High turnout for Welcome Week

Marie McBurnett
Editor-in-Chief

Welcome Week, an annual week-long chain of events planned by JSU’s Office of Student Life, proved to be nothing less than a success and the perfect way to begin the 2014-2015 academic year. Welcome Week was designed to help entering freshmen get acquainted with JSU—as well as to give them the opportunity to meet some of their peers before classes ever begin.

Welcome Week kicked off on Saturday, August 16 with a performance by T-Pain and Matt Carroll and the Browncoats. The festivities concluded on Saturday, August 23 with the Glow Dash and Spirit on Mountain Street. The T-Pain concert was sponsored by JSU Housing. The Student Government Association was a co-sponsor. Monday night’s event was the annual Movie Night on the Quad, which was moved to the Leone Cole Auditorium due to weather-related issues. ‘Divergent’ was the movie shown. Get On Board Day happened at the conclusion of Freshmen Convocation on Tuesday afternoon at Dillon Field. Get On Board Day was an opportunity for the new Gamecocks to meet representatives from several organizations on campus. It also gave students a chance to meet the people with which they will spend their time at JSU.

The first day of class also hosted Casino Night, which allowed students to play choice casino style games, and the students who earned the most tokens at the end of the night won a prize. Mindreader Eric Dittleman visited the Leone Cole Auditorium on Thursday. Paint Party took the attention of many students on Friday evening at Dillon Field. Gamecocks doused themselves with bright colors to end the first half-week of classes.

The Welcome Week events ended on Saturday with the Glow Dash and Spirit on Mountain Street. Glow Dash was an event sponsored by the Summer Reading Program Committee to promote the freshmen reading book, ‘A Fault in our Stars.’ It was a 5k event that raised money for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. “We decided that we were going to raise money for an organization that ties into the Summer Reading Program.” said Terry Casey, director of Student Life, “We raised close to $4,000.”

Spirit on Mountain Street was an event that held many vendors and door prizes.

Marie McBurnett/The Chanticleer
The Justice and Civil Rights Initiative held a Poli ce and Citizens Relations Forum at the Houston Cole Library on Mon- day night to dis- cuss current issues dealing with police officers in rela- tion to the public.

Ed Moore III, who is the presi- dent and founder of the Initiative, stated that he hoped the audience would gain understanding during this event that certain ethical issues like those concerning police are two-sided.

He claimed that “it is important for us to understand that we must work on police and the public, both sides of the equation,” and that this is a “critical time more than ever to come together and have these types of forums.”

To speak on be- half of the police, Birmingham’s for- mer Chief of Po lice, Annetta Nunn, was present as well as Capt. Cleveland Moore from the Special Investigations Division at the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office. Moore asked them questions about the daily tasks of a police officer. Nunn answered that an officer’s day is unexpected. They can get called out to several places along with having to go to court or even have extra training.

Capt. Moore explained that these things, plus calls that police have to respond to that could be handled without them, take away from some of the more important calls due to lack of available staff. This helped an- swer some ques- tions about the controversial issue of blaming officers for taking too long to respond to certain calls or picking certain areas to respond to over others. Capt. Moore ex- plained that the crime currently taking place will take priority over suspicions of one.

JSU’s own As- sociate Professor of Social Work Dr. Jennifer J. Savage, and Assistant Pro- fessor of Sociology Dr. Jeremy A. Ross were present to pro- vide explanations about why society responds to events in certain ways. CEO and founder of the New Orleans National Human Rights Organiza- tion in Atlanta, Gerd eald E. Rose, spoke on this as well. Dr. Savage pro- posed the idea that police officers in every area should be well integrated to get every race and ethnicity more com- fortable with each other and with who is enforcing the law. She said this would help with people accusing of- ficers of respond- ing to certain calls that society like neigh- borhood in which the crime occurs. This problem was played up with law enforce- ment like Rodney King. Trayvon Mar- tin and Eric Garner were brought up for brief discussion.

These are simi- lar to today’s large controver- sy in Ferguson, Mo. with the Mi- chael Brown case. Though this for- um was planned several months ago, well before Mi- chael Brown was killed, the speak- ers were able to use it as an example.

The speakers were in agreement that respect for law officers starts as a child and should be taught at a young age. They said of- ficers should han- dle their job with respect as well. The speakers agreed that the problem that is arising today is more economic and the relationship be- tween law enforce- ment and the public needs to be worked on before a catas- trophe can arise.

