

WEATHER: Partly cloudy, High 86, Low 64

Thursday, April 9, 2015



Dr. John Hammett/Special to *The Chanticleer*

Dr. John Hammett and partner, Ginger Marsh, at the Gumbo DanceSport national qualifying event in Baton Rouge, LA.

## Dancing Dean takes home championship

Adam Higgins  
Staff Writer

What does a man with a doctorate in Health, Physical Education and Recreation do in order to stay in shape? The answer is probably nowhere close to what comes to mind.

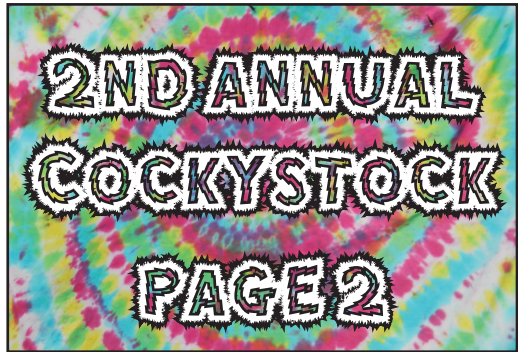
You won't find any clues in his office. A red number 51 gamecocks jersey is framed on the wall along with several black and white photos of football players—probably from his days as a football player at Jacksonville State University.

Dr. John Hammett, dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies, is a competitive ballroom dancer in his spare time.

"I never dreamed I would ever be in ballroom dancing, but I do enjoy it. I'm 59 years-old and I can't do the things that I used to do. It's a great exercise," he said. Hammett got his start in 2009, when he was asked to participate in Dancing With Our Stars, a fundraiser for childhood literacy hosted by the Anniston Morning Rotary Club.

He was the star, and was paired with Ginger Marsh, wife of Del Marsh, who was his dancer. They danced the Lindy Hop—a swing dance where partners are connected hand-to-hand at times, and

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## Saying goodbye to President Meehan

Katie Cline  
Staff Writer

When Dr. William A. Meehan retires on July 1, 2015, he will have served as the president of Jacksonville State University for 16 years, the third longest term by any of the university's presidents. Meehan's term is exceeded only by those of Dr. Houston Cole and Dr. Clarence Daugette. On Friday, April 3, the university hosted a reception on the fifth floor of Stadium Tower

to honor Dr. Meehan and his family for their service to JSU.

Under Dr. Meehan, JSU has witnessed many changes, including the addition of five new buildings and the major renovation of three others. He was president during the launch of the campus shuttle system, the Gamecock Express, and implementation of the university's first doctoral program. The university has also been reaccredited twice under his leadership

and has added several new scholarships, the biggest being the Elite Honors Scholarship.

In addition to all of this, Meehan has his own goal in mind when it comes to the legacy that he is leaving.

"Getting students to come and graduate," Meehan said. "I'm very proud of the fact that under my administration we've added a lot more scholarships that allow smart

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## Celebrating 80 editions



Megan Wise/*The Chanticleer*

Christiana Tyler (left), Alex McFry, Marvel Robinson, and Marie McBurnett, this year's *Chanticleer* staff, compare the print editions of Jacksonville's college publication. Before becoming *The Chanticleer* in 1967, the student newspaper was *The Teacola* (1934) and *The Collegian* (1954).

## The Chanticleer hosts gathering in honor of anniversary

Katie Cline  
Staff Writer

Students and faculty gathered in Self Hall on Monday night to celebrate 80 years of student newspapers at JSU.

First published in 1934, *The Teacola* was the first campus newspaper when JSU was known as the Jacksonville State Teachers College—thus the title "Teacola," a combination of the words "teachers" and "college." In 1954, the paper's name changed to *The Collegian*. A final name change came in 1967—just one year after the institution was elevated to the status of a university—the newspaper adopted the title of *The Chanticleer*. "Chanticleer,"

which by definition refers to "a name given to a rooster, especially in fairy tales," is quite a fitting name for a newspaper whose university mascot is the Gamecock.

Marie McBurnett, the current editor-in-chief of *The Chanticleer*, praised the newspaper as a source of real-world experience for students.

"The paper's really awesome because it gives you a chance to work in the field," said McBurnett, "and it also gives you an idea of what you want to do, whether you want to be a writer or if you want to be an editor or if you want to be the one who lays out the page."

Chanticleer alumni were invited to the night's event to reflect

on their own time here at JSU working with *The Chanticleer*.

Among those in attendance was Ben Cunningham, the current Managing Editor for *The Anniston Star*. Cunningham first came to JSU in 1994 where he wrote for *The Chanticleer*, but took four years off from school from 1997 to 2001 to serve in the United States Air Force. Cunningham returned in 2001 and served as the editor-in-chief of *The Chanticleer* from 2001 to 2003. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication in 2003.

"It's a pleasure to get to do what I do here every day for a living. You don't know

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students to get the opportunity to go to college.”

