

ROCK YOUR VOTE: SPECIAL ISSUE

Where do I vote?



A guide for out-of-town students

Kara Coleman
Editor-in-Chief

Many Jacksonville State University students will cast their ballots for the first time in Nov., and it is now easier to register to vote.

A voter registration form for the state of Ala. can be downloaded at alabamavotes.org and mailed to the Secretary of State or the county's Board of Registrars. On-campus voter drives by groups such as the SGA and the College Democrats have been helping students register over the past few weeks. Organizations such as Rock the Vote offer online voter registration at rockthevote.com.

But what qualifications does a person need in order to become a registered voter? And are students supposed to vote in their hometown

or here in Jacksonville?

Someone at least 18 years of age by Election Day and a resident of Alabama may vote in this state. According to state law, a person who attends school in Ala. can establish residency here if he or she intends to make the Alabama school address a primary address for the time being. In other words, students can vote in their college town.

When voters arrive at the polls, they must present valid identification, such as a driver's license, U.S. passport or student ID card. A non-photo ID is also acceptable, as long as it contains the voter's name and current local address. Examples of valid non-photo identification are a Social Security card, birth certificate, paycheck or bank statement, or hunting or fishing license.

If students intend to vote in their hometown but will be at JSU on Election Day, they are allowed to vote via absentee ballot. To qualify for this privilege, registered voters must submit an application for an absentee ballot at least five days before Election Day. The absentee ballot must be returned along with a copy of identification that includes the voter's current Ala. address.

Absentee voters must also submit a signed affidavit that's either notarized or signed by two witnesses who are over 18 years old. Absentee ballots that are mailed must be postmarked by the day preceding Election Day, and absentee ballots that are hand-delivered must be received by the county election office before it closes on the day before Election Day.

Will students vote?

Emily Hayes
Associate Editor

More than 100 students have registered in JSU campus voting drives in the past weeks. Issues such as the cost of higher education, the availability of financial aid and future job prospects are among top concerns of students such as Junior Byron Jackson.

"Because we have so many things going on with the education, the money, student loans, Pell Grant, financial aid, all those different things that as a student," says Jackson, "I feel it's going to be necessary for me to vote because every vote counts."

SGA President Jason Sumner agrees. "Students need to weigh their options, and understand how this will affect them in their financial aid," he says. "Their financial aid allows them to go to school. If the price of school continues to go

up, what are they going to do?"

Yet in an election that will impact students in such a direct way, surveys show that young people — already an underrepresented demographic — are less engaged in the upcoming presidential election than they were four years ago. Sumner hopes to eradicate this apathy toward an action he sees as patriotic responsibility.

"[Students] have a part in the shaping of American tradition, in the shaping of the American ideal and self-government," he says. "And I want them to fully partici-

pate in that process. I want them to take the time to register to vote, to go to their polling place."

Senior Calvin Nelms agrees. This will be his second time to

"Think of it this way: The overall effect of a thousand food wrappers scattered on campus impacts the quality of life for all. The same applies to voting. When single voting decisions are viewed cumulatively, the prospect for constructive reform is impacted."

- Tim Barnett, associate professor in the Department of Political Science

vote in a presidential election. "No matter what race, religion or creed you come from, one of your, or some of your ancestors fought for you to have that right," says Nelms. "So it's important for you to show respect and exercise that right to vote, because somebody fought for you to have that."

But others disagree. "Because my parents don't vote,

so I don't care," says Sophomore Megan Vaughn. "I don't complain, so I don't vote."

"I don't like voting for things," agrees Sophomore Kailea Jones. "I like to be abstained in everything because I feel that, even if I do vote, it won't make much of a difference."

Tim Barnett, associate professor in the Department of Political Science, counters the notion.

"Think of it this way: The overall effect of a thousand food wrappers scattered on campus impacts the quality of life for all," says Barnett. "The same applies to voting. When single voting decisions are viewed cumulatively, the prospect for constructive reform is impacted."

As for students who don't support either candidate, Sumner has this advice.

"No matter what party they're

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Ryan Johnson/THE CHANTICLEER

SGA members Brett Johnson and Jade Wagner assist Tempestt Blossomgame at this week's Voter Registration Drive. More than 100 students have registered to vote at campus drives this semester.

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iPad reinventing classrooms

Haley Huffstutler
Staff Writer

The iPad is reinventing classrooms and schools. Now, it's Jacksonville State University's turn for an upgrade.

"We unrolled our red balloon initiative three falls ago," says Dr. Rebecca Turner, the Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs.

"[It's] an initiative to transform an undergraduate education and make JSU a more learning centered campus," says Turner. "We decided to let one of our strategies be to improve technology for instructional purposes... My role is getting technology into the hands of the students and faculty."

The option for students to purchase electronic versions of textbooks is not only convenient, but also frugal. The use of iPads at JSU is not only to lower expenses, but to transform students' and faculty's attitudes towards the learning process.

"It opens up the world in the classroom," says Dr. Turner. "We just believe that the iPad is a great learning tool and we wanted our faculty to take a look at using them... some have really taken this to a whole new level. They've redesigned their classroom spaces, they're trying to create a more collaborative learning process... making learning a more interactive, relevant, collaborative process."

"There are going to be 110 [faculty] with

new iPads," Turner says, adding that most of the professors utilizing the iPads are with the College of Arts and Sciences, but professors in education, nursing, and business have been involved in the transformation as well.



Training sessions on how to use the iPads and some of their useful features and apps that can be incorporated into the classrooms have been held for each department. Professor Richard Watkins of the biology department just recently held such a training session that, according to Blair, was full of "eye-opening op-

portunities to use the iPads."

"In my class, I use an app called iMolView to show the structure of protein and rotate it to illustrate different regions on it... Next week, I'm going to begin to use the iPad to give quizzes in class, where students will use their computer or phones to take quizzes off of my iPad using an app called eClicker," Watkins explains.

In the Biology department, Dr. Benjie Blair says he can use the iPads to "record videos and show them almost immediately to demonstrate laboratory concepts in the classroom."

Blair says, "The iPads allows much more freedom in the classroom; instructors are not tied to the front of the room anymore. We can walk among the students, put them into groups, and provide quizzes on the internet that in turn provide us with immediate feedback as to the understanding of the students... Students can look up answers to questions faster than we can find them in an index!"

According to Dr. Turner, several instructors' responses to the iPads are similar to Blair's. "I think that faculty have embraced it and are using the technology, and that's what I had hoped to accomplish. What I have seen evidenced is that there are quite a few examples out there of faculty who have taken to it quickly others more slowly, but they're all getting training, they're doing it by department. It's just a quick learning curve for them ...but I think it's exciting, and I think that faculty and students think it's exciting."