The First Graduation Fair was held on Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Leone Cole Auditorium.

Taylor Brown/The Chanticleer

JSU hosts first Graduation Fair

Taylor Brown Staff Writer

Traditionally, graduating se- niors are on their own when it comes to getting ready for that big day. Seniors this year, however, got a bit of a helping hand with JSU’s first Gradua- tion Fair on August 26, in the Leone Cole Auditorium, last- ing from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The fair was the idea of the Business office. “We wanted to offer more to the students,” said Emily White, the JSU Registrar.

Numerous booths set up by JSU staff or certain companies were located in the auditorium. At the far end of the hall a taping of last fall’s graduation ceremo- ny was played on a projector.

Seniors walked in and filled out an information card. Each time a booth was visited, the stu- dent would receive a sticker. Af- ter six stickers, a student could hand the card back, and be put into a drawing for an Apple iPad or other door prizes.

Each booth served a differ- ent purpose for graduating seniors. For example, a booth by Village Photographers let seniors have free shots for cap and gown pictures. An- other booth from Ballufor let students order class rings.

Waffle House was available with hot waffles and in- formation about its company. Previously, such companies would have to wait until right before graduation to be vis- ible to students. “This is ac- tually much more open, it seems much more visible to students,” said Matthew Phil- lips, a Ballufor representative.

Booths that held various JSU services, such as Alum- ni and Career services, lined the walls. JSU Testing Ser- vices was available to inform graduating students changes in testing from the CBATE test to the newer EPP test. Booths from different departments such as Communication and Consumer Sciences were avail- able to help students check up on their progress for graduation.

“I think it’s an excellent meth- od of making sure that seniors get help for that senioritis; it just reinforces the fact that they are okay and don’t have to wait until the last of the semes- ters,” said Debra Goodwin, Department Chair of Fam- ily and Consumer Sciences.

President Meehan said, “I’m very pleased. I wish they had done this when I was an undergradu- ate. You don’t have to go all around campus to ask your questions and get answers.”
Pandas with a Purpose
Alex McFry
Associate Editor

Welcome back, loyal Chanticleer readers, to “The Friendliest Campus in the South.” We at The Chanticleer hope you have all thoroughly enjoyed your summer—whether it consisted of never leaving the comfort of the couch in fear of falling behind in the vast world of Netflix or going on an incredible journey across the seas, we do hope it was relaxing.

As for The Chanticleer staff, we’ve been hard at work to make sure our readers’ voices are being heard this year—and what better way to do that than Chicken Scratch? With a brand new website, a new Instagram account and many more changes in store, it’s easier than ever to make yourself heard. So get to it, valiant readers! Starting with next week’s issue, we will begin publishing random musings at chantynewstips@gmail.com.

The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse to print any Scratches. The views expressed here are only those of the individual writers, and do not represent the views of the University or its employees.

Campus crime report
08/19/2014
Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor
Fitzpatrick Hall
Parking Lot
08/19/2014
Violation of JSU Weapons
Cole Drive
08/19/2014
Theft of Property
Burgess Snow Field
08/20/2014
Possession of Marijuana
Stadium Tower Parking Lot
08/21/2014
Criminal Mischief
Pannell Hall
Parking Lot
08/21/2014
Property Damage
Pete Mathews Coliseum
Parking Lot
08/21/2014
Property Damage
Stadium Tower Parking Lot
08/22/2014
Threat Assessment
Bibb Graves
08/23/2014
Automobile Accident
Kennamer Hall
Parking Lot
08/25/2014
Unlawful Breaking & Entering a Vehicle
Stadium Tower Parking Lot
08/25/2014
Theft of Lost Property
Dixon Hall

Gamecock Orientation
Interested in becoming a Gamecock from Orientation Leader? Applications are available now in the Office of Student Life, TMB room 402. Students applying must have at least 12 hours in the fall and spring semesters and must have attended one complete academic year at JSU. Turn in your applications to the Office of Student Life along with two letters of recommendation from JSU full-time faculty or staff. Applications and recommendations are due by October 10, 2014.

