

The Chanticleer

WEATHER: High 42, Low 26, Partly Cloudy

FORECAST PG. 3

Selling the future



Ashley Colvin/The Chanticleer

Elementary Education major Marie Cornutt poses next to her space-themed booth at last Wednesday's Reverse Career Fair. Future teachers like Cornutt and their potential employers both welcome the networking opportunity that the fair offers.

Career Services' Reverse Education Fair showcases talents of prospective teachers

Taylor Brown
Staff writer

Students and teachers alike gathered together for the prospects of employment at JSU's second-ever Reverse Career Fair on February 5 at Leone Cole Auditorium. The event was set up by JSU Career Services, which consists of Ms. Becca Turner, Director, Ms. Lola Johnston, Counselor, and Tawana Roberts, Secretary, as the three full-time staff.

See CAREER FAIR, page 2

SGA election season begins

Applications available in Student Life office on Monday

Alex Black
Staff Writer

In the next few weeks, Student Government Association elections will be gearing up and getting ready to begin.

On February 17, applications for interested candidates will become available in the Student Life office, and in March, speeches and debates will begin. The general election will be held on March 20. Interested candidates can run for President, Vice President of Stu-

dent Senate, Vice President of Student Activities, Vice President of Organizational Affairs, and Senator.

Though various campaign activities take quite some time, current SGA President Jade Wagner explains that the process is completely worth the effort.

"I'm responsible for being the voice of the students on about eighteen different committees. It doesn't matter when the committees meet, I have to be there to represent the students," Wagner says.

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Steve Latham/JSU

The 2013 Student Government Association of JSU. From left: Brett Johnson (VP Student Senate), Erika Warren (Director Of Publicity), Torsten Dryden (Chief Justice), Ariel Tolson (VP Organizational Affairs), Jade Wagner (President) and Kelsey Mann (VP Student Activities).

Undergraduate work in College of Arts and Sciences in the spotlight at annual Student Symposium

Kara Chatham
Staff Writer

On February 5 and 6, students presented a variety of topics at the College of Arts and Sciences' Student Symposium in the Houston Cole Library.

The annual symposium is an event that highlights students and the work they have accomplished in the areas of study in the School of Arts and Sciences. The students who participate are asked to do so by faculty members.

"Professors take into consideration the quality of the paper that has been written by a student. If the professor feels that this quality of work is worthy, the student

may be asked if he or she wants to present the paper," says English professor Susan Sellers.

Professors not only ask students to participate, but they help guide them through the process. English Professor Jennifer Foster compares her role as a mentor to being a tour guide. "Ultimately, I just hold my students and participants in the symposium accountable with due dates and basic guidelines for assignments," she says. "They do the rest."

This event can be a great opportunity for any student, and those who participate appear to take great pride in what they present. Nikki Pruitt gave a presentation on biblical allusions in the video

See SYMPOSIUM, page 2

ECE Alert:

The English Competency Exam Committee wants to know if you can write

Zach Tyler
Associate Editor

Students beware: the English Competency Exam (ECE) takes place this month. It will be administered on February 25 and 26 in the Stone Center, per usual. Tuesday's ECE sections test from 6 to 7:30 PM and Wednesday's from 3 to 4:30 PM.

The exam, which is a requirement for graduation, is administered by the English Department. Any student who has completed English 101 and 102 and has at least 60 credit hours may register to take it, but must do so as soon as registration opens each semester—there is absolutely no late registration.

Detailed instructions about what to expect on the writing examination and what materials to bring can be found on the 'ECE Information' section of the English Department's website, but students will need a photo ID, a blue or black ink pen, and a blue examination book. Students are also encouraged to bring a dictionary. Blue examina-

See ECE, page 2

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CAREER FAIR, from page 1

Career fairs have been put on at JSU for decades, but this is only the second year in which a reverse career fair has been attempted. Turner explained the concept: "We use a flipped concept, which means that the students set up a table, or booth, and showcase and market themselves using their exhibit, as opposed to the recruiters setting up a display, and the students coming to the recruiters' tables," she says. "Basically, the students do the talking and the recruiters do the walking."

Students' satisfaction was also an important factor, said Miss Turner: "... they had expectations from the past career fairs that I think weren't met, so we flipped it, and as you can see, they are showing up and putting on a great display." The event was made up of 55 education students who were either December 2013 graduates, or Spring 2014 seniors. Participation was entirely voluntary. "Right now all these students are in

their internship, their practicum... so they are excused from that day but they are not required to be here," said Turner. Turner noted the improvements made to the event compared to last year, such as giving recruiters a map of the layout of the room, as well as important information about each booth.

The first event of the day was the main browse session from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., where recruiters from different schools visited the booths of each student. Each booth represented the capabilities and personalities of the student. "I put on my board here things that are important to me to keep in mind throughout my teaching career," said Christa Watts, an Elementary Education major.

"I had a space theme, and instead of putting my resume on a board I decided to show the recruiters what it might be like to step inside my classroom. So I had centers, and I had a technology center with my iPad that had a few pictures and a lesson plan that I had previously

written," said Marie Cornutt, another Elementary Education major.

After lunch, tables were set up where students could sit down and talk to recruiters from over 30 school systems from all over Alabama and even Georgia. Recruiters were also available for interviews.

The fair received a warm reception from recruiters: "I like the reverse because it gives students an opportunity to display work samples and more importantly as we peruse through we know what we are looking for... I can go directly to that individual and begin the conversation and kind of get an idea of who I'm talking to," said Michael Turner, principal at Leeds High School.

Todd Haynie, principal at William L. Radney School in Alexander City, was equally enthusiastic: "I really love the displays, to see what the students have been working on throughout their time here at JSU. I like seeing the portfolios and just in general meeting the candidates."



Steve Latham/JSU

JSU's current SGA, led by President Jade Wagner, encourages any student interested in running for office to do so. The positions to be filled include President, Vice President of Student Senate, Vice President of Student Activities, Vice President of Organizational Affairs, and Senator.

SGA, from page 1

says. For example, she recently took a poll of 200 students about their thoughts on the school calendar and used those results to report back to administrators about what students wanted. Not only does she serve as a liaison between students and administration, she also oversees all SGA positions.

Serving as president can be time consuming, but Wagner loves every minute of her time with the SGA and has learned many valuable lessons about leadership and working with others. "I'm always getting to meet new people and I always get to have fun," she says.