On top of his successful presidency, Meehan is a husband to his wife, Beth, and father to his three children, 20-year-old twins Will and Drew and 16-year-old Carol Grace. But parenthood and presidency were not always an easy combination.

When asked how she handled raising a family and maintaining her duties as First Lady, Beth said, “One day at a time! That couldn’t be truer! I don’t know how we did it, really. I’d usually try to sit down at the beginning of the week and look at the schedule and figure out where we needed to be and when we needed to be there, but it’s a lot of organization and planning and praying.”

All of the Meehans’ hard work seems to have paid off, however. Will and Drew are juniors at Auburn University majoring in finance and biomedical science respectively, and Carol Grace is finishing her sophomore year at Jacksonville High School.

“[Being the president’s children has] definitely given us a lot of opportunities that we probably wouldn’t have had, so it’s been pretty unique,” Will said.

And, out of everything, what are the kids most proud of their father for?

“Retiring!” laughed Will. “He’s been so successful. He’s done so many great things. We’re proud that he’s going to go out on top.”

“I’m always proud of him,” Carol Grace added.

“Ditto,” Drew confirmed.

In his inaugural address in 1999, Meehan emphasized caring for the students and particularly doing what he called “head and heart work.” Now, 16 years later, his goals are still the same.

“Without students, we’d just be a bunch of monks sitting around contemplating our navel, right?” Meehan said. “The students, that’s the most important thing.”

Mr. Jamie “Red” Etheredge has served on the JSU Board of Trustees since 2000 and has been a friend and neighbor of the Meehans for almost 19 years.

“[Dr. Meehan] is so well respected all over the state,” Etheredge said. “He’s just such a natural leader. When he speaks, [people] listen to him because he always tells the truth. When he leaves, people remember him.”

A portrait of Meehan will be added to the collection commemorating the presidents of Jacksonville State University at the Houston Cole Library.

# SGA hosts second annual Cockystock

Megan Wise  
Staff Writer

Amongst the Instagram-ready backdrop and the welcoming beat of top tunes, students at Jacksonville State University were more than ready to kick off the second annual Cockystock hosted by the Student Government Association. Taking place at the TMB Lawn, campus came to life for a great afternoon with plenty of free activities for everyone to enjoy.

Students came decked out in their best Woodstock inspired face paint, ready to take it easy as we get ready for these last few weeks of the spring semester. For those seeking a little competition, Cockystock offered several inflatable obstacle events such as laser tag, a racecourse, and a wipe out ring.

For those who are more kick back and wanting to enjoy the fun vibes and music, there was plenty of complimentary pizza, do-it-yourself dream makers, a photo booth decked with wacky

props, and caricature artists.

The idea for Cockystock began with Kelsey Mann, last year’s Vice President of Student Activities who wanted to do an art festival for the campus after attending a conference which supported student events.

With the positive feedback and wonderful turnout from last year’s event, the festival was sure to make

a return to JSU for another go-round.

With the help of nice weather, this year’s Cockystock was even better than ever.

“The attendance this year was awesome,” says the upcoming SGA President of the 2015-2016 Tyler Brown.

“CockyStock has definitely grown from the previous year!”



Megan Wise/The Chanticleer

Students looking for a break from all the end-of-the-semester stress could come enjoy Cockystock, an event put on by the SGA featuring live music, arts and crafts, laser tag, obstable courses, and more.

Check out [www.jsu.edu/chanticleer](http://www.jsu.edu/chanticleer) for end-of-the-year news!

DANCING, from page 1

hop while kicking one leg forward along with other variations. They won first place that year.

For the next three years, Hammett served as a dancer for another star. In 2012, Marsh asked him to partner with her to do competitions as an amateur couple. He agreed, and after 2012, stopped participating in Dancing With Our Stars.

“The only reason we stopped doing that is because it was cutting into my partner and I’s practice time. We just decided if we’re going to do this we’re going to try to be the best we can

be,” he says. They spend about two-and-a-half hours every Sunday afternoon practicing. They also go to Bailey Dance Studio in Hoover, AL one day a week for an hour of coaching.

Their practice has paid off. In 2014, they won the USA Dance National Amateur Championship in Bronze level rhythm dancing, which includes the Cha-Cha and Rumba.

“Our first first-place finish was the National Championship,” he says with a smile. In March of 2015, they had five second place finishes and one third place finish

in both the rhythm and smooth categories of the Bronze and Silver levels.

Perhaps their success has influenced JSU students. In the fall of 2014, some students got together and formed a Ballroom Dance Club. The students asked Hammett to be the advisor of the club, and he agreed.

Amy Henry instructs the students, and he helps out whenever he can.

The future is wide open for Hammett and Marsh. They are looking forward to the Gumbo DanceSport Championships in Baton Rouge, LA this June.

The couple will also be

participating in a new competition this year. “We’re going to branch off and do some dancing in country ballroom, which is a totally different type of thing. Our first competition will be next December,” he says.

Although the couple is trying new things, Hammett has ruled out one possibility. “People kid me all the time about ‘when am I going to appear in Dancing With The Stars’, and of course, I tell them ‘never’. I’m not star quality enough,” he said with a chuckle.