7-day weather outlook

Today Mostly Sunny
High: 91°
Low: 65°

Friday Partly Cloudy
High: 92°
Low: 69°

Saturday Possible Rain
High: 89°
Low: 71°

Sunday Thunderstorm
High: 87°
Low: 70°

Monday Chance of Thunderstorm
High: 90°
Low: 69°

Tuesday Partly Cloudy
High: 91°
Low: 69°

Wednesday Chance of Thunderstorm
High: 92°
Low: 69°
Vinyl is only about two percent of total album sales, so when you talk about a revival you have to talk about it in the context of everything everyone is listening to,” said Bloomberg Businessweek writer Claire Suddath.

“Random Access Memories” saw 6 percent of sales go to vinyl and when we ask them why would I do that?” Bizar said. “But it’s come full circle. We get kids calling us saying, ‘Man, I really want to buy a vinyl copy of this.’”

“Vinyl is not portable. It’s the concept of something organic. ‘It’s only supposed to be listened to’,” Patton said.

“With digital players typically run from $150 to $300, but they can be more expensive, while replacing a needle can cost you upwards of $10, and cartridges usually run for at least $50. Regardless, it is hard to deny the resurgence of vinyl popularity among college students. Josh Bizar, the director of sales and marketing for Chicago company Music Direct, said his company sold about half a million LPs in 2012. “We never expected the vinyl resurgence to become as crazy as it is,” Bizar said. “But it’s come full circle. Kids get called up and saying, ‘man I’d like to buy a vinyl, and when we ask them why they don’t play CDs, they say, ‘CDs? My dad listens to CDs — why would I do that?’”

**The Vinyl comeback: college students revive record sales**

Elana Goodwin
UWine

When most think of music today, they think of Spotify, Pandora, iTunes, YouTube, various personal music-playing devices, the radio and CDs. But before all of those, there were musical relics called vinyl records. Perhaps that’s why it’s so surprising that not only have vinyl record sales seen an increase in recent years, but that the driving force behind this upward trend are college students.

Though vinyl sales dropped with the emergence of cassettes, CDs and then MP3s in the 70s, with the emergence of cassette, college students. The college-aged generation has become vinyl consumers and advocates. Jason Patton, manager of the Tuscaloosa, AL, music store Oz Music, thinks he may have some insight into why college students are buying vinyls. “I think this generation has discovered ‘real music’ because of the majority of their lives, all they’ve known are digital files,” Patton said. “They’re getting a little older, they found their parent’s record collection, they’re hearing music for the first time essentially because that’s how it was meant to be listened to; and it sounds better.”

So I think the younger generation is starting to appreciate how the music was supposed to sound.

Recently, bands have started releasing vinyl records of their music to cater to the LP-loving fans. Earlier this year, Daft Punk’s “Random Access Memories” saw vinyl records make up six percent of their first-week sales, according to Nielsen SoundScan. Other bands have also sold thousands of vinyl copies of their latest albums. That being said, this revival of LPs is still pretty small scale. “Vinyl is only about two percent of total album sales, so when you talk about a revival you have to talk about it in the context of every single person is listening to,” said Bloomberg Businessweek writer Claire Suddath.

Another small music-holding devices, you can’t exactly carry around a record player and the records themselves. Not only that, but LPs are easy to scratch and once they are, the sound becomes warped and distorted.

Additionally, record player needles don’t last forever which means you have to replace those every once in a while too. Record players typically run from $150 to $300, but they can be more expensive, while replacing a needle can cost you upwards of $10, and cartridges usually run for at least $50. Regardless, it is hard to deny the resurgence of vinyl popularity among college students.

**The Chanticleer**
August 28, 2014

**Student Gallery in Hammond Hall to host ‘Organic Whole’ exhibit**

Christiana Tyler
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Recently, Professor and Graphic Artist Janueth Skinner in the Jackson State University Department of Art, created a limited edition print collaboration with Daisy Stanley with the first print pulled off the press.

her students in Printmaking II: Relief that will be on display in the Student Gallery of Hammond Hall beginning at 5 p.m.

The idea of a collaborative print puzzle came to Daisy Stanley, a traditional student, and a major in printmaking, while re-searching relief printing and printmakers.

Stanley says of seeing an example of the idea, “I was so excited about these prints and the collabor-ative process, I wanted to see our printmakers create a puzzle print.”

This past spring, the printmaking class of Professor Skinner had enough students to attempt the feat and Stanley suggested a concept design of organic forms.

What is involved in making a jigsaw puzzle print? Each piece of the puzzle must be completed separately, which in this case meant concept creation around the idea of organic forms from the 10 people involved.

This would then lead to the creation of the individual prints, which would be combined together to create the single whole puzzle print.