Brett Johnson, the Vice Presi-

dent of Student Senate, agrees. His main responsibility is to preside over 35 student senators. He also fills in for President Wagner when she is unable to attend meetings and spearheads homecoming every fall.

Because Johnson works closely with the Student Senate, he loves getting to know so many different types of students that come from various backgrounds and organizations.

The Vice President of Organizational Affairs, Ariel Tolson, has similar responsibilities. Tolson presides over the Organizational Council. Some of her jobs include reimbursing organizations, working with various organizations, and helping with the Allocations

Committee. Like the other SGA officers, Tolson enjoys getting to work with different organizations. "I love people! There is so much diversity in our school and I get to work with so many people," she says.

The benefits of working with so many people are enjoyed by faculty, too. Debbie Taylor, the Assistant Director of Student Life, loves being able to advise the SGA because she gets to know so many students every year. In addition to being the SGA's advisor, she helps with fall homecoming, Family Day, tailgating, and SGA elections.

Taylor especially enjoys going to Collegiate Legislature with her student senators. At Col-

legiate Legislature, the senators meet with other university students and create mock legislature. Taylor loves getting to see her senators sitting in the actual seats used by our government's politicians. She loves spending time getting to know the students and says, "they help keep me in the know!"

All the SGA officers stressed the importance of the SGA and its impact on the school. President Wagner encouraged anyone interested in holding a position to run for office. Though being involved with the SGA is a big commitment, the benefits are worth the time. Applications will be available in the office on the top floor of the TMB on February 17.

ECE, from page 1

tion books can be purchased from the book store or at the Stone Center for an hour before the test begins each day.

The examination takes the form of two essay prompts. The examinee must choose one of the prompts and write a well-reasoned expository or argumentative essay of four or five hundred words within the time limit of an hour and a half.

The exam is graded on a pass-or-fail basis by two or three members of the English Department faculty according to two criteria: organization and development of the topic, and grammatical and mechanical accuracy. Put more simply, students need to write an essay that makes sense and contains as few errors as possible.

If any student feels their expository writing skills could use some brushing up, the English Department offers an ECE workshop on February 17 and 18 at 6 PM in room 125 of the Stone Center. No registration is necessary for the workshop.

Because passing the ECE is a requirement for graduation, it's a good idea to get it out of the way as early as possible. It must be completed at least one semester before applying for graduation. Any student who fails is required to complete remediation through Learning Services, which could delay graduation for someone who waits until late in their college career to take the exam.

Remediation could include passing a remedial writing class, completing a tutorial with Learning Services, or earning a "C" or higher in an upper-level English course.

Registering for the ECE is just like signing up for a class—simply log into MyJSU, choose the 'Registration' tab, then choose the same option on the next page. From there, choose 'Add or Drop Classes' and specify the ECE term for the current semester, then click submit.

After that, students can choose which section of the exam to register for.

SYMPOSIUM, from page 1

game "Assassin's Creed." Pruitt says, "I was really excited about combining both my major and my minor, as well as pointing out that some video games do have deeper meanings."

Even though this event is a fantastic opportunity, it can present its challenges. Gillian McCary had some of her own that she triumphed over.

"Because I am so passionate about English, I could have given an entire lecture on my chosen subject. I had to keep reminding myself that I had a ten minute time limit," she says. "I also had to keep the audience and judges in mind and remember that I was not speaking to English enthusiasts only, but also math, psychology, and biology professors as well."

The struggles are not something that only the students face. Even the professors face a few challenges with the students they mentor through the process.

Foster says, "I haven't really had any problems as a mentor because my role is so minimal. When past students have discussed why Jesus was the original zombie or that Yahweh is an archetype for horror movie antagonists, I was afraid they might offend someone. Fortunately, I don't think this has ever been the case."

So what would be the best part about participating in an event like this? Each participant has their own "best part."

Grace Larkin, who won the award for the Undergraduate English Presentation, says, "I think the best part of participating in the symposium is presenting a paper that I was proud of in front of not only my peers but faculty as well."

McCary says, "One of the things I most enjoyed was getting to hear other students share their own research and hard work. As someone interested in all aspects of learning, it was fascinating to learn what my academic peers in other areas are doing in their own fields."

So if you are ever asked by a professor to present at the Arts and Science Symposium, it's highly advised you take advantage of this opportunity.

"I would advise any student who is asked to present to take advantage of this opportunity," says Sellers. Even if participation by presentation is not an option for you, participation by attendance is another fantastic option. There is always something to learn and the symposium provides a great atmosphere for learning something new.

Got a news tip for us? Drop us a line!
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Coming soon to a S.H.O.E. box near you

Alex McFry
Staff Writer

This month, the JSU Honors program has partnered with the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center in an effort to provide something that many of us take for granted: shoes. Students can find the large, transparent boxes for the annual S.H.O.E. (Students Helping Other Excel) Box Project in almost every building on campus. Shoes collected from this service project will go straight to the JCOC in an effort to provide help (in the form of sneakers and tennis shoes) to those in need in our community.

Dr. Steven Whitton, former director of the Honor's Program, helped found the project back in 2009 with the very first group of Elite Honors Scholars.

"I felt that the elite honors scholars needed to give back to their community. Since there were only eight scholars at the time, we had to find something manageable," says Whitton.

"I sent the students around the community. We decided on JCOC, and I suggested keeping things simple with collecting shoes only. We collected about fifty pairs



Alex McFry/The Chanticleer

The Elite Honors Scholars at JSU are collecting shoes this month to donate to the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center. This has been a project of the Honors program since 2009.

that first year, and the project took off from there."

Now, with thirty elite honors scholars, each student takes a box and a building on campus to monitor and collect the shoes donated by those all across campus. The drive will last until February 28.

"We've been doing the S.H.O.E. box project here for as long as I can remember. The Honors Program brings them to us and we pass them on to clients at our center," says Mary Agnes Hester, the chairman of the board of the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center.

The Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center has also partnered with several other organizations on campus each year, like the Baptist Campus Ministry, to do food drives, toy drives, and many other events in order to help members of the Jacksonville community.

So this month, after all the Valentine's Day candy is gone, get a head start on spring-cleaning. Go through a closet or two and find that pair of shoes that hasn't been worn in months that would help another member of the community who can put the kicks to good use.

