



O' Brother's, where art thou?

Alex McFry
 Associate Editor

With the announcement that Brother's Bar is for sale, Jacksonville could be at risk of losing a piece of history over the course of the next few months.

Dan Nolen, owner and co-founder of the bar, opened the hotspot in 1976 with the help of his brother at about the time he graduated from Jacksonville State University.

"There was nothing for the students, no where for them to go," Nolen said last week in an interview with Fox 6.

Originally called My Brother's Bar, the nearly forty-year-old establishment has been a part of the university experience for students at JSU for decades.

Even though there is competition between Brother's and Pelham's, the experience at each establishment is a completely different one.

The tree stump stools at Brother's attribute to the rustic atmosphere, which contrasts with the new age feel of Pelham's.

No matter which bar students pre-

fer, not having one of the bars in town will be a historic change to Jacksonville's small-town records.

The announcement of the property going up for sale with King reality surprised other small-business owners in the community, too. Carol Watts, owner of Mad Hatter cupcakes just around the corner from Brother's, said that she hates to see it go.

"Our parking lot is always full when they have a show," Watts said.

When prompted about his reasoning behind selling the beloved hangout, Nolen told Fox, "It's a younger person's game now, it's time to move on."

The Charlie Daniels Band, Wet Willie, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Sister Hazel and Zac Brown are just a few of the numerous groups that have performed at the venue over the years. Greek life at JSU has rented out the bar many times since it has been open to the public.

Nothing is certain yet in regards to the bar closing its doors, even though there have been several inquiries about purchasing the prop-



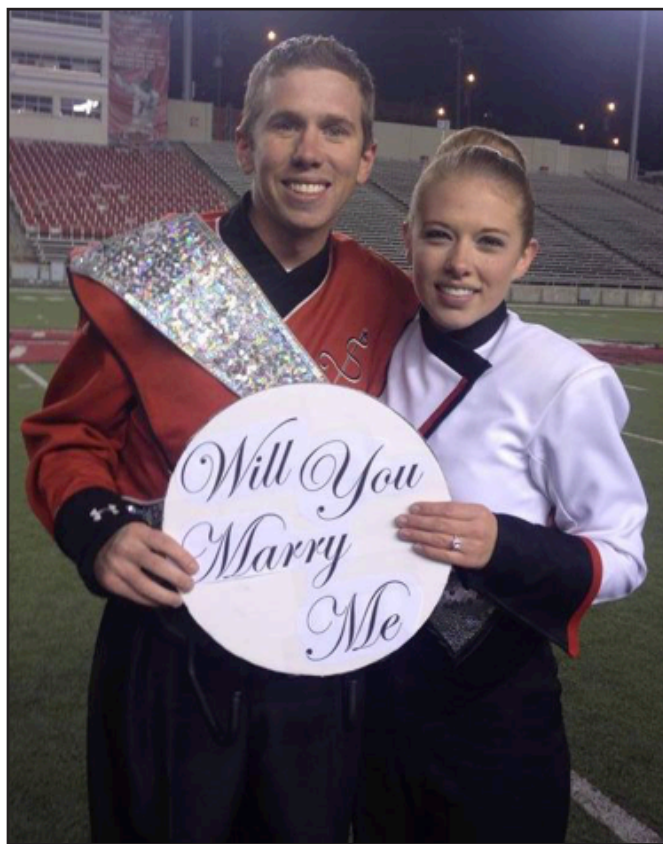
Brother's Bar

Brother's Bar, "A Jacksonville Tradition since 1976," has been one of Jacksonville's most highly-regarded bars over the past forty years.

erty. As of now, no further events have been booked past December 5.

Nolan also told Fox that the "changing landscape in live enter-

tainment and how it's been affected by social media" are huge aspects he had to take into account when deciding the future of the beloved bar.



Mark du Pont/JSU

Southerners' surprise proposal

Katie Cline
 Staff Writer

Kara Mullinax, the head drum major of the Marching Southerners, will be humming a new tune in the months to come: "Here Comes the Bride."

Last Friday night, after the Southerners gave a special performance of their 2014 show for a crowd of alumni in Burgess-Snow Stadium, her boyfriend, Nic Burgess, stepped out of the snare line, got down on one knee and proposed.

"Nic contacted me about a month ago and told me that he was going to propose to Kara," said Dr. Ken Bodiford, the Director of Bands at JSU, "I told the crowd, 'Watch the center of the snare line closely. They are going to do something that has never been done by a Southerners' drumline.'" And indeed they did. Bodiford says the Southerners see 3-4 proposals a year, but even after 21 years and

almost 80 engagements, this one was unique.

With the help of the drumline, Burgess spelled out, "Kara, marry me" during a post-performance cadence with letters on the snare and bass drums. He then appeared on the field with a ring.

"I have never been more shocked in my life," said Mullinax. "I couldn't wait to run out there to him. I was still in disbelief at what was happening. It was the most incredible moment. It was so heartfelt, and it fit our relationship perfectly. The drumline is his family and mine, and the moment wouldn't have been the same without them."

Burgess and Mullinax's relationship began three years ago exactly where one would expect: in band. Burgess came to Jacksonville in 2006 and spent eight years on the Southerners drumline, two of those years as a section leader.

When Mullinax joined in 2010, the two were

See PROPOSAL, page 2

Graduate students host open-house in Ramona Wood

Taylor Brown
 Staff Writer

Students looking to further their education had the opportunity to visit JSU's Graduate Open House on November 18, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. inside Ramona Wood Hall.

The fair was put on by Curriculum and Instruction, which provides both undergraduate

and graduate programs in fields such as Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education.

According to Dr. Janet Bavonese, Interim Department Head, the fair is for potential graduate students looking to enroll in a graduate program in Education.

