully so. Bolling's argument is full of holes, and can really only be justified if he either had a closed-head injury or likes to wear tin-foil hats.

"The Muppets" isn't some subversive commentary on the evils of capitalism. Richman's character isn't even a representation of a specific

industry. In fact, he is more of a caricature of a stereotypical villain more so than any kind of capitalism-hating goon trying to brainwash America's youth.

Fox also likes to shove the notion down our throats that "family values" are virtually nonexistent these days. If Fox is seriously that upset that our society has turned into one big Satan-worshipping orgy, it should appreciate "The Muppets" for being the kind of Disney fare that Walt Disney himself (who was a Republican) has made family-friendly for decades.

I suppose this all comes down to Fox doing the same kind of sensationalizing it always has, which has undoubtedly helped it become the most-viewed cable news network, for better or worse (but mostly for worse). But making fun of the Muppets, who have become a timeless example of good-natured family fun?

Oh no you didn't. ("Z" snap.) There have been plenty of instances of the parties representing the many sides Fox has villainized over the years addressing Fox and getting the one-up. Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert have done it to Bill O'Reilly. Now, the Muppets have done the same.

Fox: You lost to puppets.

-From Uwire



treasuredbirthdays.com

# Top Ten on WLJS

1. Justin Christopher – "Color of His Skin"
2. Apollo-11 – "The Gunpowder Treason"
3. Beach Side Property – "Southern Drawl"
4. The Fourth Estate – "Memorial Day Parade"
5. Shira Gavrielov – "Crazy"
6. Capsula – "Hit 'N Miss"
7. Menage – "Wake Up"
8. Induce – "Livin' in the Future (Remix)"
9. The Darcys – "Home at Last"
10. Weaver at the Loom – "Encyclopedia"





# SPORTS

## Super Bowl XLVI is upon us

DANIEL PORTER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

In this sure to be epic rematch of Super Bowl XLII, where no one will forget Eli Manning's miraculous escape from pressure and "The Catch" brought in by David Tyree (and his helmet).

The Patriots were 18-0 looking for a perfect season but the Giants' 17-14 upset ended New England's hopes for a fourth Super Bowl in the decade and left the Patriots 18-1.

Tom Brady will try for his fourth Super Bowl and add to his magnificent legacy. Manning will try to stop Brady again and in the process win his second Super Bowl... passing big brother Peyton.

The State of Alabama is well represented in the Super Bowl mostly thanks to New York.

The Patriots have only two players who played college in the state with sixth year man Mark Anderson and second year Brandon Deaderick, both who played for the Crimson Tide.

The Giants field a few more players out of the state starting with lead running back Brandon Jacobs who transferred to Southern Illinois but played at Auburn prior to that. Three Giants played at Troy including kicker Lawrence Tynes, star defensive end Osi Umenyiora, and rookie wide receiver Jerrel Jernigan. Brain Witherspoon a defensive corner played at Stillman, while another corner Michael Coe played at Alabama State.

The Giants and Patriots met up at the midpoint of this season in a game the Giants won 24-20 in Foxborough due to a late drive and touchdown pass by Manning... similar to Super Bowl XLII.

The Giants have a much more stable team with wide receivers Victor Cruz and Hakeem Nicks and dual threat running from Brandon Jacobs and Ahmad Bradshaw.

Not to mention the quarterback Eli Manning who is turning into one of the elite clutch quarterbacks in the NFL. New York's defense is its weak point but has come on strong in the playoffs.

The Patriots defensive is even worse though and hasn't progressed.

However, they have such an explosive high scoring offensive they never need to hold opponents to very low points.

That powerful offensive comes courtesy of Tom Brady calling the shots surrounded by weapons such as the sure catch Wes Welker, and veteran receiver Deion Branch.

More than anything though Brady relies on his tight ends Rob Gronkowski and Aaron Hernandez, but he may be one weapon shy with Gronkowski being questionable to play after an injury in the last game.

Adam Vinatieri will mostly likely be at the game in Indianapolis since he now plays for the Colts, but he won't be able to give the Patriots that magical last second field goal it may take to win.

Stephen Gostkowski will have to be ready for that, or Lawrence Tynes for that matter because its sure to be a close game that comes down to the end.