See VOTE Page 1

in, no matter where they stand politically, no American is going to identify 100 percent with a candidate," he says. "You might align perfectly with a particular individual concern or cause, but with candidates you're not. You're never going to find a 100 percent match."

Dr. Lori Owens, associate professor and chair in the political science department, thinks younger voters should consider the economic situation and their future job prospects when deciding whether to cast a vote.

"If they are at all concerned about their current or future job prospects," says Owens, "then I would think they would study the

proposals offered by each candidate and cast their vote accordingly."

As for Sumner, he will continue to register students up until 10 days before the presidential election. Students can visit the Office of Student Life, where he "will stop what I'm doing and take time to get them registered."

It's a simple process, according to Sumner. "The form can be a little intimidating, but I'll walk them through it."

As for Sophomore Brandon Clark, he's excited about his first opportunity to vote. "I don't believe there's any reason why someone shouldn't vote, because like everybody says, every vote matters."

Students should take common safety precautions

Sarrah Peters
Staff Writer

The beginning of Sept. may bring to mind college football and returning to classes, but it also marks the start of National Campus Safety Awareness Month. Both returning and new students should be aware of precautions they can take to keep themselves safe, as well as procedures for emergency situations.

The University Police Department's web site provides safety tips for a number of situations. There are also pages addressing sexual assault awareness and drug and alcohol abuse. The website also contains instructions on what to do in the case of various types of emergencies.

The site suggests walking in groups when possible. When it is not possible to travel in groups, students should be aware of their surroundings and avoid dimly lit and unpopulated areas. Headphones can reduce the ability to notice noises, people and cars in the area. If a student feels unsafe at any time on campus, they can contact campus police to provide an escort to another location on campus.

Traveling safely on campus also means following the rules.

"A pedestrian has the right away in a crosswalk, not 20 feet from the crosswalk," says Chief Shawn Giddy.

Students who use bicycles for transportation on campus

should also be aware of the rules of the road. "The same rules that apply for cars, apply for a bicycle," explains Giddy.

Parking zones on campus also help decrease the number of cars driving to and from classes. "With the reduced number of cars, that reduces the likelihood of an accident," says Sergeant Robert Schaffer.

The most common crime on campus is theft. The majority of these thefts are "crimes of opportunity." Giddy advises students, "When you leave your room, lock your door. When you leave your car, lock your door."

It is also important to keep serial numbers of electronics and mark your books so that they can be retrieved if they are stolen.

If someone on campus is physically attacked, an emergency whistle may attract help. If the attackers take an item such as a bag, do not fight back.

It is important for students to keep an eye out for suspicious activity, as well, such as hearing the sound of gunshots or breaking glass, seeing someone breaking into a building or carrying a weapon, or loitering around cars and buildings. In any case of suspicious activity, keep a safe distance and contact campus police.

The safety of the campus is determined by student's actions. "[The students] attend JSU, so this is their community and it's only as good as

they make it, and it's only as safe as they make it," says Giddy.

Anyone aware of a crime committed should contact campus police as soon as possible. Keep campus police's number — 256-782-5050 — on hand. There are also eight red emergency call stations located on campus that require only the press of a button.

Last year's crime and fire safety report are also available for download on JSU's website.

"On Oct. 1 we will be releasing our annual crime and fire safety report," says Schaffer. The University Police Department (UPD) website also offers tips for specific emergency situations.

If there is a tornado warning, sirens will sound to alert anyone on campus. It is important in severe weather to stay in a secure area such as Leone Cole Auditorium or the basements of any of the residence halls.

In the case of a fire, leave the area immediately and alert others. Do not use elevators or attempt to gather personal items. If possible grab keys and necessary medications but do not risk injury to get them. If trained, administer first aid. Remain with the person until help arrives.

JSU offers an emergency alert system. In the case of a campus-wide emergency it will notify anyone signed up via text, e-mail or phone call. Instructions to sign up are available on JSU's website.

To vote or not to vote? Students sound off

"I think it's very important to vote just because it's one of the easiest ways to get your voice heard. It basically takes only 15 or so minutes to go down and fill out a sheet of paper and you can have a very profound impact on the direction of the country."

- Senior Zack Brown, Political Science

"My parents have pushed me. They feel that it's important to vote and they tell me about the elections and who I should vote for. I agree with them, just because of my moral values."

- Sophomore Rebecca Abrams, Graphic Design

"We don't want to get the wrong guy to be our president. If everybody here [at JSU] would get out and vote, it'd make a difference."

- Sophomore Romeshia Kirksey, Pharmacy

Earth Club looks to make difference

Allie Mosley
Staff Writer

Starting its third year as an organization here at Jacksonville State University, the Earth Club is one of the lesser known groups on campus and is looking to make a big difference this year.

Over the past two years, the club has been involved in the Arbor Day celebration along with the Boy Scouts and has helped deem JSU an official tree campus by the Arbor Day Foundation. The group also held their first annual Earth Day Celebration this past spring which included a fundraiser

for building wells in Niger.

The club's first meeting of the 2012-2013 school year was held this past Friday, Sept. 14th, with an enthusiastic turnout.

At this meeting, goals and projects for the year were discussed; the Earth Club will be continuing with many of the projects they took up last year, including the Earth Day Celebration and the fundraiser for Niger, collecting cans around campus for recycling, and projects in the effort to stop fracking in the Talladega National Forest.

Francine Hutchinson spoke at the meeting about the importance of keeping

fracking out of Talladega stating that the forest "is about 700,000 acres and one of our last remnants of forest in Alabama... lots of JSU professors take students there to study, ranging from the geology to the sociology department."

Additionally, the club will be planning hiking and camping trips to Little River Canyon, several bake sales, a tree planting project with the Boy Scouts, and many more clean-up projects around campus and Jacksonville.

The Earth Club's tree labeling and clean-up project will take place at Henry Farm Park on Nov.,

9 at 12:30 pm. The project will include identifying and labeling different species of trees along the biking trail at the farm as well as pizza and giveaways for those who choose to participate.

The Earth Club meets every second and third Friday of every month at 12:30 pm in Club Martin, located on the first floor of Martin Hall. Any and everyone is encouraged to attend.

For more information on Earth Club, contact Earth Club's president, Kristen Carlisle, at kcarlisle@jsu.edu, or the club's director, Dr. James Rayburn, jrayburn@jsu.edu.



Shakira Boyce/THE CHANTICLEER

Members of the Earth Club discuss future events, such as collecting cans and the annual Arbor Day celebration.

