

The Chanticleer

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WEATHER: High 65, Low 38, Clear

FORECAST PG. 3

A closer look at the QEP: Part two

Kara Coleman
Editor-in-Chief

In recent years, JSU has taken a look at its slogan, "Where You're Going," and decided that it should go towards the future of education. The school's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) requires that JSU have a strategic five-year plan that enhances the learning experience in some way.

"A few years ago, they started what they call the Red Balloon Project here at JSU," says QEP Committee Co-Chair Mark Camp. "Basically it was to discuss the future of JSU and where we're going. One of the results of that was that if you look at JSU's officially posted policies, you're going to see that it will prominently mention that we are a learning-centered university."

The current plan, for the years 2011-

See QEP, page 2

Bats in the walls, bats in the halls

After brown bats interrupted Friday's jazz concert, many students and faculty wonder how much longer they have to wait for what they feel are overdue improvements to Mason Hall

Adam Fagan
Staff writer

On Friday, March 14, six bats in the performance center of Mason Hall interrupted the Jazz Festival before even half the concert was finished.

Students preparing for the festival first discovered the bats on Thursday night, and notified JSU's Physical Plant. According to the plant's Assistant Director, David Thompson, JSU's maintenance and upkeep division had personnel walking the building the next day to determine where the animals were coming from.

The presence of the bats continued over the weekend, when a choir being held Sunday night was also interrupted by the swooping pests. Thompson said a pest removal company has been contacted to remove the bats as well as seal any outside openings they could be entering through. That work will be



One of Mason Hall's furrier, flighted occupants. After the bats interrupted a jazz concert on Friday, students started finding them in dusty corners and in trash cans.

Ashlee Davis/Special to *The Chanticleer*



See MASON HALL, page 2

28th annual Ayers Lecture Series: exciting times to live 'the life of kings'



Mike Stedham/*The Chanticleer*

Zach Tyler
Associate Editor

David Folkenflik, NPR media correspondent and Ayers Lecture Series guest last Thursday, is optimistic about the future of the news industry, even if he has no idea where it's going.

There was a quote by H. L. Mencken on the wall of the lobby at *The Baltimore Sun*, where Folkenflik took his second job in the field of journalism. It read, in part: "I had more fun doing news reporting than in any other enterprise. It really is the life of kings."

Folkenflik cannot agree more. He's been in the business long enough—23 years. Even though he's seen dramatic changes to the way the news is gathered and presented, he thinks it's still about answering just two questions.

See AYERS LECTURE, page 2

NPR media correspondent and author David Folkenflik addresses the audience of the 28th annual Ayers Lecture Series. As a journalist with over a decade of experience covering the media, Folkenflik talked about many of the challenges facing news outlets today, who must balance the need for speed with a responsibility to accuracy.

ICYMI: Ayers Lecture Series guest David Folkenflik interviewed on WLJS

Five members of Professor Mike Stedham's Advanced Reporting class sat down in studio with media journalist and author David Folkenflik to talk about how he got his start, the challenges journalists face today and how students can capitalize on access to free publishing software.

If you missed the show's original broadcast, check The Chanticleer's JSU webpage (<http://www.jsu.edu/chanticleer/index.html>) later this week to listen to a recording.



Document your college experience with #JSUMoment

Ashley Colvin
Staff writer

Here at JSU, students make memories through experiences that will stick with them for the rest of their lives. Now there is a way to preserve those experiences in more than just memories.

JSU Interactive is launching the #JSUMoment campaign as a new way to get students involved. Similar to the social video sharing platform Vine, the concept is based around amateur video clips. The video clips should be no longer than 15 seconds, no shorter than 5 seconds. JSU officials want to know what experiences you are passionate about. What will you remember about your schooling at JSU? Your #JSUMoment can be submitted to

www.jsu.edu/moment.

The overall plan is to create a composite video to show during graduation. Lead interactive designer Shannon Crutchfield said, "The goal is to connect students in a way that has never been done before." Sound can be included but is not required. Guidelines and suggestions for creating good video clips are listed on the website. It also provides sample clips.

The makeup of the student body varies widely enough that the #JSUMoment initiative can help compile the experiences of everyone and show diversity from all angles. JSU Public Relations specialist Angie Finley said, "Any moment can be a JSU Moment, anything that makes up college life is college experience."

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MASON HALL, from page 1

done on Monday.

In the meantime, the bats continue to come and go as they please. The nuisance sparked a renewed examination of Mason Hall and the startling conditions that plague it.

Many JSU students and faculty in the music department have been dealing with less than satisfactory conditions in the aged building for years. Zack Davis, President of the JSU chapter of Phi Mu Alpha, has recently begun organizing efforts to raise awareness of the building's dire need of maintenance to sustain a healthy learning environment.

On Monday, March 17, he and Caleb McFall, another student who attends class in Mason Hall, presented their case to the Student Senate, who decided to send SGA President Jade Wagner and SGA Vice President Brett Johnson to investigate on the following day.

The sound of many instruments playing out of sync penetrates rooms in Mason Hall, which should be soundproof. This creates a permeating din, and leaves visitors with the notion that the building may not have been meant to house a music program as big as the one at JSU. But the lack of soundproofing isn't the only evidence of this.

Many classes are too big for the rooms which are meant to hold them, and often students must stand for the duration. On at least one occasion, Dr. Nathan Wight even held his class outside for lack of room inside. JSU's Music Department draws students from all around based on its history and tradition alone, but the facilities provided to it cannot accommodate so many new students.

In addition, many expensive instruments sensitive to changes in temperature and humidity are in danger of sustaining damage without specialized air conditioning. Instruments such as pianos can no longer be properly tuned and paint cracks and falls away.

This is in spite of a \$1,650,776 HVAC renovation project completed by the Physical Plant in 2009.

Two old elevators of questionable safety are used daily by some students, but many choose to avoid them completely. One elevator shakes and sometimes doesn't open when it reaches its destination. An out-of-date operating license is displayed ominously above the buttons.

Assistant Director Thompson says that the renovation project completed in 2009 was a "band-aid fix at best." The project replaced the heating and air system, as well as made a few minor improvements, like creating storage spaces and renovating the practice room. "We addressed the underlying concerns that would allow us to continue to use the building in the hopes that we could perform further improvements in the future," Thompson said.