The faculty has been getting the word out about graduate opportunities to various schools and cities around the Calhoun County area

such as Jacksonville, Anniston and Gadsden.

Various professors from Curriculum and Instruction were available to prospective students to provide information and assistance in enrolling for a graduate program. A student could sit down with teachers from Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education or Special Education. Refreshments and JSU branded gifts were available.

There are two opportunities for students after

See EDUCATION, page 2

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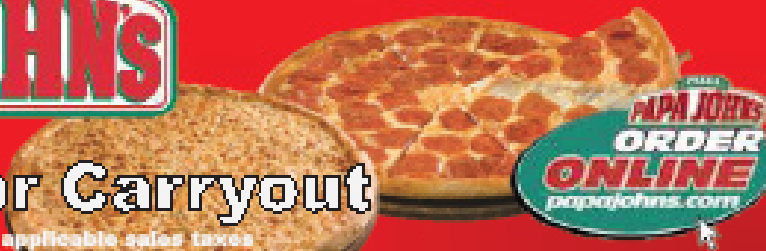
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PROPOSAL, from page 1

merely acquaintances, but Burgess's persistence paid off.

"He kept trying to get me to go out on a date with him, but I wasn't so sure how I felt about that," said Mullinax. "I finally decided to give him a chance, and the rest is history. We started dating and haven't looked back."

Burgess remained with the band as a graduate assistant following his graduation as he pursued a Master's degree in Emergency Management.

He has since graduated from Georgia Fire Academy and is pursuing a career in fire and emergency services.

Mullinax is in her second semester of nursing school here at JSU and is set to graduate in a year and a half.

After graduation, the couple would like to stay near one of their families, either in the Jacksonville or Newnan, Georgia area. As of now, they do not have any set wedding plans other than that the ceremony will not be until after Mullinax graduates.

"Nic and Kara are both wonderful people," said Bodiford. "I wish them a very happy life together."



Mark du Pont/JSU

LINKED, from page 1

an undergraduate degree. According to Dr. Bavonese, there is the traditional route for those who are already certified as a teacher. For those who are not certified, an alternative program is available.

"An alternative student has to undergo many of the same things that undergraduates do for their initial certification," said Bavonese.

The average length of time for a graduate program is around two years.

The graduate programs are offered only online. For more information on graduate programs, students can contact Curriculum and Instruction at 256-782-5091.



Steve Latham/JSU

SGA and student body donates over 130 shirts to local charity

The students of Jacksonville State University have donated 135 shirts to the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center through the Student Government Association's new shirt swap initiative.

The shirt swap program allowed students to donate a shirt bearing a non-JSU university logo in exchange for a free or discounted JSU shirt from the university bookstore. The shirts that were collected will now be donated to JCOC which is a local food bank and shelter.

This is the first year a program of this kind has been initiated at JSU. The SGA began this project

as a service to the students and realized that it would also be a great opportunity to be a service to the community as well.

"It started out as a way to promote school spirit on campus and help students with more affordable gamecock gear," said SGA President Brett Johnson. "Then we decided that donating the shirts we collected would be a great way to involve the students and the community in a win-win service project."

The SGA Executive Officers collected the shirts every Friday at the Theron Montgomery Student Commons Build-

ing from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The first 20 students who participated each Friday received a free Cocky shirt and those who participated thereafter received a Cocky shirt for only \$5.00 (about a 75 percent discount).

Students who were unable to purchase a Cocky shirt were able to receive another free JSU shirt provided by the SGA. The SGA Executive Officers hope to make this program an annual tradition each fall football season.

~Student Government Association

Workshop for "flipping classrooms"

Heather Greene
Special to The Chanticleer

Dubbed the "flipped classroom hero," Dr. Erik Christensen presented "Flipping the Classroom: Real Advice from a REAL professor" to JSU faculty and staff on Nov. 14. Citing proven successful statistics he has seen in his own classroom, Christensen advocated for ways to make the classroom

a more engaging atmosphere by "flipping" the work done inside class and outside of class.

Coupling today's latest technology with fun in-class activities and out-of-class networking, Christensen's techniques have resulted in his having "more smiles than frowns" in class and having to literally push students out of the classroom after class time is up. Now that JSU faculty and staff members have

heard this lecture, JSU students need to be prepared to have their classroom experiences flipped!

The workshop was organized by the JSU Faculty Commons. For more information on classroom flipping and other education technology techniques, call 256-782-5806.

REAL Classroom Design Project Applications

Due December 1, 2014

Gena Christopher
216 Self Hall



FACULTY COMMONS
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Meet The Chanticleer's 2014-2015 Staff



Marie McBurnett
Editor-in-Chief



Alex McFry
Associate Editor



Christiana Tyler
A&E Editor



Marvel Robinson
Sports Editor

Check out this week's edition online at www.jsu.edu/chanticleer/!

Thanksgiving: the true meaning behind the forgotten tradition

Vallean Jackson
Staff Writer

When the month of November rolls around, everyone gets excited about the Thanksgiving holiday. Most people focus on all the mediocre luxuries and overlook the value and meaning of why Thanksgiving is even considered a holiday.

As a society, we are so highly influenced by what we see that our judgment is thrown off and easily persuaded. One example would be retail stores that advertise the Thanksgiving holiday with symbols that “represent” the holiday.

Decorations of turkeys, fall leaves and pilgrims hang in stores to welcome the holiday of thanks. Grocery stores join in on this and mark down the prices of Thanksgiving favorites like turkey, stuffing, green beans, cranberry sauce and sweet potatoes, and so on. These things are done to emphasize the meaning of this traditional holiday, but not done to represent thanks.

There is nothing wrong with tradition, but tradition becomes irrelevant when the meaning of something is forgotten. People are caught up in the food, sales and the representation of Thanksgiving that the true meaning of why Thanksgiving is even celebrated becomes a thing of the past.