I would feel very strongly that the Patriots would win if Gronkowski was playing completely healthy, but with that weapon most likely gone it makes the game close enough that this would be a perfect time for one of Eli Manning's clutch performances.

So while I wouldn't be surprised if Eli and the Giants beat the Patriots again in the Super Bowl I still believe that New England will get the job done and Tom Brady will win his 17th playoff game breaking a tie with Joe Montana who has 16 and become the all-time playoff wins from quarterback leader.

But more than a 17th win it would give Brady, and his coach Bill Belichick, their fourth Super Bowl win... not bad for a former sixth round draft pick!

## Golf Action: Gamecocks finish 11th on final day of JU Invitational

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — The Jacksonville State men's golf team climbed two spots in Tuesday's final round of the Jacksonville University Invitational, carding a 298 on the PLAYERS Stadium Course at the TPC at Sawgrass to finish in 11th place.



Freshman Tomasz Anderson tied for 20th.

The Gamecocks leaped host Jacksonville and Georgia State on the final day of the 54-hole event, their first finish out of the top 10 this season. The tournament featured the best field they have seen so far, with four teams ranked in the top 41 competing on the 7,122-yard, par-72 layout.

Freshman Tomasz Anderson turned in a one-under 71 on Tuesday to finish the two-day event with a 227, placing him in a tie for 20th. Junior Andres Schonbaum fell into a tie for 25th after a final-round 78, while senior Alfonso Otoy finished in a tie for 35th in the 69-player field, after his final-day 73 put him at 17-

over for the tournament. Senior Tom Robson bounced back from a tough first round to finish tied for 49th. Freshman Dylan Sheppard rounded out the Gamecocks' lineup in a tie for 58th after a third-round 79.

No. 34 Florida claimed the team title, just ahead of No. 36 Liberty, while seventh-ranked North Florida finished third. No. 41 East Carolina came in fourth, while Coastal Carolina rounded out the top five.

Florida's T.J. Vogel won medalist honors with an even-par 216.

The Gamecocks will not be back in action until March 11-13, when they compete in the Louisiana Tech Bulldogs Classis at Squire Creek Country Club in Choudrant, La.

-From Sports Wire

## S.T.R.O.N.G. words to local athletes

JSU Softball coaches and team promote a religious tone and structure towards athletic success.

JACOB HILL  
STAFF WRITER

Coach Alex McGinnis, Cocky and the JSU Softball team visited middle school and high school athletes from around Calhoun County Wednesday at the First Baptist Church of Saks.

These athletes from White Plains, Weaver, Anniston, Jacksonville and Saks schools were invited by the church's youth pastor, Jeremy Ford, to listen to McGinnis give a speech and to meet Cocky and the members of the JSU softball team.

The night started off with a raffle of sporting equipment such as duffel bags and autographed hats.

After the JSU softball team was introduced, McGinnis took to the podium and steered the conversation away from softball and toward a more serious note: being S.T.R.O.N.G.

McGinnis told the young athletes that athletics was "becoming one of the largest platforms in the world" and to seize the opportunity to be role models.

She went on to explain that in order to accomplish this, all that would have to be done is to follow one simple game plan: be self confident, thankful, respectful, optimistic, never quit and follow God. Simply be S.T.R.O.N.G.

McGinnis did more than tell these athletes what to do, she set an example.

"I want to use tonight as a platform to make a difference," said McGinnis. "I want you to be strong females, not just through physical strength, but through your character, integrity and what is within."

The softball athletes were left with some powerful words before being dismissed to meet and talk with the JSU softball team and take pictures with Cocky.

"If you are strong, you are confident. Confidence comes from within, and it is contagious; however, lack of confidence is as well," said McGinnis. "Work every day to be strong and



Members of the softball team sign autographs for local athletes.

use the platform for good."

"It's very important for JSU to be actively involved in community programs for students," said Ford, who found the night's program a success. "It provides a more one-on-one setting for younger athletes to meet some of their role models."

The youth pastor also said that the message would be much more meaningful coming from community leaders and role models such as Coach McGinnis.

"Tonight also helped to break barriers between area teams by bringing them together," he added.

Ford plans to continue to host the event annually at the First Baptist

Church of Saks, and hopes to bring in other role models for young athletes such as the JSU head baseball coach.

JSU softball players will be available this Sunday at the Gamecock Annual Fan Day for people wishing to meet the team.