The performance center, now referred to as "the bat cave" by students, has become too small to hold concerts. Most of the time, the Music Department's bands hold their concerts in Oxford, where people must pay to attend. Concerts held in the performance center have been free to attend. While the Leone Cole Auditorium is open to these bands, it doesn't have the equipment necessary to host them. Much of the equipment is too large to move.

The sound panels in the ceiling of the performance center were not installed by the university, but are makeshift and hung by professors themselves. "Mason Hall performance center is completely outdated and acoustically inappropriate, among other things," says Thompson. There are middle schools that have better performance centers than the one in Mason Hall. "So it starts with, everyone understands that they need several different things: they need a performance center, a recital hall. They need a nice atrium entrance to those facilities, plus a new administrative suite."

The hall's computer room holds at least

twenty Dells which run Windows Vista, but only three of them work on a regular basis. The keyboards (instruments) have been around since the 90s. There are leaks in the roof, holes in the floor, and broom closets full of instruments that have no other place to be stored.

Despite the large draw the Music Department represents, it has continued to be underfunded and underdeveloped. Davis says it's embarrassing to hear music students from other universities visit and proclaim, "I'm glad I didn't choose JSU." Potential students may decide all too easily to attend other schools with much better accommodations. When artists come to perform and are confronted with the deterioration of Mason Hall, it affects the professional appearance of JSU as a whole.

Jade Wagner, President of the SGA, says that she will work with the students of Mason Hall to organize forums and funding opportunities for the department so that their complaints will be heard and remedied. She encourages all students with complaints to attend SGA meetings and bring them before the Student Senate. Brett Johnson, Vice President of the SGA, said, "If I was a potential recruit, I'd say no." He intends to help Mason Hall find upgrades to their technology in the classroom.

According to Thompson, Mason Hall is "number one" on the Physical Plant's deferred maintenance list, but those projects must be approved by university administrators before they can be completed.

Dr. Andrew Nevala, Director of Jazz Studies, said, "The people here are devoted, but the facility is an embarrassment." The students and faculty stay because they love the program and a department already rich in tradition, and they are willing to work through the troubling conditions every day. He continues, "It's like we're treading water. If one thing goes wrong then we're sunk. That's exactly what happened on Friday."

AYERS LECTURE, from page 1

"Two grandiose, but simple questions," he begins from behind a lectern on the 11th floor of Houston Cole Library.

At 44, Folkenflik looks younger than his age. Before him sits an audience of maybe two hundred, gathered to listen to him deliver the 28th annual Ayers Lecture Series.

"What are we doing? And, why are we doing it?" he finishes. These two questions are more fundamental to the dynamic world of journalism than even the "five W's"—who, what, when, where, and why—and their "distant cousin H," or how. Folkenflik says journalists must perform a public service, no matter the medium they use.

Folkenflik also talked about seeing firsthand how much a medium can elevate a story. Although he began as a reporter for a newspaper, he said he made the transition to radio after realizing the power of the spoken word "in letting people tell their own stories with their own voices."

He was working on a story in Aniston, and he decided the best way to convey the deep southern drawl and unique perspective of the men he was interviewing was through a recording.

In discussing the news industry today, Folkenflik pointed to some of the challenges faced by understaffed newspapers recovering from an economic meltdown. He talked about how a Pulitzer Prize-winning story from the L.A. Times on political corruption happening less than an hour from the paper's office went unnoticed for nearly fifteen years.

When he questioned an editor at the Times about why they missed the story all those years, his answer was telling: "We simply can't



Mike Stedham/The Chanticleer

After being interviewed on WLJS by the students of Professor Mike Stedham's Advanced Reporting class, Folkenflik met with Communication Department students and faculty for a brief question-and-answer session.

cover it all."

NPR's wunderkind media correspondent offered no prediction for how journalism will adapt to the challenges it faces. When asked what the news industry would look like in ten years, he answered: "I can say with great courage and conviction that I have absolutely no idea."

According to him, anyone who says they do is probably lying. However, two questions he feels will be important in the future are: How do we produce the news? And, how do we consume it?

No matter the answers, Folkenflik says "journalism's values remain unchanged."

QEP, from page 1

2016, is designed to make courses at JSU more learning-centered. The learning-centered approach involves hands-on learning and focuses on teaching students how to think critically. The university plans to equip freshman students in 2015 with iPads and offer faculty the opportunity to incorporate that technology into their classrooms.

"We all really believe that with technology and what the 21st century student, the 21st century citizen, has at his fingertips, being able to think critically and discern between quality information and information that's not quality requires great critical thinking," says Gena Christopher, the QEP Committee's other Co-Chair. "That's a skill we all need, so that's why we chose critical thinking as our QEP."

Christopher says that students have expressed concern over whether or not their critical thinking skills were ready for life after college, and Camp thinks that the learning-centered approach will help students to think more critically during their time at the university as well.

"When these students are entering their majors, what we see is, ideally, students walking in with better critical thinking skills," Camp says of the 2015 freshman class. "We want to give the majors better-prepared students, and I think that's going to make them more successful."

Christopher says that the committee has proposed that the university provide the iPads to the students because many of JSU's students receive some sort of financial aid. "We knew that we couldn't say, 'You must come to college with an iPad,' because some students have a difficult time purchasing their textbooks," she explains. She says that the university would like to issue each new student an iPad when they enroll, and if the student successfully completes five contiguous semesters at JSU, the iPad becomes his property as a scholarship.

"There's research that shows that, when properly used in a learning-centered classroom, technology can further enhance learning," Camp says. "That's how we ended up with the idea specifically of iPads in the classroom. We're going to make this change to a learning-centered environment; let's give them all the tools available."



Got a news tip for us? Drop us a line!
chantynewstips@gmail.com

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The high cost of higher education

Last week, Ashley introduced us to Jacob Bramlett, a 24-year-old freshman who has \$9,000 in student loan debt after just his first year of college. Then she began exploring the issue of student loans. Here is the second part of the story.

Ashley Ossenfort
Staff Writer

'One-Size-Fits-All' Answers

The Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) determines the fate of every college student with financial need. If you can show you're need on paper, Uncle Sam might just make a deposit into your college saving account. If the rigid questions and qualifications don't fit a student's particular situation, that student is left to find another way to pick up the tab of his or her college education.

The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is all that the federal government needs to know. Every question on the FAFSA is made to answer this question, and give the federal government a one-size-fits-all answer to student financial need.