NEWSPAPER, from page 1

what you’re going to do that’s going to catch fire and grab people’s interest, so I go into work every day just wondering, ‘What are we going to do today that’s going to make people go, ‘wow?’”

And celebrating the paper’s first 80 years has its editors looking forward to 80 more.

“I want to see The Chanticleer updating daily,” said Alex McFry, the current associate editor of The Chanticleer. “I want to see The Chanticleer on all social media platforms, and I want to see The Chanticleer utilizing the digital video and PR—the other two communication concentrations—to the best of their ability.”

Marvel Robinson, the sports editor, added, “I want everybody on our campus to know about their

campus newspaper, The Chanticleer.”

“Now that we’re getting into online and updating our online presence on several different social media platforms,” said Christiana Tyler, the paper’s arts and entertainment editor, “I think [The Chanticleer is] going in a direction that we need to go in and that the world in general is going.”

“In twenty years, I want them to organize the 100th anniversary reunion,” McFry said, “and I want this room to not be big enough. I want them to be standing in the hallway waiting to get in.”

“In 80 years there better be videos in the paper, like a Harry Potter thing,” mused McBurnett.

Cunningham believes in the continued existence of journalism for one main reason: the people want to know.

“People need to know what’s going on,” Cunningham said. “People have a great desire to know what’s going on—on their block, in their town, in their region, in their state, in their nation and in their world. Our Founders set up from the very beginning a system that would give all of us—any of us—not just the journalists, the right to say anything that we could find out. Anything that we thought everyone should know, we had the freedom to say. And they saw that as very important. The press is named in the First Amendment right up there with religion. So we’re seen as very basic to the way that American Democracy is supposed to work.”

The Chanticleer continues to be what students across campus look to for all things news—whether it be on campus or around the world.

## 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](http://www.jsu.edu/chanticleer)!*



# STUDY BREAK

By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics and animations visit [FilbertCartoons.com](http://FilbertCartoons.com)

## Campus crime report: 04/01 to 04/09

04/01/2015  
Medical emergency  
Mason Hall

04/02/2015  
Violation of Student Code of Conduct  
JSU Main Campus

04/02/2015  
Giving False Name to Law Enforcement  
Jack Hopper Dining Hall

04/03/2015  
Arrest- Minor in Consumption of Alcohol & Open Container  
Paul Carpenter Village

**Witness a crime?**

**For emergencies, dial 6000 from any campus phone.**

04/03/2015  
Arrest- Open Container  
Paul Carpenter Village

04/06/2015  
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Criminal Trespass, and Violation of Student Code of Conduct  
Sparkman Hall

04/06/2015  
Automobile Accident  
Gamecock Diner

04/07/2015  
Violation of Student Code of Conduct  
Pannell Hall

## Dear Chanty,

The semester is coming to an end and I feel really overwhelmed. I want to just shut down and listen to music all day, but I know I cannot. I cannot because I am so close to graduation and getting closer to achieving my career. I know this is no time to slack or fall behind, but I feel like there is so much going on and I am trying to balance it all; however, I am unsure of how to balance it all. There are final exams on one end, final assignments and projects, trying to make deadlines, trying to get a job back home for the summer, and still find a way to pack up for the summer. I feel like if I stop for me there is something that is going to fall behind. Then it also feels as though when I am doing nothing I am wasting time when I can be being productive. I don't know what to do. It all seems like so much, but I know once I get it done I will not have to worry about it. Unfortunately, I am pushing through, but am not sure how to deal with feeling overwhelmed.

Sincerely,  
Stressing Out

## Stressing Out,

Wow! You do have a lot going on. There is nothing wrong with taking a breather especially when you are feeling so overwhelmed. Take a minute to get yourself together. If you do not have yourself together there cannot be a graduation for you to attend or the start of your career. You will burn yourself out if you do not find the time to balance it all as well as put yourself first. There is nothing wrong with taking out time for you even if it is just laying down doing nothing. Sometimes doing nothing is doing everything because in nothing, you get a chance to breathe and feel relief. Once you get your second wind, hit the ground running, but strategize where you want to start. Do not procrastinate to prevent falling behind. Pacing yourself and taking your time will help things fall better into place.

Yours truly,  
Chanty

**Need Advice?**

*The Chanticleer staff is happy to help!*

*Email [chantynewstips@gmail.com](mailto:chantynewstips@gmail.com) with your problems and look in the paper next week for our newest "Dear Chanty" section.*

*NOTE: All entries will remain anonymous, and Chanty will respond to all inquiries.*

# Chicken Scratch

My hood is so big, it makes me feel like a Jedi.

10 minutes before class...gotta decide if I'm going or not.

It never fails that all I think about around finals is food and Netflix.

The word "nun" is just the letter "u" doing a cartwheel.

I've got 99 problems...and they're all in this study guide.

Chinese takeout: \$10.55. Gas to get there and back: \$4.14. Getting home and realizing they forgot one of your containers: riceless.