Calling all artists!

Shakira Boyce
Staff Writer

The Art Alliance is looking to become more involved around the JSU campus. In an effort to achieve this goal, President Sarah Goessling is trying to keep the calendar full with events and opportunities, where all members can find an activity that interests them.

The Art Alliance is a student-based program that strives to promote social and professional growth in the arts by exposing students to topics beyond the classroom, providing exhibition opportunities, and sponsoring events where students can meet and make new friends and contacts. Students can find help with their work and have more opportunities within the art world. The Art Alliance is also a place to help unite the art department here at JSU.

Future plans include logo and t-shirt design contests. The contest is being held on the JSU Art Alliance Facebook page. The top 5 designs with the most likes by Sept. 20 will go on to voting on the 21. The winning logo will be used on all future Art Alliance handouts

and flyers. The winner will also receive a free t-shirt.

The Alliance will hold a pumpkin carving and painting contest in Oct. The winning pumpkins will be voted on and placed on display outside of Hammond Hall. The group has also been asked to make signs for the 12th Annual Gamecock Gallop 5k. The signs will be placed all around the course and members will be there to hold the signs and cheer on runners.

In keeping with school spirit, the Alliance will also take part in the Homecoming Banner contest. Following that, they will host a bake sale.

There is also a case in the Houston Cole Library set aside for student artwork. Anyone interested in having their work displayed in the case should see Goessling or Mrs. McElroy in Hammond Hall for more information.

There are still more events for the Art Alliance that are not yet set, such as studio nights, where art students can work on their projects for classes, guest speakers, and water color night.

The Art Alliance hosts their next meeting on Oct. 5 at 7:30 in Hammond Hall. Any student, regardless of major, is welcome to join.

Arts & Entertainment

Apple unveils iPhone 5



Apple's newest iPhone will feature a new charger, better sound quality and two antennas for improved call reception.

Andrew Holderfield
A&E Editor

After months of speculation, information leaks and Photoshopped pictures of false prototypes, Apple finally gave the world its first look at the new iPhone 5 and its new operating system, iOS 6.

On the morning of Sept 12, hushed crowds waited patiently at the Yerba Buena Center in San Francisco to catch a glimpse, and hopefully get a little hands-on time with Apple's new smartphone. The press conference reinforced features debuted at Apple's Worldwide Developer's conference a few weeks ago, where the tech giant announced the first few features of iOS 6.

The biggest updates to the phone's software are the debut of Apple maps, which features turn-by-turn navigation, improved call performance and a new iTunes mini-player. Apple's digital personal assistant, Siri, will also be getting an update that allows it to launch apps, take notes and post to Facebook and Twitter. Siri will also get movie integration, using services like IMDB and Fandango.

Along with the new mini-player, iTunes will be completely redesigned in both appearance and features. iTunes fans will notice an improved search and playback functions and that podcasts no longer appear within iTunes, as Apple have added a dedicated Podcasts app.

On the hardware side, Apple announced that the iPhone 5 will feature a redesigned case, improved charger, better charging port and relocated headphone output. Apple also disclosed the full specs for their brand new A6 processor, which promises to improve phone speed and performance, as well as allowing the iPhone 5 to handle all of the new software updates.

The new iPhone 5 is 18 percent thinner than the iPhone 4S, and 20 percent lighter at 112 grams. As expected, the iPhone 5 has a bigger 4-inch screen, with an improved Retina Display. To the average user, that means a fifth row of icons on the home screen. That's pretty nice since it will let you cut down on the number of home screens. Third-party apps that haven't been updated will continue to work, but you'll see black borders on each side to avoid scaling or cropping. Apple also promises that wide-screen movies will look better, with 44 percent more color saturation than on the iPhone 4S.

Even the ear buds, now branded as "EarPods", have been completely redesigned and improved. Apple promises that they will boast richer sound and clearer microphone pickup.

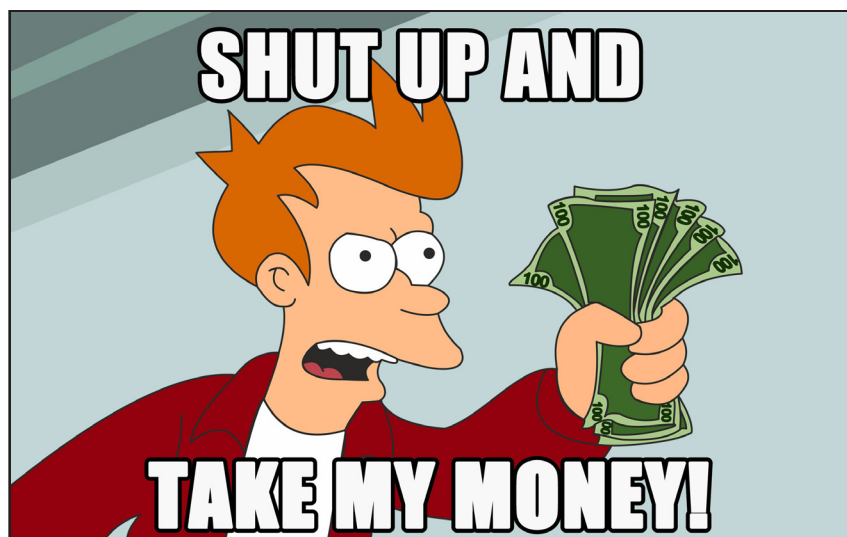
Another addition is an image signal processor in the A6 chip. This brings noise reduction and a smart filter that produces better low-light performance and captures photos faster. There's also a built-in panorama mode that stitches shots together for one large 28-megapixel photo. The secondary front camera now can shoot 720p HD video and it gets a backside illuminated sensor. You should now also be able to launch photography apps almost twice as quickly as ever before.

The iPhone 5 also gets an additional microphone, bringing the total to three. You'll find one on the bottom, one on the handset's front face, and one on its rear side. The noise-canceling feature should be improved, as well, and there's a new wideband audio feature that promises more-natural-sounding voices.

On the bottom of the iPhone 5, there's a new and long-anticipated smaller dock connector, called "Lightning". It's now all-digital, 80 percent smaller, and since it's reversible, both ends will be the same.

Pre-orders opened up worldwide shortly after the announcement and sold-out worldwide in a matter of hours, prompting Apple to push release dates back and increase their already impressive production schedule.

The iPhone 5 will be available in white or black and will retail for \$199 for 16GB mode, \$299 for 32GB model and \$399 for 64GB model. Look for it to hit shelves on Sept. 21 in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Australia and Japan. More countries will see the iPhone 5 on Sept. 28.



