

# One billion rise on Valentine's Day



Tiffani Foster/THE CHANTICLEER

Jennifer Whyte of JW Fitness Crew leads the crowd in dance at One Billion Rising.

## Cold air, warm spirits for One Billion Rising

**Tiffani Foster**  
 Staff Writer

The air was cold, but spirits were warm when the Second Chance shelter, in conjunction with the JSU club, WISE (Women's Issues Support and Empowerment) took to the outdoor Amphitheater to participate in "One Billion Rising" a national event sponsored by the V-Day Foundation. The event was held on February 14th.

"We are here to help: here to empower and promote change," says Tina Fleming-Smith, Second Chance advocate and one of the event organizers. "It's encouraging to see so many here to support us today."

The event opened with Theater Performance major Katherine Bergquist reading "My Short Skirt" from the Vagina Monologues. Eve Ensler, the founder of V-Day, is the Author.

To go along with the reading, guests enjoyed dancing and socializing with others who believe in the cause. They were lead in dance by Jennifer Whyte of JW Fitness Crew to the official dance that was performed at every One Billion Rising event held on that day. The song was titled "Break the Chain."  
 Over 200 events were held around the globe

on February 14th, 14 of which were in Alabama. The events coincided with the 15th anniversary of V-Day, a worldwide initiative to stop violence against women and girls. From their website, "If you take into account the statistic that one out of three women will experience violence in her lifetime, you are left with the staggering statistic that over one billion women on this planet will be impacted by violence."

Although the statistics are staggering, there is an overwhelming amount of hope and support given to women by the V-Day foundation, which has raised over \$90 million over the last 14 years to support victims of violence around the world, and local organizations like Second Chance.

"I'm excited to be here, I really am," continues Fleming-Smith. "It shows that our community is committed to fighting for women and children who may not be in a position to fight for themselves."

\*If you or someone you love has been/ is the victim of abuse, whether it be physical, emotional, sexual, or economic, please contact the Second Chance shelter crisis hotline at 256-236-7233 or 800-656-4673, or visit [www.2ndchanceinc.org](http://www.2ndchanceinc.org).

## V-Day takes a stand for abused women

**Minnie Marbury**  
 Senior Staff Writer

On Valentines Day 2013, 2nd Chance and One Billion Rising held an event in the JSU Amphitheater where they took a stand against sexually abused women.

There also was a second event at the Aniston Yoga Center. Misha Whatley, Senior and Intern with 2nd Chance, was the host of this event.

The event included Zumba dancing to allow women to be free. There was yoga, poetry and monologues to express the importance of breaking the silence against abuse, whether physical, sexual, mental or emotional.

"I feel like it's my duty to take on this job give back and help because abuse in any form is not worth losing a life," stated Whatley.

One billion rising is an organization by The V-Day Foundation that stands up against rape and abuse against women. One in three women on the planet will be raped or beaten in her lifetime. That equals one billion people.

This was The V-Day Foundation's 15th Anniversary and one of the biggest celebrations they have had worldwide. The V-Day Foundation started this global rising of One Billion People. There are 203 countries participating in this event. There are events going on across college campuses in Alabama.

There is a culture of silence, and The V-Day Foundation is breaking the Silence.

2nd Chance, Inc. is an organization that assist victims of domestic and sexual violence in Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburne, Etowah, Randolph and Talladega Counties. 2nd Chance has been around for over 20 years and it was traditionally a domestic violence program until last year, when it expanded its wings into also becoming a rape crisis center.

There is shelter and transitional housing available for victims. There are physical exams available also support, art and counseling's groups. This service is also available 24/7 there is a crisis hotline available for victims: (256) 236-7233.

*See Stand, Pg. 2*

## JSU hosts annual symposium

**Tiffani Foster**  
 Staff Writer

The 2013 Jacksonville State University College of Arts and Sciences student research symposium was held on February 13th and 14th in the Houston Cole Library. For years, the Symposium has served as a medium for students across the college of Arts and Sciences to connect, share, and present research projects and papers they have completed.

"The Art and Science Symposium is a way for students to present their best work," says Dr. Janice Case, the Arts and Science Symposium Chair. "The Arts and Sciences department has far more variety in terms of classes than any of the other three colleges on campus. We have science, math, humanities, etc. So, the symposium is a great way to see what's going on in other parts of the college."

The Symposium featured students from all across the College of Arts and Sciences presenting their best projects. Students, friends,

faulty and family members all gathered to be a part of the presentations.

"All of my students are seniors in a senior

*See Symposium, Pg. 2*



Tiffani Foster/THE CHANTICLEER

A student presents at JSU's 2013 Arts and Sciences Symposium.

## Higher Education Day gives students a voice

**Kara Coleman**  
 Editor-in-Chief

College students who want to make their voices heard in the Alabama legislature will have the opportunity to do so next Thursday, Feb. 28.

Next Thursday is Higher Ed Day, on which college students from around the state are encouraged to travel to Montgomery and petition for lower tuition costs. This week, SGA officers and representatives from Alabama's public universities, including JSU, met with several senators and the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, Ron Hubbard, to discuss the importance of higher education.

"The biggest thing we deal with every year is the state budgets," Hubbard explained. "In Alabama, we have two budgets. We have an education budget, which has most of the growth revenues tied to it, and it's earmarked just for education. Then we have a general fund." Hubbard added that although "the education budget is in pretty good shape", new payroll taxes that were put into place on the federal level have cost the education trust fund about 60 million dollars.

*See Higher Ed, Pg. 2*

## Inside:

JSU Drama department to present 'Brigadoon'

The musical opens this weekend at Stone Center. >Complete story, Pg. 4

JSU's Bonner getting his chance at NFL combine

Receiver Alan Bonner will participate in the combine this weekend. >Complete story, Pg. 7

The true state of our union

Would you say that the state of our union is strong? Our president seems to think so. I have to disagree. >Complete story, Pg. 6

Seniors close their college careers at the Pete

Last night, four Gamecocks played in Pete Mathews Coliseum for the final time in their careers at JSU. >Complete story, Pg. 8

**From Pg. 1****Symposium**

seminar, and all but one are in secondary education, so they are going to be teachers. This will help them gain the confidence to stand up in front of a group and work on their communication skills," says Dr. David Dempsey, professor of Mathematics at JSU. He had six students participate.

