



# The Chanticleer



WEATHER: High 68, Low 49, Partly Cloudy

FORECAST PG. 3

# COCKYSTOCK

On Wednesday, April 9, the Student Government Association at JSU hosted its first ever Cockystock music and arts festival on the TMB lawn. The event featured face painting, laser tag, a caricature artist, photo booth, and a bungee trampoline. There were also performances by the Calhoun Dance Academy, and the headliner was a set by Suite 709. Outgoing Vice President of Student Activities Kelsey Mann said that she would like to see Cockystock become an annual event. The SGA estimates that over 600 students were in attendance.



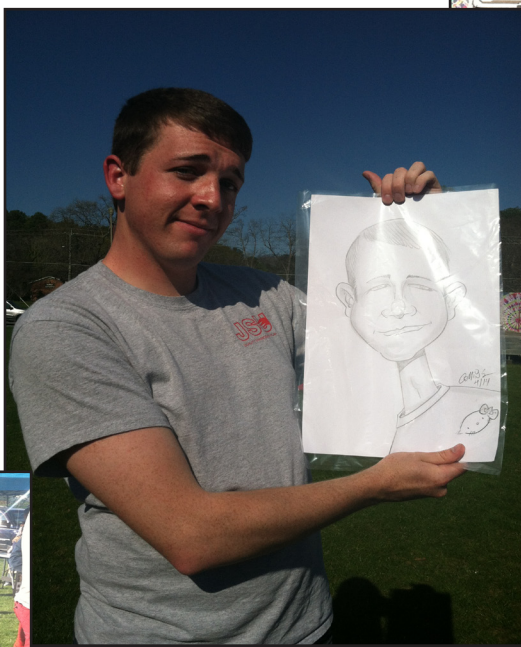
Photos by Kara Coleman/The Chanticleer

## A look back at 2013-2014

Chanticleer staff writer Angela Marino spoke with students at Cockystock and asked them to share their best memories at JSU during this school year. These are some of the answers she received.



“My favorite memory was performing on the color guard rifle line for the first time” – Abby Priest, sophomore, Kennesaw, GA, elementary education



“Watching people sled down the hill during the snowpocalypse, snowball fights, and the community feel” –Donovan Wilson, junior, Sylacauga, business management



“Surviving my third semester of nursing school”- Brittany Gaskin, senior, nursing, Hazel Green

“My favorite memories were the United Nation Day Tea and the Taster’s Fair where everyone cooked dishes from their native countries and sampled them.” – Maya Nora Saaid, junior, marketing, Jordan



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## New SGA officers inducted



Kara Coleman/The Chanticleer

On Monday, April 7, the 2014-2015 SGA executive officers were inducted by Dr. Rebecca Turner. The new executive team is pictured L-R: President Brett Johnson, Director of Publicity Courtney Curtis, Vice President of Organizational Affairs Ariel Tolson, Vice President of Student Senate Tyler Brown, Chief Justice Andrew York, and Vice President of Student Activities Kalyn Cabral.

## Students donate 79 pairs of shoes

**Ashley Colvin**  
Staff Writer

The smaller things in life are often overlooked. Imagine walking to school with no shoes, and not by choice.

The Honors program at JSU recently partnered with the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center (JCOC) for a shoe drive. The students collected 79 pairs of shoes.

Students were asked to participate in the annual S.H.O.E. (Students Help-

ing Others Excel) program by placing their unwanted sneakers in the designated tubs. Shoes were collected through February 28 and then passed around the community of Jacksonville for those in need.

Dr. Steven Whitton is responsible for putting a thought into action in 2009 with the cooperation of the very first group of Elite Honors Scholars.

The goal was to find a manageable way for eight students to give back to

their community. The task was a simple one, collect shoes. The first year the gift of fifty pairs of shoes were given, and it has gradually grown from there.

Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center is responsible for partnering with other organizations throughout the years. They work closely with the Baptist Campus Ministries and organize things like food drives and toy drives to help those who are in need of assistance.

## Football plays annual J-Day game

**Marvel Robinson**  
Staff Writer

This year's annual J-Day Spring Game took place Saturday, April 12, when the JSU White squad beat the Red team of JSU 21-6.

Sophomore quarterback Eli Jenkins led the White squad as he passed for 117 yards and two touchdowns. Jenkins first pass of the game went for a touchdown as he connected with Anthony Johnson for a 35-yard touchdown pass. His second touchdown pass went to running back Miles Jones on an 11-yard screen pass. Jones also had a 3-yard rushing touchdown.

The Red team didn't quite make it to the end zone as their six points came from two field goals by Connor Rouleau. One was a 25-yard

field goal and the other was from 26 yards.

Turnovers were the biggest downfall in the game as there were a total of five. The Red team threw four interceptions and Jenkins from the White threw one. Christian LeMay of the Red team intercepted Dawson Wells of the White and returned it for 29 yards to help set up a score for the Red.

"The negative, I thought, was turnovers," said Head Coach John Grass. "Interceptions have been kind of an Achilles heel for us. We've just got to correct that and take care of the football."

Jacksonville State will kick off their 2014 season on Friday, August 29, at the defending Big Ten champion Michigan State. JSU's first home game is scheduled against West Alabama on September 20 at 3 p.m.

## A closer look at the QEP

Part 3 of a series

**Kara Coleman**  
Editor-in-Chief

The Quality Enhancement Plan, JSU's critical thinking initiative, won't officially launch in classrooms until the fall semester of 2015. But faculty will be incorporating some of the program's ideas as early as this year.

A basic concept of the QEP is that of the "flipped classroom": work that has traditionally been done inside the classroom will instead be done outside of the classroom, and vice versa. A teacher may upload a lecture or notes onto Blackboard for students to listen to or read outside of class, then students will engage in some other activity and discussion in class.

"In the past, I would have gone to lecture and said, 'What do you guys think about that? Do you think that's an adequate conclusion?'" says Dr. Teresa Reed of the English department. "But I'm hoping for a more active undertaking, where I tell them, 'You guys read the chapter. You guys watched the video. Let's see where they diverge and where they converge. What do we do with two different authoritative texts giving us perhaps different information about things?'"

Reed is one of 16 faculty mentors who will undergo extensive training during the 2014-2015 school year to prepare for the new approach. The mentors will receive training, and then train other members of their respective departments.

"My freshman composition class will be the one that I'm focusing on mainly, just to get a start, to get a feel for things," Reed says. "Once we get professors trained on those [general classes], we can move onto higher classes. I'm hoping that by osmosis too, I can take what I learn

from the freshmen and apply it to my 400-level classes."

Assistant Professor of Computer Science David Thornton does not teach freshman-level classes, so he is not a faculty mentor. He does sit on the QEP Committee, however. "There's been a shift over the last several years nationwide towards more project-based learning, tackling real-world problems," he says. "We're trying to get that project-based, challenge-based learning approach earlier in their [students'] experience. It's not just something that they get hit with as juniors and seniors."