The event is free to the public and beings at 2 p.m. at University Field.

The softball team will set foot on the fields in Mobile, AL, February 10 to start the season off at the South Alabama Mardi Gras Invitational against Lipscomb.

The first home game of the season is scheduled for February 17 against Southern Illinois.

## Make a move: Reality of JSU jumping to FBS

SCOTTI SIMPSON  
SPECIAL TO THE CHANTICLEER

The JSU Board of Trustees have shown interest in making the move to the Football Bowl Subdivision, but what would it take?

"The most important thing is to be in a position to take advantage of any opportunities that may arise in the future," said former JSU Athletics Director Oval Jaynes. "It's not like we are planning on leaving the Ohio Valley Conference next month, and it shouldn't be taken that way."

JSU left the Division II, Gulf South Conference to join the Division I Atlantic Sun Conference in 1995.

In 2003, the Gamecocks made their move to the Ohio Valley Conference. Since joining the OVC, the Gamecocks have won 44 conference titles, more than any other OVC school.

According to the NCAA, any university wishing to participate in the FBS must sponsor a minimum of 16 varsity sports. Sponsorship must include at least six male or mixed teams and a minimum of eight intercollegiate teams for women.

Varsity football must schedule and

play at least 60 percent of its contests against other FBS schools and at least five home games against FBS schools.

Any institution wishing to gain FBS status must also offer at least 200 athletic scholarships per year.

To be considered for membership as an FBS competitor, the university must average 15,000 in actual or paid attendance for all home football games over a two-year period.

The university must count everyone in attendance, including students and band, but excluding any other people performing services for the university. Students may be considered for attendance only if there is a proper count.

JSU has averaged 17,282 in attendance per game over the last two seasons. This means JSU meets the requirements to compete at the FBS level in football, but what about the other varsity sports at JSU?

Requirements vary based upon each conference. "Prospective members must have FBS football, men and women's basketball, baseball, softball, volleyball and a total of 16 of the 19 conference champion sports. We have scheduling criteria in men's basketball as well," said Wright Waters Commis-

sioner of the Sun Belt Conference.

Waters added that any institution considered must bring value to the conference.

"Value has many definitions. We prefer institutions that fit academically, athletically and geographically," said Waters. "But the higher the value to the conference the more the membership is willing to compromise on academically, athletically and geographically."

According to the Sun Belt Conference there is no minimal requirement for any other athletic facilities.

However, should JSU join the Sun Belt they would have the third smallest football venue. The only schools with smaller venues are Western Kentucky (22,000) and Florida International (23,000).

When it comes to basketball facilities, the Pete just can't compete. Pete Matthews Coliseum is a 5,500 seat basketball arena that opened in 1974.

The Coliseum underwent a major renovation in 1987, but is long since due for another one.

If the Gamecocks were to make a move to the Sun Belt, Pete Matthews Coliseum would be the third smallest basketball arena in the Sun Belt.

The only schools with smaller arenas are Troy (4,000) and Florida Atlantic (5,000).

As for the baseball facilities, Rudy Abbott Field just can't hold the capacities. Rudy Abbott Field would be the smallest baseball stadium in the Sun Belt if they were to make the move.

Making the move to a larger conference and making the move to the FBS could cost millions of dollars.

If the Gamecocks decide to make a move, the football program would not be able to compete for a conference title or post-season play, right away.

"For JSU to join a conference, such as the Sun Belt, they would have a two year probationary period, where they would have to schedule mostly FBS members," said Tony Ferrante, Asst. Director of Athletics at Troy University. "However, in those two years they would not be eligible to join a conference in football, but would be eligible to compete in every other sport in a conference."

After the probationary year they would be eligible to compete for a conference title and post-season play," said Ferrante.



# Gamecock Sports



Brian Williams (21) had a team high 18 points against the Cougars Saturday night.