One of his students was senior Math major Mary Kathryn Killion, who presented on "Euclid of Alexandria." "It was fun; it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be," Killion said. "I kind of enjoyed it. There were a lot of people I knew

in the audience, so that was good."

Students aren't the only ones who walk away from the symposium with an experience to remember; the audience enjoys the same pleasure. "There was a Biology student who did an English paper, but he's in my biology class," says Dr. Case. "He talked about John Clare. After I heard his presentation, I went out, found the book and began to look into it."

The student she was speaking of was Calvin Baker, who completed his paper in Dr. John Jones' Romantic Poetry class in the Fall of 2012.

"This happens ev-

ery year," Case says. "There's always something that a student brings up and I think that I'd like to know more about"

With Dr. Case in charge, there will be Symposiums held annually. She encourages all students, both undergraduate and graduate, to participate. "I would like to encourage any student who has a paper or some kind of research work they are proud of to present; it doesn't have to be in your major. Everyone during their college career goes through a project that they put a lot of work into, and if it turns out very well, it's nice to be able to share that."

**From Pg. 1****Stand**

The 2nd Chance Facebook page received international exposure for this event.

"It doesn't stop and it can't stop. Today, tomorrow, this is just the beginning," said Trace Fleming-Smith, Sexual Assault Progress Director for 2nd Chance and Event

Coordinator for One Billion Rising in the Northeast Area.

"2nd Chance's participation in this event is because of the fact that we are the domestic and sexual violence center for this geographic area and we need help from the community," said Susan Shipman, Executive Director at 2nd Chance, Inc. "We need to let everyone know that violence

against women and girls needs to stop. Everyone has to do their part to change. The louder we are and the bigger we are the more people see and hear. The standard of not speaking will stop and people will speak out. We cannot turn our head and feel comfortable going on about our business and this is going on. It has to stop."

**From Pg. 1****Higher Ed**

Sometimes lobbying and petitioning can be frustrating, especially when results are not visible. But Gordon Stone, Director of the Higher Education Partnership, encourages students not to give up. "The process is not a one-shot deal; never has been, never will be," Stone said. "You can't go to Washington and visit your Congressman and expect that to have an outcome on the vote. You can't come down here for one day and expect that to change the outcome of the vote. But if you don't come down here, you can be guaranteed that you won't have any impact on the out-

come."

Higher Ed Day gives college students in Alabama the opportunity to show all 140 members of the state legislature that they care about how money is spent in the field of higher education, and that the decisions made by representatives affect them personally.

"I know it's easy for someone to say, 'Getting up and going down there, standing up, yelling for an hour, getting on the bus and coming back home doesn't make a difference', says Stone. "That's like saying that sitting in the stands doesn't impact the football game. It's like saying, 'I don't need to go to the church every Sunday and sit in

the pew, because the preacher's not talking to me; I'm already saved.' It's seeing a limited perspective of what goes on. This is one major step in the process."

Hubbard encourages students to contact their legislators individually as well. "People certainly recognize that you're here," he said of the Higher Education Day rally. "But the most important thing is when you talk one-on-one with your legislator. That's the most powerful lobbying that can be done."

Students who want to participate in Higher Ed Day can contact Jade Wagner, Vice President of the Student Senate, at sgavpss@jsu.edu, or 256-782-8493.

**Symposium Winners:**

Whitney Gaut: English – undergraduate

Dr. Felgar – Mentor

"Going to Meet the Man": An Identity Crisis

Jennifer C. Stanley: MCIS – graduate

Dr. Case – Mentor

Customer Satisfaction at JSU Student Health Center

Anna Laura Dorsey: Political Science – undergraduate

Dr. Owens – Mentor

An Analysis of Saudi culture and Its Impact on U.S. Relations

Lindsay White; Biology – graduate

Dr. Meade – Mentor

Occurrences of the Asiatic Weatherfish, *Misgurnus Anguillicaudatus*, in Northeast Alabama

Mandy Pearson: Biology – undergraduate

Dr. Dolley-Jordan – Mentor

The Effects of Insect Exclusion and Animal Size on the Stages of Decomposition

Noel Overton: MCIS – undergraduate

Dr. Dempsey – Mentor

John Napier



## Fulbright program offers unique study experience

**Ashley Ossenfort**  
Staff Writer

From a view offered by a window of a Texan hotel waves an American Flag; it was this flag that made Vanessa Radom first feel the reality of her dream coming true. Radom was born and raised in Martinique, a small, French-speaking island of the Caribbean, and she came to America through the Fulbright Program, where she now works as a graduate assistant at Jacksonville State University. The Fulbright Program is a cultural exchange program that promotes the exchange of ideas and skills between countries. This program offers grants for a variety of educational or professional pursuits abroad.

"The purpose of Fulbright [is] to grant mutual understanding between different countries. It's [for] exchanging knowledge," says Radom. "People from other countries come to the

USA, bring what they have and go back to their countries to bring what they received from the USA. It is exactly the same for the people who come [from the U.S]."

Every year, the Fulbright U.S. Program awards 1,800 grants for students, faculty, scholars, and professionals in every field of study. The program operates worldwide in more than 155 countries.

The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of States Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is managed by the Institute of International Education. The IIE provides everything that participants need in order to arrive at their designated country and helps participants assimilate once they arrive.

Fulbright was named for J. William Fulbright, who was elected to the Senate in 1944 where he proposed a bill to promote mutual understanding between the U.S. and other

countries by presenting thousands of grants to those who wished to exchange knowledge and ideas between cultures. In 1946, President Harry Truman passed the bill, which created the Fulbright Program.

"It costs you basically nothing," says Radom. "When I came here my plane ticket was reimbursed, my visa was paid for, room and board was provided and I had a stipend. Basically, I almost did not have to pay for anything."