Campus crime report

02/09/2014
Arrest- Possession of Alcohol by a Minor
Sparkman Hall

02/09/2014
Arrest- Possession of Marijuana
Sparkman Hall

02/09/2014
Welfare Check
Daugette Hall

02/06/2014
Duty Upon Striking an Unattended Vehicle
Crow Hall Parking Lot

02/06/2014
Violation of Student Code of Conduct
Stone Center

02/05/2014
Threat Assessment
Ayers Hall

02/05/2014
Duty Upon Striking an Unattended Vehicle
Logan Hall Parking Lot

Pre-registration schedule for summer 2014

Students must be cleared by their academic advisors before registering for classes.
Register online via MyJSU.

March 17	Graduate/Doctoral Students	8:00 a.m.
March 18	Seniors 96+ hours earned	8:00 a.m.
March 19	Juniors 64+ hours earned	8:00 a.m.
March 20	Sophomores 32+ hours earned	8:00 a.m.
March 21	Freshmen	8:00 a.m.

Chicken Scratch

My bed is a magical place where suddenly I remember everything I was supposed to do during the day.

There should be an optional "people are sleeping" button on the microwave to stop all that extra loud beeping.

If I throw around large amounts of shredded bread on public property, my proximity to ducks determines whether or not I'm littering.

The first person who ever copied someone was in fact very original.



7-day weather forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy	Chance of rain	Clear	Clear	Mostly cloudy	Chance of rain	Partly cloudy
High: 42	High: 52	High: 48	High: 56	High: 61	High: 62	High: 65
Low: 26	Low: 30	Low: 32	Low: 35	Low: 43	Low: 39	Low: 48

Upcoming SGA events:

February 17th
SGA election applications are available

February 17th
Senate Meeting
TMB Auditorium
6:00 PM-7:00 PM

February 18th
Organizational Council Meeting
TMB Auditorium
6:00 PM-7:00 PM

February 24th
Senate Meeting
TMB Auditorium
6:00 PM-7:00 PM

February 24th
SGA applications are due
Office of Student Life, TMB
By 4:30 PM

February 25th
SGA Candidate Mandatory Meeting
TMB Auditorium
4:30 PM-5:30 PM

February 25th
Student Activities Council
TMB Auditorium
6:00 PM-7:00 PM

Arts & Entertainment

‘He could feel the floor bouncing beneath his feet’

Jessica Graham
Staff Writer

It was going to be one of the best birthday and Valentine’s Day presents ever. I had tickets to see Panic! at the Disco on February 7 at the Tabernacle in Atlanta. The Tabernacle was converted from an old church. Murals marked every inch of the walls. Pipes from a pipe organ still adorned the back of the stage. A huge glass chandelier hung from the ceiling.

“I wonder what would happen if it caught fire and started swinging toward us, like in *The Phantom of the Opera*,” I heard someone say next to me. I thought it was funny at the time, and it still is. But after what really happened at the Tabernacle that night, their thoughts seem to ring more true.

When Panic came on, the familiar whoosh of the crowd surged closer to the stage. The lights went crazy and the screams from teenage girls pierced our eardrums. I was ready for the music to start and to hear front-man Brendon



Crowds from the Tabernacle on the streets and sidewalks after the floor cracked. @thelifeofholly/tumblr

Urie’s actual voice for the third time in my life.

The music was loud and rumbled through all of our bodies and the crowd began to jump. I jumped along with them. The energy was something you could feel running through the crowd as Urie sang to our souls. There was no stopping us from enjoying this incredible moment.

I remember my boyfriend telling me later that night that he could feel the floor bouncing beneath his feet as the rest of us jumped to the beat of the music. It was an intense moment for all of us—so intense that

none of us knew the real trouble that was going on. In the middle of the second song, security personnel started forcing the crowd back. We thought people in front were packed in too tight from the crowd behind. Even as the security personnel moved away, everyone kept surging back to the front.

I’ll never forget seeing one of them walk on stage in the middle of the performance. The music stopped.

“You guys, we rocked this place so hard that you broke the [expletive] floor!” Brendon Urie said. His performance

skills are so good that it sounded like a planned part of the show. The crowd screamed in delight in response. But the security guy said something else to Urie, and he looked out at us again.

“Wow, you guys really broke the [expletive] floor.”

We were all forced to exit the back of the main floor and ended up strewn across the street. Hundreds of people clad in concert attire littered the sidewalks, the street, and the steps outside. We even blocked traffic. Ordinary citizens stepped

“Stay on the sidewalk side!”

I still haven’t figured that one out.

The crowd was pretty calm around us, although I did hear a teenage girl sobbing to her mother on the phone next to me.

“Mom, I can’t talk right now, I can’t handle this right now!”

And then came the verdict: The old, wooden floor of the historic Tabernacle was cracked and broken by energetic Panic! at the Disco fans. We will forever live in infamy at the Tabernacle, and I’m sure we all hope



Panic! at the Disco

The floor of the Tabernacle in Atlanta.

up to direct everyone to stay off the street. My favorite line that I heard from one of them was,

in the minds of the band members as well.

We rocked so hard that we broke the Tabernacle.



‘Frog Prince’ to be performed this weekend

Myron Jones
Staff Writer

Jacksonville Opera Theatre is currently scheduled to present “The Frog Prince” on Friday, February 14, at the Oxford Performing Arts Center in historic downtown Oxford.

Preview performances of the show were originally scheduled for November 8 - 9, 2013 but later postponed until late January. The January dates were later rescheduled as well.

Most recently, the show was moved from February 7th to February 14th due to the unusual weather in the area.

“The Frog Prince” is a musical for children based from the Grimm Brothers fairy tale of the same name. Many will recognize the story of a prince who was cursed to spend his life as a frog unless he can get a princess to fall in love with him.

Although the musical is written specifically for children, adults may find it to be an equally enjoyable Valentine’s Day activity. The book and lyrics were written by Kennesaw State University’s Melanie Martin Long and music composed by Dr. James Woodward, a JSU music professor.

Although the change in schedule has led to some confusion, students still look forward to the performance.

Sierra Garner said “I don’t like how long it has taken for this production to get together, but I am looking forward to seeing it.”

Other students have missed out on the opportunity due to their own scheduling difficulties.

Tanya Musselman said “I would have liked to see the show when it was originally scheduled. I would still like to see it, but I had to make scheduling adjustments because of all this bad weather. I won’t be able to make it to what should be an entertaining performance”.

For more information, call the Oxford Center for Performing Arts at (256) 241-3322 or go to www.oxfordpac.org.