Society has become more consumed with fitting the mood of Thanksgiving more so than the his-

tory and values of the day. Thanksgiving should be honored just as any other holiday and not just a day to eat good food and watch television. Just like shooting fireworks is a representation of the Fourth of July to celebrate America gaining its independence—Thanksgiving is of no less importance; it is the day for thanks to be given.

The first Thanksgiving was in Plymouth Colony, which is in present day Massachusetts, in 1621. President Abraham Lincoln declared the final Thursday in November as a national day of Thanksgiving centuries later. Congress made Thanksgiving Day an official national holiday in 1941.

This means the national recognition of Thanksgiving as a holiday is only a few decades old.

When things turned around it was only right for “Days of Thanksgiving”. Thus bringing the reason and meaning of why thanksgiving is celebrated.

November 27, 2014 and every last Thursday that will follow is a day that would be for giving thanks to the harvest of the past year under previous conceptions.

There are many traditions carried out as the day gets closer, but the most important aspect of the holiday is to give thanks. It is a time to show one’s appreciation as well as a time to come together with one another as generations before have done.

According to history, the first Thanks-



artchive.com

‘Freedom of Want’ by Norman Rockwell.

giving was not perfect, but the chance to come together and thanks was close enough.

There is nothing wrong with Black Friday shopping or the preparation of the classic Iron Bowl game; it just adds to the growing tradition of Thanksgiving.

Have you ever created a puzzle?
Have a puzzle you would like to see published in the paper?
Let us know using #chanticleerjsu or email us at chantynewstips@gmail.com and you may see it!

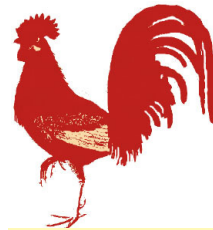
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Campus crime report

- 11/06/14
Property Damage
Dixon Hall
- 11/07/14
Sexual Abuse
Stadium Tower
- 11/08/14
Brush Fire
College Apartments
- 11/11/14
Arrest- Possession of Marijuana & Drug Paraphernalia
Mason Hall Parking Lot
- 11/14/14
Criminal Mischief
The Quad
- 11/14/14
Vehicle Accident
Stadium Tower Parking Lot
- 11/15/14
Arrest-Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor
Miller Street
- 11/16/14
Medical Emergency
Theron Montgomery Building

Chicken Scratch



I opened my eyes too aggressively this morning and almost skipped class due to sprained eyelids.

I’m slow to react unless I almost drop my phone in water. Then all of the sudden I become Neo from The Matrix.

Me flirting: all your facial parts are in the right spots.

Standing alone at Pelham *press button* light changes from green to red. *No one man should have all that power*

True embarrassment lies within your first email address.

If it is someone’s wish to keep personal matters personal, who are we to say that is wrong?

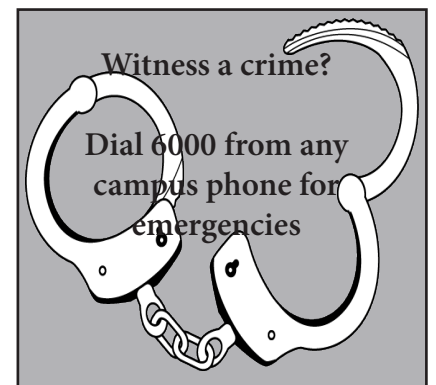
Does the “G” on the Gamecock Express bother anybody else?

Be thankful. Make the most of today. You never know when it’ll be your last.

Just got attacked by a swarm of leaves. Shout out to the wind.

Just saw my GPA floating by in a drainage ditch.

Submit today!
Have something you want us to see? Use #chanticleerjsu



7-day weather outlook

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Clear	Clear	Clear	Chance of Thunderstorm	Rain	Clear	Partly Cloudy
High: 56° Low: 31°	High: 58° Low: 37°	High: 58° Low: 49°	High: 71° Low: 52°	High: 63° Low: 40°	High: 55° Low: 31°	High: 50° Low: 29°

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Friendliest Campus in the South' prepares for the holidays

Heather Greene
Special to the Chanticleer

With the holiday season upon us, the students, professors and staff at Jacksonville State University are reminded of the numerous blessings many have gotten and relish the opportunity to give back to the community and those in need.

JSU have various service projects going on across campus, but is also offering some fun-filled activities for the whole family to enjoy this holiday season.

As is tradition, President Bill and Beth Meehan cordially invite the community to the President's Home for JSU in Lights on Dec. 1, 2014, beginning at 4 p.m.

The annual lighting ceremony and reception serves as a time to bring the campus and local communities together and help usher in the spirit of holidays.

Attendees are asked to bring an unwrapped toy for a boy or girl ages 5-10 to help make the toy drive sponsored by SGA a success.

"The Student Government Association loves helping to serve the community on behalf of the students at JSU," said Brett Johnson, SGA President. "Being able to give back is what puts us in the mood for the season. Our toy drive conducted through JSU in Lights is a great way to bring cheer to children in our area. When students get involved in these service projects, they know that contributing just a little bit individually can collectively make a huge impact."

While the SGA is giving back to children in the Jacksonville community through JSU in Lights, the university is also making an impact around the world with projects like Shoeboxes for Guatemala.

Coordinated for the past 14 years by Dr. George M. Lauderbaugh, JSU professor of history and a board member for the Alabama Guatemala Partners of the Americas, the university will be filling shoeboxes with toys, books and personal items for impoverished children in Guatemala.

While giving to children one has never met before in another country can sometimes feel remote, Lauderbaugh aptly drives home the importance of the project by explaining that there are children in Guatemala who will literally receive nothing for Christmas if people in Alabama do not come together and give of their time and resources.