Three reasons to get excited about the new iPhone

Madison Rhoads
Staff Writer

I, like many of you, am very excited about Apple's announcement of the new iPhone. Here are three reasons why.

New Appearance

The iPhone 5 will feature a 4 inch screen instead of a traditional 3.5 inch, but that's only the first thing you will notice about it. Apple also removed the back glass that appears on the iPhone 4, so those of us who can't afford a Lifeproof case are in luck. The new iPhone will also be the thinnest and lightest iPhone to date. Apple's headphones, now called EarPhones, are also getting a much-needed overhaul to have a sleeker cone design that is less likely to fall out of your ears.

New Software and Hardware

As with every other new phone release, Apple has set iOS 6 to come out shortly after the iPhone 5. Some of the features that are said to be included in the update are turn-by-turn directions, a better mapping app, and even the famous voice-command app Siri gets an update. You don't

have to buy the iPhone 5 to get iOS 6. It will be available to those with an iPhone 4s as well. However, you'll have to buy the iPhone 5 to appreciate the new A6 processor, which will help to improve speed and graphics. You'll also have 4G LTE capabilities with the new phone.

Better Battery Life

That's right, iPhone lovers of the world, the iPhone 5 will have a longer battery life than any of the iPhones that have come before it. This feature by itself might be the selling point. The people at Apple have taken what might be considered the worst battery life and vastly improved it, even though phones with 4G LTE capabilities normally drain the battery more than their 4G and 3G counterparts. It's rumored that the iPhone 5 will have a battery capable of 8 hours of talk and browsing time.

All of these great improvements, combined with a new charger, awesome matte color and relocated headphone port, make the the iPhone 5 a great step forward. Pre-orders might have already sold out worldwide, but I'll find a way to get one... somehow.

Book Review: Fifty Shades Darker

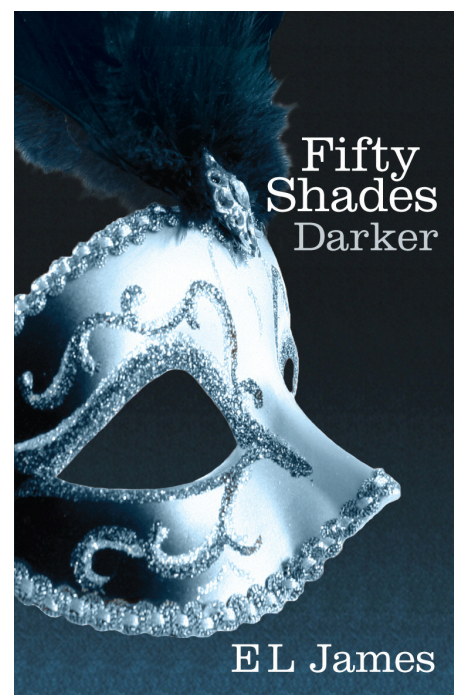
Maci Hughes
Staff Writer

The Cinderella subplot and spanking continues in *Fifty Shades Darker*; however, Christian Grey's sadist side has considerably softened since the melodramatic ending of the first book.

While E.L. James initially deprives the audience of the racier sex scenes familiar with *Fifty Shades of Grey*, the readers are presented with an opportunity to delve deeper into Grey's dark past and learn the truth of his "crack-whore mother," the "pedophile" Mrs. Robinson, and a list of his former "submissives." Throughout the blast from the past scenarios are raunchy, explicit sex scenes peppered with soft, sweet, "vanilla" loving. While the Twilight-y romance continues in *Fifty Shades Darker*, James proves she hasn't lost her touch for describing sexual instances in shocking detail.

Grey adorns Ana with profligate gifts such as expensive Cartier earrings and an iPad filled with her favorite 19th-century romantic literature. Grey accustoms Ana to his lifestyle as he accompanies her to masquerade fundraising parties, sailing trips, and a dinner complete with the force-feeding of aphrodisiac oysters.

Astonishment and surprise will engulf readers as they are exposed to instances in which borderline role-reversal between the "dominant" and "submissive" transpire. Although Ana finds herself barking sexual orders, still present is the tiresomely prude girl we fell in love with from book one, only now she is more



Amazon

comfortable playing bad.

E.L. James merges depth and kink in *Fifty Shades Darker*, an intriguingly perfect combination. In light of the lingering drama, James also provides the audience with some breathing room for giggles. This most often presented itself during Ana's and Grey's comical and provocative email swapping.

As Ana gains independence (somewhat) from Grey as she is promoted to publisher, room is opened up for danger from an outside party, and the plot for the third installment of the book series is set up.

Despite the Twilight-y romance continuance, *Fifty Shades Darker* gets two thumbs up! Again, if you can handle graphic depiction of sexual fetishes and the rollercoaster story, this is a must read.

Check back next week for my review of the thrilling conclusion of the *Fifty Shades* Trilogy, *Fifty Shades Freed*.



Wrestling legend Lawler collapses ringside

Maurice Winsell
Associate Editor

Wrestling fans held their breaths for their fallen favorite when Jerry “The King” Lawler suffered a heart attack on Sept. 10 on the live television program *Monday Night Raw*.

The attack occurred during a tag team match between wrestlers Kane and Daniel Bryan against the Prime Time Players. Fellow announcer Michael Cole made sure to keep the audience informed of Lawler’s condition and made certain the audience knew this was not a part of the entertainment but rather a “serious” issue.

Lawler has since undergone angioplasty, which is a non-surgical method of treatment for the narrow arteries found in coronary heart diseases. This is an attempt to improve blood flow to the heart. Lawler was released the next day. No signs of brain damage were found and Lawler’s condition have improved dramatically. He was released Sept. 17, 2012.

Lawler who has had a wrestling career since 1970 had spent most of the past three decades as an announcer, only participating in matches sporadically. Lawler was inducted into the World Wrestling Entertainment Hall of Fame in 2007.



2016TheMovie.com

Successful documentary causing stir on campaign trail

Marie McBurnett
Staff Writer

A new documentary entitled “2016: Obama’s America” recently came out in theaters all over the country, and it is causing quite a scene. This film had grossed over \$26 million as of September 9, which brands it as one the highest grossing documentaries ever.

It is a detailed documentary on President Obama’s actions, ideologies, and past experiences, and how his leadership can affect America if he is reelected for a second term.