Thornton says that while he is a big proponent of using the best technology available to help students learn, a tool is only a tool. All freshmen students in the fall of 2015 will receive an iPad, but that's only part of the plan. "Giving students a device by itself won't improve critical thinking," he says. "It's got to be combined with good instructional design."

That's where the faculty training comes in. Instructors will learn how to encourage critical thinking in their courses rather than only lecturing and spoon-feeding information to students. It will then be up to each teacher to decide to what extent they want to incorporate the new methods into their classes.

As opposed to traditional teaching methods, a good bit of responsibility for learning will fall on the students themselves. Reed says that while she hopes the new approach will encourage students to get their work done outside of class, there's only one way to find out. "I guess that's why it's a study," she says. "To see how things are going to work and how we can make them work if we find they are valuable enough to pursue."

The Chanticleer would like to thank all of our volunteer writers and photographers who have helped make this year great. This paper wouldn't be possible each week without you. Go Gamecocks!

## The Chanticleer Staff

**Kara Coleman**  
Editor-in-Chief



**Zach Tyler**  
Associate Editor



**Christiana Tyler**  
A&E Editor



**Daniel Porter**  
Sports Editor



# Negotiating a starting salary

As the semester comes to a close, so do many students' college careers. If they haven't already, it's time for them to start thinking about their next step towards a big kid job. After months of suffering through applications, interviews and possibly numerous rejections, some of those students may have finally landed a job offer or two.

That's great, but the stress doesn't stop there. Many students struggle with how to approach their potential future employers about their starting salaries. Most might just be thankful to even have a job, and don't feel like they have a leg to stand on when negotiating salaries, especially right out of college.

However, it is an important to understand exactly what you need financially to survive before this conversation arises. While salary negotiations can be uncomfortable, you shouldn't be afraid to ask. The worst they can say is no.

So, before you accept that first job offer blindly, prepare what you need to know in order to live comfortably within your means.

The first thing you have to do

is estimate your cost of living. To do this, find the sum of all of your bills and expenses from the past month and multiply it by 12. A great tool to use for this is a budget calculator, like the one found at [mappingyourfuture.org](http://mappingyourfuture.org). It will make sure you take into consideration every aspect of your spending, like student loan repayments, rent, groceries, entertainment, etc.

After estimating your cost of living, you need to figure out what a similar quality of life would cost in the city of the job offer. One way of doing this is taking the cost of living you calculated before and plugging it into CNN Money's cost of living calculator. This calculator not only shows what a comparable salary would be in the specific city, but also breaks down the price differences in the categories of groceries, housing, utilities, healthcare and transportation.

There is more to consider than just the cost of living, however. Taxes can eat about a third of your income, and must be taken into consideration. The cost of living you've estimated for your new city is the net income you

need to maintain your quality of life. Now, to calculate your gross income (or the salary you'll be offered before taxes), multiply the cost of living total by 1.3.

If your future employer offers you a starting salary that is less than what you've calculated as what you need, it could be time to navigate the fine line between coming across as money hungry and a total pushover. A good phrase to use in this situation is, "The base salary is a little less than I was hoping for." This sentence sets up the employer to ask what you were hoping for, and may give you a chance to ask for an amount you think is more reasonable. The employer may continue negotiations from there, or inform you that the amount initially offered is all they have to give.

At this point, you'll have to make a decision of whether to lower your quality of life or seek employment elsewhere. Either way, the decision you make will be an informed one that you can be confident in.

~via UWire

# Campus crime report

04/15/2014  
Burglary  
Stadium Tower

04/13/2014  
Violation of Student Code of Conduct  
Crow Hall Parking Lot

04/13/2014  
Violation of Student Code of Conduct  
Dixon Hall

04/12/2014  
Duty Upon Striking an Unattended Vehicle  
Stadium Tower Parking Lot

04/11/2014  
Information Report  
Paul Carpenter Village

04/11/2014  
Duty Upon Striking an Unattended Vehicle  
Curtiss Hall Parking Lot

04/09/2014  
Criminal Mischief  
Curtiss Hall

04/09/2014  
Violation of Student Code of Conduct  
Pannell Hall

04/08/2014  
Assist Other Law Enforcement Agency  
Salls Hall

04/08/2014  
Medical Emergency  
Stephenson Hall

# Chicken Scratch

Well, this is it: the final scratch of the spring 2014 semester. With several members of the editorial staff graduating in the coming months, things will change here at *The Chanticleer*. Whether Chicken Scratch will be making a return next fall is still up in the air. So to (possibly) end this controversial section of our paper with a bang, the staff gathered random thoughts of students at JSU's first-ever music festival, Cockstock. We've reprinted some of them here, mostly unchanged except for spelling or grammatical corrections.

SGA... one letter short of SWAG.

*Silence is acceptance.*

**Don't do drugs!!!**

Cockstock FTW!

*Stay classy!*

**Get cocky!**

Be here now. Be happy. Be happy here.  
--Christina MacDonald

*ZTA is the best!*

**RIP Chris Safi. In love, truth and honor. --Nick Charles**

Know one another and love one another.  
--International House Program

*Go Greek!*

**Why does the caf only serve good food during orientation?**

Follow Landon @PhiNUPE\_Indeed

*To the lumber yard! --Seth Cain*

**Alpha Xi's the way to be!**

Des was here!

*May god grant that I achieve more than what I desire. --JS*

**Be you. --Alex McFry**

Blume is awesome!

*Lies!*

**Go Cocks!**

Go big or go home!

*Thank Gosh it's almost OVER! --Marissa*

@hi\_immandi

It didn't go as planned... Thank God.

*Carpe Diem. --Sebas*

**How many people does it take to catch a squirrel?**

What did the fish say when it hit the cement wall? "Dam!"

*Happy Easter!*

**Never doubt yourself. --MW**

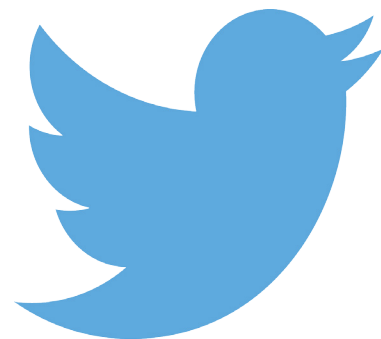
Make love, not war! --Bianca

## Upcoming SGA events:

**April 18th-19th  
Last days of class**

**April 21st-25th  
Finals week**

**May 2nd  
Graduation!**



@ChanticleerJSU



/jsuchanticleer

# 7-day weather forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Clear	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Rain	Partly cloudy
High: 68	High: 68	High: 76	High: 78	High: 58	High: 78	High: 82
Low: 49	Low: 48	Low: 48	Low: 53	Low: 57	Low: 53	Low: 56

# Arts & Entertainment

## Jacksonville Opera Theatre to perform a Rogers and Hammerstein II classic

Christiana Tyler  
A&E Editor

Jacksonville Opera Theatre is putting on a show. Not an opera though, because, as Macon Pricket says, "let's be honest, nobody likes an opera."