The Fulbright U.S. Program offers five types of grants: Study and Research, English Teaching Assistantship, the Fulbright-mtvU Awards, Fulbright Public Policy Fellowships, and Travel Grants. The Study and Research Grants are offered in 140 countries to applicants who have designed a specific project in either academic or artistic fields. The English Teach Assistantship allows students to assist educators is

teaching English to students for who English is not their native tongue and requires applicants to be fluent in a foreign language. The Fulbright-mtvU Awards allows students to study international music culture. The Fulbright Public Policy Fellowships allow participants to work professionally in foreign public sectors as they conduct research or complete an academic project. Travel Grants are offered for Italy, Germany, and Hungary as supplement assistance for those who wish to travel abroad for academic reasons.

The Fulbright Program requirements include U.S. Citizenship, good health, a bachelor's degree before the start of a grant, and proficiency in the written and spoken language of the country. For those who do not speak a second language, grants are offered to English speaking countries such as the United Kingdom or Canada.

Radom is a participant in the Foreign Language Teach Assistant Program provide by Fulbright. "My first semester I was exclusively an assistant and then I became a primary teacher by the end of last year," says Radom. She now teaches Beginner's French I and Beginner's French II at JSU.

JSU's Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Joe G. Delap participated in Fulbright Program under the International Education Administer Program in Canada. "[This Program] is mostly for people who work with international students who want to learn more about how to get students from that country to come to the U.S. or what the U.S. students will experience when they go [abroad]."

"I cannot tell you how much it impacted my life. I tell you it helped me discover myself and if you want to know who you are, I advise you to go somewhere

where you don't have anyone who already knows you because you will just discover who you are for real," says Radom. "You will discover other cultures and you will fall in love with your own culture.... I went back to France and I saw everything with new eyes."

While living in another country can be a life changing experience, the idea of immersing oneself in a foreign culture can be intimidating. "At first I was excited and then I was kind of scared... I was literally about to not buy my ticket," says Radom. "Finally I was like 'No. [This] is my dream. I have to go for it. Even if I am scared I have to overcome this fear and I just have to do it anyway' and I am thankful that I did it."

To apply for a grant from the Fulbright program, visit the IIE website at [www.iie.org/fulbright/](http://www.iie.org/fulbright/).

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## Upcoming events at JSU Spring 2013

Author/Photographer/Outdoor Adventurer  
David Haynes

March 4, 7 p.m., Houston Cole Library  
Author/Photographer/Outdoor Adventurer  
David Haynes, along with his canine companions Bailey and Roscoe, will be featured at the Friends of the Houston Cole Library spring speaker event. Haynes has seen Alabama by land and by water and shares it all in print and photo. His first book, *Motorcycling Alabama, Fifty Ride Loops Through the Heart of Dixie*, was researched along Alabama's most beautiful highways and byways, often with Bailey and Roscoe riding shotgun in their own sidecar. Last spring, he and the dogs traveled by canoe on 631-mile, 45-day float down the Alabama Scenic River Trail. The book about this adventure is forthcoming.

Annual Ayers Lecture Featuring Diane  
McWhorter

March 14, 1 p.m., Stadium Tower  
This is a major annual event that brings nationally known journalists to campus. Ms. McWhorter is an Alabama native who won the Pulitzer Prize in 2002.

Holocaust Remembrance Featuring Holo-  
caust Survivor Max Steinmetz

April 11, 7:30 p.m., Ernest Stone Center  
Theatre

31st annual Remembrance of the Holocaust of World War II. Holocaust survivor Max Steinmetz of Birmingham is the keynote speaker. Between 1942 and 1945, Steinmetz was held in German captivity in at least five ghettos or camps, including both Auschwitz and Dachau.

Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band  
May 18, Time and Location TBA

We are thrilled to welcome Oscar nominee Gary Sinise and his band to campus this May for a major event in support of our wounded warriors. Although Sinise is most known for his acting, perhaps his life's best work is accomplished through his Gary Sinise Foundation, which supports our nation's defenders, veterans, first-responders, and their families.



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### Priority Pre-Registration for Summer and Fall Semesters 2013 begins March 11th!

Priority Pre-Registration allows students, depending on their number of hours earned, to register for classes before Open Registration.

Before students can register for classes, they **MUST** meet with their assigned academic advisor. Please contact the department of your assigned major to schedule an advising appointment.

For questions, visit the Academic Advisement website, at <http://www.jsu.edu/academicaffairs/advisement/index.html>

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# Arts & Entertainment

## JSU Drama opens semester with 'Brigadoon'

Sarah Peters  
Staff writer

Valentine's Day may be over, but love is still in the air... at least onstage at Jacksonville State University.

The JSU drama department is opening this semester with the musical "Brigadoon" on Thursday. On Feb. 21 through Feb. 23 and Feb. 28 through March 2 the play will be performed at 7 p.m. in the Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center. On Feb. 24 and March 3 the play will be performed at 2 p.m.

According to Eric Traynor, "Brigadoon" is "a love story primarily."

The musical tells the story of Tommy Albright and Jeff Douglas, New York natives, who stumble on a village in the Scottish Highlands. This village is Brigadoon. Brigadoon is not a normal village though; due to a deal made with God, Brigadoon ages one day while the rest of the world ages a hun-

dred years as long as the inhabitants don't leave. The people in Brigadoon still look and act like they are from 200 years ago. While there, Tommy begins to fall in love with a local, Fiona. Unfortunately, Tommy is already engaged to a girl back in New York. He faces the tough decision of leaving to go back home to his fiancé or staying in Brigadoon with Fiona. However, if he chooses to leave he can't come back, since the village only appears once every one hundred years.

Cody Harrell, who is playing Tommy in the play, says, "He is a little withdrawn. He doesn't talk about his feelings much, but he can be really suave too. I am excited for them [the audience] to see those different dynamics."