The movie is based off of ultra-conservative Dinesh D’Souza’s best-selling book titled *The Roots of Obama’s Rage*. “2016: Obama’s America” is produced by Gerald R. Molen, directed by John Sullivan, and is narrated by D’Souza himself. The film reflects on the connection between President Obama’s early life experiences and his ideology today, and also compares Obama’s life to the author’s own. Through interviews and several reenactments, D’Souza reveals Obama’s early life to the general public, focusing on President Obama’s father, Barack Obama Sr., and how he molded his son’s political perspective at an early age.

The movie also closely illustrates D’Souza’s life as it reveals Obama’s, inevitably conveying similarities between the two.

The film further takes a position that shows Obama wishes to lessen US influences around the world while smaller nation’s whose strength was previously overpowered by the US (and other strong

nations,) gain worldly influence. The film states that if Obama is reelected, everyone will feel the consequences. The last sentence says, “The future is in your hands.”

D’Souza emphasizes that Obama’s father’s heritage has caused him “to shrink America’s footprint in the world because he thinks we’ve been stepping on the world.” He goes on to assert that his upbringing has caused him to have “an ideology that sees America very differently.”

With Election Day drawing near, this popular anti- Obama documentary has not been beneficial for The President. Obama’s campaign lashed back at the film’s content and stated that the film was “vainly dedicated to D’Souza’s own life story”, and that D’Souza’s comparable upbringing to that of The President does not give D’Souza “a special insight into the President’s thinking.” The statement goes on to say that “‘2016: Obama’s America’ is nothing more than an insidious attempt to dishonestly smear the President”.

The Obama Administration’s response also stated that many claims and facts presented in the documentary, such as mismanagement of loans, and the signing of a law to advocate corporate bailouts, are not true. They even went so far as to provide multiple forms of evidence to prove the falsehood of these claims.

Facts or no, as more people see “2016: Obama’s America”, the film’s effect on the upcoming election could be substantial.

Billboard COUNTRY TOP TEN

-Week of Sept. 22nd, 2012-

- 1 _____ Pontoon
Little Big Town
- 2 _____ Wanted
Hunter Hayes
- 3 _____ Time Is Love
Josh Turner
- 4 _____ Take A Little Ride
Jason Aldean
- 5 _____ Why Ya Wanna
Jana Kramer
- 6 _____ For You
Keith Urban
- 7 _____ Cowboys & Angels
Dustin Lynch
- 8 _____ Over
Blake Shelton
- 9 _____ Blown Away
Carrie Underwood
- 10 _____ Lovin You Is Fun
Easton Corbin

Whitney Gaut
Staff Writer

This past weekend, children of all ages flocked to the Jacksonville Opera Theatre’s production of the children’s opera *The Fisher, the Fish and the Wife*. Many were captivated by the beautiful but practical costume choices and great blend of vocal experience.

The story line is about an unhappy wife who eventually learns to be content with the things that truly matter. As the plot unfolded, a question was posed: “Who needs a talking fish?”

For years now, many have been putting forth efforts to grow JSU’s own opera program, and this year, the JOT has been granted a very special wish. During their tour of this children’s opera, the company will be going to Washington, D.C.

The JOT had toured to several places in the past, including Pell City, Gadsden, and Tuscaloosa. When asked about this year’s tour, Dr. Nathan Wight, director, stated, “This year, the alumni chapter in DC asked us if we would come up and do a performance.” The group will be visiting several different schools in the area and are even making a special visit to the National Children’s Hospital.

Kaitlyn Graves, senior, expressed why she is so excited to take this piece all the way to the

nation’s capitol: “Not a lot of people know where Jacksonville, AL is, and this will be good recruiting for our school, not only for the opera department.”

The opera’s weekend performances ended with a Q&A session, where inquisitive children were given the chance to see backstage into how the opera works. In turn, the JOT company wants to let students on campus know more about the opera:

“This stuff is going away. It’s not something that’s treasured everywhere like it is here, but I know that we all love it.” - Christina Booker, senior.

“I really hope that we can get the word out and get more people involved and to come see it because it’s an awesome program and I’m honored to be a part of it.” -Ellen Abney, senior.

“Don’t just walk by and ignore it. It is not everything that you think it is” Kaylon Gilley, senior.

“It’s not about fat people. It’s not about the fat lady singing. That misconception is out there, and we think about that as the stereotype of opera. But if you watch this, you know that’s not what’s there. It’s not about some 500 pound woman onstage with the Viking outfit and the horns, braids, and breastplate singing. It’s not about that.” -Dr. Nathan Wight, director.

Jacksonville Opera Theatre delights crowds of all ages

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The Chanticleer Staff

Kara Coleman, *Editor-in-Chief*
musicandlyrics15@yahoo.com

Maurice Winsell, *Associate Editor*
mauricewinsell@yahoo.com

Emily Hayes, *Associate Editor*
emilyf.hayes@gmail.com

Andrew Holderfield, *A & E Editor*
andrew.holderfield@gmail.com

Daniel Porter, *Sports Editor*
dporter2@jsu.edu

Op/Ed

Arab spring, blockbuster summer, Americans fall

Zach Tyler

Staff Writer

It's been a tragic and trying week for the brave men and women who serve as ambassadors and diplomats for our country. What is already a frustrating and sometimes thankless task has been made doubly so—especially in the Middle East—because anti-American sentiment among Muslims is running higher than ever before.



ful and violent, seen in 28 different countries—among them Israel, India, Iraq and even Australia. The death toll continues to rise, although no more American fatalities have been reported.

That's got to be thanks to the swift reaction of the President. Obama on Friday dispatched several platoons of Marines to bolster the defenses of U.S. embassies and diplomatic missions in areas where the protesting was heaviest.

Naturally, Obama was criticized for his reaction to the deaths of Ambassador Stevens and his staff. Mitt Romney attempted to politicize the tragedy, condemning the President as "weak" for apologizing to terrorists.

My question is, just what did Mitt expect Obama to do, immediately hellfire-missile-drone-strike Benghazi and Cairo into dust and ashes? How would that help the situation at all?

In my opinion, our government reacted exactly as it should've reacted—our people are being protected from further violence, and those that did us harm are being hunted down. But this entire catastrophic episode raises a few questions for me.

The first one: How are we going to survive as a species if we start killing each other over videos on Youtube? Any reasonable Muslim ought to realize that the men and women who work in American embassies don't harbor any hatred for them or their prophet. In fact, it seems as if some do—pro-American demonstrations organized by brave citizens of Libya and Egypt began soon after the violence in Benghazi.

The second: Should creative works specifically designed to inflame and incite a dangerous and radical group, like "The Innocence of Muslims," be protected by the First Amendment? Personally, I wouldn't mind the government taking one lousy video off Youtube if it meant sparing even one American serviceman, ambassador or diplomat.