The show will first be performed at the Oxford Performing Arts Center and then will be moved from Oxford to Gadsden. Moving a show always involves a lot of work, but because the show will also have to move from the rehearsal area in Mason Hall to Oxford, it involves even more work when adapting the performance to the new stages.

'Carousel' is a Roger and Hammerstein II musical written in 1945 and is an adaptation of a French play with a much more depressing ending.

The show centers on carousel barker Billy Bigelow, whose romance with a millworker named Julie Jordan comes at the price of both their jobs. He attempts a robbery to provide for Julie and their unborn child but it goes wrong and he's killed.

Later, he is given a chance to make things right.

A secondary plot deals with Julie's friend and fellow millworker Carrie Pimperidge and

her romance with Enoch Snow.

Pricket, a communication student with a minor in drama, says of the show, "Carousel is a tragic story filled with romance, drama, tragedy, yet also includes very encouraging and uplifting moments."

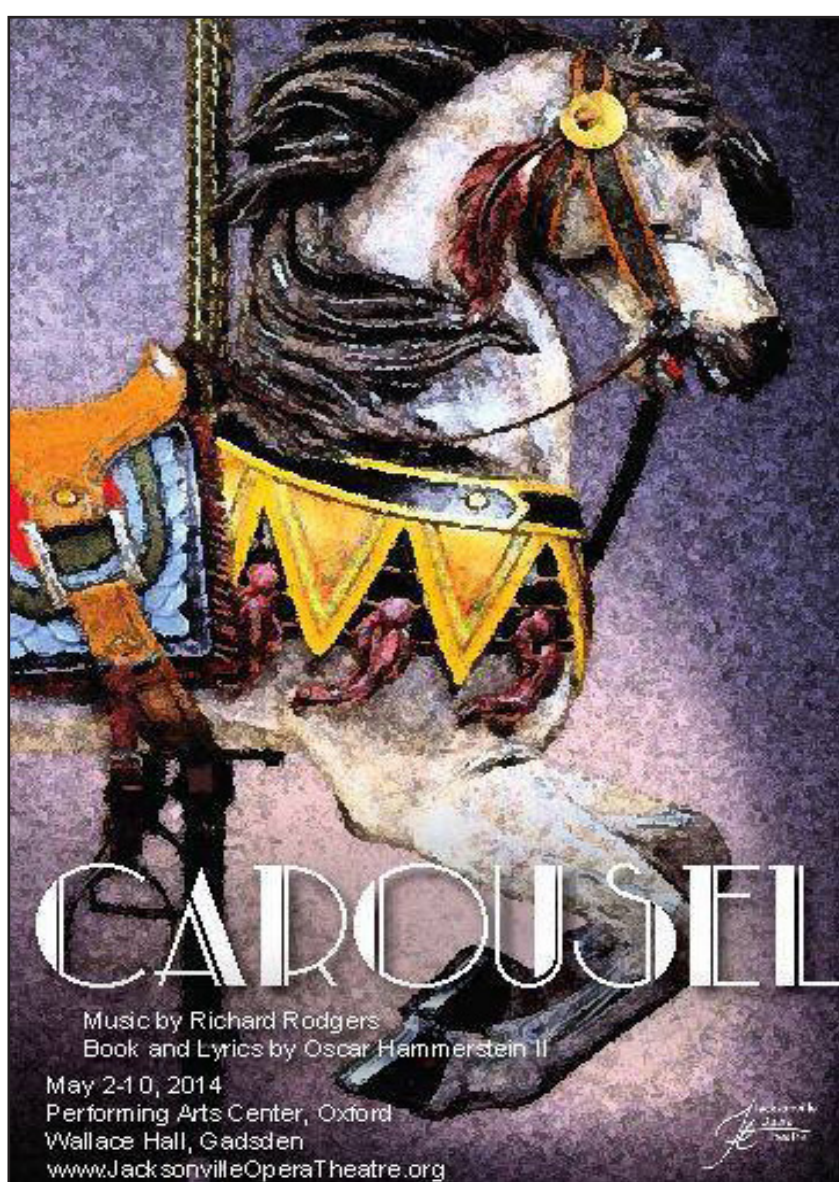
Dr. Nathan Wight, director of the show and a professor in Mason Hall, highlights that this show teaches "never put off telling someone you love them." It's possible that you eventually won't be able to tell them, so seize the day and tell them now.

Pricket plays Enoch Snow and says of his character, "Enoch Snow is very much one of the lighter, happier characters. He is very driven and doesn't really fit into the typical male mold that the rest of the men of the town fit so perfectly."

"I think audiences will learn not to take things too seriously or focus too hard on the future," Pricket continues, "because you never know what lies in store and you don't know if your idea of what you want will lead to happiness."

Many people are put off by the idea of around two hours spent listening to music and that musicals have more cheese than a cheese cracker.

Pricket, though, claims that



"this show will completely change anyone's mind. This show has everything you want to see- love, comedy, tragedy and will move you to tears and leave you feeling encouraged and full of love. It is an absolutely beautiful show."

'Carousel' opens on May 2 at the Oxford Performing Arts

Center and will be performed there on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The show will then be moved to Gadsden and will be performed at the Wallace Hall Fine Arts Center on Gadsden State's campus on May 9th and 10th.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [juneisbustin.com](http://juneisbustin.com).

## Money saving fashion tips for college students

Most people want to save a little money these days, but not many people are willing to make drastic sacrifices.

Why just save money, when you can make money? Places like Plato's Closet will buy your gently used clothing, but consider posting any items you want to sell on social media. Some universities even have Facebook pages devoted to selling used clothing.

Don't be afraid to hit up thrift stores. It might take some time and patience, but you can defi-

nitely find some cute, funky pieces for ridiculously low prices. Make sure to shop with an open mind. Just don't forget to wash everything you buy before wearing it out.

Next time you're on Youtube, search for "DIY fashion" or "DIY clothes" for inspiration on some money saving fashion projects, or ideas on how to re-purpose your old clothes or thrifted items.

Set aside a weekend, and get together with some friends to make your own DIY clothes or

revamp any of your thrift store finds. You'll save some money and have fun!

Instead of giving away those too-long jeans or tossing that sweater with all the missing buttons, make a few alterations and save a bit of money. Knowing how to sew will also make those fun DIY projects more achievable. Check out Youtube for tutorials on sewing techniques.