Reasons to keep watching animation

Julia Bianco
via Uwire

In eleventh grade, I went to see a screening of *Gnomeo and Juliet* at the local movie theater with a friend. Just a few moments after we sat down, I heard a familiar voice behind me calling my name: “Julia?”

I turned around and, to my dismay, I saw one of my babysitting families. The mother, in as nice a tone as she could, asked, “Oh, are you here with some other kids you babysit?”

Her innocent question represents one of the fundamental flaws in our movie watching society: the idea that animated movies are exclusively for children.

And that’s not true. Animated movies are beautiful, with messages that everyone can learn from, despite their age.

Still, as you get older, it gets less and less acceptable to go see animated movies, especially when you’re in college and happen to have judgmental friends. Here are five reasons why you shouldn’t write off animated movies just because you’ve gotten a bit older.

The first reason? Animated movies are visually stunning.

Forget CGI explosions and misleading camera angles—animation has no limitations when it comes to imagination.

Frozen’s ice castle building scene during Idina Menzel’s performance of “Let It Go” was one of the most visually stunning things to grace movie screens in a long time, and

How to Train Your Dragon’s beautiful flying scenes are something that a live action movie would never be able to accomplish. Animated movies will grab you visually in a way that live action movies are nowhere close to being able to.

And while live action movies are mostly limited to a couple of settings, cartoons are able to go all over the world, and through many others.

In animation, fantastical worlds are the norm, and there aren’t budgetary constraints that stop filmmakers from going anywhere they want to go. And live action movies just don’t have the budget for going around the globe.

Next, animated movies will make you cry.

According to Time, we cry at animated movies because of science—seeing them activates our nurturing instinct, which releases prolactin, a hormone contained in breast milk which also happens to help produce tears. Well that may be true but I’d go with something much simpler—animated movies make us cry because they make us care.

I find it much, much easier to relate to a robot who can only communicate through beeps than to a whole bunch of rich movie stars who are doing an ensemble movie to make some quick cash. The amount of feeling and heart that goes into cartoons makes them seem so much more committed to making people happy, and less focused on just making money.

Animated movies are a

collaborative effort is another reason.

As Pablo Ruiz at Rotoscopers points out, live action movies are usually written by one or two screenwriters, who work alone or in small group settings. Animated movies, on the other hand, are almost always a group effort. They are more the products of studios, where groups of writers sit together for months at a time to work through all of their ideas and pick out the very best ones. The love and work that goes into each and every animated movie is incredible, and you can feel it flow through the screen as you watch. There are no slapdash animated movies—every cartoon is the product of years of work, and it definitely shows.

Last but not least, animated movies stick with you. Of the last ten movies I’ve seen, four have been animated, and those four are the only ones that I still actually think about. There’s something about animated movies that just makes them memorable in a way that live action movies can’t be.

When going into an animated movie, you should always expect more. Expect to be entertained, but also expect to learn something that you may have forgotten—how to be nice to people, how to embrace who you truly are, how to never give up and just keep swimming. These are valuable lessons, and, even though they may seem obvious at older ages, they aren’t something we should forget.

Love and a million dollars

Vallean Jackson

Special to the Chanticleer

Are you the one is a new reality dating competition show on MTV that airs on Tuesdays at 11/10c. The title alone can be alluring enough to make an individual want to watch what is going on in this show and find out if it is like all the other reality dating television shows.

There are many dating shows on different networks, but this show grants the prize of a million dollars if done correctly.

The objective of the show is to show is to help those who are seeking love find their perfect match.

Twenty individuals, ten men and ten women participate in this year's season with the hopes of walking away with love and the cash grand prize.

The objective may be to find the perfect match, but it is through a series of guessing who is correct. The twist of it involves guessing the specific person's match, with each couple placing their right hand to be scanned and scans to be locked in to analyze which guessed pair is correct.

In the process of the results, the number of correct couples is given but not which couples it applies to. Therefore, it is still a question as to which couple will win the prize of love and money.

The twists of the game continue, after the competition continues for the week, the

couples are voted on by each remaining contestant as to which couple should go in the body analysis scanner. The body analysis scanner gives a clear answer of whether the chosen couples perfectly match or if their search still remains.

If a couple manages to be find their perfect match, the couple gets transferred to the honeymoon suite of the location and have to come back for each result reading from the contestants that remain.

This reality competition is what one can really call a gamble for the money, but in this case, the prize of love is also involved. Because the contestants end up spending so much time together trying to find their perfect mate, invariably emotions get involved and cat fights occur.

So far there have not been any perfect matches to occur through the body analysis scan. Those that match are still unknown and the game continues on.

In the midst of it all, imagine liking someone and finding out that they are not the perfect match, and have to watch him or her choose someone else because the overall objective is to win the money with a side of love, leaving no room for the contestants to linger on what cannot be claimed.

This show truly embodies the cycle of dating in our own reality today, so tune in to MTV on Tuesdays to see which cast members are the perfect match and a million dollars richer.

Video game movies: the next big thing

Brian Frosti

via Uwire

The movie industry is forever changing. While the phrase "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn" was once both astonishing and groundbreaking, today we have Oscar hopeful The Wolf of Wall Street boasting a record total of 522 'F' bombs. Hollywood's sources have grown over the years as well, from best-selling books to Hasbro action figures. But the latest trend to sweep the box office has been comic book movies, which began in 1998 with the commercial success of Blade and steadily gained momentum with X-Men (2000) and Batman Begins (2005); eventually culminating in the mega blockbuster hit The Avengers (2012). Comic inspired movies are still going strong, with the upcoming Avengers: Age of Ultron and the tentatively titled Batman vs. Superman; they've even seeped into television, with the CW's hit Arrow (and its Flash spinoff).

But that hasn't stopped Hollywood for searching for the next big thing, and what they've found might surprise you.

It is the video game movie that will next dominate the world's box offices, an idea that seemed impossible not too long ago. To date, silver screen adaptations have been lackluster to say the least.

But this March 14, Need for Speed gets its film adaptation starring Aaron Paul (Breaking Bad), then on August 7, 2015 we'll be given the Michael Fassbender (Prometheus, X-Men: First Class) led Assassin's Creed, followed by Warcraft (based on the online game World of Warcraft) on March 11, 2016.