Last Tuesday, September 11th, Islamic militants stormed a lightly-defended U.S. diplomatic mission in the Libyan city of Benghazi. In the four-hour long firefight that followed, American ambassador Christopher Stevens, three members of his staff and ten Libyan police officers were murdered.

Supposedly, the attack was retaliation for a 14-minute long movie trailer on Youtube that defames the Islamic religion. It was carried out by an Islamist brigade formed during last year's uprising against then-dictator Muammar el-Qaddafi.

The movie, which is entitled "The Innocence of Muslims," has sparked outrage throughout the Islamic world for portraying the religion's prophet, Mohammed, as a womanizing degenerate. It should be noted that it's been shown only once to around ten people in a rented movie theatre in California.

What's really got Muslims so upset is the movie's trailer, which has been available on Youtube in English since July. Egyptian-American lawyer and activist Morris Sadek dubbed the trailer into Arabic and brought it to the attention of the Islamic world on September 8th.

Big mistake, dude: anti-American protesting began just two days later. The attack on the diplomatic mission in Benghazi came a few short hours after an unarmed mob swarmed into the compound surrounding the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt.

The unrest has continued since then, with protesting, both peace-

Last legs of the race can determine winner

Sam Dulik
The Hoya, Georgetown U. via UWIRE

"It's over for Mitt Romney."

If you paid any attention to the news this past week, that was the refrain bandied across cable channels and the front pages of newspapers. According to conventional wisdom, a post-convention bounce for the Democrats and a series of unfortunate events for the Romney campaign have permanently hindered Republican aspirations — remaining month and a half of the campaign be damned.

I frequently argue that Romney should be the next president of the United States, and today I want to push back on this groupthink to submit that he very much still can. A regrettable characteristic of today's media is journalistic interdependence, in which a provocative theme is adopted and promoted across media outlets without real scrutiny or debate. Campaigns are kinetic and fickle beasts that rarely obey such prognostication. Were they not, Jimmy Carter would have been re-elected in 1980, and Michael Dukakis would have been victorious in a 1988 landslide — such were the prevailing narratives in *media res*.

Unfortunately, politics is more complex. The outcome of an election can be predicted by the impact of various factors, either institutional — primaries, platforms, conventions and debates — or organic — bombshell stories, national economic performance and unforeseen crises.

Organic factors inherently cannot be predicted. Therefore, the remaining month and a half of the campaign offers opportunity aplenty for unplanned events to shape this race. Further erosion of the jobs market, instability in the Middle East or a late-breaking piece of muckraking journalism could potentially recalibrate the nature of this campaign as it enters its final stretch.

Institutional factors are easier to evaluate. Indeed, many of them have already revealed themselves. The vim of the conventions has dissipated, the tickets are locked down and competing policy proposals are increasingly stark.

However, not enough of these institutional factors have come to fruition for it to be appropriate to declare a winner in this unstable and permanently tight race. The four national debates — three between Gov. Romney and President Obama and one between Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) and Vice President Joe Biden — loom largest on this list. Americans will have a spectacular opportunity to contrast

the candidates as they stand side by side and make their case to their potential employers — the American public.

I personally believe that the Republican ticket will perform exceptionally well in these forums. Romney and Ryan are both slightly nerdy policy wonks who can speak with passion and fluency on economic affairs. Provided they channel the urgency felt by so many tired and anxious Americans, I expect them to be able to ardently prosecute the Obama presidency.

Those who would wring their hands over an impending Romney defeat or preemptively celebrate an Obama reelection make one massive error: They would have you believe that voter attention to the campaign is a constant value, unchanging from the Iowa caucuses to Election Day. While for many, this type of hyper-engaged democracy is wishful thinking, it is not reflective of America's political reality.

Instead, for the vast majority of voters, especially those critical undecideds, focus on the presidential race can be plotted exponentially over time. Come October, many will be just beginning to tune into campaign coverage and the debates. A daunting mass of voters will make up their minds only days, or even hours, before they enter their polling booths on Nov. 6.

The argument that Obama has this race in the bag is intellectually dishonest, since we simply have not met enough institutional benchmarks to arrive at a conclusion about the outcome of the election. The remaining undefined variables in this race are staggering, and I believe they contain glimmers of hope for the Republicans.

The Romney campaign continues to hold more cash on hand than Obama's, and it will deploy its funds expertly in both advertisements and get-out-the-vote operations. Coupled with the overwhelming upper hand that Republican outside groups wield over the Democrats, this imbalance has the potential to swing the race hard to Romney in the campaign's last month.

Furthermore, a continually weak economy will plague President Obama's prospects. Nov. 2 — the day the final jobs report is released — could arguably be a more important date than Nov. 6 if it conveys the same depressing news as its predecessors. The Democrats could be in serious peril.

Is this race a challenge for Romney? Unquestionably. Can he still achieve a victory? Without a doubt. Be careful with media groupthink, and buckle up for a wild few weeks as we count down to Election Day.

Letter from the editor

Hey, guys!

As you've probably noticed, a lot of emphasis has been placed on voting in this issue. With that being said, I'm going to keep my letter short and sweet this week. My main point in simple: it's important for you to get out and vote!

The 2008 Presidential election saw one of the highest turnouts of voters in the 18-29 age group over the past 40 years, but a Gallup poll taken this summer asked people in that same demographic if they were planning to vote in the 2012 Presidential election. 20 percent fewer young voters are planning to participate this year!

Why is it important for you as a college student to be informed and involved with government and politics in this country? After all, you may not see any immediate effects on your life regardless of whether Obama or Romney receives the most votes. But change, especially in a democratic republic like the United States, happens gradually. The decisions made by our leaders today will touch your life and your children's lives for a countless number of years to come.

Besides that, in only a few short years, your peers will be the ones campaigning for office. Look around you. Isn't that a scary thought?

Now is the time to cast your vote and shape the future. Because we are the future. And the future is closer than you think.

Kara Coleman

Editor-in-Chief

The Chanticleer



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Sports

Soccer falls first time since opener

Jamil Ghazal
Staff Writer

After an aggressive but scoreless first half, the Lady Bears struck first, handing the Gamecocks just their second loss of the season on Friday night. The Bears scored off a corner kick in the 67th minute to give them the lead going into the latter part of the game. JSU struck back in the 82nd minute with a beautiful ball into the box by Kaitlin Manns off a free kick from the left side to Kelsey Bright to even the score at 1-1 with 8 minutes remaining.

The tie was short-lived; however, with Mercer regaining the lead in the 85th minute with a strike from the top right corner of the penalty box into the left corner of the net. That would be the last goal as a few last ditch efforts by the Gamecocks fell short, resulting in the 1-2 final score.