Anyone wishing to participate may drop off a shoebox filled with toys, books, and personal items like socks, at the Ernest Stone Center, room 309, by Dec. 15, 2014.

For a list of items to include in a shoebox, contact Dr. Lauderbaugh at glauderb@jsu.edu or 256-782-8044.

In addition to helping less fortunate children, the university is hosting a variety of kid-friendly events this holiday season. JSU Choral Activities will host its annual Madrigal Dinner on Dec. 5 and 6. The Renaissance themed event will transfer Ye Old Leone Cole Auditorium into a medieval court.

November 19 was the deadline to purchase a ticket including the meal, but tickets are still available for the show without dinner.

For more information, call 256-782-5544.

For the outdoor lover, the JSU Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne will host Christmas in the Canyon – an enchanting day full of holiday programs including arts and crafts, storytelling, music, photos with Santa, refreshments and more – on Dec. 6, 2014, begin-



Steve Latham/JSU

ning at 10 a.m. Admission is free.

On Dec. 12, 2014, the JSU Field Schools and Friends of the Talladega National Forest will host Merry Mountain Christmas beginning at 6 p.m., at the Cleburne County Mountain Center in Heflin.

The evening will be filled with live holiday music from Caribbean Chrome Steel Drum Band, the JSU Field Schools 2015 programs will be unveiled and there will be an update on the U.S. Forest Service Alabama Golden Eagle Project.

Admission is free and all are invited to attend. For more information on the Field Schools' events, contact Renee Morrison at 256-782-8010.

December 2, 2014 will see the Jacksonville Christmas Parade, directed again this year by Rita Edwards, begin at 6 p.m.

This is her 24th year of directing the Christmas Parade and, with a 4 week old child, she asserts it will not be her last.

There are at least six bands

booked so far. The Jacksonville State Southerners, along with the ballerinas, will march.

Clubs and organizations have signed up to have floats, as have beauties, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, football players and cheerleaders. Antique cars and the Shriners will make their way down Pelham Road.

Edwards Grocery Store will donate all of the candy for the parade, with the theme this year being 'Creative Christmas.'

"What that means," said Edwards, "is that we welcome anything you can come up as long as it's colorful, bright and imaginary."

The parade will begin in the parking lot of Winn-Dixie and proceed to the JSU campus. Deadline for applications is November 21, 2014.

Applications can be picked up at Edwards Grocery, 6726 Alabama 204. Call 256-435-4447 for more information.

President and Mrs. Meehan and the Student Government Association cordially invite you to join us at the President's Home for a holiday reception.

J S U I N
L I G H T S

Bring an unwrapped toy for a girl or boy (5-10 yrs. old)

Monday, December 1, 2014
4:00-5:30 p.m.
Campus Lighting at 5:00p.m.

Upcoming events on and around campus

December 1, 2014

JSU in Lights will begin at 4 p.m. at President Meehan's house.

December 4, 2014

Interlude: JSU BA/BFA Senior Exhibition in Hammond Hall at 7 p.m.

December 5, 6, 2014

The annual Madrigal Dinner will be held in Leone Cole Auditorium beginning at 7 p.m. Advance ticket purchase required

December 15, 2014 - January 6, 2015

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Oxford High School to join JSU's Encore! Show Choir on November 21 for fall concert

On Friday, November 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. the Jacksonville State University Show Choir Encore! will present its Fall Concert in the Mason Hall performance center.

The Oxford High School Show Choir under the direction of Mrs. Holly Luke, an alumnus of JSU and Encore! will also be featured on the program.

In Fall 1989, JSU introduced a new musical ensemble, a show choir called Encore! Under the direction of Darnelle Scarborough, this ensemble merged singing and dancing to dazzle audiences of all ages.

Three other directors, Carrie Culver, Larry Hardin and Jane Rice Holloway, continued the show choir tradition at JSU.

Under the current direction of Dr. Renee Baptiste, Encore! continues to attract singers and instrumentalists who come together and perform pop, jazz, Broadway and other contemporary genres.

Encore! celebrated its 25th year anniversary last year and continues to entertain audiences through song and dance.

With a repertoire of classic and modern jazz, show tunes, classic pop, and their own brand of a cappella fireworks, Encore! strives to provide the best in collegiate entertainment.

Acting as goodwill ambassadors for JSU, Encore! performs throughout the community, from civic events to high schools, inspiring and entertaining audiences of all ages.



(Steve Latham/JSU) JSU's Encore! Show Choir recently celebrated 25 years of performing.

Students are asked to demonstrate vocal and movement skills through competitive auditions.

Recently the ensemble performed in Tubaween, for JSU's homecoming and toured Cherokee County schools.

This year's show celebrates the American Variety Show. Broadway, movie and TV selections are featured. The concert is free and open to the general public.

~JSU Newswire

ISO hosts a make-up party: ABC-themed

International Student Organization (ISO) would like to apologize for having to cancel their Halloween party due to a time conflict with United Nations Day Tea preparations.

ISO will host a make-up party on November 20 in the International House basement from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The party theme will be

Anything But Clothes. So, campus, grab something ironic, get creative, and come on out.

In usual form, ISO will have great music and free refreshments. Can't wait to see what you come up with for an outfit! One rule...be appropriate... Okay, two rules: You have to have some fun too!

~ International Student Organization



Seventh annual "Telling" slated for November 22

Can dogs talk? Do fairies dance? Are trees magical? Do you have memories of growing up in the south during the "fun years?" How do other nations celebrate the holidays? Why should we soar like eagles?

Join the Telling Tellers at the Little River Canyon Center on Saturday, November 22, 2014, as they "write stories on the wind" during the Seventh Annual Telling: Storytelling in the Canyon. The event takes place from 1-4 p.m. and admission is free.