"[An EFC is] the number that determines the student's eligibility for federal student aid. The lower the number, the more likely you are to receive Pell Grant. So obviously, at zero you get the maximum Pell Grant," said the Assistant Director of Student Financial Services at JSU Stephanie Miller.

For the 2013-2014 academic year, the maximum Federal Pell Grant award was \$5,645 according to the Department of Federal Student Aid's website. The maximum award for the Federal Pell Grant is awarded to student's who meet the Automatic Zero EFC threshold, which is currently a combined family income of \$24,000 or less. The amount that a student is awarded in Pell Grant is also dependent on a student's enrollment status, degree program, and cost of attendance.

Sometimes the EFC calculations can work against students in need of financial aid. Zach Shields is a 25-year-old freshman at JSU. While his financial information looked pretty on paper, it wasn't so pretty in reality.

By the time that Shields graduated high school, he was already living on his own sharing an apartment with his cousin in Jacksonville. The Federal Student Aid Department considers

all FAFSA applicants as dependent students until the academic year in which their 24th birthday lies. At the time Shields lived as a independent student, but was treated like a dependent student in the Financial Aid process. His parent's income was factored into the equation.

During his elementary years, his parents bought a double-wide trailer with a loan from a company that went under in the housing-crisis. His father felt pushed into the loan. The salesman prettied up the terms and made what would be a heavy financial burden for him and his family seem like the deal of the century.

"As soon as the loan was signed, the company was sold three time over," said Shields.

The payments on the loan were \$400 per month. His father was 40-years-old at the time that he bought the trailer. One day after reviewing the loan, Shields' father calculated that by the time he reached the age of 70, he would still be paying off that loan.

In 2008, Shields' father suffered and survived a heart attack. This threat to his health made his father realize that a loan that would take that long to pay off could damage the financial security of his family if something were to happen to him.

Shield's father decided to file bankruptcy in order to secure his family's financial future.

"The government does not take into account debt to income ratio," said Miller. "Into today's society, we actually have people who fell on hard times, who were living beyond their means, and, of course, with the credit crisis... there are people whose house was worth much less than what they paid for it later on."

Shields' parents had no money to pay for tuition. But the Department of Federal Student Aid didn't see it that way.

"When you're worried about your parents keeping their house and you're not even living with them, you're not going to ask them for money to go to

school," said Shields. "Who are you supposed to go ask?"

Cutting Corners

As an independent student with little-to-no income, Bramlett met the Automatic Zero EFC threshold and was granted the maximum Pell Grant giving him less than \$6,000 to cover his college expenses for the 2013-2014 academic year. This became the down payment to cover his college tuition.

JSU estimates the Cost of Education (COE) for the Fall and Spring semesters during the 2013-2014 academic year to be \$25,056 for an off-campus student not living with a parent. This estimate includes tuition (at the minimum full-time rate of 12 credit hours per semester), fees, books, supplies, transportation, personal expenses, and room and board. Even with a full Pell Grant, Bramlett still had \$19,411 to go.

Bramlett needed to accept the full amount of loans available to him, which amounted to \$9,000. Even with a heavy student loan, Bramlett still had to cut his living expenses to make up the estimated additional \$10,411 JSU guessed he would need.

Bramlett "lucked up" and moved into a small, rundown trailer with four other guys. Without his roommates he wouldn't be able to afford to go to college. His rent and utilities have been chopped down to practically nothing. The only thing he says he struggles with is paying for food.

"Sometimes we have ramen noodles for dinner, which I think that's everybody's college story: 'We ate ramen noodles to get by,'" said Bramlett. "It costs too much money to go to college."

He doesn't see a happy ending in the future of college tuition rates. His younger sister turned 16 this year and is already planning on attending Auburn University upon her high school graduation.

"Here in a few years you'll get to interview [my sister] and see how bad things got," said Bramlett. "It's not going to get any better."

Campus crime report

03/18/2014
Assist Other Law Enforcement Agency
Duncan
Maintenance Shop

03/18/2014
Violation of Student Code of Conduct
McDonald's
Parking Lot

03/18/2014
Arrest-Public Intoxication & Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor
Pelham Road
North

03/16/2014
Possession of Marijuana
Stone Center
Parking Lot

03/15/2014
Harassing Communication
JSU

03/14/2014
Theft of Property
JSU

Upcoming SGA events:

March 20th
SGA Elections
www.jsu.edu/elections
12:00 AM-5:00 PM

March 24th-28th
Spring Break

March 31st
Traffic Court
TMB Auditorium
4:00 PM

March 31st
Senate Meeting
TMB Auditorium
6:00 PM-7:00 PM

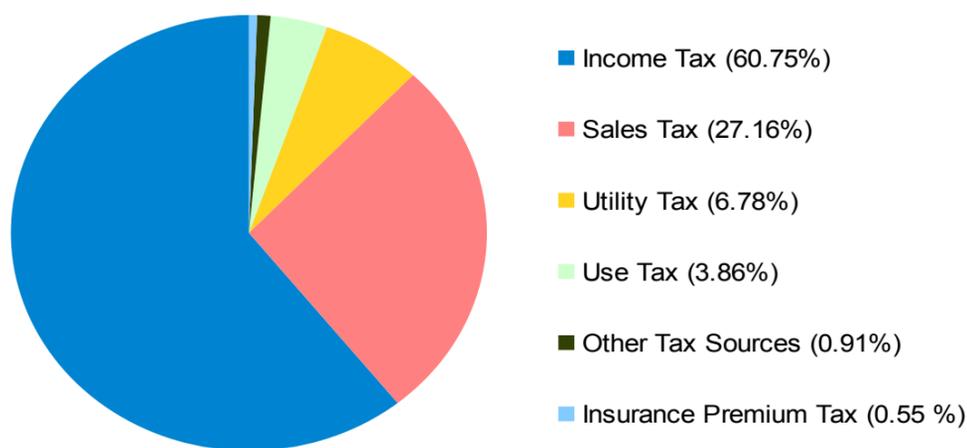
April 1st
Run Off
www.jsu.edu/elections
12:00 AM-5:00 PM

April 8th
Student Activities Council
TMB Auditorium
6:00 PM

April 9th
Cockstock
TMB Lawn
4:00 PM-8:00 PM

April 18th-19th
Last days of class

Education Trust Fund Tax Sources



The Education Trust Fund (ETF) that funds education in the state of Alabama is made up of 11 different tax sources. As a multi-billion dollar fund, only five of the eleven tax sources individually amount to more than 0.5 percent of the total ETF. Other tax sources include Mobile Telecom Tax (0.49%), Beer Tax (0.39%), Use Tax- Remote Seller (0.02%), Transfers and Reversions (0.01%), Hydroelectric Tax (0.001%), and License Fees (0.001%). This information is provided by the Executive Budget Office for the Alabama State Legislature.