These are the first games in the new wave to hit theaters, but Ubisoft, the developer behind Assassin's Creed is leading the charge and has recently formed their own studio, Ubisoft Motion Pictures. Sony also plans to put out two video game inspired animated features, Ratchet & Clank (2015) and Sly Cooper (2016).

All of this is coupled with a statement from producer Avi Arad, who has had his hand in just about every Marvel cinematic property to date, stating that he is involved with the production of movies based on the Uncharted, Metal Gear Solid, and Mass Effect franchises. Uncharted is supposedly the furthest along, although it has had its share of setbacks. Originally, Uncharted had Silver Linings Playbook and American Hustle writer/director David O. Russell crafting the script with Mark Wahlberg attached to star.

This has been scrapped with "creative differences" being cited as the reason for the split. This setback was a positive for many fans who were uncomfortable with Russell's vision for the film and much preferred Nathan Fillion (Castle, Firefly), who has been active on twitter in his campaign

for the role, as their star. On February 5, it was announced that Seth Gordon (Horrible Bosses, Identity Thief) has signed on as director, raising questions about a potential comedic approach to the action franchise.

But perhaps the most talked about film (or lack of) is Halo. Years ago this movie was at one point on track to be released this past year. Obviously things did not pan out, but hope springs eternal. Microsoft released a free web series before the debut of Halo 4, called Halo 4: Forward Unto Dawn, which showed the possibilities and viability of a Halo movie. Furthermore Microsoft is releasing a Halo television series exclusively for Xbox One users and there have been rumors that Ridley Scott (Alien) is interested in directing a Halo movie

It's difficult to predict whether or not this new wave of movies will be successful because success depends entirely on whether fans appreciate the new take on their favorite stories. Faith to the source material is necessary, for the same reason fans loved Harry Potter and hated Eragon, they want to see their beloved characters done justice. But now, with the original developers taking more direct control of the content there is cause for optimism, and I believe these movies will bring resounding success.

Developers like Ubisoft (Assassin's Creed) and BioWare (Mass Effect) are taking great care in seeing their characters and stories faithfully adapted. This will likely result in many happy fan bases, and these happy and very passionate fans could bring enormous box office success. It only takes a couple successes (like Batman Begins did for comic books) to open the floodgates and get these movies fast tracked to hungry fans.

Movies with the most potential to become hits are Halo and Mass Effect, though Uncharted could easily become Indiana Jones for a new generation. But these two sci-fi series have two of the largest and most ravenous fan bases in all of gaming, making them great opportunities to tap in to a massive audience base. They both boast universes that are richly and extensively developed and are home to some of the most iconic characters in the video game world. No offense to Nathan Drake (Uncharted) or Desmond Miles (Assassin's Creed), who are great characters in their own right, but it's difficult to find any protagonists as engaging and universally loved as Commander Shepard and John-117 a.k.a. Master Chief.

The vast majority of people will dismiss the idea of video game movies, and for now they are right to do so. But the first films in 2015 and 2016 have the opportunity to bring viability to the genre. Soon the question won't be "can video games be movies?" it will be "Do you want to see Halo or The Avengers?"

Personally, I'd pick Halo.



Upcoming events on and around campus

February 13, 2014

ISO scholarship fundraiser at Strut's. ISO will be raising money to donate to a scholarship for students of JSU. 10 percent of proceeds at Strut's will go to the ISO.

February 14, 2014

Valentine's Day

One Billion Rising - spreading the word of the women that will invariably be abused and helping them to stand up. 4 p.m. in the Theron Montgomery Building Auditorium.

The Frog Prince is to be performed by Jacksonville Opera Theatre at the Oxford Performing Arts Center. Ticket purchase required.

February 17, 2014

Jazz Combos at Java Jolt at 7 p.m. Free to the public. Enjoy coffee and soft jazz at the same time.

February 18, 2014

Chamber Winds and Wind Ensemble joint concert beginning at 7:30 p.m. The location is tentatively set for the Mason Hall performance center. Free concert

February 19, 2014

Marching Ballerinas will be hosting the first try outs for those interested in becoming a ballerina.

Black History month program in Leone Cole Auditorium at 7 p.m.

February 20, 2014

There will be a special screening of a Sundance Film Festival special jury prize winner, "Inequality for All" at 4 p.m. in Leone Cole Auditorium, followed by a live webcast with the creator. Admission is free.

The Saturday Giant, a one man art-rock band from Ohio, will be performing at Brothers Bar in Jacksonville at 8 p.m.

Travis Tritt will be performing at the Oxford Center for performing Arts in downtown Oxford. Ticket purchase required.

February 22, 2014

Spring Preview Day - campus will be open to the public and various events and various campus tours will be going on. Representatives of JSU will be located around campus.

February 25, 2014

Soul food night in the Cafe beginning at 4:30 p.m. celebrating Black History Month.

February 28, 2014

Reginal Technology fair in Leone Cole Auditorium beginning at 7 a.m.

Have an event you would like to see covered?

Contact a member of
The Chanticleer staff
by emailing

chantynewstips@gmail.com

Or contact the Arts & Entertainment editor
directly at
ctyler@jsu.edu

Opinion & Editorial

Dual enrollment key to the state of Alabama

Brett Johnson
Staff Writer

How would you like to receive a four-year degree only two years after graduating high school? Or an Associates degree at high school graduation?

This is happening across the state of Alabama and has been for some time. The program is called 'dual enrollment,' meaning that students are allowed to enroll in college classes as a part of their high school curriculum for both college and high school credit.

Of course, there is still a bill attached to college enrollment. In fact, most colleges charge normal tuition to students who are dually enrolled.

This is why many students, like myself, weren't able to take advantage of the dual enrollment program. It's simply too expensive for the average high schooler pushing buggies on the weekends just to get by.

Well guess what? Dual enrollment accessibility is now on the radar of those who have the ability to make it happen.

Yes, the good ole Alabama Legislature has picked up on a program that is proven to be effective in many areas. Dual enrollment not only prepares high schoolers for college level academics, it also allows them to pursue an Associates degree where they can gain skills that potential employers look for in a community's workforce.

But as with everything the Alabama Legislature gets involved in, there's a catch. Both the Alabama House Democratic and Alabama House Republican caucuses have developed their own strategies for making dual enrollment more accessible.

Last month, Democrats proposed repealing a \$5 million teacher liability insurance program that the Legislature created last year and allocating it to dual enrollment programs to provide scholarships to students. Democrats say that the insurance program has been useless because local school districts and private organizations like the Alabama

Education Association already provide teachers with liability insurance.