Warning: upcoming Finals week may cause extreme tiredness, extremely bad mood and excessive tears...you have been warned.

No one shows their true character more than when they are retrieving their bags from baggage claim.

The only reason I didn't go to class today was I didn't have any creamer for my coffee.

*Submit today!*

*Have something you want us to see? Use*

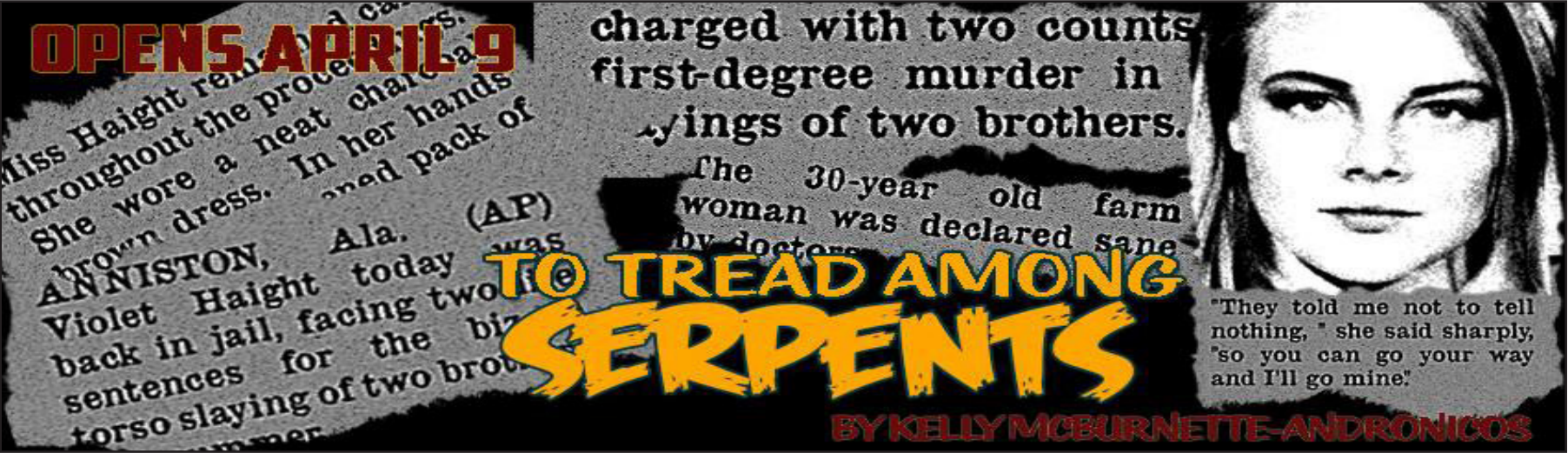
*#chanticleerjsu*

## 7-day weather outlook

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly Cloudy High: 86° Low: 64°	Thunderstorm High: 76° Low: 54°	Partly Cloudy High: 78° Low: 53°	Rain High: 78° Low: 59°	Thunderstorm High: 79° Low: 61°	Thundetstorm High: 80° Low: 61°	Thunderstorm High: 81° Low: 62°



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



## To Tread Among Serpents premieres tonight

Megan Wise  
Staff Writer

Although the student body has already begun to settle in for the summer with just a little under two weeks left in the semester, the Drama Department here at JSU has been more than busy in its preparation of *To Tread Among Serpents* and JSU Drama Student Showcase and One Acts.

Loosely based on true, local events, *To Tread Among Serpents* follows an infamous woman by the name of Violet Haight who has been convicted of murdering her boyfriend and brother in Rabbittown, Alabama. Written by Kelly McBurnette-Andronicos, winner of the 2014 Southern Playwrights Competition, the play hits close to home for many locals here in Jacksonville.

“This show has been an interesting one to work on and I could not be more proud of what my cast mates and I have done with this show,” said Sadie Bell Freeman, who plays Violet Haight. “There’s a lot of mystery as to what “the best reason in the world” could be; and that seems to be my character’s favorite quip. But I think the most important thing for the audience to keep in mind is that this is not the true story of the axe murderess and it

has been tweaked. I can assure you though, my character’s “best reason” will drive you crazy trying to figure it out.”

“I’m very happy I was assigned this play because it’s very much like the reporter’s situation in the play who comes down to the south from up north situation, and I can relate to her of stepping into this role. The cast I get to work with has been amazing and are game for trying new things,” said director Caroline Price.

From the moment this production began, it has been handled with great care due to its inspiration’s local reputation. Even though it’s based on a real person, this show has grown to become its own entity entirely. This is no longer Viola Hyatt’s story; it’s Violet’s. It’s a new woman’s story.

The show opens this Thursday and runs from April 9-11, 2015 at 7 p.m. and April 12 at 2 p.m. at Stone Center Auditorium.

The weekend following the last show for *To Tread Among Serpents*, the drama department is proud to present for the first time for public audiences, the Student Showcase and One Acts.