After the game Coach Carlson stated she planned to keep the women focused on the grueling

upcoming OVC schedule after the last non-conference game would be in the books over the weekend. She said one of the things to keep them focused was the loss and the

“Our kids know how to win, they’ve learned how to win...”
~ Coach Julie Davis Carlson

fact that the last two non-conference games were tough going into the OVC schedule.

“These are two games that they needed to set themselves a foundation for what they’re to expect in the OVC.

They’re competitive matches, they’re grueling, they’re very physical,” said Coach Carlson, “they’re very fast

and what’s important for them is that they have to learn how to play quicker, they’ve got to play the game faster, they got to make decisions faster, they got to make decisions in very tight situations”

“Our kids know how to win, they’ve learned how to win, they know how to take the moments that they have to put the game away and make the most of them,” said Coach Carlson who added that having the two games over the weekend would keep them grounded for the upcoming conference schedule.



James Harkins/Special to Chanticleer
Gamecocks' Katt Dowd and Kelsey Bright in JSU's 2-1 win over Samford

Ohio Valley Conference.

JSU had a stalemate defense in the final minutes of the contest to preserve the win over its in-state nemesis. The pair of goals scored by the Gamecocks were the first two scored against SU since the 2002 win.

“This win is a long time coming against a great Samford program, who is an NCAA Tournament team,” added Carlson. I am very proud of this team and this is a great way to head into our next season – which is the conference season.”

~ Sportswire

Gamecock soccer tops rival Samford

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Jacksonville State knocked off Samford for the first time since 2002 with a 2-1 win on Sunday night as JSU wrapped up the non-conference portion of the schedule on the road in Birmingham.

The road win pushed JSU's overall mark to 7-2-1 and have won six of the seven matches away from the confines of the JSU Soccer Field.

The Bulldogs came out with an attacking style game plan, trying to put the first goal in the net. The Gamecocks thwarted SU's threat in the early onset of the contest, but the Bulldogs posted the first goal of the contest in the 38th minute.

SU out-shot Jax State, 22-7 in the contest and had 13 of those 22 scoring chances in the first 45 minutes.

“Samford presses up to get an early goal, but we were able to weather the storm and know how to kill the attack,” said head coach

Julie Davis Carlson. “We let the seniors have the start in the final non-conference game and against Samford.”

Jax State evened the contest four minutes later as freshman Brianna Boutziouvis netted her fourth goal of the season in the 42nd minute. The Ottawa, Ontario, Canada-native sent in a one-touch ball from freshman Katt Dowd. The assist was Dowd's first of her career.

The 1-1 deadlock was intact until Boutziouvis fed a ball to sophomore Courtney Hurt in the 84th minute. Hurt drove past an SU defender and fired to the left corner post to squeeze the ball into the back of the net. The goal was her fourth of the season and ranks as one of the top-scorers in



FCS Top 25

1. North Dakota State (2-0)
2. Montana State (3-0)
3. Sam Houston State (1-1)
4. Youngstown State (3-0)
5. Old Dominion (3-0)
6. James Madison (2-1)
7. Wofford (3-0)
8. Northern Iowa (1-2)
9. Eastern Washington (1-1)
10. The Citadel (3-0)
11. Georgia Southern (1-1)
12. Delaware (3-0)
13. Towson (1-1)
14. Montana (2-1)
15. Illinois State (3-0)
16. Lehigh (3-0)
17. Appalachian State (1-2)
18. New Hampshire (2-1)
19. McNeese State (3-0)
20. Stony Brook (2-1)
21. Eastern Kentucky (2-1)
22. Indiana State (2-1)
23. Maine (1-1)
24. Jacksonville State (1-1)
25. Central Arkansas (2-1)

JSU Next opponent
#21 EKV (2-1) Sept. 22 (away)

OVC Volleyball (overall rec.)

Morehead State (8-6)
SE Missouri St (8-6)
Jacksonville State (6-8)
Tennessee State 5-7

OVC W. Soccer (overall rec.)

Jacksonville State (7-2-1)
Eastern Kentucky (4-4-1)
Belmont (4-4)
SIUE (3-3-1)

JSU W. Golf (ind. score avg)

Maya Parsons (74.8)
Luz Armiho-Fernandez (80.5)
Ornella Arrizon (80.8)
Melani Sisto (80.8)

The Gamecocks welcome new assistant basketball coach Eugene Harris to our winning program

FCS action heats up across the nation in week 4

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

The FCS football season is heating up and competition is becoming fierce as more teams enter conference play. Jacksonville State is in the middle of the action this week as the 24th ranked Gamecocks travel to #21 Eastern Kentucky in a game that could be a big factor in determining the future OVC champion.

The Colonels are coming off a win against Coastal Carolina of the Big South Conference. JSU was off last week and most of the team seems to be getting back and healthy. Coach Jack Crowe announced

that WR Trey Smith and RB Washaun Ealey should both be back in the offensive game-plan this weekend. This only helps the Gamecocks opening up WR Alana Bonner more and allowing the young running backs Troymaine Pope and DeMarcus James to get more rest between carries.

It's possible four QBs could see considerable playing time as both teams run a dual QB system, and Marques Ivory along with Coty Blanchard for JSU. Also in this game the JSU defense will get a strong dose of Matt Denham, the Colonels' star running back.

Other highly ranked conference battles rage across the country this Saturday.

#8 Northern Iowa (1-2) will head to Ohio to face the #4 Penguins of Youngstown State (3-0) who already knocked off FBS Pittsburgh this season. The Missouri Valley Conference game will have a big

impact on next week's Top 10.

In the Southland Conference last year's FCS runner-up and currently #3 Sam Houston State (1-1) will go on the road to the purple field of Central Arkansas (3-0) against the 25th ranked Bears who look to have an explosive offense this season.

The always powerful Colonial Athletic Association also has an enticing matchup as #5 Old Dominion (3-0) will play host to #18 New Hampshire (2-1). In the Southern Conference #17 Appalachian State faces Chattanooga, both strong teams are off to rough starts with 1-2 records and the loser of this matchup may find it impossible to make a playoff run.



Weekend Action

Friday: Sept. 21

Volleyball
@
Austin Peay

Saturday: Sept. 22

Volleyball @ Murray State
Cross Country @
West Florida GC Stampede
Football @ Eastern Kentucky

Sunday: Sept. 23

Soccer
@
Tennessee Tech

JSU cross country teams claim top 20 finishes at Vandy

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Jacksonville State men's and women's cross country teams turned in top-20 finishes on Saturday at the Vanderbilt Invitational. The JSU women placed 18th, while the Gamecocks finished 20th.