Consider buying some fun statement jewelry. It's probably less expensive than an actual clothing item, and much more

versatile in terms of styling. Also, before you make any impulse buys, ask yourself "How often would I be able to wear this?" and "What in my wardrobe would I wear with this?" You don't want to buy that cool skirt only to realize you have nothing to wear it with.

Before you hit "confirm" on your online purchase, check out [retailmenot.com](http://retailmenot.com) to see if your store is offering any coupon codes that might not be advertised on the site.

~via Uwire

Jacksonville's

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## JSU Community Orchestra concert a success

Patrice Green  
Staff Writer

On Monday, April 14 at 7:30pm the Jacksonville State University Community Orchestra presented its spring concert in the Mason Hall Performance Center.

For the last fifteen years, the orchestra has been conducted by Michael R. Gagliardo and there had been rumors that he was stepping down as conductor. Gagliardo indeed confirmed that Monday night was his last performance with the group.

The orchestra is made up of community members, JSU faculty and staff, and JSU students, which provides for a variety of ideas and musical interpretations throughout each piece they perform.

"It is truly remarkable for a group of musicians such as this to get together once a week in a great environment and make wonderful music," says Gagliardo.

Their first piece of the night was Jean Berger's Short Overture for Strings, performed admirably by the orchestra.

Their second piece was William Boyce's Suite for Strings after Sonata No. 10, which really accentuated the fact that the audience was listening to a live orchestra, a beautiful manifestation of music that many people never get to experience.

Next, they performed J.S. Bach's Suite No.3. BWV 1068, D Major. They played the second movement, entitled Air, another beautiful example of orchestra literature.

The next piece, entitled Divertimento, K. 136, seemed to be a favorite of the orchestra. They played the second movement of this piece (Allegro) as well.

Their final piece of the night was Concerto for Two Flutes, R. 533 in C Major by Antonio Vivaldi.

Vivaldi was a composer that wrote literature for teaching purposes, and appropriately, JSU flute student Elizabeth Laird performed the duet with flute professor, Dr. Jeremy Benson.

The last piece included several movements, and Laird was able to give a little insight on the thought process of a performer during a concert or recital. "It's really fun," says Laird. "The first part is always a little shaky because you know you have to get all of your nerves out, but the rest of it is really awesome."

Laird, Benson, Gagliardo, and the entire orchestra delivered a truly wonderful experience to the audience in their ever-reaching effort to supply Jacksonville with the culture provided by their unique art and talent.



## Upcoming events on and around campus

### April 17, 2014

Encore! presents its 25th anniversary concert in Mason Hall Performance Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. Free concert.

### April 19, 2014

Pound the Pavement 5K will begin at 8 a.m. on the Theron Montgomery building lawn.

**Finals week begins on April 21, 2014. Be sure to hit the books and study**

### April 26, 2014

JSU Field Schools sponsors Earth Day at Little River Canyon stating at 10 a.m. Free event.

### May 2, 2014

Carousel, a musical performed by JOT, will be opening at the Oxford performing Arts Center. Ticket purchase required.



Courtesy of Isshin Asian Cafe

## A review: Isshin Asian Cafe

Catherine Foote  
Staff Writer

Located next to Winn-Dixie in Jacksonville, Isshin Asian Cafe offers a wide variety of dining choices, including Japanese, Chinese, and Korean cuisine, along with unique menu selections such as fresh fruit smoothies and bubble tea. Affordable on a college student budget, Isshin offers hibachi, appetizers, dessert, soup, salad, and a full sushi menu.

The restaurant's atmosphere is welcoming and clean. Though small, customers have the option of eating in or ordering a meal as take-out. I recommend eating in for the kind atmosphere, as well as the complimentary "chinese donut" sometimes brought out to dine-in guests.

Bob Lin, Isshin's owner, can mostly be seen making sushi behind the counter or schmoozing with customers. There is a bar in front of the sushi counter, which is ideal seating for good conversation and a first-hand

look at how sushi is freshly prepared at Isshin.

I tried several menu items at Isshin over two weeks time. I started with hibachi chicken and spring rolls, which are two separate menu items. The customer definitely gets his or her money's worth. The hibachi chicken meal comes with a heaping serving of fried or steamed rice, mixed vegetables, and tender, tasty hibachi chicken, along with a side salad. Plenty of food was left over to eat later. The spring rolls were crunchy and delicious, complimented by a pink, sweet sauce. I also sampled kimchi, a spicy, pickled cabbage dish. It sounds strange, but if you're adventurous, I recommend it.

Both the fresh smoothies and bubble tea were delicious as well. \$3.50 will buy any flavored smoothie or tea, and there are choices for every taste. The "bubbles" in the tea are tapioca, which rest at the bottom of the drink and absorb the flavor of whatever tea they are served with. The tea is

served with an extra large straw for drinking the beverage and the bubbles simultaneously.

My favorite menu item so far is the grilled chicken salad, served with the house dressing. The dish itself is incredibly simple, but tastes excellent along with being affordable. I was also able to sample sushi from the regular menu and the "chef's special" menu, and prefer the more expensive chef's menu over the typical sushi rolls. The egg drop soup is also delicious, and for those with a sweet tooth, Isshin even offers fried oreos and triple chocolate cheesecake, along with a few other dessert items.

Arguably, Isshin Asian Cafe is more affordable than the other two Asian restaurants in Jacksonville, offers a wide variety of items, and the customer service is unbeatable.

Isshin Asian Cafe is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m.-9 p.m, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m.-10 p.m, and is closed on Sunday.

## The neuroscience of art

Julia Bianco  
via Uwire

We all experience some kind of art almost every single day of our lives, be it through paintings, music, fashion, television, or any other form of expression. Art is extremely salient throughout human culture, but, even though it is such a huge part of how we live, there isn't really much known about art itself.

Why do we like certain forms of art and not others? Is it because of some perfect combination of lines, colors, or sounds, or is it simply because we like what we are told we should like? Would a beautiful Renaissance work of art have the same effect if it were displayed in someone's living room instead of a fancy museum?

These are the questions that many scientists in the growing field of neuroesthetics are starting to ask. These scientists study the different ways in which the brain processes art, information that is starting to provide some insight into what makes a work of art into a work of art.

The field of neuroesthetics mainly involves functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI, studies that monitor observers' reactions when looking at certain types of art.

One such study, done by neuroscientist Ulrich Kirk at the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute, involved showing subjects a few different pieces of art, some that he said were high class art, and others that he said were created by Photoshop. In actuality, none of the pictures were Photoshopped, but Kirk found that subjects

still had a stronger neurological reaction to pieces that he said were fine art.

Other neuroesthetics studies look at the many things that attract us to art. There are a few different elements that make art attractive, including lines, color and luminance. However, one of the most prevalent things that attracts us to art is symmetry.