Over the course of two evenings, JSU students and local talent have collaborated to display student achievements in design, technical work,

film, and performance.

All of the performances are student-run with very little assistance from the faculty.

“We are trying to gear them up for the real world and the work environments they would more than likely be starting out in,” said Dr. Michael Boynton.

“With one Senor Showcase this year which consists of a cabaret and seven One Acts, there is a nice range of genres, so there’s something for everyone to enjoy.”

With the freedom to take charge of their shows, students have reached out to the local community for performers. Students had to provide for themselves without the help of pre-made props and costumes.

Two of the plays being performed in this year’s lineup were actually written by JSU students themselves in last year’s playwriting class. “It’s almost like a Drama Fair. We want to show off what the students have been doing and what they are capable of doing by themselves,” said Boynton.

The JSU Drama Student Showcase and One Acts will run April 18 and 19 in Stone Center Auditorium at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5.

## Family Feud revisited: the Duncan family reflects on their once-in-a-lifetime gameshow experience

Vallean Jackson  
Staff Writer

Criminal Justice professor Harald Duncan and his family competed on the game show Family Feud back in July 2014—but what happens after the screen fades to black?

The first episode starring the Duncans aired on February 23, 2015. Prior to the air date of this episode, there was not much Duncan could say as to what family won or if they won anything until the entire segment featuring his family had been aired.

Four game shows later, after competing against various families, the Duncan family came out with approximately \$22,000 in winnings. The Duncan family is off the stage trying to beat the buzzers and is back to their regular routines.

Yes, this hit game show is known for its family involvement and entertainment, but what happens when the show ends? Does the winning family receive their money after the show in a big check or it is put into a nice briefcase and presented to them?

Neither of these fantasies is the case, according to Duncan.

“The money you win is not received for three months after the airing of the show,” says Duncan.

“Each family member receives his or her own check that has been equally divided between the five of them,” Duncan continues.

Despite their earnings, taxes must be taken out of their winnings once everything is said and

done.

“I believe they said that 20 to 22 percent will be taken out,” says Duncan.

Family Feud does not remove the taxes prior to releasing the checks, but leaves it up to the contestants to determine whether they will pay once the money is received, or wait and pay the percentage later.

There is no getting around paying the government because a notice of their winnings has already been sent in and documented to be paid.

Since appearing on the show, the Duncan family has been on *The Rick & Bubba Show*, done multiple news interviews, and most recently received a personal expression of gratitude from Mayor Johnny L. Smith himself.

The letter from the mayor expresses his appreciation to the Duncan family on representing the city of Jacksonville, and how great it was for the family to have a chance that few get to experience.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity has truly been an adventure for the Duncans, but they remain humble.

“If we could do it all over again, we would all go back and play in a heartbeat,” says Duncan.

“If we played [again], we would like to play for charity and give the money to the cancer society in memory of our mother who passed from cancer,” Duncan continues.

Unfortunately, the rules of

Family Feud prohibit any family to play on the show for the maximum of ten years to give other families a chance on the show.

The Duncan family has been invited back to be on the show, but not to compete.


The invitation is to be guests for

the upcoming season, which will start in the next ten months for the 2016 season.

The Duncan’s hold to their hopes of being back on the show before the ten year frame, and are enjoying the memories of being on the show.




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# Earth Day at JSU

**Christiana Tyler**  
*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

April 22 sees the celebration of the modern environmental protection movement as we know it. Earth Day was first celebrated in 1970 in the United States and has now grown to be celebrated in over 150 nations around the world.

What is Jacksonville State University doing to celebrate the earth and conserving it? JSU Field Schools is hosting an Earth Day Weekend beginning Saturday, April 11 at the Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne.

Experts in the field of botany, geology, biodiversity, nature observation and nature journaling will lead tours around the grounds of the center and explain the ins and outs of nature and what individuals can do to help protect it.

Jim Lacefield, author of



‘Lost Worlds in Alabama Rocks,’ will begin the celebrations with a tour on canyon geology, botany and biodiversity with transportation provided by the Field Schools.

Roger Reid, author of ‘Longleaf’ and ‘Space and Time,’ will help those who attend discover how simple it is to journal about the nature surrounding them. A short hike to Little River Falls will end with those participating able to write a story or poem about their surroundings.

Along with these two events, Heather Montgomery, a nationally known children’s author, will lead a

hike teaching how to observe what happens in nature and how to see the world from a different perspective.

Beginning a noon, there will be science talks and book signings from some of Alabama’s most well-known writers.

JSU Field Schools is now in its second decade of operation and cultivates comprehension of Alabama’s natural and cultural significance in its students. The instructors incorporate immersion-based learning and outdoor activities to help create unique programs that are educational and enjoyable.

Little River Canyon Center is a JSU building that utilizes sustainable design elements, such as geothermal heating and cooling, to make the structure environmentally friendly.

For more information about JSU Field Schools, contact them at 256 - 782 - 8010.