The drama department has been working on "Brigadoon" since January 7. The crew has worked to make traditional Scottish costumes, meaning kilts. Harrell, whose character is



Randal Blades/JSU Drama photo

Adam Pickren as Harry Beaton and Madison Baldwin as Jean MacLaren in JSU Drama's spring production of 'Brigadoon.'

from New York, says, "I was a little disappointed that I didn't get to wear a kilt."

The crew has been working with a choreographer to learn traditional Scottish

dances for some of the musical numbers. There will even be an authentic sword dance. It was especially hard work for the cast, few of which have had dance train-

ing. Katie Daniels, who plays the fun and lovable Meg Brockie, says, "You can really tell that the entire cast has been working really hard to get these dances right."

The cast has even been working with a dialect coach to speak in a Scottish accent. Traynor explained that that he wanted the audience to get the "flavor" of the Scottish culture.

"Brigadoon" is a classical musical play from 1947. It offers a contrast to the plays the drama department has done recently, such as *Rent*, which is more modern. Traynor says, "For our student's sake, and for our audience's, variety and choices makes a lot of sense."

Since it is an older play, it has a long history. Many of the songs were made popular by famous singers, for example "Almost Like Being in Love" was once recorded by Frank Sinatra. Audience members may recognize some of the songs. Like many older works, some of the language may be slightly confusing. Harrell warns, "The language is a little archaic, but back then that was the slang."

## Music student continues family tradition at JSU

Kara Coleman  
Editor-in-chief

Some things just run in the family. Just ask Jessica Lister, a second-generation Music Education student at JSU.

Lister is a Vocal Music Education major, and her father, Roland Lister, was an Instrumental Music Education major when he attended Jacksonville State. According to Jessica, her dad was a big reason she chose to attend JSU. "He loved it," she said. "He actually went here in the 1960s, and he was in Southerners."

Lister has been involved with different choral groups during her time at JSU. She is a member of the A Cappella Choir, the Chamber Singers, has been in the Calhoun County Civic Chorus, and is part of the Jacksonville Opera Theater.

She was in the chorus for JOT's production of *Romeo et Juliette* last spring, which was sung entirely in French. "It was hard," said Lister, who didn't speak French prior to the show. "We have to take diction classes where we learn to pronounce that stuff."

Lister is currently preparing for her first principal role in a JOT production, as Pittis in *The Mikado* this summer.

Lister says that she



Photo courtesy of Jessica Lister

Music Education student Jessica Lister chose to follow in her father's footsteps at Jacksonville State University and will graduate this December.

has been singing her entire life, but that she started taking voice lessons when she was a junior in high school. She will present a vocal recital on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Aniston.

Lister's father taught music in the Gadsden city school system for several years, and she intends to follow suit. "I'd really like to teach elementary music," she says. "Or high school or middle school choir. But elementary is where I want to be." Although she says that she would be open to a teaching job elsewhere, she adds, "I think Gadsden would be pretty cool. I don't know that I would want to move way out. But if I had to, I would."

Lister intends to graduate this December, and says that

there are many things she has enjoyed about her experience at JSU. "I love the feeling when you're walking past Mason Hall, and you hear someone playing music on the porch. It just gets you in the mood to learn." She adds, "I even loved taking basic classes and getting to know people outside of the Music department."

On her career choice, Lister says, "If you love music, you won't be happy doing anything else. I sincerely considered doing something else, like History or English or even another Education field, but music was where my heart was. But that's what just about anyone will tell you: you just don't feel like you can do anything else."

Lister says that if a JSU student approached her and asked her about becoming a Music major, "I would tell them to just go for it, if their heart is really in it. It is a lot of hard work, but if it's really what you want to do and you're dedicated to it, you'll succeed. The faculty is wonderful, and they will help you every step of the way."

## Spring Jazz showcase scheduled for Friday

Tori Wheelles  
Staff writer

The Jazz Showcase will be held this Friday, February 22nd at Mason Hall Performance Center. Dr. Andy Nevala- Director of Jazz Studies- will be directing the groups.

The Spring Jazz Showcase on Friday, February 22, will feature Jazz Ensembles I, II and III, as well as the Latin Ensemble.

Some very famous musicians will also be attending the show on Friday.

Dr. Nevala explains, "These guys are world class musicians, and we are lucky to be able to bring them to JSU."

Joining the stage will be guest artists Steve Houghton, an internationally renowned jazz drummer, percussionist, clinician, author, and educator.

Joey Pero will be the other visiting guest. Mr. Pero plays the trumpet. He is famous for his unique jazz sound.

Dr. Nevala said,

"It's going to be the best jazz concert this county has ever seen, at least until the 2nd Annual Jazz Festival on April 5th."

Dr. Andy Nevala currently directs Jazz Ensembles I and II, the Latin ensemble and two combos, along with teaching Improvisation. He also teaches several private lessons with Jazz students.

Dr. Nevala formerly held the title of Coordinator of Jazz Studies at California State University, Stanislaus, where he conducted the Jazz Ensemble, Combos I-V, the Latin Ensemble and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble. He has taught courses including Jazz Pedagogy for the Music Educator, Jazz Improvisation, Jazz History, Jazz Piano, Jazz Arranging and private lessons to the upper-division Jazz Studies Majors.

The JSU Jazz Program has 3 big bands, A Latin ensemble and 6 combos. Groups perform every Monday night at Wake and Bake Pizza on the

square in Jacksonville from 7-9 pm.

Dr. Nevala said that "the Jazz program at JSU has seen unprecedented growth in the 2 years" he's been here. "We are almost at the point where we can compete with big boys like a North Texas or Eastman."

The groups will also be performing February 27th at Pepperrell High School in Rome, Ga., and March 6th at JSU Jazz Night at Ona's Music Room in Birmingham, Al.

Dr. Nevala is looking forward to the event. The Director said, "This concert will rock your socks off. If you're not used to an exciting, high quality, high-energy musical experience, you better bring a diaper. Not a Pampers or anything you can get at the Wal-Mart, but the ones they used on the space shuttle, an Astronaut diaper. We are THAT good."

The JSU Jazz Website is [jsujazz.webs.com](http://jsujazz.webs.com). Director Andy Nevala's personal website is [andynevala.com](http://andynevala.com).