7-day weather forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Clear	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Chance of rain	Mostly cloudy	Chance of rain	Clear
High: 65	High: 70	High: 72	High: 58	High: 57	High: 55	High: 53
Low: 38	Low: 49	Low: 49	Low: 38	Low: 42	Low: 33	Low: 32

Arts & Entertainment



The boardwalk where much of the program will take place.

jjanthony.com

Hidden botanical wonders

Marie McBurnett
Staff Writer

Renee S. Morrison, Assistant Director of Jacksonville State University Field Schools and DeSoto State Park botanist Brittney M. Hughes will lead a trip to "The Pocket" on Pigeon Mountain in Georgia on April 1st at 9:30 a.m. to explore the beauty behind the wildflowers that grow there.

Tickets cost \$10 and persons who wish to go must register through JSU Field Schools in the EPIC Department at 256-782-8010. If anyone needs help with transportation, Morrison will depart from JSU in a 12 passenger van which people can board at 7:30 a.m. Others may follow the van in their own vehicles or meet at DeSoto State Park Nature Center at 9:30 a.m.

The shuttle and convoy will leave DeSoto State Park at 9:30 a.m. and will arrive at the "Pocket" in about an hour. The drive will take participants through a historic village and across a small creek.

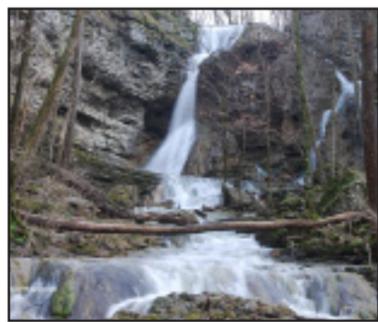
Participants will then travel on the Shirley Miller Wildflower Trail in the Crockford-Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area as Hughes talks about the wildflowers and purposes behind the abundant flowers. The convoy will arrive back at DeSoto State Park around 2:30 p.m.

"This is an excellent photo opportunity for people who enjoy unique and beautiful plants. It is an easy to moderate short interpretive hike with an optional moderate to difficult hike to a waterfall," said Morrison, "The area inspires photography, poetry and brings a sense of well-being to my soul. It is like getting a glimpse of the Creator's art palette."

Hughes tells stories of ways Native Americans used the same flowers as treatments. "I am always fascinated by Brittney Hughes' plant stories and, like a child hearing a beloved story, listen as she tells of which items were used by Native Americans and which were used by settlers."

"The 'pocket' was formed when an ancient cave system collapsed due to stream erosion. The waterfall at the top end of the site still flows over and around stalagmites and cave fossils," explained Morrison.

The program is for people



The optional trail will lead past this waterfall, named Pocket Branch Falls. USWildflowers.com

from ages 18 and older. Botanical Wonders has been a yearly tradition for nine years. JSU Field Schools have been partnering with DeSoto State Park for this one-of-a-kind experience.

Brittney McAllister Hughes, Naturalist at DeSoto State Park, proposed the first trip because she is an expert botanist and the site is a rare one for spotting diversity and abundance of wildflowers in the area during this time of year.

For more information, contact Renee Morrison at rmorrison@jsu.edu or call the Field Schools EPIC department at 256-782-8010.

Music department hosts 3rd annual jazz festival

Catherine Foote
Staff Writer

On Friday, March 14, JSU and the David L. Walter Department of Music held their 3rd annual Jazz Festival. Beginning at nine that morning, the festival took place simultaneously at Leone Cole Auditorium, the Performance Center at Mason Hall, and the TMB auditorium.

Along with JSU's many jazz ensembles and combos, The University of Alabama, Northeast Alabama Community College, and several high schools performed for audiences and clinicians. BB Comer High School, Cleburne County High School, North Murray High School, and Pepperell High School all brought jazz ensembles.

Each ensemble had a time slot to perform for an audience, and then clinicians which included JSU faculty members along with Dr. Chris Kozak, director of jazz at the University of Alabama, and Rob Opitz, instructor and director of athletic bands at Reinhardt, worked with each ensemble, giving feedback and tips for improvement. Along with being entertaining, the Jazz festival is also functional and beneficial to the performing instrumentalists. The Jeff Hamilton Trio, the special guest artists who performed at the end of the festival, also gave instruction and worked as clinicians for smaller jazz

combos.

At 7:30 in the Performance Center as Mason Hall, The Jeff Hamilton Trio performed for an enthusiastic audience. Jeff Hamilton is the percussionist of the trio, Christoph Luty plays bass, and Tamir Hendelman is on piano. Not only was the ensemble impressive, but they were easy to listen to and enjoy. The artists constantly looked as if they not only enjoyed the presence of the audience, but enjoyed each other's company as well. As part of the audience, there was a mutual sense of involvement and engagement, with tapping feet, applause, and occasionally laughter. Though Hamilton is the head of the trio and has incredible talent, he seemed to make sure to not outshine the other members of the group. The three instrumentalists worked seamlessly together, and each had their own unique and entertaining style to showcase. The performance included many different paces and moods, and it was eye-catching as well as satisfying to the ears.

The trio performed for about 45 minutes before taking an intermission. During intermission, the audience was caught off guard by an unwelcome interruption: bats. One small bat flew around the heads of the audience members, and soon the numbers began to increase. Two bats circled the curtains and lights of the Performance Center. By the time the problem began to be addressed, five or six bats flew haphazardly around the room, resulting in the second half of the performance being canceled.

Despite the interruption, the 3rd annual JSU Jazz Festival should be called a success. Student instrumentalists were able to showcase their talents and learn from clinicians, along with entertaining an audience and leaving a memorable impression (and maybe for some, a new love for jazz).



The Jeff Hamilton Trio performing before the cancellation after intermission.