In art, everything is exaggerated: when we see a face, it is a representation of a face, with features that no real face would actually have. We find this extremely appealing because of something known as the peak shift principle, which says that we are more attracted to exaggerated versions of particular forms.

"I think you're seeing the same thing with all kinds of abstract art," said V.S. Ramachandran, Director of the Center for Brain and Cognition at the University of California, San Diego. "It looks distorted to the eye, but pleasing to the emotional center of the brain."

Art isn't only pleasing to our brain for that reason, though. Various studies have shown that when we look at art, we activate mirror neurons in our brain.

Mirror neurons are basically the brain's form of empathy. If you look at someone who is demonstrating how to write on a piece of paper with a pencil, the same neurons will be activated as if you were the one writing. This same phenomenon has been shown when looking at popular works of art, as images like Degas' ballerina will often make viewers feel like they're dancing.

A recent study by Scien-

tific American looked further at the effect of mirror neurons on art. The study, which was a statistical analysis on 93 neuroimaging studies of vision, hearing, taste and smell, found that the main area activated when looking at or hearing works of art was the anterior insula. The Scientific American study found that this area was activated mostly because, when we look at art, we are analyzing its value.

According to their conclusion, we look at art in the same way that we look at a microwave we're thinking of buying or a potential mate. We are examining its usefulness or its possible value to our survival.

Value can change, depending on the situation. If I am in the mood to look at art, it will arouse my brain in the same way that the smell of my favorite food would. When art is pleasant to us, it activates the same parts of our brain that we use to think about things like food, water and shelter.

Everyone has their own tastes when it comes to art. For some people, visiting a classical art museum sounds like one of the worst possible ways to spend a day. However, for others this is extremely appealing. The same could happen with heavy metal music—some people may listen to it all the time, while others cannot stand the sound of it.

Although studies in neuroesthetics have yet to find a concrete reason for why people like certain forms of art and not others, what they have found is truly incredible: we see art as something that we need to survive.

# Opinion & Editorial

## Legendary memories

**Kara Coleman**  
Editor-in-Chief

A couple of weeks ago, CBS' comedy *How I Met Your Mother* aired its series finale after nine seasons. My Facebook news feed was filled with people voicing their opinions on how the show ended. They loved it, they hated it, they were indifferent about it; but regardless of how viewers felt about the finale, the show was over.

I imagine that the show's writers must have written and rewritten the finale many times until they had a product they were ready for the world to see. After nine years of slap bets, Canadian pop stars, and reoccurring appearances of the cockamouse, they must have felt a lot of pressure to make the final episode one to remember.

On a much smaller scale, I kind of feel the same way. I have written and rewritten this column in my head so many times over the course of the past week that when I sat down at my desk tonight to actually write it, I wasn't sure what I wanted to say.

My roommates and I used to say that life is like a sitcom; each semester is a new season, and each day is a new episode. If that's the case, then this issue of *The Chanticleer* is my series finale.

To say that I've enjoyed my time at JSU would be a huge understatement. But it's been the little moments with the friends I've made here that made the past three years better than any TV show I've ever seen. Whether it was belting "We Are Never Getting Back Together" with my roommates, hitting Brett in the face with a pie at J-Day, making a midnight McDonald's run or just hanging out with my friends at the radio station, the everyday, seemingly mundane moments have been the greatest for me and will be what I remember

when I look back on my college career.

I do want to say a big thank you to all of the faculty and staff in the Communication Department here at JSU. Thank you to all of the teachers who decided to take a chance on me two years ago when I applied for the Editor-in-Chief position even though I wasn't really qualified. This has been such a cool experience, and I have really learned so much. Thank you to Tammy Mize for jumping through hoops whenever I've asked her to help me with anything involving registration, transcripts, making copies and printing essays, or even reminding me to sign my payroll sheet. Thank you to everyone with maintenance and with TV services who speak to me every morning and always make me laugh. If I named names, I wouldn't have room for anything else on this page, but you know who you are.

I've just signed a lease for an apartment in Arlington, Virginia, and will head there to start the next phase of my life after I graduate in a couple of weeks, spending my summer working in Washington, D.C. I'm excited to see what the future holds and where I'll go after that, but I will always cherish the memories that I've made here in Jacksonville. And you should, too; while you're in college, it may seem like you will never get out. But when you fill out that application for your degree and purchase your cap and gown, it starts to feel real. That's when you should slow down, look around you, and soak it all in. Then you should go out into the world and be the very best you can be at whatever it is you do. Life is always changing, but one thing is certain: even the small, ordinary moments in life can be legen-wait for it-dary. Legendary.



## A long, strange trip

**Zach Tyler**  
Associate Editor

All week long, I've been expecting to feel some powerful sense of finality—like seeing the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel. This semester, which will be my last before graduation next August, is days away from being over.

But there's nothing. Maybe it just hasn't hit me yet, or maybe it's still too far away for me to appreciate. I don't know, but I'm just not as excited about seeing my college career draw to a close as I thought I would be.

I feel sad more than anything else. Wistful may be a better word for it. This issue of *The Chanticleer* will be the last that I ever contribute a column to. My words will most likely never be printed in JSU's student newspaper again—unless I make it big and come back to be the Ayers Lecture speaker.

It feels like it's been such a long, strange trip, but I've only been on the editorial staff since January of 2013. Self Hall has been a second home to me for the past three years during my studies, though. Many of the faculty and staff who work in that building are like family to me now.

I am going to miss it. I know I have to go on to bigger things, but there was never a day of work in at *The Chanticleer* that I didn't believe in what we were doing. I'm very proud of the newspaper we've printed for the past year.

Working on the staff was a great way to reinforce what I learned in my Communication courses, too. (That should really underscore the importance of getting involved, dear readers—especially for you Communication students!)

We had enough controversy to keep things interesting—after covering two very popular college football teams one time last fall, an Internet tough guy declared us "amateurs" on some forum that maybe twelve people read.

Despite actually being

amateurs, we brought home some awards—at last year's Society of Professional Journalists regional conference, we won third place in the best all-around category. Brett, Kara and I have also been recognized for our columns.

We goofed up, too. We once ran a story about the Biology Department's *suppository* of herbs in the herbarium (instead of *repository*). Whoops.

Did we make a difference? I don't know. I hope so. Maybe that question would be better answered by the family of brown bats recently evicted from Mason Hall.

Did anyone like what we wrote? The jury's out on that one, too. I think many students still don't realize that *The Chanticleer* is their newspaper. It could be their voice, but it mostly goes unused.

So it's been a heck of a job. I've got no regrets. Like the saying goes, hindsight is 20/20—there are a few things I would try to do differently, but by and large, I'm really happy. I loved every issue I helped put together—even if sometimes it was the kind of love you'd have for a red-headed stepchild.