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## Jason Bateman, Melissa McCarthy prove identity theft actually is a laughing matter

Curtis Holman  
Staff writer

The months of January and February can be quite dull for people who go to the movies. However, there can be a few good movies out there. The question is, which of these movies is the "diamond in the rough", and which are just more clutter? As college students, most of us don't have the income to find out. So, read me each week as I try to help you avoid the clutter and behold the diamond.

This week I will review the film, "Identity Thief." This movie stars Melissa McCarthy as a woman who steals identities for a living, and Jason Bateman as Sandy Paterson, the latest victim of the thief. Since he has a nice job in the banking world, his newly bad credit threatens his job security. The only way he can restore his good name is to track down this thief and bring her from Florida to Colorado.

The film was funny. It had me laughing most of the time I was watching it. Also, the acting was strong. I loved the cast that was chosen for each of the roles in the movie.

On the other hand, there was some things I didn't like.



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As a person who loves a great storyline, I felt that the storyline was lacking. In a way, it kind of felt like the movie "Due Date" which came out a few years ago. Two people traveling across the country, one of them straight laced, the other kind of out there. I will not give spoilers, but I will say that I felt the ending was rushed, and it through off the rhythm of the story.

In conclusion, if you are a huge fan of comedies, then I recommend you should go watch this movie. If you like comedy, but enjoy a great plot

more, then just wait for "Identity Thief" to come out on Redbox. Also, remember, this movie is Rated R. And trust me, it has earned it's rating. Young children should not see this movie. Overall, I give this movie 3 out of 5 Stars. Be sure to pick up next week's issue, where I will give you a review of the movie "Safe Haven." Also, for more movie and show reviews, plus the latest Hollywood News, tune into Mum's the Word every Tuesday Night at 7 PM on WLJS 91.9 FM.

## Annual 'Day of Percussion' set to rattle the rafters of Mason Hall Performance Center Saturday

Kaylen Simmons  
Staff writer

The JSU Department of Music will be holding its annual "Day of Percussion" this Saturday the 23rd of February from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. at the Mason Hall Performance Center.

Dr. Thomas McCutchen, Professor of Percussion, and Clint Gillespie, Assistant Director of Bands, coordinate this event every year.

This year's performers will be the JSU Percussion Ensemble,

the marching drumline and the JSU Steel Band. Several other percussion ensembles will be performing, including Shades Valley High School, Albertville High School, Kell High School and Kennesaw Mountain High School.

Special Guests will include Michael Burritt, an International Marimba Artist and Professor of Percussion at Eastman School of Music as well as Steve Houghton, an International Drum Set Artist and Professor of Percussion at The University

of Indiana. Both artists will be holding clinics in the afternoon.

Dr. McCutchen stated, "We hope to promote percussion education to both our students at JSU and to those throughout Alabama and Georgia with this annual event." His favorite part of the event is "watching the percussion students be amazed by the guest artists."

Approximately 250 to 300 people are expected to attend. The event is free and open to the public.



### WLJS Top 10 for the week of February 18th, 2013

1. Jenn Alexander - All At Once
2. P.O.S. - Weird Friends (We Don't Even Live Here)
3. Yellow Red Sparks - Monsters with Misdemeanors
4. Robert DeLong - Few Years Make
5. The Nowherenauts - Warned You
6. Whitehorse - Wisconsin
7. Skinny Lister - Forty Pound Wedding
8. Norwegian Arms - At the Formerly British Council Supported English
9. Ariel & The Undertow - Lovely Girl
10. Drgn King - Holy Ghost

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# Op/Ed

## The true state of our union

Zach Tyler  
A&E Editor

Would you say that the state of our union is strong? Our President seems to think so. I have to disagree.

President Barack Obama delivered his fourth State of the Union address on Tuesday to 33.5 million American viewers—the lowest viewership for any of his State of the Union speeches yet.

By way of contrast, twice as many Americans—67 million of them, to be exact—tuned in to watch the first Presidential debate between Obama and Mitt Romney.

According to TV ratings company Nielsen, Obama's address was the least-watched since Bill Clinton gave his final State of the Union in 2000 to 31.4 million American viewers.

Nielsen's numbers don't take into account how many people watched Obama's speech online or streamed it to a mobile device, though.

In his address to the Houses of Congress and the American people, Obama claimed that "together, we have cleared away the rubble of crisis, and we can say with renewed confidence that the state of our union is stronger."

But if our democratic republic is as strong as Obama believes, why did so few of its citizens care

to tune in to its progress report? Maybe it has some-



thing to do with the polarized political climate in America. The complete lack of compromise and fellow-feeling among politicians in our government has led to a trend of what Obama called "manufactured crises."

He'd like all the blame for those crises to be placed at the feet of the GOP. And while Republicans in Congress represent the biggest obstacle to any political action taken by the Democratic Party, both parties can be accused of political brinkmanship.

That game is an exhausting and harmful one to play in such a delicate economic atmosphere. In the last three months of 2012, America's G.D.P. shrank 0.1 percent—the worst contraction since 2009—due to sharp cuts in military spending that came as a result of the expected "fiscal cliff."

Incidentally, instead of reaching an agreement on the package of federal spending cuts and

changing tax rates, Congress just postponed the entire issue until March 1, setting up another possible fiscal cliff scenario.

Knee-jerk reactions to the problems facing our nation aren't going to get us anywhere. Rahm Emanuel, President Obama's ex-Chief of Staff, is famous for having said that you "never want to waste a good crisis."

What he meant was that after some horribly tragic or catastrophic event, politicians should try to harness the collective fear and anger of the people and use it to get political change.

Lately, America has been through one crisis after another. Some of those crises were created by the very people we elected to lead us.

And despite signs that bipartisan compromise on issues like gun control and immigration might be just over the horizon, I can't help but feel like we don't have anything to show for our suffering yet.

Here's to hoping that our leaders will keep faith with us, learn to see things from each other's perspective and deliver enlightened public policy on the issues that we just can't afford to put off or play around with any longer.