Catherine Foote/Chanticleer

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Chamber Winds and Jazz Band to present 'The Frozen Cathedral'

Alex Black
Staff Writer

Throughout its history, the Jacksonville State University David L. Walters Department of Music has hosted some of the world's greatest musicians and composers. On March 14, the Jeff Hamilton Trio proved that, and this week continues in that tradition, as the JSU Bands perform a thrilling concert featuring one of the premier composers of our generation, John Mackey.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Oxford Performing Arts Center and combines the Chamber Winds ensemble with Dr. Andy Nevala's Jazz Band, and will certainly be an amazing night of music in a wonderful performance venue. The jazz band will be playing exciting and entertaining jazz pieces, while Chamber Winds will perform more traditional concert works, featuring Mackey's "The Frozen Cathedral".

This is Mr. Mackey's first ever visit to JSU. He has been working with the three Spring Bands, and offering

instruction to individual students on instrumental music composition.

This is a thrill for many of the music students, and everyone's hard work will culminate with the Chamber Winds performing "The Frozen Cathedral" for audience members and the song's composer himself, Mr. Mackey.

The members of Chamber Winds received the concert music in January, and had the rare opportunity to spend time this week in class with Mr. Mackey.

"All of the students and I are very excited to have John Mackey here. It's a wonderful opportunity for all of us to grow as musicians. It's a great experience for the students to actually get to work with the composer of the music they are playing", explained Director of Bands, Dr. Ken Bodiford. "John will be teaching them the subtle nuances that he expects in the piece while being performed, and we hope he will also be able to address the audience about his inspiration and meaning of 'The Frozen Cathedral'."

Senior Music major Chris

Knight summed up his excitement, and it accurately expresses the excitement of many of his fellow students:

"I've been in Chamber Winds as Principal Bassoon since 2007. I have thoroughly enjoyed preparing for this concert with such a talented group of students. We are so fortunate to have Dr. Bodiford and other great faculty members working so hard to get us to play to the best of our abilities," said Knight. "It was outstanding to have John Mackey rehearse with us this week. We received so much feedback from him directly, and he was absolutely outstanding! To have the composer right there, telling you what he was feeling as he wrote the piece and what he intended to express in the music that you won't find on the page is a rare privilege."

Needless to say, John Mackey, as a composer and clinician, is 'outstanding.'

Thursday night's performance is guaranteed to be a concert to remember.

Tickets will be sold for \$5 at the door at the Oxford Performing Arts Center.



Upcoming events on and around campus

March 20, 2014

Internationally known composer John Mackey will be performing at the Oxford Performing Arts Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

Movie night will be in the Leone Cole Auditorium beginning at 6 p.m. Free.

March 21, 2014

Concerts and Students Performance Hour begins at 1:45 p.m. in Mason Hall Performance Center. Open to the public. Free.

Spring Break Begins on March 23

March 31, 2014

JSU Jazz Combos will be performing at Java Jolt beginning at 7 p.m.

April 1, 2014

Botanical Wonders: Wildflowers of the Pocket will begin at the Desoto State Park and Pigeon Mountain at 9:30 a.m. Ticket purchase required.

JSU Jazz Night at Ona's Music Room in Birmingham begins at 8 p.m. Free.

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Jazz Night at Ona's

Myron Jones
Staff Writer

JSU Jazz Night at Ona's will take place at Ona's Music Room in Birmingham on Thursday, April 3rd starting at 8:30 pm.

According to Andrew Nevala, director of the Jacksonville State University Jazz Ensembles, all three JSU Big Bands will perform, along with the Latin Jazz Ensemble and select combos.

Nevala said, "We have 10 different performing jazz groups at JSU. JSU Jazz Night at Ona's will feature the very best of what we have." Jazz night is meant not only to promote Jacksonville State University, but also to give the students a special opportunity.

"This is a very special occasion - it's rare college and university groups have the opportunity to perform in a professional setting. It prepares our students for the real world. It is also letting people in this state know where to study if they want to be a part of the best jazz program in the area". According to Nevala, previous Jazz Nights have been standing room only with energetic crowds.

"If you've never been to a real jazz concert, this is the one to go to. At our last Jazz Night at Ona's, we had several music faculty from Birmingham area colleges and universities who came to see what the fuss was all about with JSU jazz," says Dr. Nevala.

The JSU jazz program has tripled in size in the last 3 years.

Nevala claims, "We just completed our 3rd Jazz Festival which was a huge success. We are still growing - we will add a 4th big band next year."

Ona's Music Room is located in Dr. Pepper Place, 2801 2nd Ave S, Birmingham, AL 35233. For more information about JSU Jazz Night at Ona's, contact Dr. Nevala or call Ona's Music Room at 205-320-7006.

Hop into the Spring Frog Adventure at Frog Pond

Angela Marino
Staff Writer

Jacksonville State University Field Schools is hosting a hands-on experience to learn about frogs on Saturday, April 5, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the JSU Frog Pond in White Plains.

This is an event in which those of all ages can touch frogs and learn to identify their mating calls. Brave souls can even wade into the pond and catch the frogs themselves.

"Everyone will learn something new and discover how close frogs actually live to you," says Dr. George Cline, JSU biology professor usually referred to as Dr. Frog.

Frog Pond, located near Highway 9 just south of White Plains Elementary School, is home to more species of frogs in one location than some states contain state-wide. On a typical frog adventure, five to six species will be identified, but on a night with especially good weather,

eight to ten species can be identified.

This is the 15th year of the program, and it has grown significantly with the largest crowd having been 90 people.

Other sponsors of this event are the State Forestry Commission, Little River Canyon, and volunteers such as biology graduate students. Dr. Cline's 18-year-old daughter also helps. She has been catching frogs since age two.

Dr. Cline studies frog calls

all across northeast Alabama to gather information on their distribution. He and Dr. Rayburn, also a professor at JSU, have also been trying to catch a type of salamander called a hellbender for five years.

Dr. Cline encourages people to participate in the frog adventure as part of Frog Watch USA which promotes frog conservation.

Entry is \$3 per person. If you are unable to attend, there will also be a frog adventure in May.

Opinion & Editorial

Bill will make renting more difficult

Brett Johnson
Staff Writer

Jacksonville's State Senator Del Marsh (R-Anniston) has sponsored a bill that would tighten restrictions on renters. The bill gives landlords more time to return deposits and renters less time to pay late rent before being evicted, among other things.

Marsh's bill changes the notice of eviction for late rent from seven days' to four days and shortens the notice time for any other violation from 14 days to seven. It also extends the time for landlords to return deposits from 35 days to 60.

What does this mean for the average JSU student? If you live on campus, virtually nothing. If you live off-campus and pay rent, it could mean everything.

Any college student living on a budget knows how vital the security deposit is to the moving process. The security deposit is meticulously planned into the "move out" budget for any student who moves during or after college years.