Last week, Republicans announced their competing plan to support dual enrollment. Under their plan, anyone who donates to a state-run dual enrollment scholarship fund would receive a tax credit for

half of the amount donated. The plan caps the tax credits available each year at \$5 million. Therefore, the funds available for scholarships could total to \$10 million; twice the funds that Democrats proposed.

Democrats argue that \$5 million in new tax credits really equals a \$5 million reduction in the overall Education Trust Fund. Republicans, who hold a Supermajority in the legislature, have countered that the \$5 million state obligation would only be there if \$5 million of donations were made.

Under the Democrats' plan, only \$5 million per year is allocated. Under the GOP plan, there is potential for \$10 million per year. However, if zero donations come in, the state gives zero dollars to dual enrollment, which results in no real solution for the program.

I say that the two parties should come together on this issue. It is obvious that both parties want to support dual enrollment in Alabama.

A realistic solution can be worked out to guarantee at least \$5 million per year. If the new insurance program is repealed and a new donation-matching tax credit is created at a \$2.5 million maximum state obligation. This way, Alabama gets a guaranteed new and improved dual enrollment program and state budgets are not strained any more than they should be.

While you or I may be too old to take advantage of the dual enrollment opportunities. Who knows? Maybe your children might be able to take advantage of a state-supported dual enrollment program! Stay tuned for more.

Aliens, cell phones, and the cost of distracted driving

Zach Tyler
Associate Editor

My favorite book as a teenager was Douglas Adams' "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," a great and hilarious book about interstellar bypasses, a two-headed President of the Universe, and living



mattresses from the swamps of Sqornshellous Zeta. One of the book's protagonists, an alien from Betelgeuse Five, comes to Earth as a reporter for an interstellar almanac. His intent: compiling an entry on humanity.

In order to seem inconspicuous, he chooses the name "Ford Prefect"; after observing our societies, he had erroneously assumed that our vehicles were the dominant form of life.

We do spend a lot of our time going to and from places in cars. When we aren't using them, they congregate like metallic beetles in the parking lots of shopping malls, grocery stores and driveways. We "feed" them at gas stations. A huge part of our economy is affected by the abundance or shortage of the fuel our cars run on.

Some people (not me) wash and care for their cars like they are living things. We personify them with nicknames. Car companies design them to evoke a feeling of feral power or speed, with names like Ram, Mustang, Firebird, and Viper. We love our cars, our mechanical pets—even though they're dangerous.

Our infatuation with cars was part of the reason the South came to a grinding halt on January 28th. When the storm caught us unawares at our places of work and school, we rushed as one to our vehicles to ferry us safely home.

That worked out really well, didn't it?

We let our love of the personal vehicle and our love for other modern innovations, like the smart phone, destroy

and maim us.

Drivers distracted by their cell phones or radios or GPS devices killed 3,331 people in 2011—ten percent of all crash fatalities in the U.S.

The official government website on the matter, Distraction.gov, says "distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving." Distractions listed below that sentence include "eating," "grooming" and "adjusting the radio."

But the website says the worst distraction is texting, because it requires "visual, manual and cognitive attention from the driver." The week before the storm hit, I was driving home from campus on Highway 21 when I looked over at the young woman in the car next to me.

She was only occasionally glancing up from her cell phone to make sure she was still in her lane.

What made her distracted driving even worse was the fact that she had a kid in a booster seat in the back of the car.

She had to take a hand off the wheel to reach for her phone, then she had to look down and read whatever was on the screen; she had to think about what she'd say back and then type it.

During this time, she looked away from the road for what the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute says is an average of 4.6 seconds.

At 55 miles per hour, that's like traveling the length of an entire football field blind.

All that activity made her three times more likely to wreck her car and hurt the child in her backseat. Was arguing with her baby's daddy really worth that risk?

No way!

The danger that distracted driving presents to yourself and others is never justified. The next time you're tempted to reach for your phone while driving, don't even go there.



Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. will be having our Miss Phi Beta Sigma Pageant Interest Meeting on the 11th floor of the Houston Cole Library, February 16th at 7pm.

Not only can you become a campus queen, but you have a chance to compete in our State, Regional, and International pageants as well.

These are opportunities to win more money for school while taking paid trips to

compete.

Miss ΦΒΣ is not just a title, but a representation of the most Elegant, Diligent, and Admirable women that JSU has to offer. It all starts with this first step.

Are you the next Miss ΦΒΣ?

Antuan Brown
Phi Beta Sigma
Fraternity, Inc.
Pi Kappa Chapter
President

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Lambda Pi Chapter "Skee Week" events February 16-22, 2014

- Monday 2/17 - Asthma Awareness/ Coed flag football sign up @ TMB
- Tuesday 2/18 - "Faces of Beauty" Hair forum/show @ 6:00pm Wallace Hall / \$2.00 admission
- Wednesday 2/19 - Game Night at Gamecock Town Village @ 6:00pm
- Thursday 2/20 - Heart Disease Awareness/Prevention table @ TMB
- Friday 2/21 - Flag Football @ Dillion Field 5:00pm

Sports

Gamecock Sports Sidebar

OVC Football Coaching changes:

SE Missouri State:
Out - Tony Samuel (Nov. 26)
In - Tom Matukewicz (Dec. 18)

Eastern Illinois:
Out - Dino Babers (Dec. 18)
In - Kim Dameron (Jan 10)

Jacksonville State:
Out - Bill Clark (Jan. 21)
In - John Grass (Jan. 21)

Upcoming Action:

Thursday: MBB vs Morehead
Friday: Tennis @ Alabama St.
SB @ Charleston, S.C.
(Maine & Charleston S'thern)
BB vs Northwestern State
Saturday: Tennis @ AL. State
WBB vs Eastern Kentucky
MBB vs Eastern Kentucky
SB @ MSU Bulldog Classic
(St. Bonaventure & TBA)
BB vs Northwestern State
Monday: WBB vs Morehead

NCAA Rifle Top 15:
(Feb. 10)

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

OVC Softball standings:

East:
Jacksonville State (3-2)
Belmont (2-2)
Eastern Kentucky (2-3)
Tennessee State (1-3)
Morehead State (1-4)
Tennessee Tech (1-4)

West:
Murray State (2-2)
Eastern Illinois (2-3)
UT-Martin (1-3)
Austin Peay (1-4)
SE Missouri State (0-0)
SIUE (0-4)