The tellers for the day will be Finn Bille, Joe Estes, Danny Turner, Lee Piskorz, and Renee Morrison (aka Midnight the Coon-hound).

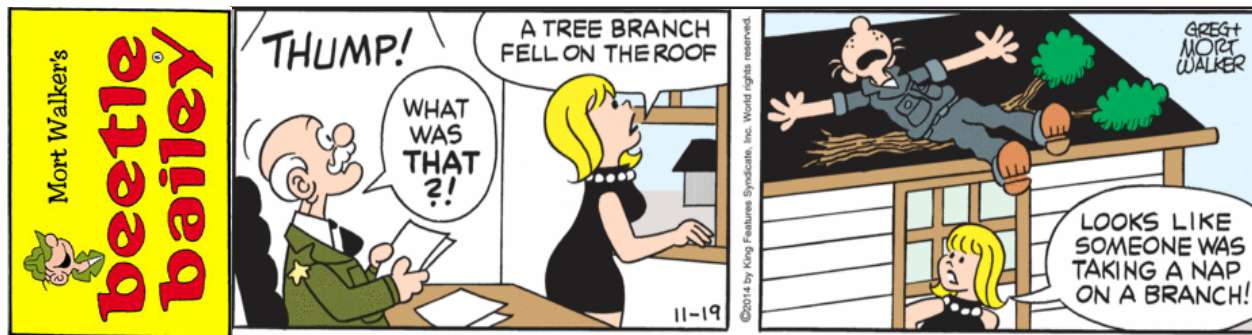
The International Telling is a worldwide event devoted to storytelling. This grass-roots movement is endorsed by the National Storytelling Network. It is always presented on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

For the Canyon Center event, De Soto State Park is offering a discount on lodging if "Telling" is mentioned when calling to make reservations.

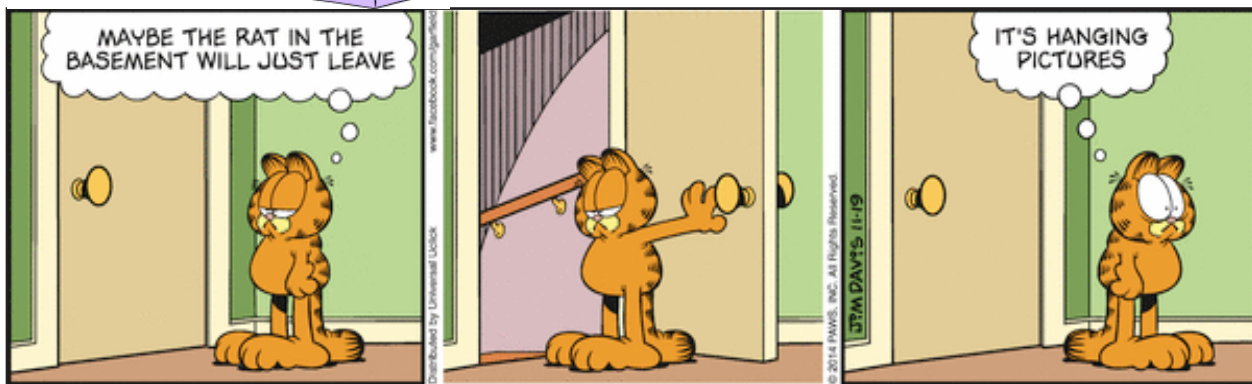
Visit www.telling.org for more info about International Telling; visit www.canyoncenter.org to learn more about this and other events.

For more information email Renee Morrison at rmorrison@jsu.edu or call 256-782-5697.

~JSU Newswire



HAVE YOU CREATED A COMIC? A PUZZLE? WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IT PRINTED? CONTACT US AT CHANTYNEWSTIPS@GMAIL.COM AND IT MIGHT PRINT IN THE NEXT ISSUE.



Solution for the sudoku puzzle on pg 3

Puzzle 1 (Very hard, difficulty rating 4.5)

3	6	4	5	1	2	8	9	7
5	8	7	9	6	4	1	3	2
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7	5	3	1	2	9	6	8	4
8	1	2	3	4	6	7	5	9
4	9	6	7	8	5	3	2	1

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Why not be thankful for government, too?

Brett Johnson
Staff Writer

Being a young person interested in politics, it's not often that I hear people telling me how thankful they are for government. Doesn't it seem like if and when you hear someone talking about government, they're mostly complaining?



In fact, there is a popular quote that circulates each election cycle, which encourages people to vote, just so they can have the right to complain! Who's to say that we can't look at our government with gratitude, as well? I mean after all, it is the season to be thankful.

So... What is there to be thankful about in our government? For starters, we can be assuredly thankful for the opportunity to choose our government. We even often have the opportunity to vote directly on policy issues, especially in state government.

Just this past election there were five statewide amendments that were placed on the ballot for us to approve or disapprove. I am thankful for the right to vote and am even more thankful for a government that respects that right.

When discussing government, we must remember who that really is. We tend to think of 'government' as just politicians. In reality, it consists of individuals who maintain our standard of living on a daily basis.

This includes police officers, fire fighters, military personnel, social workers, educators and many more. Without these 'government' officials working each day to protect,

educate and assist us, our quality of life would suffer.

On a local level, I am thankful for elected officials who appreciate Alabama values. While I often disagree with our state's current leadership, I do appreciate the fact that our representatives in state and local government do their best to uphold and preserve the values of Alabama families.

This, to me, includes developing state budgets in a conservative manner and expressing appreciation for taxpayer dollars. Whether I agree or disagree with specific budgeting policies, I do respect that they have at least tried to pay tribute to conserving taxpayers' dollars in drafting state budgets.