Currently, students wait a month to receive those funds to help cover moving costs. With this bill, students will likely have to borrow that \$300-600 from family, friends or elsewhere just to get out of current living arrangements and through the next two months (60 days).

I don't know any college student who hasn't faced unexpected financial hardships: whether it's a parking ticket, a dead car battery, a blown tire, etc. We have all been there. And sometimes we have to temporarily shift priorities to get by (i.e. rent money).

Under this bill, one little financial folly could literally put you "out of house and home." Once rent is over-due, a landlord will be required to give

only 96 hours' notice before you have to find somewhere else to live.



A recent Anniston Star article indirectly quoted the senator saying he was approached by the Alabama Association of Realtors on behalf of apartment owners in Tuscaloosa. Now, I've studied every district in this state and can tell you: Tuscaloosa is not in this district.

Nonetheless, I do know Senator Marsh to be a regular advocate for businesses, so it wasn't too surprising to see his sponsorship of the bill at the Association's request.

However, Marsh's re-election campaign did receive a \$10,000 donation from the Alabama Association of Realtors. Now, I also know Senator Marsh to be one of the most successful men in the legislature. So it is extremely difficult to believe that any typical lobbying money would influence his legislative actions. So what's the fuss?

The senator was also indirectly quoted stating that he "hadn't heard any requests for the changes from Jacksonville — a college town in his district." That's the fuss.

There is a valuable lesson to be learned by simple legislative acts like this... First, pay attention to what your elected officials are doing on your behalf. And second, don't be afraid to contact them and inform them of how you feel about issues that affect you. It does make a difference.

Who knows where this bill will go from here; whether it will pass or not. One thing's for sure is that right now, there is a \$10,000 check with an Association's name on it that is speaking louder than the renting residents of Calhoun County, Alabama.

Writing shouldn't be formulaic

Zach Tyler
Associate Editor

On March 3, future college students everywhere could breathe a collective sigh of relief: the College Board—administrators of the SAT exam—announced that the essay portion of the test would be optional starting in 2016. Good riddance, I say.

The organization gave two reasons for the change: first, a student's performance on a single timed essay exam is not necessarily predictive of how they would fair in a college-level English course. Second, most College Board admissions officers found the essay unhelpful.

A debate began with the change in testing policy: just how should colleges measure the writing skills of prospective students?

I don't think a single, timed essay exam will tell you much. I took the SAT but don't remember the writing portion, probably because I subconsciously blocked the experience from memory.

Despite always being considered a "good" writer, I hate—hate hate—timed essay tests. I freeze up and get lost endlessly rewording one sentence or something stupid like that, and before I know it, I'm out of time.

This semester I took the English Competency Exam (ECE), a graduation requirement here at JSU. It was not a pleasant experience; I was the last person to turn my blue exam book in after a sweaty, agonizing 90 minutes. I passed, though.

Here's the thing: good writing is about drafting and revision, not what you can turn out in 25 or 50 minutes or even an hour and a half.

Still, Susan Sellers, director of the ECE, says that competently communicating through the written word is an important skill for college graduates.

"Is a timed setting or a rubric the ideal option for scoring a student's

writing? Some may agree, and others may disagree," she said in an email exchange with me.

"However, it can serve as a baseline to demonstrate basic competency skills in composition and grammatical accuracy by a student, whether seeking admittance to college or graduating from college."

According to statistics gathered by Complete College America from 33 states, 50 percent of two-year and 20 percent of four-year college students are enrolling in remedial or "developmental" writing and math classes.

So there's a disconnect between grade school math and writing curriculums and what is expected of college freshmen. While a single timed essay test might show that deficiency, it also encourages an alarming trend among students who stress about writing a passing essay: writing according to a "formula."

Many timed essay tests rely on a formula for grading. Essays are examined for pre-specified "major" errors. If you know the major errors set forth in the rubric, it's easy to write an essay that will receive a passing grade.

Some students have even hired coaches to train them to produce writing that will hold up under the scrutiny of such a grading algorithm. The College Board says its decision to make the essay portion of the SAT optional may buck that trend.

But increasingly, we're looking to computer algorithms to edit or even construct our writing in professional settings, too.

There's a new app called 'Hemingway' that edits users' writing according to a pre-determined algorithm. Several large media outlets, including Forbes.com and The Los Angeles Times, rely on algorithm-based reporting for data-heavy stories.

But it's my opinion that writing is an art form, not a list of 'if-then' requirements or formulas—I hope that we never lose sight of that.



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SPRING INTO

MEAL
PLAN
SAVINGS!

FOR EVERY \$100 YOU SPEND ON
A COMMUTER MEAL PLAN,
YOU WILL RECEIVE A
COUPON REWARDS BOOK
INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

- 1 meal at Gamecock Diner,
- Chicken Sandwich Combo at WOW Truck,
- 1 meal at Jack Hopper Dining Hall,
- 2 Tacos Combo Meal at Baja Fresh,
- Chicken Sandwich Combo Meal at Chick-Fil-A,
- 1 lb. Wing Combo Meal at WOW,
- & 1 Large Espresso and a Cookie at Jazzman's

PURCHASE
ONE AT JACK
HOPPER
DINING HALL
TODAY!

Marketing blitz for the QEP

Jacksonville State University's new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is Fast Forward: Using 21st Century Tools to Promote Critical Thinking.

Fast Forward will begin during the Fall 2014 semester with the training of faculty who teach freshmen classes. In Fall 2015, freshmen enrolled in select courses will receive Apple iPads to use while attending JSU.

Here are some locations where you can learn more about Fast Forward in the days ahead:

Thursday, March 20

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mason Hall, Brewer Hall Crosswalk/ Hwy 21

Tuesday, April 1

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ramona Wood Hall

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Merrill Hall South Side Entrance or Lobby, Stone Center West Bus Stop, Martin Hall Crosswalk/ Hwy 21 & 204

Wednesday, April 2

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Merrill Hall South Side Entrance or Lobby, Stone Center, Theron Montgomery Building Food Court, West Bus Stop, Martin Hall Crosswalk/ Hwy 21 & Hwy 204

Thursday, April 3

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ayers Hall

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Ayers Hall

10:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. Front Porch, Jack Hopper Dining Hall

Got a news tip for us?

chantynewstips@gmail.com

Sports

Jax State Rifle wraps up season at NCAA Championships

MURRAY, Ky. – The Jacksonville State rifle team wrapped up its fourth consecutive trip to the NCAA Rifle Championships with a seventh place finish on Saturday at Murray State University.