## I look quite nice in that picture

Emily Hayes  
ehayes@times-journal.com

I was blessed to spend the last week of January at Disney World with my husband and daughter, and I couldn't have asked for a more magical vacation. But during the week, I caught myself doing something I haven't done in awhile: judging myself in pictures.

After all, it's Disney World. Pictures are being snapped left and right, and with the Disney official photographers everywhere, ready to snap at every opportunity, why not take advantage?

Almost two years ago, I wrote about spending the day with my best friends, and listening to at least one of us complain after every picture. You know what I'm talking about, because (a) if you're a woman, you probably do this yourself, and (b) if you're a man, this habit more than likely annoys you.

Thanks to the digital camera, we can instantly view ourselves, and then make the self-degrading remark about fat thighs, big bellies, saggy breasts and double chins. And then comes the phrase

heard 'round the world: "I look terrible in that picture."

Why do women do this? You will almost



never hear a man say, "Look how jiggly my arms look in that shirt."

I spent five days with my husband and daughter in one of the happiest places on earth. And as I said, cliché as it sounds, it was magical. We had 70 degree weather and no wait times. We shot through Space Mountain, escaped a Yeti in Animal Kingdom, went on a mission to Mars in Epcot and joined the Rebel Alliance in Hollywood Studios.

We didn't drive 10 hours south for a glamour shot session, and we certainly didn't spend hours getting ready each morning. We went to make memories, and along with that, to capture them.

For the past few

years I've been hyper-aware of the impression I'm making on my daughter. Right now she loves being in front of the camera — the girl can pose, y'all. I want to hold off the day, for as long as possible, when she looks at herself and thinks, "Yuck."

So it was that thought, along with a self-check of my own self-esteem, that brought me back into focus while I looked through the pictures — all 300 of them. And instead of focusing on whether or not I'd sucked in my gut, I looked to see if my level of happiness — which was off the charts — was reflected back at the camera.

And, of course, it was.

We are always reading and hearing about body image and self-esteem, so much that it's become white noise. But it's never too late to start appreciating ourselves, especially in the meaningful moments we are lucky to capture. I feel blessed that my husband and I were able to share such a magical time with our daughter, and extremely thankful for those Disney official photographers around every corner.

[www.jsu.edu/chanticleer](http://www.jsu.edu/chanticleer)

## Are you there, God? It's me, common sense

Ashley Pierce  
Mustang Daily, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo  
via UWIRE

President Obama had the misfortune of the entire nation seeing his face become more and more pinched and constipated-looking during Dr. Benjamin Carson's speech at the National Prayer Breakfast.

Carson, a neurosurgeon at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, took the stage Thursday morning with a speech that critiqued the tax system, Obamacare and political correctness — all while referencing Jesus. It was beautiful and it made me wish C-SPAN was a more watched channel.

While Carson's speech began innocent enough, quoting verses from the Bible such as "With his mouth the Godless destroys his neighbor,

but through knowledge the righteous escapes," the rest of the speech drifted far from anything Obama expected.

Carson first ripped apart the entire idea of political correctness (thank the Lord — wait am I allowed to say that, or will too many people be offended?). He condemned it as something that "muffles" American citizens. Needless to say, his speech certainly was not deterred by any such muzzle — though I'm sure Obama would have appreciated that.

On the subject of taxes, Carson made not only his case plain and simple but also plan plain and simple.

"When I pick up my Bible" he said, "I see the fairest individual in the universe, God, and He's given us a system. It's

called tithe."

For non-religious folk out there, tithing is the act of giving God 10 percent of your income through the means of the church. Wealthy Christians don't give more than poor Christians. It's always 10 percent.

Basically what Carson suggests is all Americans, no matter their income, give the same percentage of their income in taxes, just as all Christians give 10 percent to the church. Honestly, if it's good enough for God, surely it should be good enough for the government.

Now I — nor Carson I'm sure — am not implying that everyone's Christian or everyone in the government should do it this way because the Bible says so. That would be silly and infringe upon separation of church and

state. The government should do it the way Carson describes because it just bloody makes more sense for all Americans to have to give the same percentage.

Carson then went on to mention Obamacare, despite being two seats away from Obama himself. I don't pretend to understand all the mechanics of the healthcare policy he suggested, but the word "efficient" was used: a word that is disturbingly lacking from the vocabulary of our policymakers.

Carson suggested that a citizen should have a "health savings account to which money can be attributed pre-tax from the time you're born until the time you die. When you die you can pass it on to your family members so that when you're 85 years old and you've

got six diseases, you're not trying to spend up everything, you're happy to pass it on and there's nobody talking about death panels."

After that statement, Obama switched his attention to the ground.

The idea of being able to pass on your healthcare to loved ones especially makes Carson's plan stand out. Especially in a world in which little is legally allowed to pass on from parent to child — our own iTunes libraries don't even actually belong to us (sorry future daughter, I guess my hardy collecting of Taylor Swift songs has been in vain). If I can give whatever amount of healthcare money I failed to use to my children, that will almost make up for them missing out on hours upon hours of Taylor Swift enjoy-

ment.

Although it was obvious how uncomfortable Obama was throughout the speech, Carson still managed to be one of the few to stand up and speak out about the government's inefficiency — an action other citizens would do well to follow.

Carson embodies everything that's needed in a leader. Not only did he point out problems with the government, but he also offered common sense solutions, the latter of which many politicians seem to be lacking lately. Maybe we need a change from politicians in the White House. Maybe it's time for just an average Joe, or even a neurosurgeon to lead our country in the right direction (no pun intended).

# Sports



JSU's Alan Bonner led the team with 10 TD catches in 2012

Sportswire

## Bonner getting chance at NFL combine this weekend

**Daniel Porter**  
Sports Editor

This weekend Jacksonville State receiver Alan Bonner will participate in the receivers' portion of the NFL combine. Bonner received his official invitation a few weeks ago and has since been preparing for what could be a life changing weekend in Indianapolis.