Music Department/JSU

## Jazz ensembles to showcase skills on April 14

**Ashley Colvin**  
*Staff Writer*

The Spring Jazz Showcase will be April 14, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Mason Hall Performance Center. Faculty and students are encouraged to come and support one of the largest jazz programs in the state as they show off what they have learned this year.

The showcase will feature every JSU Jazz group at the university. This consists of 5 combos, 4 big bands, and the Latin Ensemble. The showcase is the end-of-the-year concert.

All of the groups participating are playing on the highest level they are capable of playing. There are multiple groups performing, with each playing 1 to 2 songs.

The concert will last roughly 90 minutes. The students will be playing everything from funk and swing to rock.

Listeners will hear every style that goes into the makeup of jazz music today.

The groups performing will cover a tradition that is over 100 years old and originated in New Orleans.

Dr. Andrew Nevala just returned from a two day residency at the University of Alabama, and was a guest artist on two concerts.

He said, “Our jazz program is over twice the size, even though they have twice as many music majors. Sometimes it’s not the building or facilities; it’s the people in the building. Granted, we need a new building, as ours is pretty much as useful as lipstick on a pig.”

Jazz Ensemble I and II, as well as the Latin ensemble will be fresh off the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame Competition, held on April 11, 2015 in Birmingham.

Taking less than half of the organized jazz groups on campus to the competition, JSU still has the largest program in the state of Alabama. Auburn, UAB, Alabama, Miles College and Wallace State are some of the other schools the jazz ensembles will be competing against this year.



Music Department/JSU

## Southerners get new uniforms

**Chris Morgan**  
*Staff Writer*

When it comes to a band, good looking uniforms are a must. As well as being attractive, the uniforms must also be functional to play in.

In the case of the Marching Southerners, it was time for an upgrade. The 2015-2016 season will see the Southerners getting the uniforms they deserve.

These new uniforms feature a mixture of details from past uniforms dating all the way back to 1960 to the most modern uniform that came out in 2005.

With the new uniforms the Southerners are not only getting a visual upgrade, According to an article written in *The Anniston Star*, the new uniforms will be made of lighter material, machine washable, and the jacket will be all one piece instead of 3 separate pieces.

These improvements should make the uniform a bit more comfortable for the students that wear them.

In regards to the current uniform, Timmy Markey, a current Marching Southerner, said, “The current uniforms were very hot and were falling apart. Mine had 5 safety pins holding it all together. They are just worn out.”

With the current uniforms being introduced in the 2005 season, it would make sense as to why they are worn out. The Southerners play around 20 shows a year, so that is close to 200 shows that these uniforms have been in use.

With these new uniforms coming in, the Marching Southerners are going to look just as good as they sound.



Marching Southerners/JSU

For more information on the inspiration for the uniforms, visit Ken Bodiford’s YouTube channel.

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## A farewell to the Friendliest Campus in the South

**Brett Johnson**  
*Political Columnist*

Four long years have come to this – goodbye. The last four years of my life have been dedicated and committed to serving the student body at Jacksonville State University and in a matter of days that will all come to a close.

I first enrolled at JSU with little more than a dream: to become the first member of my family to receive a baccalaureate degree. By the grace of God, impeccable fortune and a little hard work that hope ballooned into far more than a dream.

It’s amazing what can change in four years. From the days of pushing buggies in Gadsden, somehow fate led me to become the SGA President of the Friendliest Campus in the South.

I have also been blessed in other ways. I was truly blessed this year with a team of officers that were able to work together with the same goal in mind: to better the student experience at JSU.

Our accomplishments include: bringing back the Yellow Bus for late night transportation, implementing a Shirt Swap program, providing four new charging stations, increasing allocations to student organizations, utilizing surveys to assess student opinions on issues facing campus, completing reports to the Board of Trustees for increasing enrollment and actively including students input on all administrative boards and committees – including the ever-important JSU Presidential Search.

None of this was accomplished by one person: it was the work of many. But of them all, the last has been my most proud – ensuring that students’ voices were not only heard, but understood by the university administration. This especially applies to the Presidential Search.

When I ran for office, I never dreamed President Meehan would announce his retirement. I especially never imagined the possibil-



ity of being selected as one of a dozen committee members charged with selecting his replacement.

It was a combination of luck and timing that I happened to serve as SGA President during this process. It also had to do with President Meehan’s personal request that students be represented on the com-

mittee – an act that he did not have to do and one I am grateful for.

I have taken membership on the committee seriously and made certain that student interests were known in selecting the candidates. It is now in the hands of the Board of Trustees to decide who will begin a new legacy as the 12th President of JSU.

For the SGA, I am more than confident it is in great hands. President-elect Tyler Brown served this year as Vice President of Student Senate on our executive team and did so with superb proficiency. His ability to relate to students and communicate with administrators will suit him well in the role of being the student body’s chief representative.

To the students, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your SGA President this past year and I want to thank you for the support you have shown our administration as we strived to do the best we could in serving your needs. I hope to continue to give back to JSU and the student body in the future.