“So the show will have the indi-vidual plates, the jig (the item that sets and holds each individual piece while printing) that we put them into, the whole piece and each individual print,” says Stanley.

Skinner says her piece, inspired by a trumpet flower in her yard, is a “botanical type organic image” that’s a bit more realistic than some of the other designs, but that each piece centers on the idea of organic forms.

The title of the piece came about at the end of the printing process. “Professor Skinner decided she liked the concept of organic whole, so that became the suggestion she made,” says Stanley, “and it fit perfectly because each of us took the concept of something organic and put it into the puzzle to create an organic whole.”

The process of actually printing the completed puzzle required a team of printmakers who met outside of the class due to how large and labor intensive the finished jigsaw print was.

Stanley says of the finished product, “This has been a wonderful process. The outcome is better than any of us could have ever imagined.”

**Student Gallery in Hammond Hall to host ‘Organic Whole’ exhibit**

Daisy Stanley with the first print pulled off the press.
Dog Daze at Little River Canyon Center

Christiana Tyler
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Many who come to Jack- sonville State University, come to be educated. In line with that, JSU hosts a variety of programs that seek to help educators who take advantage of them. This Saturday, August 30 beginning at 10:30 a.m., JSU Field School will host Dog Daze at Little River Canyon Center to help dog owners to become more aware of the life their dogs lead.

The JSU Field School promotes the “comprehension of Alabama’s natural and cultural significance, celebrate diversity, and foster stewardship of the natural world,” says Renee Morrison, the assistant director for JSU Field School.

Dog Daze, which will happen at the Little River Canyon Center near Fort Payne, Alabama, seeks to help educate those dogs with what it means to be a dog. Morrison, also one of Alabama’s Natural Storytellers, will first start by telling of her own experiences growing up on her dairy farm and believing herself to be a hound dog named Midnight, a notion moving stories of Haley Conroe and her service dog, Indy, who trav- eled to the Vatican and met the Pope.

While there are many opportunities for humans, there is also much fun for dogs. Dog Daze provides a tricks and a snuffing path. This path will have scents for dogs to sniff. Each scent will intrigue the dog into sniffing around, and the reason for this has for the humans to understand what their dog is seeing with their nose.

Renee Morrison says of dogs scentsing their surroundings, “When we don’t allow a dog to finish its sniff during a hike, it is similar to your being unable to see an incredibly inter- esting scene in a novel when suddenly someone jerks the book out of your hand. To help humans better understand what their dog is seeing, we have developed a Sniffing Hike.”

She continues, “Humans can watch their dogs stop, sniff, and observe the canine reaction to different scents. For example, most dogs wag their tail when they smell a rabbit or squirrel. However, if you ask a dog to dock their tail and flatten their ears when they smell a raccoon or a coyote.” Also in line with Dog Daze, the Dekalb County Humane Society’s Pet is a pear to mix that will be available for adoption at Dog Daze. With the help of their dogs in order to offer on-site adop- tion and adoption acceptance that must be filled out and approved in order to adopt, the Dekalb County Humane Society is the place to help both the world around you and the arts.

Anyone who would like to donate while at Dog Daze, can donate either to the Dekalb County Humane Society, which will accept mon- etary donations or dog food. If you’d like to have a booth or volunteer for Dog Daze, please contact Renee Morri- son at rmorrison@jsu.edu or 256 - 782 - 8010.

Cominging soon to a theater near you

Elena Goodwin
UWIRE

September is typically the month most people are settling back into the school routine. Summer means students will need a break from the homework, coursework, and daily grind. Luckily, there are some awesome-looking movies being released in September that we think you will be looking forward to after a hard and stressful week of class.

No trailer for the movie has been released yet but the basic plot of the film is a couple of brothers set out on a journey to reunite with their friend the woman he was going to marry. While there’s not too much about this project one can say it does have a cast made up of funny people, so here’s hoping the plot follows through.

“The Maze Runner,” based on the bestselling young adult novel by James Dashner, is a PG-13 sci-fi action/mystery movie that follows Thomas (Dylan O’Brien, “Teen Wolf”) who wakes up after being recap- erased, finds himself in a group of boys trapped in a maze.

The only real hope of getting out of the maze is if all the “run- ners” ever get through the last door, which will be released on September 19 and stars Kaya Scodelario (“Skim”), Thomas Brodie- Sangster (“The Tao of Steve”), Will Poulter (“We’re the Millers”).