The Gamecocks, who were making their 13th trip as a program to the NCAA Championships,

accumulated an aggregate score of 4639.

In air rifle, JSU was led by senior Sam Muegge, who capped off his Gamecock career with a fourth consecutive trip to the NCAA Championships. Muegge turned in a team-best 586 on Saturday and finished 18th individually. Junior Dan McCall scored a 585 to finish just behind Muegge. Sophomore Samantha Bullard, who led JSU in smallbore on Friday, recorded a 581 along with freshman Brandon Muske. Junior Brent Books rounded out the scoring with a 575.

West Virginia, who led after smallbore results were posted, maintained that lead in air rifle to claim the 2014 NCAA Rifle Championship. The Mountaineers accumulated a final tally of 4705 and were 28 points better than runner up Alaska. Kentucky rounded out the top-three teams, while Memphis and Nebraska posted top-five finishes.

The Gamecocks conclude another banner season with their 13th trip to the NCAA Rifle Championships and the fourth straight for the program. Jax State brought home the eighth Ohio Valley Conference Championship in February.

~ Sportswire



Sportswire

JSU Rifle finishes stellar 2014 campaign seventh nationally and won its third straight OVC title in February.

entered the day in the same spot it finished after the air rifle competition on Saturday. After JSU posted a 2306 in the smallbore portion of the championship on Friday, head coach Ron Frost's squad turned in a 2333 in air rifle. Jax State accu-

lated an aggregate score of 4639.

Baseball drops first OVC game

Marvel Robinson
Sports Writer

JSU baseball split conference games with SIUE on Saturday winning 5-2 in the first game against the Cougars but losing 9-8 in the second game.

Michael Bishop helped lead the Gamecocks to victory in the first game as he had two hits, scored two runs and drove in two runs. Bishop put the Gamecocks up early with a 1-0 lead as he led the game with a home run to left field.

JSU extended the lead 4-0 as they scored three more times in the third inning. In the inning, Bishop was hit by a pitch but still managed to score on a Cougar throwing error while Gavin Golsan scored on Eddie Mora-Loera single to the outfield. Mora-Loera scored on Ryan Sebra's infield grounder to make the score officially 4-0.

Jacksonville State scored their last run in the top of the ninth inning on a RBI single by Bishop to score Joe McGuire. That made it 5-0, but it would end 5-2 as SIUE scored two runs in the bottom of the ninth. Travis Stout made the final three outs to help secure the win for JSU.

The second game which was the night cap game between the two teams was decided by one point.

After Nick Lombardo scored on Skyler Geissinger's single to give the first runs and the 1-0 lead to SIUE, Jax State came back with three runs in the third inning to make it 3-1. The Gamecocks received those scores from Gavin Golsan, Stephen Bartlett and Eddie Moera-Loera. However, the Cougars would answer with Lombardo scoring on a RBI double by Chase Green, which would lead to Green scoring on a wild pitch. This would make the score even at 3-3 going into the fourth inning.

The fourth inning is where SIUE would re-gain the lead and keep it for the rest of the game. SIUE's Chase Green and Devin Caldwell each drove in a

run to make the score 5-3.

Paschal Petrongolo of JSU hit his fifth triple of the season in the top of the sixth inning and scored on a Bishop's fly out to cut the lead to 5-4. In return, the Cougars added three more runs in the bottom half of the sixth inning to build a 8-4 lead.

Bartlett hit a home run for JSU in the seventh inning and when the eight came around, Petrongolo scored before SIUE's Caldwell hit a home run to make the lead 9-6 going into the ninth. Jacksonville State rallied for two more runs in the ninth inning after Ryan Sebra hit a two-run home run that involved Gordon scoring with two outs to pull JSU to within 9-8. However, SIUE held on and got the final out to seal the win.



JSU Sportswire

JSU now sits at 4-2 and tied for second place in the OVC.

After Saturday's events the Gamecocks are 4-2 in the OVC.

JSU Baseball meets up at Troy on Tuesday and will return home at Rudy Abbott Field for three straight OVC games against Austin Peay. The first game of the trio starts Friday, March 21 at 6 p.m.

Gamble hired as new volleyball coach

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

Searching for someone to turn around Jacksonville State's volleyball program which historically has seen much better days than it has in the recent past, JSU Athletics Director Warren Koegel turned to someone who has experience, and the hardware to prove it.

"We are very excited to have Coach Gamble lead our volleyball program," Koegel said. "He is a proven winner with almost 800 career wins, and he has been successful throughout his coaching career."

Terry Gamble has 18 years of collegiate coaching experience. As Koegel notes, his overall record of

799-236 is quite impressive and will make his first Gamecock victory a milestone.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity at Jacksonville State University," Gamble said. "This program has been successful in the Ohio Valley Conference in the past, and I hope we can return back to the top of the league."

Gamble comes to JSU from McNeese State but has spent most of his career in the junior college ranks where he's won three national championships. He's twice been the NJCAA Coach of the Year and in 2006 was voted the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) National Coach of the Year. Gamble was inducted into the NJCAA Volleyball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2007.

Gamecock Sports Sidebar

Upcoming Action:

Friday: Track @ Florida State
BB vs Austin Peay
Saturday: Track @ Florida St
Tennis @ SIU-Edwardsville
SB vs Eastern Illinois (DH)
BB vs Austin Peay
Sunday: Tennis @ Eastern Ill.
SB vs SIU-Edwardsville (DH)
BB vs Austin Peay
Tuesday: BB vs Samford
Wednesday: SB vs Mid Tenn St.