OVC W. Basketball Standings:

East:
Eastern Kentucky (7-3) [13-8]
Belmont (8-4) [11-14]
Tennessee State (7-4) [10-14]
Tennessee State (6-5) [9-15]
Jacksonville State (6-6) [10-15]
Morehead State (4-7) [10-14]

OVC M. Basketball Standings:

East:
Belmont (10-2) [19-8]
Morehead State (7-3) [16-0]
Eastern Kentucky (7-4) [17-8]
Tennessee Tech (5-5) [12-13]
Jacksonville State (4-7) [10-16]
Tennessee State (2-10) [3-23]

OVC Baseball preseason pick:

Tennessee Tech
Austin Peay
Belmont
Jacksonville State
Eastern Kentucky
SE Missouri State
Eastern Illinois
SIUE
Morehead State
Murray State
UT-Martin

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Sportswire

Harbin tossed her fifth no-hitter of her career while Akenberger threw her first as a Gamecock.

Historic Opening Day Harbin, Akenberger both toss No-Hitters

STARKVILLE, Miss. – A pair of dominant pitching performances got the 2014 season started for the Jacksonville State softball team on Friday, when Tiffany Harbin and Casey Akenberger each no-hit their opponents in leading the Gamecocks to mercy-rule wins over Northern Kentucky and Mississippi Valley State.

Harbin, a senior with several career records already in her portfolio, struck out 12 of the 16 batters she faced in a 9-0 win over NKU in the season opener to set the tone for the day and Akenberger followed suit. A sophomore who saw limited action as a reserve in 2013, she faced the minimum in handling MVSU the 8-0 defeat, striking out two and getting nine ground ball outs.

"On Opening Day it's always good to get off on the right foot, but you never expect to throw two no-hitters," JSU head coach Jana McGinnis said. "I'm very proud of the work both Tiff and Casey have put in to get ready for this season and that paid off today."

Harbin's gem was the fifth no-no of her illustrious career in a Gamecock uniform. The Hazel Green, Ala., native entered the day as the school's career strikeout leader and ran that total up to 718 by the time she left the circle with her 60th win, another milestone. She joins Jill Wilcoxson (64 from 1998-01) as the only two players in school history to record 60 wins in a career. It was also the first time JSU has opened the season with a no-hitter and the first time the Gamecocks have thrown two in

the same day, at any point in the year.

She was in command from the first pitch, striking out the first eight batters she faced before a pop up ended the third inning. She had three balls on just two batters in the game and struck them both out, and the only blemish on her line was a hit batter to lead off the fourth, a runner she stranded on first base. After striking out the side in the fifth to put the finishing touches on the no-hitter, she had thrown just 66 pitches, 44 for strikes.

Akenberger's gem was a little different. A less overpowering pitcher than Harbin, she forced the Delta Devils to pound the ball into the ground throughout her start. Just her second career shutout and first no-no, the Bowling Green, Ohio, native erased her only blemish, a leadoff walk in the third, with a double play ball to end the inning. Her start was something McGinnis said she deserved.

Overlooked on a day dominated in the circle by the Gamecocks was an offense that scored 17 runs, 14 of which were earned in barely over eight offensive innings. JSU hit .487 on a day that saw 10 players record at least one hit and seven get at least two. Junior and All-Ohio Valley Conference performer Sara Borders went 4-for-6 and scored four runs, while sophomore Cadi Oliver drove in five runs on the day.

Four newcomers recorded their first career hits on Friday, including a trio of freshmen in Stephanie Lewis, Taylor Sloan and Jamie

McGuire that each had two hits. In all, players making their debuts for JSU went a combined 7-for-11 at the plate.

After Harbin struck out the side in a quick top of the first the JSU bats got things going quickly. Five-straight singles started the JSU first, including one in Taylor Sloan's first career at bat, giving the Gamecocks a quick 2-0 lead. By the time the Norse got out of the first inning, 12 Gamecocks had come to the plate and eight of them had scored. Sophomore Ella Denes started the inning with a single up the middle and then had the biggest blow late with a bases-loaded double that made it a 7-0 JSU lead. Alex Caudill took the loss for NKU after allowing six runs on five hits and a walk without recording an out in the first inning.

Akenberger also got some support early, thanks to a one-out double from junior Savannah Sloan that led to her scoring on a Delta Devil error. The one run would be all she would need, but JSU started tacking on insurance in the third.

A five-run inning put the game away with Akenberger in the circle and was started by a leadoff walk from Savannah Sloan, who stole second and scored on another fielding miscue by MVSU. Senior Kalee Tabor kept it going with an RBI double, and then Oliver opened it up with a two-run triple. Sophomore Casey Craig capped the inning with an RBI single that gave JSU a 6-0 lead.

~ Sportswire

Grass hires Defensive Coordinator

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

Head Coach John Grass is almost done filling out his first coaching staff at Jacksonville State with the hiring of his new Defen-



Sportswire

JSU's new DC David Blackwell

sive Coordinator earlier this week. David Blackwell comes to Jacksonville from Fordham, where he spent the past two seasons.

Two years ago Blackwell stepped into the DC role for a Pioneer League program that had just gone 1-10.

This past season, the Rams made the 24-team playoff field with a 12-2 record.

"The job they did at Fordham was outstanding," said coach John Grass. "It was pretty impressive what they'd done there. What we want is to continue to get the kids to play at a high level."

If everything meshes well, next year's defense has the potential to be one of the fiercest and toughest in the nation. JSU led the FCS in sacks last season, and now they bring in the coach whose defense led the FCS in total takeaways.

Blackwell's Fordham de-

fense was ranked first in the FCS with 40 takeaways, 19 fumbles (2nd nationally) and 21 interceptions (3rd nationally).

"I'm coming into a defense that also made great strides and kind of hit its stride late in the year," Blackwell said. "If we can continue to emphasize taking the ball away and play well in the red zone and couple that with some of the things they were able to do this past season, we have a chance to be a very special defense." Prior to Fordham, Blackwell had coaching stops at South Florida, Clemson, Pittsburgh, East Carolina and Iowa State.

Blackwell will be closely assisted by Brandon Hall, another defensive hire this past week. Hall comes from Auburn, where he followed Gus Malzahn from Arkansas State. He was linebackers coach and likely will land that same role in Jacksonville, but also was handed the title of Co-defensive coordinator by Grass.