This movie looks action-packed and hopefully it will stay true to the book so both fans of the novel and non-read- ers, enjoy the adaptation. The movie is called “This Is Where I Leave You,” is an emotional comedy based off the bestselling novel by Jon- athan Tropp and follows four siblings who come home after their parents pass away.

For a week, they live under the same roof, along with their mother, history, problems, vari- ous stepsiblings, cousins, exes, sister, and reconnect as a family and as people. Directed by Shawn Levy, which is rated R, stars Jason Bateman (“ Arrested Development”), Tina Fey (“30 Rock”), Jane Fonda (“The Heat”), and Adam Driver (“Girls”).

The movie has a talented cast and looks like it’ll be a great movie with lots of laughs with serious undercurrents that will take their dog to the end of their dysfunctional family. This is Where I Leave You” opens in theaters September 19.

“The Walk Among the Tomb- stones,” is a rated-R crime/ ac- tion/mystery movie that stars Liev Schreiber in the role of a private investiga- tor hired by a drug lord to find their son. He kid- napped and murdered his wife.

Based on the novel by Law- rence Block, the dark thriller is sure to please fans of high- octane action. The movie, which comes out September 19, also stars Dan Stevens (“Downtown Abbey”), Boyd Holbrook (“Little Acci- dents”), and Sebastian Roche (“The Originals”).

“The Skeleton Twins,” slated for release on September 12, is a R-rated drama has an all- star funny cast of Kristen Wiig and Bill Hader (“Bridesmaids”). The film is directed by Annie Merte- nieken and it’s about a man who has a crush on her. The movie follows a “Taken” and “Entertainment and hilarious” and heart-crushingly real” by Peter Travers of Rolling Stone.

“The Equalizer,” is a crime action/thriller which stars Den- nel Washington as a former special forces agent who, after taking his own death, lives a quiet life in New York. McCall flies under the radar in his new life until he meets a young girl (Chloe Grace Moretz) who is benefiting from a bomb that the Russian mob is sure to have. The Equalizer is a crime action thriller while The Skeleton Twins is a comedy.

Whether you’re in the mood for a comedy, drama, or an action film, September is sure to have something for everyone.

Elena Goodwin
UWIRE

Upcoming events on and around campus

August 30, 2014
Dog Daze at Little River Can- yon Center, will begin at 10:30 a.m.

September 3, 2014
Ballroom Dance Club will be meeting at 6 p.m. in the TMB auditorium.

September 5, 2014
“Q” Ensemble present will perform “Friday Night Movie: Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.” Showing at 7:30 p.m. in the Mason Hall auditorium.

September 8, 2014
Ready To Rumble, will continue until the 12th. Speakers and dem- onstrations will show how volunteerism can make a difference in you and yourself with the goal of promoting disaster preparedness.

September 17, 2014
SCA will host the SGA Salsa Party in the TMB auditorium beginning at 7 p.m.

Just created for the enjoyment of the public.

B A L L R O O M D A N C E C L U B

The first meeting will be September 3, 2014, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Thorton Montgomery Building Auditorium. Let- ters from a professional dance teacher will be given in the future.

For more information, contact Joshua Blumenschien at jblumenschien@jsu.edu or 256 - 592 - 9812.

Dr. Haminet, Dean of College of Educa- tion and Professional Studies, is the advis- or.

The Chanticleer

August 28, 2014
This academic year will have no lack of changes for many people, as every new school year inevitably brings with it the excitement brought on by these new possibilities. As a student, college itself is a change for campus organizations such as The Chanticleer. The Chanticleer is a newspaper published by three editors; four editors, each of which is entirely new staff members this year, and I am one among them. We are currently undergoing some transitions in our traditions. In addition to the newly formed curricular activities, The Chanticleer also went through one of its own. It was given a different office on the opposite side of Self Hall. The new office was something we could fix to be our own; however, some people may say we used entirely too many staples and sticky tape. At first, I was not sure what to do. After much back and forth, I decided to ask my professor to let me in the new mindset of assignments and deadlines and how they were changing. This is a – action – things I called “grown-up staff.” I was younger – the same kind of things we all will face upon or even before graduation. In addition to the new staff, a new graphic transformation, The Chanticleer also went through one of its own. It was given a different office on the opposite side of Self Hall. The new office was something we could fix to be our own; however, some people may say we used entirely too many staples and sticky tape.
The Gamecocks are back for a new coach. Now that the summer is over, Coach John Graus looks to lead the team to the success he has seen in his first year as head coach.