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

WBB Coach Rick Pietri named OVC Coach of the Year

SB Coach Jana McGinnis won her 700th career game last Saturday

OVC Softball standings:

East:
Jacksonville State (3-0) (17-6)
Eastern Kentucky (1-1) (11-11)
Tennessee State (1-1) (13-17)
Belmont (1-1) (7-13)
Morehead State (1-1) (4-13)
Tennessee Tech (0-3) (8-21)

West:
UT-Martin (2-0) (11-13-1)
SIUE (2-0) (8-15)
Eastern Illinois (0-0) (18-7)
SE Missouri State (0-0) (5-9)
Murray State (0-2) (11-10)
Austin Peay (0-2) (9-14)

OVC Baseball standings:

SE Missouri State [6-0] (13-7)
Tennessee Tech [4-2] (17-4)
Jacksonville State [4-2] (12-8)
Murray State [4-2] (9-9)
SIUE [4-2] (6-12)
Austin Peay [2-1] (8-11)
Morehead State [2-4] (8-11)
Eastern Illinois [2-4] (4-16)
Eastern Kentucky [1-5] (8-12)
UT-Martin [1-5] (2-17)
Belmont [0-3] (7-13)

JSU Soccer hosted it's Alumni Game last weekend. The team now prepares the current players for a spring Tournament in Troy on April 5

During the month of April be sure to watch for special features on current and past JSU athletes

Also keep an eye out for the 2014 football schedule which should be released any week

The Chanticleer will not release a new issue next week with the university closed for Spring Break

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JACKSONVILLE STATE

McGinnis gets 700th win



JSU Sportswire

JSU players recognize Coach McGinnis' milestone victory on the field after the second game on Saturday against Tennessee Tech

Gamecocks sweep Tennessee Tech

Rebekah Hawkins
Sports Writer

It was a record-setting weekend for the Gamecocks as they dismantled the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles during a three-game series.

Saturday the series opened in impressive fashion with JSU winning on the mercy-rule for both games. In both games JSU had five runs in each first inning and eight different players had multiple hits.

Tiffany Harbin struck out five in the opening game of the series while Cadi Oliver hit a Grand Slam to give the Gamecock's an early 4-0 lead. It was senior Amanda Maldonado that added the next home run lading to the

five-run first inning.

Despite two strikeouts in the first game the Golden Eagles sacrificed five runs on four hits. This allowed the Gamecocks to stroll to their 9-0 victory in the opening game.

The second game didn't see a home run for the Gamecocks but still saw plenty of scoring in a 17-4 victory. Tennessee Tech was able to score four runs but in the fourth inning JSU took their four run lead up to the 13-run lead that won the game. The triumphant inning saw three singles, five doubles and a triple and featured 14 JSU batters.

Seven JSU players had three or more hits during the day. Maldonado, Sara Borders and Taylor Sloan had four each. Maldonado

and Oliver had five runs and Borders and Melanie Steer each had four runs throughout the two games.

The Gamecocks were 27-for-53 on the day that also brought head coach Jana McGinnis her 699th and 700th career victories.

Sunday was another record-setting performance as senior pitcher Tiffany Harbin had her school-record 65th career win. She broke the previous record held by Jill Wilcoxson from 1998-2001. She struck out 10 and walked one while she only gave up three runs.

The day also brought the series to a close with a 5-3 victory that gave JSU the sweep.

Sunday's win was much more difficult than the previous day's.

The Golden Eagles managed to score three runs on eight hits. They led most of the game and were ahead by two entering the bottom of the seventh where JSU cut that lead to a run before Sara Borders smacked the only home run of the day for the walk-off win.

Borders and Lewis had two hits in the Sunday win. Sloan and Maldonado had a walk each.

Jacksonville State (17-6) is 3-0 in OVC play while Tennessee Tech fell to 8-21 overall. The Gamecocks take on Eastern Illinois this weekend potentially facing their biggest threat for an OVC crown.

Jax State whups Troy 7-3 on the road

Daniel Porter
Sports Editor

It may be the most joyed win of any regular season contest in any sport when the Gamecocks can come out on top against rival Troy. With the help of a five-run first inning, JSU did just that when they dropped the Trojans 7-3 in baseball on Tuesday night.

Troy's Jesse Nelson couldn't get out of the first inning as the Gamecocks loaded the bases early. Jarrett Hood drew a walk that led to the first run. Freshman Josh Bobo then singled up the middle for a hit the plated two more runs. Finally, senior Stephen Bartlett ripped a single to left that allowed two more runs to score making it 5-0 fast.

The Trojans fought back with a run in the bottom of the first and two in the fourth to make it a 6-3 ballgame after Jax State had scored again in the second when Joe McGuire scooted home on a wild pitch after his two-out triple.

Troy (10-9) was shut out the rest of the way as Ryan Sebra pitched the final 2 1/3 innings to earn his first win of the season.

The Gamecocks added an insurance run in the ninth that eventually gave way to the final score, 7-3.

Jacksonville State (12-8) has now beaten UAB and Troy the season and will host Samford next Tuesday at Rudy Abbott Field.

JSU is 4-2 in the OVC and hosts Austin Peay this weekend for a three game series with the Governors.



JSU Sportswire

Maya Parsons win at Pinehurst led the Gamecocks to a second place overall finish.

Parsons medals at Pinehurst

PINEHURST, N.C. – Junior Maya Parsons used a three-under 69 in Sunday's final round to claim medalist honors and lead the Jacksonville State women's golf team to a second-place finish at the 18th Annual Pinehurst Challenge.

The native of Whitby, Ontario, climbed two spots from third after an opening-round 70 on Saturday. Play was suspended after 36 holes due to weather, leaving Parsons tied with host College of Charleston's Laura Fuenfstueck for the lead atop the 78-player field.

It was Parsons' first win of the season and the second of her career. The final-round 69 on the par-72, 5,949-yard No. 1 Course at Pinehurst Resort tied for the eighth-lowest round in school history and gave her a 36-hole score of 141, tied for the fourth-lowest 36-hole score in school history. It was the second-lowest round of her JSU career, behind a 67 at last season's Blue Raider Invitational.

The final round led the Gamecocks to a 302 as a team, one day after turning in a

303 to open play. The 36-hole score of 605 was 32 shots behind the runaway team champion Cougars of College of Charleston. They shot a 294 to open and finished with a final-round 289 to win the 14-team event.

For JSU, sophomore Melani Sisto's final-round 76 gave her a 36-hole score of 153 and put her in a tie for 15th. Fellow sophomore Melania Bajo Geijo turned in a final-round 79 on Sunday to wrap up a 36-hole 155 and tie for 21st.

Freshman Anne Albrecht's final-round 78 capped a two-round score of 158 and tied her for 33rd, while freshman Angie Varona tied for 49th after a final-round 83 gave her a total score of 161.

The Gamecocks finished six shots ahead of High Point in third place and 11 better than Jacksonville in fourth. Middle Tennessee rounded out the Top five with a 620.

JSU will play next in the John Kirk Panther Invitational from March 29-April 1 at Eagles Landing Country Club in Atlanta.

~ Sportswire