After opening the season two weeks ago on its home course, Jax State went toe-to-toe with some of the prominent programs in the region and in the Ohio Valley Conference. In the women's 6K, the Gamecock women were fourth among the seven OVC squads competing in the meet, while the men's squad was third among the seven league programs. Eastern Kentucky claimed the men's 8K, while the ECU women placed third.

In the women's competition, senior Kailey Jensen paced the JSU contingent with a time of 23:23.21. Sophomore Ryan Green covered the course in 23:36.21, while junior Keyvyn Tracy clocked a time of 24:02.65. Freshman Taylor Uebersetzg turned in a mark of 24:56.94.

On the men's side, senior Matt Brick was JSU's top-finisher after covering the 8K layout in 26:07.61.

Sophomore Mickey Sanders finished the first 8K of the season in 26:39.67. Sophomore Nick Hager carded a time of 27:03.10, just ahead of Jordan Cummins, who finished with a mark of 28:15.37. Paul Lueck and Andrew Green finished the scoring for the Gamecocks with times of 28:53.51 and 29:08.79 respectively.



James Harkins/Special to The Chanticleer
JSU's women cross country starts a race this season

Gamecocks with times of 28:53.51 and 29:08.79 respectively.

~ Sportswire

JSU volleyball swept by UAB

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.- The Jacksonville State volleyball team was swept by UAB (25-17, 25-19, 26-24) in Mackey Arena to close out the Purdue Active Ankle Challenge on Saturday.

The Gamecocks lost their third match of the tournament and fall to 6-8 on the season while the Blazers finish the tournament with a 1-2 record to improve to 5-8 on the season.

The Blazers jumped out control early in the first and second sets and pulled away for easy 25-17 and 25-19 victories. JSU look control of the third set and found themselves leading 17-10 before UAB went on a 9-2 run to tie the set at 19-19. The two teams then swapped points until the Blazers were able to post consecutive points to clinch the set and the match at 26-24.

Emily Rutherford, who was named to the All-Tournament team, led the Gamecocks with 11 kills. Defensivley, Kelsey Anderson led the Gamecocks with 13 digs while Alina Agamy led the team with 14 assists. Jen Meyer finished with seven kills as well.

The Gamecocks will begin Ohio Valley Conference play next weekend as they travel to Clarksville, Tenn., to face Austin Peay at



James Harkins/Special to The Chanticleer
JSU's Abbey Heredia (#10) and Nicoel Merget (#9)

7 p.m. on Friday and then Murray State in Murray, Ky. at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

~ Sportswire

Rough start for volleyball in Challenge

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

The Gamecocks had tough luck at the Purdue Active Ankle Challenge in West Lafayette, IN over last weekend.

Jacksonville State opened against #14 ranked host school Purdue. The Boilermakers took the first set on their home court, but the Gamecocks took the next set to extras and won 27-25 to even the match 1-1. Purdue would rebound though and take the following two sets to win the match and move to 7-2 on the season.

Freshman Emily Rutherford led the Gamecocks with eight kills followed by Hivya Leite with seven and Kaley Sierawski who had six kills.

In the second game against Bowling Green the Gamecocks looked to be getting off to a better start winning the first set in thrilling fashion. Senior Kelsey Anderson provided a kill that tied the match at 25. JSU took the lead on Nicole Merget's kill and then won the match on Kelly Cole's following ace.

The Falcons didn't falter though and took the next sets to win the match and leave JSU with two losses on day one.

Jax State men's golf takes 7th in Conference Challenge

BURLINGTON, Iowa – Sophomore Tomasz Anderson and the Jacksonville State men's golf team each finished seventh in the GolfWeek Conference Challenge on Tuesday.

Anderson turned in a final-round 73 and the Gamecocks shot 306 to wrap up the 54-hole event on the par-72, 7,010-yard Spirit Hollow Golf Course. Missouri won the 15-team event by eight shots over Wake Forest, while the Gamecocks finished ahead of San Francisco, Xavier and Kansas in the Top 10.

Anderson, a native of Hertfordshire, England, started the day on hole No. 8 and overcame a four-over back nine by shooting three under on the front. He eagled the par-5, 527-yard second hole to help

him finish one under for the three-day tournament. Missouri's Jace Long won medalist honors with a nine-under 207, while Iowa's Steven Ihm and Tulsa's Chris Worrell tied for second two shots back.

Sophomore Franco Grillo ended the tournament tied for 29th in the 75-player field after a final-round 79 gave him a 54-hole score of 224. Senior Andres Schonbaum used a 75 on Tuesday to card a 226 and tie for 37th, while freshman David Weeks' 80 gave him a 230 and a tie for 49th in his collegiate debut. Junior Dorian Fernandez rounded out the Gamecocks' lineup in 72nd after a final-round 79 gave him a 239 for the week.

~ Sportswire

Former Gamecock star Cunningham honored by Braves

ATLANTA – The Atlanta Braves announced their 2012 Organizational Awards on Thursday and former Jacksonville State outfielder Todd Cunningham was named the organization's Player of the Year.

Cunningham, a native of Jacksonville and standout for head coach Jim Case and the Gamecocks from 2008-10 before being drafted by Atlanta as the 53rd overall pick (2nd round) of the 2010 draft.

The switch hitter spent the entire 2012 season with the Brave's Double-A club in Mississippi and, in 120 games, hit .309 with 23 doubles, six triples, three home runs and 51 RBI. He boasted a .364 on-base percentage and stole 24 bases in just 32 tries.

He finished the season in third in the race for the Southern League's batting title and was also third with 77 runs scored, while he boasted the fourth-most hits in the league with 144. His on-base percentage ranked ninth, while his six triples were 10th in the league.

Cunningham was selected to start the Southern League All-Star Game in June, where he went 1-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. He is currently listed among the Braves' top 15 prospects in their farm system.

Cunningham was drafted by the Braves following a junior season in 2010 that saw him hit .359 with 17 doubles, four triples, 11 homers and 43 RBI and lead JSU to the OVC Tournament Title and a berth in the NCAA Regionals. He was a First Team All-OVC selection.

Cunningham was an All-OVC second-team honoree as a

freshman in 2008, when he also earned Freshman of the Year recognition, before being named to the league's all-tournament team in 2009. He was named the league's Player of the Week on March 5 and boasted a .400 average with seven home runs and a .513 on-base percentage in conference play.

~ Sportswire



Sportswire

Todd Cunningham as a member of the Gamecocks