Last season, Coach Bill Clark led JSU to an overall 11-1 record. Jacksonville State lost in the FCS Quarterfinals to Eastern Washington with a final score 24-35. The Gamecocks finished 3rd in the Ohio Valley Conference. After an impressive first year as head coach with JSU, Coach Clark decided to move on to coach UAB while Coach Graus moved up to Head Coach.

This season, the Gamecocks will return with a total of 18 starters from last season. Nine starters return from offense. Eli Brown returns to lead the offense at quarterback. DaMarcus James, who was named Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, is back for his senior year at running back. Josh Boise, Telvin Brown and Anthony Johnson all return at wide receiver. Max Holcombe returns as the center and is joined by the offensive line with Adam Wright, Blake Burns and Nick Johnson. Six starters return from defense. Sean Watson and Caleb Lawrence return to the defensive line with Chris Landrum at defensive end. The two starting linebackers returning are Dustin Gayton and Jermaine Housh. Rashad Byers is back in the secondary as one of the starting cornerbacks. There are three specialists starting returners. Hamsh MacMach returns as punter, Andrew Dean returns as long snapper, and Telvin Brown is back at kick returner. The Gamecocks also have a total of 18 seniors this year.

The Gamecocks are ranked No. 6 in the 2014 Sports Network FCS Top 25 and No. 8 in the FCS Polls. They are predicted to finish first in the OVC with a total of 10 first-place votes. The first game will take place in East Lansing, Mich. where the Gamecocks travel to play Michigan State for the first ever meeting between the two. Michigan State only lost one game last season. They are ranked No. 8 in the FBS standings. Kick-off is set for 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 29.
COUGAR STATE

Gamble in for the new volleyball season

Marvel Robinson
Sports Editor

Kelsey Bright scored to give JSU the 1-0 win over Gardner-Webb.

Bright lifts JSU soccer past Gardner-Webb

Junior Kelsey Bright capitalized on one of her three shots in the 55th minute to lift Jacksonville State past Gardner-Webb, 1-0, on Friday, Sept. 5. The Gamecocks opened the 2014 season against Gardner-Webb State on August 29 at 7 p.m. in the UAB/Sanford Challenge in Birmingham, Alabama. They will then play Samford at 7 p.m. on the same day. The Gamecocks will face Michigan State at the Beach Invitational on August 30. All of JSU’s games in the tournament will be played at Samford.

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Gamble in for the new volleyball season

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Marvel Robinson
Sports Editor

John Grass enters the 2014 football season as head coach of the Jacksonville State Gamecocks.

Alongside Grass are 10 staff coaches.

Another coach in his first season at Jacksonville State is John Grass. Grass brings with him six years of experience at the collegiate level with two years at the University of Alabama under Nick Saban. He also spent two years as defensive line coach at Prattville High School. Last season, Grass helped the 2013 Gamecock offense set 42 NCAA records, 13 Ohio Valley Conference records and five OVC single-game records. Grass led the offensive line for the All-OVC First team and was named to the Ohio Valley Conference’s All-Newcomer and All-Newcomer Honorable Mention teams.

Grass was a three-year starter at East Central Community College.

Grass is the co-defensive coordinator and the offensive coordinator for his first season as head coach. Grass comes to Jacksonville State as an offensive graduate assistant from South Florida, Clemson, Pittsburgh, Illinois and Mississippi State.

Grass began his coaching career as an intern at Mississippi State. Last season, Grass was an offensive graduate assistant under head coach Dan Mullen.

Grass is the recruiting coordinator as well as the tight ends coach, the chief football administrator and the director of player personnel at Oxford, Miss., in 2009.

Grass also spent two years as a graduate assistant at McNeese State, where he helped the 2013 Gamecock offense set 42 NCAA records, 13 Ohio Valley Conference records and five OVC single-game records.

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Grass led the offensive line for the All-OVC First team and was named to the Ohio Valley Conference’s All-Newcomer and All-Newcomer Honorable Mention teams.

Grass was a three-year starter at East Central Community College.

Grass is the co-defensive coordinator and the offensive coordinator for his first season as head coach. Grass comes to Jacksonville State as an offensive graduate assistant from South Florida, Clemson, Pittsburgh, Illinois and Mississippi State.

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