Until then, I want to wish all of my fellow Gamecocks a prosperous future. Thank you, thank you, thank you for the opportunity to serve you this year! Go Gamecocks!

*Brett Johnson is a senior double-majoring in political science and communication. His column is published weekly.*

## Social media apps help graduates find jobs

**Myron Jones**  
*Technology Columnist*

Social media is a powerful part of the college experience. There are several social networks that students are already familiar with and accustomed to using. Some of these include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Youtube and Vine, among others. These services are often used for leisure or procrastination.

However, all of these services also have a hidden potential. These services may also be used for professional networking and to help further your personal career. One of the main goals of a college student should be to enter a career and get more out of his or her professional life. There are dedicated professional networking sites such as LinkedIn, but there are other ways to use social media to enhance your professional life.

A new app, Good.co focuses on being a social network for both fun and business. The app uses a series of quizzes to help you find out more about yourself, and perhaps find the workplace environment that might fit you most. Some of the questions Good.co seeks to answer are “What are your networking strengths?”, “What is your approach to getting things done?”, and “How do you come across to others?” This unique approach makes it enjoyable to learn more about yourself. If you become tired of answering your own questions, you may answer questions about your friends and compare your responses.

After taking your personal quizzes and creating an identity profile within Good.co, you may connect your LinkedIn account to check your compatibility with certain companies. Some companies within Good.co include Best Buy, Google, Amazon, Wells Fargo, Starbucks, IBM and many others.

From within Good.Co, you can check your fit with company culture or even browse available



jobs. Good.co does make the oftentimes tedious process of job hunting more enjoyable.

While testing the app for this story, I became a bit hooked on the quizzes. From your responses, Good.Co makes a personality profile. The traits the app picked for me were

concrete, practical, analytical, and scientific.” Almost everything that the app gathered from my responses seemed to fit well.

If you wish to take your job hunting more seriously, LinkedIn is still an excellent resource. It is as simple as filling in your information and finding the relevant resources.

You can connect with professionals in your field. You can connect with companies, and see available jobs. LinkedIn functions very similarly to social networks that you may already be familiar with but has the additional benefit of giving you additional career opportunities.

A major benefit of services such as LinkedIn and Good.co is that professional networking is a core aim and function. When you use LinkedIn, it is understood that the atmosphere is professional. On other services such as Facebook, the atmosphere is mixed.

Other social networks such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter can still be used as very strong professional tools to launch a career. Because these services focus first on connecting you with friends, it is easy to find an audience of people that are willing to help and be supportive.

Traditional social media sites work very well as a form of exposure. Once your work has recognition, a presence on business networking sites becomes even more valuable.

*Myron Jones is a senior majoring in communication. His column is published weekly.*

## A history (and future) of a Chanticleer editor

**Christiana Tyler**  
*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

After almost 4 years in college, it has come time to say goodbye. I will be graduating in the next 6 months.

I have racked my brain on something to write that would be meaningful for everyone who reads it, but I’ve come up blank every time I’ve tried, so I’ve decided to just reminisce.

Two years ago, I learned of an opening on the school paper. At the time, I had a part-time job that paid for what I wanted but working on campus would be much more convenient. So I applied and was interviewed.

I’m not a Communication student and have never taken a communication class, which seems a bit backward considering I’ve been the A&E editor for the last two years. I had only written one news story for The Chanticleer before I got the job.

I was a little bit (a lot) over my head my first few weeks in the office. Not only did I not know how to write a great news story, I didn’t know how to use InDesign or the rules for laying out pages.

Three weeks in and I had a system going on what to do and how to do it, and I loved doing it. As time progressed, The Chanticleer team as it was in 2013-2014 began flourishing. We had a growing number of writers and photographers and we were trying to get online and on social media.

It was amazing to see the growth from a paper

pulling at least 3 stories from the JSU Newswire every week to only once every few weeks or so.

And then the summer came. Kara Coleman, the editor-in chief for the 2013-2014 year, graduated and everyone else on the staff went on to internships or jobs as they started the last leg of their college journey. Except me.

And then I met my new co-workers and reveled in all the plans for the paper there were. We have a Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and a blog that we post all of the stories on. It’s amazing to consider how different the office is after only 2 years of being here.

And what about me? Have I changed as drastically as the paper has? I would like to think I have changed for the better because of my experiences in The Chanticleer office and attending JSU. I still watch just as many Disney movies and eat just as much candy (maybe more), but I am a few college courses more knowledgeable now.

I know I’m older and (hopefully) wiser. Not as wise as I should be considering I’m graduating in less than 6 months. As I look back though and consider how many memories I have on campus and in the office, I know it will always hold a place in my heart.

I wasn’t even out of my teens when I began my first (non-service) job and now I’m ready to begin my life post-school. I have many qualms and fears, but I’m hopeful that my experiences



and interactions on campus will turn into lessons and memories I can draw on and use in the future. Happy reading and farewell.