Bonner is second on the all-

time list of touchdown catches in school history, with 20. His career receiving yards total just shy of 2,000, also ranking second in school history. Aside from being a strong force as a receiver, Bonner is a special teams threat.

Bonner is the Jacksonville State all-time leader in punt returns, (87) 972 yards, also first all-time. This past year Bonner led the Gamecocks in receptions, receiving yards, and receiving

touchdowns as a senior.

At UT-Martin this past season Bonner had a record-shattering day when he hauled in 10 catches for 235 yards and five touchdowns.

Bonner will work out for scouts, coaches and general managers on Sunday along with quarterbacks and running backs.

## Softball earns walk-off win to close USM tournament

**HATTIESBURG, Miss.** – The Jacksonville State softball team used some heroics of its own on Sunday, when a four-run seventh inning helped overcome a five-run deficit and cap a 6-5 walk-off win over Sam Houston State in the final game of the Southern Miss Invitational.

After dropping four games in the first two days of the event, three in the final inning and another by one run, the Gamecocks (3-6) were finally on the winning end of a dramatic finish. In a game that saw them trail 5-0 after three innings, they got a run in each the fourth and fifth to set the stage for the rally in the seventh.

The inning started with an error by Bearkat shortstop Cecilia Castillo that allowed junior Amanda Martinez to reach. Sophomore Savannah Sloan fol-

lowed with a single that pushed Martinez to second. She would score on a single up the middle from freshman Ella Denes, cutting the SHSU led to 5-3.

Bearkat pitcher Shelby Lancaster got a couple of outs to put JSU's backs against the wall, but sophomore Sara Borders delivered a two-out double to left center that drove in a pair and tied the game at 5-5. SHSU opted to intentionally walk junior Kalee Tabor and pitch to senior Krystal Ruth, who made them pay when she found a hole up the middle to drive in Borders and gave the Gamecocks the walk-off win.

Junior Tiffany Harbin earned the win in relief for JSU, holding the Bearkats scoreless on two hits in 4.2 innings of work. She struck out six batters and didn't issue a walk. Freshman Casey Akenberger earned the start and

allowed five runs, only one of which was earned, on five hits in 2.1 innings in the circle.

Lancaster suffered the loss for SHSU, giving up two unearned runs on three hits, while recording just two outs. Haley Baros started the game and allowed two runs, one earned, on three hits in five innings. Amber Neal tossed the other frame, allowing a pair of unearned runs on two hits.

Borders and Ruth each went 2-for-4 at the plate, while Sloan had a 2-for-3 afternoon. Over the five-game tournament, Borders went 9-for-16 (.563) with three doubles, two home runs, four walks and four RBI. Ruth hit .333 with two doubles, a homer and five RBI in the event.

~ Sportswire

### Gamecock ranks/standings

#### NCAA Rifle Top 15

1. West Virginia
2. TCU
3. Kentucky
4. Jacksonville State
5. Alaska- Fairbanks
6. Army
7. Air Force
8. Nebraska
9. Memphis
10. Murray State
11. Ole Miss
12. Nevada
13. Navy
14. NC State
15. Ohio State

#### OVC M. Basketball standings East division

- Belmont (11-2) [20-6]
- Eastern Kentucky (10-3) [21-6]
- Tennessee State (9-4) [15-11]
- Morehead State (7-6) [13-14]
- Jacksonville State (7-7) [15-10]
- Tennessee Tech (3-10) [9-16]

#### West division

- Murray State (9-4) [18-7]
- SE Missouri St. (7-7) [14-13]
- SIUe (5-8) [9-14]
- Eastern Illinois (5-9) [8-19]
- UT- Martin (4-9) [7-18]
- Austin Peay (3-10) [7-20]

#### OVC Softball standings: East Div.

- Belmont 5-3 (0-0)
- Eastern Kentucky 3-1 (0-0)
- Tennessee Tech 4-4 (0-0)
- Jacksonville State 3-6 (0-0)

#### West Div.

- UT- Martin 5-3 (0-0)
- SIUe 4-3 (0-0)
- Austin Peay 3-3 (0-0)
- SE Missouri St. 2-3 (0-0)

#### OVC Baseball standings:

- SE Missouri St. 4-0 (0-0)
- Austin Peay 3-1 (0-0)
- Belmont 3-1 (0-0)
- Morehead State 3-1 (0-0)
- Tennessee Tech 2-2 (0-0)
- SIUe 1-2 (0-0)
- Eastern Kentucky 1-2 (0-0)
- Jacksonville State 1-3 (0-0)

#### Upcoming Action:

- Friday: W Track @ OVC Indoor Softball vs PR Memorial (Bowling Green/Georgia State) Baseball vs South. Illinois
- Saturday: W Tennis @ Chatt. W Track @ OVC Indoor WBB vs SEMO MBB @ UNC-Ashe Softball @ PR Memorial (NC State/Northern Colorado) Baseball vs South. Illinois
- Sunday: Softball @ (Akron) Baseball vs South. Illinois M Tennis vs Kentucky

Compare Jacksonville State's men's basketball record of the Div. I teams in the state of Alabama.

- Alabama (17-8)
- Jax State (15-10)
- South Alabama (15-9)
- UAB (12-14)
- Troy (11-16)
- Samford (10-17)
- Auburn (9-16)
- Alabama A&M (9-16)
- Alabama State (9-18)

## Jax State traveling to NC for bracketbusters game

**Daniel Porter**  
Sports Editor

On Saturday, Jax State will play in the annual bracketbusters game. Last season Presbyterian came to JSU for the game. This year, JSU is a road team and drew UNC-Asheville (15-13) of the Big South Conference.

The game should be very exciting as it matches two very similar teams. The Bulldogs of UNC-Asheville have recently dropped to fourth in the Big South Conference while in the middle of a three game conference losing skid. The Gamecocks are sixth in the OVC but still fifth in their own division, playing in the much more difficult East.

Jacksonville State is enjoying one of their most successful seasons in years and will put their talents up against a team that just last season, as a 16 seed in the NCAA tournament, came one bad call away from beating Syracuse and pulling the first ever 16 over 1 seed upset.