If it weren't for Kara Coleman, I probably never would've had the opportunity to learn and grow as much as I have in the past year. She's done a great job as the Chief, and she deserves a medal for putting up with me.

While this is the last issue of the newspaper I will work on, I'll still be around this summer to help on the abstract. I'm thankful I don't have to say goodbye to my Self Hall family yet, but these are my last words to the audience of *The Chanticleer*.

So: thank you to anyone who has ever read my column, or any of our newspaper. Thank you to anyone who has ever had the misfortune of being interviewed for a story by me. And most of all, thank you for making the past year a gentle one. Happy trails.



## A sappy goodbye: The column to end all columns

**Brett Johnson**  
Staff Writer

If you read the columns above, you've probably caught on to the theme of this page's opinion pieces: sappy goodbyes. Well here's mine, with a dose of politics too!

This issue will be the final issue of my first year as a weekly political columnist for JSU's student newspaper. That means that not only do our weekly faithful get to enjoy this issue, but so does every visitor who picks up a copy from a rack somewhere on campus all summer long.

Thus, I must say, a long (political) summer it shall be. For those of you who've read my columns, you know I do my best to keep you up to date and informed on relevant local, state, and national issues.

As this summer begins, proceeds, and closes, you will hear, see, and feel the political atmosphere across the nation heat up. In Alabama, party primaries kick off in June, followed by twenty-something weeks of hard and heavy hand-shaking and baby-kissing.

You'll see billboards, yard signs, car magnets, bumper stickers, TV commercials, and campaign mailers. Until primaries are over, it'll be a battle for the most God-fearing, gun-toting, brow-raising, anti-Obama, anti-liberal, anti-just-about-everything conservatives that political money can buy.

After June, some candidates will shift center if they have a decent Democratic challenger and will begin to look at

where public opinion stands. If Republicans in Alabama are smart, they'll integrate new emphases on public education, Medicaid expansion, and ethical government.

Speaking of ethical government, that too is something you should especially look out for in the Alabama politico-sphere. With grand jury investigations taking place, you can be sure to hear speculations all summer long about who, what, when, and where indictments and convictions will be handed down to very powerful sitting politicians.

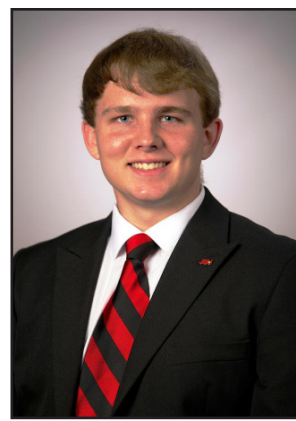
It was a sad day in Alabama political history when sitting State Representative Greg Wren resigned abruptly during the 2014 legislative session and immediately accepted a plea bargain to conviction for misusing his public office for personal gain. I can tell you this with a heavy heart but with certainty: that won't be the end of the corruption

scandals to take place this year.

Because most of the investigations center around the 2010 Republican takeover of Alabama politics, it'll be interesting to see how GOP candidates respond to the ongoing investigations, indictments, and possible convictions. After all, a major part of the GOP platform in 2010 was to "clean up Montgomery."

So that's what you have to look forward to, folks! Conservative stump-speakin', stereotypical mudslingin', and even some possible hand-cuffin' this summer and into the fall.

I look forward to picking back up in the fall with continued coverage of the 2014 mid-term elections. In the meanwhile you can find me on Facebook (Brett Johnson) and Twitter (@therealBertJ) for more political commentary. Until next time: stay tuned, stay informed, and stay classy Jacksonville!



Want to see your face on these pages? Got a complaint about campus parking, or a deep musing on the origins of life, the universe and everything? Send it to [chantynewstips@gmail.com](mailto:chantynewstips@gmail.com) and you could be published in The Chanticleer's Opinion & Editorial page!

# Sports

## Gamecock Sports Sidebar

### Upcoming Action:

Thursday: BB @ Tenn. Tech  
 Friday: Track @ Auburn  
 BB @ Tenn. Tech  
 SB @ SE Missouri State (DH)  
**M. Ten. @ OVC Tournament**  
 Saturday: Track @ Tennessee  
**M. Ten. @ OVC Tournament**  
 BB @ Tenn. Tech  
 SB @ UT-Martin (DH)  
 Monday-Wednesday  
 W. Golf @ OVC Tournament  
 Wednesday: **BB vs Troy**

### 2014 NCAA Rifle championships results:

1. West Virginia  
(back-to-back titles)
2. Alaska
3. Kentucky
4. Memphis
5. Nebraska
6. TCU
7. Jacksonville State
8. Army

Congrats to Softball Coach Jana McGinnis on her 700th career win and Baseball Coach Jim Case on his 400th career win both earlier this season.

### OVC Softball standings:

East:  
 Jacksonville State (13-4) (29-11)  
 Eastern Kentucky (10-5) (20-15)  
 Tennessee Tech (7-10) (15-31)  
 Belmont (6-10) (12-25)  
 Tennessee State (4-12) (16-30)  
 Morehead State (3-12) (7-28-1)

West:  
 SIUE (12-3) (2-19)  
 Eastern Illinois (10-4) (30-11)  
 Murray State (11-5) (24-18)  
 UT-Martin (9-6) (22-19-1)  
 Austin Peay (6-10) (18-24)  
 SE Missouri State (2-12) (7-25)

### OVC Baseball standings:

SE Missouri State [15-3] (25-11)  
 Jacksonville State [11-4] (21-14)  
 Tennessee Tech [11-7] (29-10)  
 Murray State [9-9] (16-18)  
 SIUE [9-9] (12-22)  
 Morehead State [7-8] (17-18)  
 Eastern Kentucky [7-8] (17-19)  
 Belmont [7-8] (16-20)  
 Austin Peay [6-9] (14-22)  
 Eastern Illinois [5-10] (11-25)  
 UT-Martin [3-15] (4-30)

### 2014 Football Schedule:

Aug. 29 at Michigan State  
 Sept. 6 at UT Chattanooga  
 Sept. 13 Open  
 Sept. 20 vs West Alabama  
 Sept. 27 at Murray State\*  
 Oct. 4 vs UT-Martin\*  
 Oct. 11 at Tennessee State\*  
 Oct. 18 Open  
 Oct. 25 vs Tennessee Tech\*  
 Nov. 1 vs Austin Peay\* (HC)  
 Nov. 8 at Eastern Kentucky\*  
 Nov. 15 vs Eastern Illinois\*  
 Nov. 22 at SE Missouri St.\*  
 \*OVC Game