See there! We can be thankful for government, too! "To every action there is always opposed an equal reaction," said physicist Isaac Newton in his 'third law' of physics. In politics, we can (or should be able to) apply this law as well. Let's call this our 'Political Third Law' of sorts: for every negative government action there can also be an equal and positive action.

As we begin the season for gratitude and giving, let's not forget those in government who are working for our common interests. Too often a few rotten apples spoil the character of those few good men and women. Happy Thanksgiving!

A barista's Black Friday blues

Alex McFry
Associate Editor

While there are some people are gearing up for Thanksgiving and others are jumping straight into Christmas, everybody has been preparing for the infamous third holiday in the middle of all of the nonstop, face-stuffing madness—Black Friday.

As a barista, I've gotten to witness the Black Friday craze from behind the counter for the past two years.

Retailers and department stores start running their ads as early as one month before the Friday that makes Thanksgiving "not-so-thankful."

In years past, stores have started opening their doors to Black Friday deals and doorbusters as early as 6 p.m. on Turkey Day, leaving workers with their faces only half-stuffed before they have to jump in their cars to prepare their workplace for the never-ending crowds.

People make a plan, pitch a tent, and, of course, grab their caramel brulée lattes before settling in for the multitudes of hours on a freezing cold sidewalk just to beat that woman in the next aisle to that PS4 bundle they've had their eyes on for the past few weeks.

Having witnessed this chaos from both sides, both behind the counter and in front of it, my question is simple: is all this hustle and bustle really worth it? What do shoppers really gain from camping out in front of a store for forty-eight (or more) hours at a time just to get something a little

cheaper right before Christmas? What's better? When the same

frantic shoppers compare prices on all these products three months, two months, even one month after Christmas is over, and they're just as cheap (or cheaper) than what they bought them for in the first place.

People talk about Thanksgiving being lost

behind the fantastical façade of Christmas, but what about the greed of Black Friday? Do any of the people camping out in front of the local Best Buy think about the fact that those inside the store preparing for the oncoming stampede of shoppers missed spending time with their families to do so?

Some people would argue that you shouldn't have one day of the year singled out to see your family—take a vacation day.

I wonder how a day that should signify a nation's beginnings became a competition over a company's twenty-sixth version of the same video game system.

I suppose that it really isn't about what day is spent, but the fact that it is spent at all. Thanksgiving is a day of recognition—a day to give thanks for everything and everyone we are privileged enough to have in our lives.

Black Friday holds a lot of hype, but it might be possible that the monopolized madness only gets as much attention as we as a society let it have.

Here's hoping that I won't be seeing anyone spending their Thanksgiving holiday standing in line at Starbucks for a peppermint mocha.



Holiday gifts for the gamer in your life

Sawyer McKay
Staff Writer

The holidays are nearly upon us. "But it isn't even December yet!" you may say. That's exactly what I think every year right before the Christmas season hits me like a ton of bad fruitcake.

It's as if some hidden conductor gives an anonymous cue to commence with the annual yuletide symphony all at once.

It's easy to be caught at unawares and end up doing a lot of last minute gift shopping for friends and family. This is where I will offer what assistance I may.

Nowadays, it seems everyone and their grandmother plays at least some type of video game, whether it be Call of Duty or Candy Crush.

The chances are that even if you don't play video games yourself, you have a loved one who does. So, whether you want to find the perfect gift for friends and family members, or you just want to do a little shopping for yourself this season, don't get inundated by the litany of this year's new titles with no idea which ones are actually any good.

Check out the 2014 holiday video game buyer's guide that I've compiled below. Included are

some of the best reviewed games of the past year in few different categories so as to encompass as many gaming tastes as possible, from family-friendly racers to gory hack-and-slash adventures.

Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare

I know, I know. "Call of Duty is just the same thing repackaged every year!" Believe me, I was jaded too. But this one is different. Sledgehammer Games has revolutionized what some consider an old, tired series with the addition of the Exosuit, and it makes all the difference. The fast-paced, fluid gameplay that's so familiar, when combined with a host of new features like the Exosuit's movement and improved Pick 13 create-a-class system (not to mention KEVIN SPACEY!) definitely warrants giving the series another go if you thought your COD days were done. IGN REVIEW: 9.1/10

Middle Earth: Shadow of Mordor

Tolkien nerds, rejoice! It's been a good while, if ever, since a game has done The Lord of the Rings universe justice. Shadow of Mordor combines a solid combat system similar to that of the

Batman Arkham games with a story that is both original and respectful of the source material. Slaying orcs is heaps of fun, the game is gorgeous, and it's chock full of tidbits of lore that hardcore fans of the books can geek out over. IGN REVIEW: 9.3

Mario Kart 8

Mario Kart has been around since the days of the SNES, and the series holds a special place in the hearts of many Nintendo fans. This newest iteration is perhaps the most refined entry to date. You'll race along at a breakneck pace (with a silky smooth 60fps frame rate) in the air, under water, and—brand new in Mario Kart 8—on zero-gravity segments of both new maps and classic favorites. IGN REVIEW: 9.0

For full reviews of all the above games, go to IGN.com. I find it to be a great source for reliable reviews and news in the gaming and media industries.

As always, feel free to send any questions, comments, or suggestions by email to smckaychanticleer@gmail.com or contact me on Twitter @ChantyTech

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SPORTS

Volleyball gets win on Senior Day and prepares for OVC Tournament



JSU Sportswire

Senior Nicole Merget smiles with her teammates as she joined the 1,000 digs club and helped JSU to victory.

Rebekah Hawkins
Staff Writer

The JSU volleyball team clinched a spot in the conference tournament even with a loss to Tennessee Tech, which they made up for with a win against Southeast Missouri on Senior Day.

The Gamecocks headed north to play OVC rivals Tennessee Tech last Tuesday night.

It was a night that ended in a loss and ended a win streak against the Golden Eagles that goes back seven games.