Sportswire

## Gamecocks hold off late surge, roll past SIU-E 70-65

DANIEL PORTER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Gamecocks entered on a two game win streak and looked to remain victorious Saturday night against the Cougars of Southern Illinois-Edwardsville. With a win, the Gamecocks could climb past SIU-E in the conference standings and be in position to make the OVC Tournament. JSU won the opening tip but the Cougars were the first to find the basket taking a 2-0 lead. With just under five minutes remaining in the half Nick Cook threw down an alley-oop that stretched the Gamecocks lead to nine, 33-24. SIUE didn't go away and at the 2:00 mark the Cougars hit a three that closed

the gap to two, 33-31. JSU added a few and took a halftime lead of 38-34 into the locker rooms. The Cougars scored first in the second half to close the lead to two but JSU took over immediately afterwards and began pulling away. With ten minutes remaining the Gamecocks had pulled out to a twelve point lead 62-50. However, SIUE gave a final run at a comeback. With two minutes left Tarvin Gaines fouled out of the game and with free throws the Cougars made it a five point game 70-65. JSU held on and with Cook's dunk with a second left the Gamecocks put the finishing touches on a 76-65 win. The Gamecocks shot just under 50% as five players

scored double digit points including: juniors Ronnie Boggs (11 points), and Tarvin Gaines (10 points), sophomores Nick Cook (15 points), and Brian Williams with a team high 18 points, and also freshman Darion Rackley with his career high of 16 points. Boggs brought in a team high 9 rebounds. JSU outscored SIUE in fastbreak points 25-2. With the win the Gamecocks pass the Cougars in the OVC standings and currently have a spot in the OVC Tournament. If JSU can get into the OVC Tournament they may very well get another shot at Murray State who is ranked #9 in the country and the only remaining unbeaten team, JSU held close late in the game last time they played.

## Monday Madness: Gamecock streak ends in thriller

DANIEL PORTER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Gamecocks matched up against the Spartans of South Carolina-Upstate Monday Jan 30. Both teams came in on three game winning streaks. The game was a break from conference play after the Gamecocks had played their way into position for a spot in the OVC Tournament. SC-Upstate was 13-9 entering the game and third in the Atlantic Sun Conference. The Spartans controlled the opening tip off and assumed the early lead, but it wouldn't last. Jacksonville State took back the lead on a Grant White three pointer. Scoring went back and forth as both teams battled to maintain on top. The two schools met earlier this season on December 1. The Spartans rallied from a fifteen point deficit to win December game 50-48. This time it looked as if the score would be just as close. With ten minutes remaining in the first half the Gamecocks trailed 20-19. The Gamecocks responded with a three to take a 22-20 lead. The Spartans went back down and added a three of their own to take a 23-22 lead. JSU responded as Brian Williams hit a three to regain the lead 25-23.

Recently name Freshman of the Week in the OVC, Darion Rackley hit a three of his own and the Gamecocks began to pull away. The Spartans didn't go away and just under two minutes until halftime the Spartans took a one point lead. The Gamecocks eventually went to halftime down by three. The second half started lopsided for Upstate as JSU was charged with questionable fouls. JSU held strong and stuck with the Spartans who may represent to A-Sun conference in the March Tournament. With five minutes to go in the game it was tied at 64. Upstate quickly grabbed a 71-64 lead as time was running out for a comeback. With a minute remaining JSU was down by 8, but Brian Williams and Tarvin Gaines both hit huge threes that pulled the game within two with seventeen seconds to go. However, the Spartans hit late free throws to put the game away and beat the Gamecocks 77-82. Brian Williams matched his jersey number in points with 21 as five Gamecocks once again scored double digits points. The lead changed 14 times during the thrilling game, but ultimately the Spartans took the season series.

## OVC Freshman of the Week given to Darion Rackley

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. - Jacksonville State guard Darion Rackley has been named the Ohio Valley Conference's Freshman of the Week for helping guide the Gamecocks to a pair of wins last week, the league office announced on Monday.

Rackley, a 6-foot-2 native of St. Louis, Mo., averaged 13.5 points, five rebounds and four assists per game in helping the Gamecocks (9-14, 4-6 OVC) to conference wins over Eastern Illinois and SIU-Edwardsville last week. He and the Gamecocks have won three-straight in league play, the longest such streak since they won three in a row in the 2005-06 season.

He was a force off of the bench in both games but his best came on Saturday in a 76-65 win over SIUE. Rackley set new career highs in points (16), rebounds (six), assists (four) and was 5-for-6 from the floor. He opened the week with 11 points in a 63-45 win over EIU, a game in which he also dished four assists. Rackley joins juniors Ronnie Boggs and Tarvin Gaines as the Gamecocks who have won weekly honors from the OVC this season. Boggs and Gaines were each named the league's Newcomer of the Week earlier in the season.