The Bulldogs have four players that average over 30 minutes a game, with three scoring in double digits. Jeremy Atkinson leads Asheville with 17 points a game. D.J. Cunningham will be a factor in the game down low on offense, and as a defender. The Bulldogs shoot 45 percent from the field and 71 percent from the stripe, including Keith Hornsby, a 94 percent free throw shooter.

It will be Jax State's next to last game this season. Prior to their current three-game skid, UNC-Asheville reeled off 7 wins in a row to take first in their conference. The Bulldogs will complete the bracketbusters series next season as they come to Pete Mathews Coliseum for a game.



# Gamecocks claim first win behind Antley's arm

**Daniel Porter**  
Sports Editor

After a tough opening weekend in Georgia, the Gamecocks returned home to open play at Ruby Abbott Field on Tuesday. Jacksonville State (1-3) didn't disappoint the home crowd and picked up their first win of the season in a 7-0 shutout over in-state foe UAB (2-2).

Junior Casey Antley took the mound for the Gamecocks and pitched a dominant performance, not allowing a run or walk, and left after six innings with the seven run lead that would stand for his first win of the season. Antley (1-0) allowed just two hits, struck out three and only needed 73 pitches to get through his outing, averaging just over three pitches per at bat against the 23 batters he faced.

Antley was backed up by an offense that never got going during the opening series at Kennesaw State. Leadoff batter Michael Bishop opened the game with a triple to left center field, but was momentarily stranded while the following two batters struck out. Clean-up hitter Cal Lambert came through with a two-out, two-strike rip to bring in Bishop for the first run.

Coty Blanchard opened the third inning with a leadoff hit to get on base and scored on Lambert's double. Lambert quickly came around to score when Griff Gordon hit what turned into a triple. Facing the following batter UAB's pitched balked bring in Gordon from third to score the third run of the inning giving JSU a 4-0 lead.



Junior Casey Antley tossed six scoreless inning as JSU won it's home opener of the season

**Sportswire**

In the fourth, Eddie Mora-Loera recorded his only hit in a 1-5 game, but made it count, being a three-run home run on a line over the left field wall. Michael Bishop and Ty Pierce jogged home ahead of Mora-Loera to push the lead to 7-0 over the Blazers.

Freshman Graham Officer came in in relief of Antley for the final three innings and gave no chance for the Blazers to make a comeback facing the minimum nine batters remaining.

The Gamecocks are home this weekend for their first home series of the season against Southern Illinois.

## Tennis just edged by Mercer

**MACON, Ga.** – The Jacksonville State men's tennis team dropped a hard-fought 4-3 decision to Mercer on Tuesday at the LeRoy Peddy Tennis Center on the MU campus.

JSU, who picked up two wins last Friday, fell to 2-6 on the season, while the Bears pocketed their first win of the season (1-7).

The match came down to the duel on court No. 6 as Felipe Watanabe fell in straight sets (6-2, 6-2) to MU's Austin Emmet. After the Bears claimed the doubles point by winning matches at No. 1 and No. 3. The JSU duo of Igor Santos and Felipe Wenzel moved to 4-2 on the season after turning back MU's tandem of Peter Tauchner and Joao Pagan, 8-5.

Santos and Wenzel carried that momentum into their singles action as both claimed wins over their opposition. Santos, who played in the No. 1 spot, moved to 2-0 on the season at that spot, won 6-3, 6-1 over Arnav Mohanty. Wenzel topped Vincent DeLise of MU – 6-3, 6-2 at No. 5.

Jax State's third point of the match was secured after Axel Sundberg split the first two sets with MU's Anderson Scarpa before ousting Scarpa in the third set, 6-2.

~ Sportswire



James Harkins & JSU Sportswire

JSU's four seniors: Ronnie Boggs (2) Tarvin Gaines (4) Mason Leggett (5) Rinaldo Mafra (14)

## Seniors close out careers at The Pete

**Daniel Porter**  
Sports Editor

Last night, four Gamecocks played in Pete Mathews Coliseum for the final time in their careers at Jacksonville State. Senior night led to a popular turnout as fans came out to not only watch the final home game of the season, but to see Ronnie Boggs, Tarvin Gaines, Mason Leggett, and Rinaldo Mafra leave it all on the court as the core group of a team that has the Gamecock basketball program on the rise.

Ronnie Boggs, a native of Kansas City, MO., turned out to be one of the top defenders for the Gamecocks this season with his team leading 142 rebounds (92 defensive) close to six a game. Boggs also swiped a team high in steals on his way to currently being third in scoring, with 276 points going into the SEMO game, averaging 11 points per game. His stamina has been proven as he averages playing 34 minutes and has taken part in all 26 games.

Tarvin Gaines of West Memphis, AR. has carried the torch for the Gamecocks this season. His 16 points per game average leads the team. Gaines also leads with a 82 percent shooting from the free throw line, and shoots 47 percent from the floor overall. He's second on the team in total rebound behind only Boggs.

Zachary, Louisiana's Mason Leggett won't blow up the box score or the scoreboard, but his significance can't be overstated. Leggett brings key leadership and is versatile in every aspect of the game. He averages just three points a game, usually off the bench, but tossed in 12 last month at home in a one-point upset over conference power Murray State.

Rinaldo Mafra comes from Recife, Brazil. He's been a key player off the bench for the Gamecocks, manning the inside game against the big men down low. Mafra doesn't lead in any categories, but is consistent across the stat sheet between rebounding and playing

defense to scoring some on the offensive side. He usually gets his money's worth in games often getting into foul trouble, but you might as well use them, they restart the following game.

Coach James Green loses a strong core group after this season, but a group that put the basketball program back on track, most notably having the first winning season since 2005-06. As Boggs, Gaines, Leggett, and Mafra walked off the floor for the final time, they left the program in a better place than they inherited it.

The four seniors, along with the rest of the Gamecocks, have two final games on the road this season, first this Saturday in North Carolina for the bracketbusters game, and then at Belmont on March 2, which will air on ESPN.