JSU won only one set in the match against TTU and struggled to hold back their opponent's weapon, Cody Dodd.

In the first set, JSU fell down early and was unable to catch up and surrendered a victory.

The second set was the Gamecocks' only win of the night and started strong in their favor. TTU managed a comeback, but couldn't hold onto it and fell. The third set saw a similar scenario to the first set in that JSU fell behind and simply couldn't come back. The fourth

and final set saw JSU climb into the lead, but like Tennessee Tech in the second set, the Gamecocks couldn't keep it and lost the match.

The Gamecocks hit a .138 attack percentage overall and .227 in their winning set. Allyson Zuhlke had a big game for JSU as she had 17 kills. Behind her came Nicole Merget with 12 and Emily Rutherford with ten. On defense, Samantha Bohne led with 23 digs, but her teammates Jennifer Hart, Rutherford and Hannah Kirk had 14, 12 and 11 respectively. For TTU it was all Cody Dodd, who had 30 kills by herself and 20 digs on defense to add to it.

The finals for the match were 18-25, 25-22, 22-25 and 22-25.

Saturday was Senior Day for two of the Gamecocks, Merget and Victoria Cross. The seniors saw a win as Jacksonville State defeated Southeast Missouri to wrap up the regular season. The first set saw JSU be in a tight race for a win that they eventually took after trailing the Redhawks. The second set was a bust for the Gamecocks that wound up being their only loss of the day;

however, it was a winner for Merget who managed to top over 1,000 career kills with one in the set. The third was all JSU and they easily routed SEMO by ten. The final saw a tie at 20, but the Gamecocks were able to finish strong and take the last set for a match victory.

Although the Gamecocks had a lower overall attack percentage at .158 than SEMO who hit .212 overall, it was a productive day for the Gamecocks. Not only did Merget break 1,000, but she had 14 kills on the day. In the lead was Charis Ludtke with 18. On defense, the leader was Hart with 17 digs, who also had the team-high 47 assists. Kirk had 14 digs behind her and finishing up the double digits was Rutherford with ten.

The finals for the match were 26-24, 15-25, 25-15 and 25-21.

The Gamecocks concluded their regular season with a berth to the OVC Tournament. They will head to Murray, Ky. on Thursday to play a rematch against Tennessee Tech in the first game.

Gamecocks Side Bar

FCS 2014 Top 25 (The Sports Network)

1. New Hampshire
2. Coastal Carolina
3. North Dakota State
4. Jacksonville State
5. Eastern Washington
6. Villanova
7. Fordham
8. Illinois State
9. Chattanooga
10. Southeastern-Louisiana
11. UNI
12. Montana State
13. Montana
14. Eastern Kentucky
15. Harvard
16. South Dakota State
17. James Madison
18. Indiana State
19. McNeese State
20. Youngstown State
21. Richmond
22. William & Mary
23. Sam Houston State
24. North Carolina A&T
25. Bethune-Cookman

2014 Football Schedule

- 8/29 @ Michigan State L 7-45
 9/6 @ Chattanooga W 26-23
 9/13 Open
 9/20 v West Alabama W 45-34
 9/27 @ Murray State* W 52-28
 10/4 vs UT Martin * W 38-14
 10/11 @ TSU * W 27-20
 10/18 Open
 10/25 v Tennessee Tech
 *W 49-3
 11/1 vs Austin Peay ** W 56-0
 11/8 @ EKU* W 20-6
 11/15 vs EIU * W 27-20
 11/22 @ Southeast Missouri *
 *OVC game/ ** Homecoming

Michael Carlisle named OVC Defensive Player of the Week

Upcoming action

11/20
-Volleyball vs. Tennessee Tech
5:30 p.m.

11/22
-Rifle vs. Gamecock Invitational

-Football @ Southeast Missouri
1:00 p.m.

-W Basketball vs New Orleans
2:00 p.m.

-M Basketball v Miles College
4:30 p.m.

11/25
-W Basketball vs. Wofford
6:30 p.m.

-M Basketball @ Alabama A&M
7:00 p.m.

11/28
-M Basketball vs Savannah State
6:00 p.m.

11/29
-W Basketball @ Central Arkansas
2:00 p.m.

JSU men drops season opener to Marshall

Timothy Cash
Staff Writer

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks Men's Basketball team fell to the Marshall Thundering Herd 74-55 in their season opener on Friday in Huntington, W.Va.

Avery Moore led the Gamecocks with 18 points. JaQuail Townser led the team with three assists, and D.J. Felder led with eight rebounds.

With only 36 seconds into the contest, a shot by Townser from beyond the arc gave the Gamecocks the first 3 points of the season and the game. However, JSU did not keep the lead for long. Two quick scores from Marshall took the lead from the Gamecocks, and Jacksonville State would not regain the lead for the rest of the game.

Darion Rackley made a 3-pointer that tied the game at six with 17:42

left in the first, but this would be the closest they would come to regaining the lead. Marshall had control of the game from that point forward.

JSU was plagued with poor shots in the first half. The Gamecocks could only sink shots 18 percent of the time compared to the Thundering Herd's 50 percent shot efficiency.

The Gamecocks improved during the second half, but Marshall came out of the locker room with the same intensity they had in the first half. They quickly scored five points within the first minute of play. Felder was the first to score for the Gamecocks in the second half with a layup. Marshall was able to make a 17 to 21-point cushion during the second half.

While poor shooting still plagued the Gamecocks, it improved to 37 percent. However, Mar-



JSU Sportswire

Avery Moore led the Gamecocks with 18 points.

shall kept a consistent 50 percent efficiency throughout the game.

Turnovers would be the death of Jacksonville State. The Gamecocks had 16 turnovers compared to Marshall's eight during the last 20 minutes. The Gamecocks contin-

ued on the road for Monday's game at Louisville where they lost 88-39.