-From Sports Wire

## Lady Gamecocks struggle as Panthers remain unbeaten

DANIEL PORTER  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Women's basketball was in action Saturday as the Lady Gamecocks faced conference leader Eastern Illinois Panthers. EIU had won the last nine meetings between the schools. The Lady Gamecock's last victory against EIU was in 2007 when the Gamecocks outscored the Panthers 103-98 in a shootout that had both teams combining for 201 total points. The Gamecocks fell behind early 0-5, but after a 7-0 run claimed the lead 7-5. The early two point lead would be the last for the Gamecocks. EIU would go on to retake the lead and hold on it for the remaining 36 minutes. JSU kept it close in the first half but close to halftime EIU stretched their lead and went into the locker rooms at half with an 11 point lead, 24-35.

In the second half EIU would stretch their lead to 25 points at one point before finishing with a 71-55 victory over JSU. EIU remains the only unbeaten team in the OVC and improve their win streak to 9 games. EIU had a good shooting day knocking down 9 threes along with shooting 67% from the free throw line. Senior Destiny Lane out of Ashville, AL. lead the way scoring with 11 points followed immediately by former OVC Freshman of the Week Candace Morton who had 10 points. Danielle Vaughn had a strong game for the Game-

cocks playing the most minutes (35) and racking up 14 total rebounds (11 on defense) along with 3 blocks and added 8 points on offense. The Gamecocks shots less than 40% from the court and fell to the best team in the conference. The Gamecocks have another home game at The Pete Saturday February 4 against conference opponent Tennessee Tech.



Amanda McCarthy(3) had 9 points.

Sportswire

## Gamecocks dominate Eastern Illinois 63-45

SIERRA TILLMAN  
STAFF WRITER

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks dominated the Eastern Illinois Panthers 63-45 in basketball Thursday night at Pete Matthews Coliseum on the campus of Jacksonville State University.

The Gamecocks employed a stifling defense to improve to 8-14 on the season and crashed the boards for 42 rebounds, including 18 on the offensive end of the court. The offensive rebounding led to 19 second chance points for JSU.

Coach James Green credited high energy, a patience offense and good rebounding towards the keys of success.

Junior Guard Dion Waiters cosigned the success with team chemistry.

The game was a defensive struggle in the first half with the Gamecocks holding tightly to a small early advantage for the first 18 minutes of the game.

It was then that sophomore guard and team leader Brian Williams swung the momentum in his favor of the Gamecocks when he illuminated the scoreboard with nine points on a set of 3 pointers in a 1:38 timespan to close out the first half and put Jacksonville State on top 32-22.

"I just wanted to lift the team and keep up the momentum," said Williams



Nick Cook (33) pulled away with his second double-double of the season.

Sportswire

of his spurt.

The second half started slowly and Eastern Illinois was able to close the gap to within six, 36-30 with 14:44 left in the game.

However, the Gamecocks' offense gained momentum with an emphatic Nick Cook dunk and Jacksonville State outscored Panthers 27-15 the rest of the game. It was very noticeable that the team was more relaxed and facially

appeared to be having fun.

"It may look as if we are having fun, and we are but we are more or less trying to keep a level head and not celebrate until the end," said Waiters.

Four Gamecocks reached double figure point totals with Williams leading the way with 18 points including hitting 4-8 from behind the arc.

Cook was a force credited with a double-double by totaling 12 points

and 10 rebounds.

He led the team with six offensive rebounds and also dished out three assists and collected two blocks.

Freshman Darion Rackley notched 11 points and Tarvin Gaines poured in 10. Waiters led the team in rebounding with 12.

The Gamecock defense slowed Eastern Illinois to 17 points under its season average of 62, and leading scorer Jeremy Granger to eight points which is less than half of his season average of 16.4.

Alfonzo McKinnie was the only Panther to reach double figures in the game with 14 points. McKinnie also grabbed 11 rebounds.

Jacksonville State is in a chase to make their first conference tournament and taste of postseason play since 2010.

According to Coach Green, several factors are the key to making the conference tournament this year.

"Continue on the same steady pace, focus, rebounding, getting to the free throw line, and of course making those free throws," Cook said. "Keep playing hard. Keep playing smart."