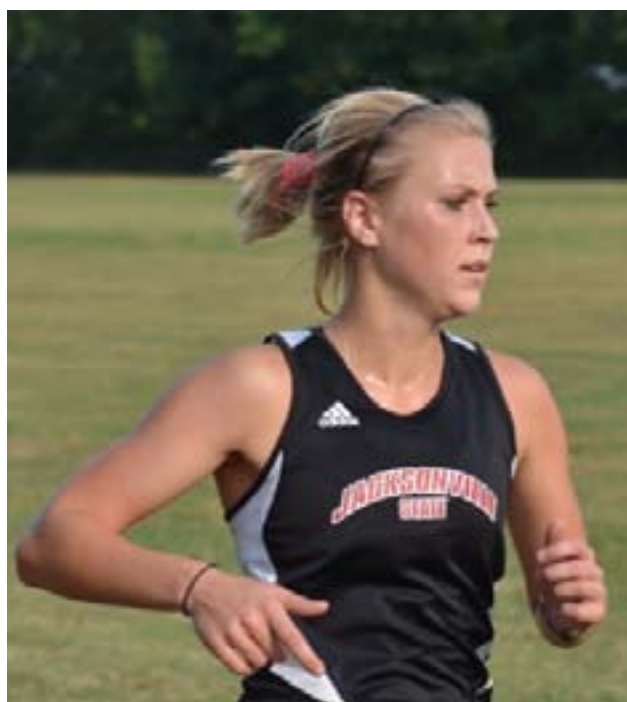
### OVC Men's Tennis Tournament seeds:

1. Jacksonville State (8-1) [15-7]
2. Belmont (8-1) [10-9]
3. Austin Peay (7-2) [12-6]
4. SIUE (5-4) [11-9]
5. Morehead State (4-5) [9-9]
6. Eastern Illinois (4-5) [7-9]
- - missed field - -
- Tennessee Tech (4-5)
- Eastern Kentucky (4-5)
- Murray State (1-8)
- Tennessee State (0-9)

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## Stam sets new JSU program mark, breaks own record

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** – For the second time this season, Jacksonville State senior distance runner



**JSU Sportswire**

Stam's time of 36:43.54 broke her own previous best.

Ericka Stam broke a pair of JSU program marks that she set earlier in the 2014 season in the first two days at the Tennessee Relays.

Last Thursday night, Stam established a new mark in the 10,000 meter event as she set the first new mark on March 21 at the Florida State Relays. She bettered that feat by just over 18 second with a mark of 36:43.54. Her previous mark at the FSU Relays was 37:02.05. Before the Keller, Texas-native set the new program mark the first time, the record had been held for eight years as former Gamecock Sarah Cain posted a time of 37:53.82. Her time at the UT Relays will be second among OVC competitors as Morehead State's Karina Manz edged Stam for medalist honors with an OVC season-best 36:23.26. With her two marks in the 10,000 meter event, she now holds two of the top-three times in the OVC.

Stam closed out Friday's competition in the women's 5K and set a new Jax State record in the event as she finished with a blistering time of 17:24.68. She broke Hannah Stefanoff's mark of 17:47.56 at the JSU-hosted Gamecock Quad Meet in early March as she crossed the finish line in 17:41.87.

~ Sportswire

## Softball sweeps Morehead St.

**Rebekah Hawkins**

*Sports Writer*

The Gamecocks continue to move forward as they took a pair of games from OHio Valley Conference opponent Morehead State on Saturday.

It was a slow start for both teams as the first score of the game didn't come until the fourth inning when Kalee Tabor hit a single that allowed Savannah Sloan to make a run for home plate. The fifth inning saw two JSU runs that came from RBI's off Ella Denes and Sloan. It was Amanda Maldonado who brought JSU their fourth and final run of the first game after an error from the MSU pitcher. The final score of the first game was 4-0 in JSU's favor.

While the first game was all about the short singles, for game two it was all about the long ball. It was another scoreless first few innings until the start of the fifth when Hayden Crawford sent a ball flying for the first run of the game. Sara Borders came next in the sixth inning and issued another homer that was also her 10th of the season.

After that there came two more home runs this time from Cadi Oliver and Sloan. JSU won the day with a 5-0 victory over Morehead State.

It was also a day for the pitchers of JSU, Tiffany Harbin and Logan Green, who struck out 19 Morehead State batters combined. Green struck out eight, which is a career-high for her, and Harbin took 11.

The Sunday series finale turned into a second consecutive shutout tossed by Harbin as the Gamecocks completed the series sweep with a 2-0 win. The series marked just the third time in program history the Gamecocks have shutout their opponent in every game of a three-game series.

The defending OVC Tournament champions are on their way to attempting to defend their title sitting at 13-4 in conference play with four series remaining in the season. Jax State makes the long trip out to Cape Girardeau, MO today for a double-header against Southeast Missouri State tomorrow and will face UT-Martin on Saturday before returning home.

## Gamecock duo ready for NFL shot

**Daniel Porter**

*Sports Editor*

Next month the National Football League will hold its annual Draft. Hundreds of college players will wait for the chance to hear their names called for a chance to play at the next level.

Among those are a few former Gamecocks including safety Pierre Warren and tight end Gavin Ellis.

Warren, who declared to leave school early back in January as a only a junior, was the second leading tacklers on the Jacksonville State defense in 2013 with 76. He also recorded five interceptions which he returned for over 100 yards for an average pf plus 20 yards a return. Always around the ball, he also managed to recover three fumbles, force another one and block a kick this past season.

The native of Prattville, AL was a key leader for the entire Gamecock team. He was a first-team All-Conference selection this season in the Ohio Valley after leading the team in intercep-



**JSU Sportswire**

JSU's Gavin Ellis (81)

tions and pass break-ups. The hard-hitting defender was never shy of attempting to score either as he owns some of the program's longest defensive returns for touchdowns over his career. This season Warren had an interception returned for a score and a fumble he returned to the opponent's one-yard line.

Ellis, a senior from Cullman, AL., also hopes to get a chance as well. Ellis started at JSU's rival Troy where he redshirted in 2009 before playing for two years with the Trojans. A product a the spread offense limited his offensive stats which was a reason for transferring to JSU to contribute more. However, after one season Bill Clark was hired an installed his on spread at JSU.

Ellis caught a pair of touchdowns over his two seasons in Jacksonville, one coming in the quarterfinal playoff game at Eastern Washington in what turned into his final game in the red and white. Coming from the FCS many players get passed on because NFL teams don't get to judge them against other top competition. Between Troy and Jax State Ellis



**JSU Sportswire**

JSU's Pierre Warren (15)

played against Oklahoma State, Arkansas State, South Carolina, Clemson, Florida and twice against Arkansas.

Ellis attended a regional combine in Miami earlier this year and performed well enough to get invited by scouts to an invitational-only Super Regional Combine in Detroit which he participated in last week. Even if Ellis isn't selected by one of the 32 NFL teams in the seven rounds of the Draft, he has a strong chance at getting an invitation to training camp which would him to select his own team to try-out for.