They face Cleveland State and will then host their first home game of the season at against Miles College this Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

OVC Champs clinch playoff birth



JSU Sportswire

In the above picture, the Jacksonville State Gamecocks celebrate as they win their fourth OVC title and clinch a playoff spot in the FCS playoffs.

Marvel Robinson
Sports Editor

The No. 3 Jacksonville State Gamecocks defeated Eastern Illinois 27-20 to claim the Ohio Valley Conference Championship and clinch a playoff spot in the FCS Playoffs.

The Gamecocks are now 9-1 overall and 7-0 in the Ohio Valley Conference. This is the first time in school history that Jacksonville State has posted a perfect 7-0 in the OVC.

JSU head coach John Grass has the most wins through 10 games than any JSU coach in his debut season.

This is the Gamecocks fourth OVC title and they won it by defeating the two-time defending champs in Eastern Illinois.

The passing game was huge in the win as Eli Jenkins passed for a career best 288 yards and one touch-

down. Josh Barge led the receivers with eight receptions, 153 yards and a touchdown. Ruben Gonzalez caught seven passes of his own for 113 yards. This was the first time the Gamecocks had two receivers over 100 yards since Nov. 3, 2001.

"We knew we were going to have to throw it coming in," said head coach John Grass in the post-game interview. "Barge had his normal day, Eli played really, really well and it was good to see Ruben get going. He showed tonight what we thought he could do the whole season."

DaMarcus James had another good game on the ground as he rushed for over 100 yards with a touchdown. James has a school-record of 17 career 100-yard rushing games.

On the defensive end, Darius Jackson and Jaylen Hill both had interceptions. Jackson returned his

interception for a 27-yard touchdown. Michael Carlisle and Ben Endress both led with 10 tackles.

JSU scored on their first drive of the game in just two plays. It only took 41 seconds for Jenkins to find Barge on a 59-yard touchdown pass. JSU jumped up 7-0 early in the game. However, Eastern Illinois would find the end zone towards the end of the first quarter to tie the score at seven.

In the second quarter, Connor Rouleau kicked two back-to-back field goals to put the Gamecocks up 13-7. Then, after another defensive stand, Jacksonville State's running back James found the end zone on an 8-yard run. JSU went up 20-7 at halftime.

In the third, Eastern Illinois scored 10 unanswered points to bring the score to 20-17.

It was early in the fourth quarter when Jackson intercepted a pass for the Gamecocks and returned it for a 27-yard touchdown. This made the score 27-17 until Eastern Illinois added three more points with a field goal. EIU had two more chances to score again, but the Gamecocks defense stopped them and held them to no yards on the last two possessions. The final score ended 27-20.

JSU will now head on the road to Cape Girardeau, Mo. to face Southeast Missouri in the last game of the regular season.

"Hopefully we'll have a good week this week and go on the road and beat a good SEMO team and make sure we get one of the top four seeds and get to play at home," said Grass.

Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. Live stats and game information can be found at www.jsugamecocksports.com.



JSU Sportswire

Jacksonville State's Destiny James dribbles the ball up the court as JSU lost to Texas Tech 67-59.

Women's season opener ends in loss

Wesley Schultz
Staff Writer

The Lady Gamecocks faced their first test of the season on Friday against Texas Tech where they lost 67-59.

The game was close through all four quarters as JSU pushed Texas Tech to their limit. JSU trailed by nine to start the game, but made a quick charge back as Gretchen Morrison made two consecutive three-point shots.

Still in the first half, JSU would trail by 11, which was the largest deficit of the half.

JSU would then go on a 10-2 run to bring the game within two points. The first half would eventually end with a score of 37-34 in favor Texas Tech.

The second half started with a pair of free throws for JSU as the lead was trimmed to one point. However, the Gamecocks fell behind once again as they trailed by double digits late in the second half.

JSU did not recover and Texas Tech won 67-59.

Jacksonville State out-rebounded Texas Tech on the night 39-35 with Tyler

Phelion pulling down eight boards for a team high. Miranda Cantrell was close with seven rebounds of her own.

JSU had a rough night shooting as they only hit 35.6 % of their shots. Candace Morton led the team with 13 points while Phelion was right behind her with 12 points.

With this loss, JSU starts the season 0-1.

The Gamecocks earned their first win at Alabama on Nov. 18 and won 64-62. Their first home game is this Saturday at 2 p.m. against Marshall.

Cross Country finishes season

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Jacksonville State cross country teams wrapped up the 2014 season on Friday competing in the NCAA South Region, hosted by Florida State University.

The Gamecock women finished 29th, while the men only had three runners competing and did not count in the team standings.

In the women's 6K, sophomore Ju-ells McLeod led JSU in the final outing of the season as she covered the layout in 22:48.10. In her final competition in cross country, senior Whitley Towns clocked a time of 23:07.2.

Sophomore Briana Jackson and freshmen Dayja Simon and Gina Carnovale rounded out the times for Jax State. Jackson crossed the finish line in 25:43.00, while Simon and Carnovale were right behind her at 26:27.00 and 27:05.40 respectively.

On the men's side, senior Mickey Sanders closed out his Gamecock career at the NCAA meet with a time of 34:23.20. Sophomore Stephen Payne posted a mark of 34:37.30. Jordan Cummins, another senior on the men's squad, finished with a time of 35:09.60.

The women of Vanderbilt claimed the team title at the NCAA South Regional, while FSU's Colleen Quigley won medalist honors with a time of 19:17.00. The Rebels of Mississippi won the men's event with 52 total points. Auburn's Ty McCormack was the individual winner with a time of 30:08.30.

~JSU Sportswire



WHERE YOU'RE GOING.