JACKSONVILLE STATE



OVCsports.com

Jacksonville State's OVC Championship Rifle squad led by coach Ron Frost (left).

Jax State Rifle wins again Gamecocks claim third-straight OVC Title

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

Jacksonville State claimed its eighth Ohio Valley Conference Championship Sunday in Murray, KY at the OVC Rifle Championships. It was the third consecutive title for the Gamecocks, coached by Ron Frost. Jax State's score of 4650 was only 12 points above host university and runner-up Murray State's 4638.

On Saturday, JSU won the Smallbore title, just edging the Racers 2999 to 2995. UT-Martin,

OVC affiliated Columbus State and Morehead State rounded out the top five. The Gamecocks secured their conference title on Sunday, claiming the Air Rifle title as well with a score of 2351, again just ahead of Murray State's 2343.

Jacksonville State won the 2014 OVC title with an overall aggregate score of 4650, topping the Racers by 12 points. UT-Martin finished third and earned two of the four individual awards in Freshman of the Year and Coach of the Year honors. Murray State's Kata-

rina Bisercic won the Air Rifle Athlete of the Year award, while JSU's Samantha Bullard was crowned the Smallbore Athlete of the Year.

In Smallbore competition, Jax State landed three shooters on the All-OVC First Team with Bill Harvey, Dan McCall and Uriah, Ala. native Samantha Bullard, who led the overall scoring. Cole Tucker and Sam Muegge earned spots on the Second Team.

Tucker, a junior from Wye Mills, Md., and Muegge, a senior out of Boling, Texas, were

named to the First Team in Air Rifle competition along with Brandon Muske, while Bullard and junior Brent Books made the Second Team. Freshman Brandon Muske was the only Gamecock to be named to either Newcomer squad when he earned the top spot on the Air Rifle Newcomer Team.

The Gamecocks will make a return trip to Murray, Ky. on Feb. 22 for the NCAA Sectionals. The NCAA Championships will also be hosted by MSU, which will be held on March 14-15.

Basketball reaches double-digit wins

Rebekah Hawkins
Sports Writer

The Gamecock women led a defeated Tennessee Tech for the first time in 13 meetings Saturday afternoon.

It was Candace Morton who began JSU's lead with a layup. The Gamecocks kept the lead for the entire game as they were out 28-10 early. TTU managed to pull close to the Gamecocks before halftime with the score at 39-33. JSU was 50% shooting from the field as the first half came to a close.

The Golden Eagles came out fast and tied the game at 42 before the Gamecocks went on a 7-0 stretch.

It was on a shot by TTU's Diamond Henderson that the score was tied again at 59 with 8:29 remaining in the game.

McLin answered with two free throws, while Miranda Cantrell added a layup that pushed JSU back out front once again. It was again TTU's Henderson that responded with a layup of her own, but freshman Briana Benson had two free throws that put the Gamecocks up by four with time at 4:50.

With less than three minutes remaining, Henderson cut the Gamecocks' lead to two. But Morton's two free throws pushed JSU back up ahead by four.

Only 47 seconds were left in the game and the Gamecocks clung to a 67-65 lead. Cantrell put a layup on the board, which gave JSU room to work with as the clock ticked away. Henderson again added a layup to the mix, but free throws from multiple Gamecocks sealed the cov-

eted victory.

Morton finished the game with 23 points while Destany McLin had 16, ten of which came in the first half. It was also a career high scoring night for Briana Benson, who had 21 points during the game.

Miranda Cantrell contributed 10 points as well. Tennessee Tech's Henderson had the game-high 37 points.

This game also marked the first time since the Tennessee State game last month that two Gamecocks have scored more than 20 points in a night.

Far from the 1-27 season of last year the Gamecocks are 10-15 and currently have won seven of their last 11 games they've played in 2014.

They also have six OVC wins which is the most they've had since the 2010-2011 season.

Stout on watch list

Jacksonville State's Travis Stout has been named to the National Stopper of the Year Award Watch list, the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association announced on Tuesday.

Stout, who was recently named the Ohio Valley Conference pre-season Pitcher of the Year and a Louisville Slugger pre-season All-American, is among 50 players named to the watch list for the top relief pitcher in NCAA Division I baseball.

A 5-foot-9, 200-pound right-hander from Smyrna, Ga., Stout used a record-breaking performance in the back end of JSU's bullpen to earn All-OVC second team honors in 2013. Stout set a new JSU record for saves in a season with 17 and also set the school's Division I record for earned run average in a single season at 1.42.

He made a team-high 31 appearances on the mound and posted a 3-0 record with his 17 saves as a sophomore. In OVC play, Stout appeared in 16 games and saved 12 of them behind a 0.49 ERA. Opposing batters hit .213 against him.

The 2014 season will mark head coach Jime Case's 13th season at Jax State and he has led the Gamecocks into the OVC Tournament for all 10 years since joining the league in 2004. As a matter of fact, Jax State has advanced to the OVC Championship Game in seven of the 10 years competing in the league. JSU features 22 returning players from last year's team.

~ Sportswire

Tough road ahead for men's basketball

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

Last season JSU's men's basketball team finished 17-11, but a postseason ban forced the Gamecocks to not qualify for the Ohio Valley Conference tournament. A year later, with postseason restrictions lifted, JSU was positioned for another solid season and grabs a mid-range seed in the OVC tournament, the path for OVC schools to appear in the NCAA Tournament. However, after their current three-game skid, the Gamecocks sit at just 10-16 overall and only 4-7 in conference play.

With only five games left in the regular season, JSU is in serious danger of missing out on the eight-team OVC tournament altogether. The 4-7 conference mark has Jax State tied with Southeast Missouri State for ninth in the standings. Both teams are just a half game behind Austin Peay, who sits in the final tourney spot in eighth. It's not much ground to make up, but JSU is heading into a rigorous final stretch with their final three home games coming against the top three teams in the East division: Belmont, Morehead State and Eastern Kentucky. Belmont is the season finale on March

1, so if the season comes down to the final game, it will come against by far the top team in the conference. The other two road games to close out the season will be against SEMO, which will be critical for JSU to possibly knock out a team fighting for the same spot, and Tennessee Tech, who JSU just lost to by 12 last Saturday at home.

On the flip side, while JSU is in a must-win situation in every game from now and playing stiff competition, other bubble teams like Austin Peay and Eastern Illinois are playing out the season with much more favorable schedules.