Last season JSU's wide receiver Alan Bonner was drafted by the Houston Texans in the sixth round. The 2014 NFL Draft will be held May 8-10.

# JACKSONVILLE STATE

## Jax State Men's Tennis claim OVC Championship

JACKSONVILLE – The Jacksonville State men's tennis team claimed its third Ohio Valley Conference regular season title with a thrilling 4-3 win over Morehead State on Saturday at the JSU Tennis Courts.

The Gamecocks' title is the first since 2007 and sends them to the 2014 OVC Tennis Championships as the top seed in the six-team event that will get started on Thursday, April 17 in Paducah, Ky. JSU earns the top seed by virtue of its win over Belmont. The Gamecocks will face the winner of the No. 4 & 5 seeds SIUE and Morehead State on Friday, April 18 in the semifinal round.

JSU jumped out to an early 3-0 lead but the match was far from settled as the Eagles remained alive in the match at three separate courts. The Gamecocks claimed the doubles point after winning at No. 1 and 3. The duo of Jaryd Reese and Pedro Wagner took down MSU's pairing of Ji Hoon Heo and Jack Swindells, 8-3. At No. 3, Jefferson Wendler-Filho and Felipe Wenzel won by the same score over Giovanni Samaha and Gabriel Ruiz.

Jax State added a pair of points early in singles after freshmen Dylan Gee and Wendler-Filho posted straight sets wins at No. 3 and 4 respectively. Gee took down Heo in a first set tiebreaker before bouncing Heo 6-0 in the second set. Gee, from London, England, finished his first season with a 7-1 conference mark and enters the postseason riding



JSU Sportswire

The OVC title is the third for JSU Men's Tennis, but the first since 2007. JSU opens the OVC Tournament as the top seed on Friday.

a six-match winning streak. Wendler-Filho was nearly perfect in OVC play as his 6-3, 7-6 win over MSU's Nick Mercer gave him an 8-1 conference mark.

Things started to get interesting from that point on in the match as MSU split the first two sets at No. 1 and 4 to set up a three set finale on those courts. Wagner dropped the first set Swindells, 6-2, but battled back to force a third set with a 6-4 win in the second set. Wagner eventually retired the match with the score knotted at 6-all, due to the fact that JSU had clinched the match.

The match was clinched by Jax State after freshman Mathias Chaim handed David Clifford his first conference loss of the season to help the Gamecocks claim the title. After Clifford downs Chaim, 7-5 in the opening set, the freshman from Brazil rebounded in the second set with a 6-4 win to force a third and deciding set. Chaim eased past Clifford, 6-1 to win the match.

Freshman Jaryd Reese dropped a marathon match to Samaha at No. 2 after winning the first set, 6-3. Samaha bounced back to win 6-2, 6-4.

~ Sportswire

## Softball's Tiffany Harbin, Rifle's Sam Muegge win 2013-14 Eagle Owl Awards

JACKSONVILLE – Athletics Director Warren Koegel presented record breaking softball player Tiffany Harbin and rifle All-American Sam Muegge 2013-14 Eagle Owl Awards at the annual Jacksonville State Athletics Senior Banquet on the fifth floor of Stadium Tower on Thursday night.

The Eagle Owl Award, which was established in 1994, is given each year to a male and a female senior athlete, who possess several outstanding qualities. To be nominated, the student athlete must be a starter or important reserve during his/her senior season and carry a 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher. The student-athlete must excel in his or her sport, be a positive role model for others and exemplify the well-rounded student-athlete. The nominees are voted on by a selection committee, which is comprised of administration throughout the Jacksonville State campus.

Harbin, a 5-foot-10 pitcher from Hazel Green, Ala., has not only been a record-breaking pitcher for the Gamecocks, but she has also established a reputation as a clutch performer in her career. She has been named the Most Valuable Player of the OVC Tournament twice in three years, including in 2013, when she threw all 499 pitches over the tournament to lead the sixth-seeded Gamecocks to their fourth title.

An elementary education major with a 3.97 grade point average, Harbin is the school record holder for career wins with 69



Tiffany Harbin and Sam Muegge at Jacksonville State's Senior banquet.

and strikeouts with 823, which is 188 more than any other player in school history. Among active NCAA players, she ranks 10th in career strikeouts, 17th in shutouts and 21st in complete games.

She took the OVC by storm at the beginning of her career, earning OVC Freshman of the Year and First Team All-OVC honors in 2011, before also claiming All-OVC honors as a sophomore in 2012. In the classroom, she is a three-time member of the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and a two-time recipient of the OVC Academic Medal of Honor for earning a 4.0 GPA in an ac-

ademic year.

With 16 games remaining in the 2014 regular season, she is also first in school history in games started, while sitting in second in complete games and innings pitched. She has thrown five no-hitters, including JSU's first in a season opener in 2014 and the only one ever thrown in an OVC Tournament game in 2011. She has earned eight OVC Pitcher of the Week honors, including three so far in 2014.

Harbin is the seventh member of the softball team to win the Eagle Owl Award and is the fifth in the past eight seasons.

Muegge, a native of Boling,

Texas, is a three-time All-American in smallbore, where he was named to the National Rifle Association's All-America squads in 2012, 2013 and 2014. He helped lead the Gamecocks to their eighth Ohio Valley Conference overall title in February. They also won the league's small bore and air rifle titles.

Majoring in management, Muegge carries a 3.21 grade point average in the classroom, while also excelling in the range. In his career at JSU, he has competed in the NCAA Rifle Championships in all four seasons, leading the Gamecocks to as high as a fourth-place overall finish as a freshman in 2011.

A three-time All-OVC First Team selection in Air Rifle and two-time All-OVC first teamer in Smallbore, he won back-to-back OVC Smallbore MVP honors in 2012 and 2013. As a senior in 2014, he was named second team All-OVC in Smallbore. He started his career with a bang, claiming All-OVC Smallbore honors and Smallbore All-Newcomer honors as a freshman in 2011.

He was named to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll in 2011 and in 2013.

Muegge is the second male shooter to win the Eagle Owl Award, joining James Hall in 2005-06.

~ Sportswire

JSU Athletics

## A New Chapter:

Daniel Porter / Sports Editor

Over the past two years I've had the honored privilege to serve as *The Chanticleer's* Sports Editor. This year marks the 80th anniversary of *The Chanticleer* being the student newspaper of Jacksonville State Uni-

versity dating back to 1934. Over the past eight decades several great individuals have held the same position that I was able to hold and I tried very hard to hold tradition while also advancing the sports section to a modern-day style.

I never looked at it as work though, as the personel I worked with daily made it a

tremedous experience from the office working with fellow staff members to the playing fields talking with coaches and players.

Jax State has a storied history in athletics and I was proud to be able to cover the most recent chapters up close and personal.

Thank you again to all the supporters of *The Chanticleer*.