*Christiana Tyler is a senior double-majoring in applied electronic engineering and applied manufacturing engineering with a concentration in design and automation.*



# SPORTS

## Gamecock Baseball falls in weekend series vs Murray State



JSU Sportswire

The Jacksonville State Baseball team fell 10-9 to Murray State in last game of the weekend series in Kentucky.

**Timothy Cash**  
*Staff Writer*

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks (17-11, 6-6 OVC) fell 10-9 to the Murray State Racers (14-18, 9-6 OVC) in Murray, Ky., in a back-and-forth game that ended in the seventh inning. Paschal Petrongolo scored three runs and had two hits. Clayton Daniel scored two runs, and had two hits. Ryan Sebra scored one run, had two hits and scored three RBI's. Paul Angel scored one run, had one hit and had two RBI's. Gavin Golsan and Ty Pierce scored one run. Elliot McCummings had two hits and two RBI's. Hayden White and Tyler Gamble both had one hit and one RBI. Jake Walsh threw four innings for the Gamecocks, allowing six hits and five runs. Jack Pierce took over in the fifth inning. Pierce went one inning and allowed two hits. Michael McCreless was the Gamecocks' third pitcher of the contest. He went one inning and allowed one hit. Travis Stout would

replace McCreless on the mound. Jacksonville State opened things up early in the contest when an Angel double allowed both Petrongolo and Daniel to score. Angel was then allowed to score when White hit a single through the left side gap. Sebra then scored off of a sacrifice to right field. Murray State answered with five runs in the first inning. Brock Downey scored first for the Racers when Nick Moore singled to right field. Taylor Matthews tripled down the right field line clearing Derek Yoder, Tyler Lawrence and Moore. Matthew Johnson then brought Matthews home with a single to left field. The Gamecocks were able to score two more runs in the second. Sebra sacrificed to center field bringing Daniel. Petrongolo scored off of a single by McCummings. The third inning did not see much offensive action, but in the fourth, McCummings once again singled and brought Petrongolo home. Murray State tied things up in the fifth. Anthony Bayus singled to

right field, allowing Lawrence to score his second run of the contest. Johnson then singled to left, giving Bayus the opportunity to score. The Gamecocks regained the lead in the sixth. Sebra singled to center, and brought Pierce and Golsan home. Murray State's Kipp Moore hit a three-run-home run in the seventh, scoring Pokey Harris and Matthews to finish the game. Jacksonville State won Thursday's matchup 4-1. On Friday, however, the game was rained out, and the teams didn't get to play. The first game of the doubleheader on Saturday saw the Gamecocks fall in a close 7-8 defeat. Tuesday, the Gamecocks traveled to Montgomery to take on the Alabama State Hornets where they lost 10-1. After heading to Birmingham's Southside to face the University of Alabama at Birmingham Blazers on Wednesday, JSU will be looking to pick up Ohio Valley Conference action on Friday, April 10, when the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles will be in town for a three-game series.

## JSU Men's Tennis suffers setback to TTU

**COOKEVILLE, Tenn.** – The Jacksonville State men's tennis team began a busy final week of the regular season on Tuesday with a 4-0 setback to Tennessee Tech in Ohio Valley Conference action. The loss drops the Gamecocks to 9-11 overall and 4-3 in OVC matches and will need a win in the final two matches of the regular season to clinch a spot in the league's post-season tournament that will be held in Nashville, Tennessee. The Golden Eagles remained in contention for the regular season crown with the win and moved to 6-1 in league play and 8-12 overall.

Tennessee Tech took command of the match by claiming the doubles point as it claimed wins at No. 1 and No. 3. Tennessee Tech's top duo of Alex Arovin and Alberto Esteban edged Jax State's tandem of Jefferson Wendler-Filho and Pedro Wagner, 8-5. Eduardo Mena and Jorge topped Jacksonville State's team of



JSU Sportswire

Jax State Men's Tennis team falls to Tennessee Tech and drops to 9-11 overall.

Dylan Gee and Mathias Chaim, 8-3. Arovin battled Wendler-Filho in singles play at the No. 1 singles spot. Arovin won in straight sets – 6-2, 6-3. Mena picked up another Tech point with a straight sets – 6-2, 6-3 win. The Golden Eagles punched the final point with a win at No. 6. Jorge Alfonzo quick worked Jackson-

ville State's Felipe Diaz – 6-1, 6-1. The Gamecocks will travel to Austin Peay and Murray State over the weekend to close out the regular season.

~ JSU Sportswire

### Gamecocks Side Bar

#### Upcoming Action

- 4/10
- Women's Tennis at Austin Peay  
10:00 a.m.
- Soccer vs Troy  
10:53 a.m.
- Men's Tennis at Austin Peay  
2:00 p.m.
- Baseball vs Tennessee Tech  
6:00 p.m.
- 4/11
- Track and Field at Spec Towns Invitational  
8:59 a.m.
- Men's Tennis at Murray State  
10:00 a.m.
- Women's Tennis at Murray State  
10:00 a.m.
- Baseball vs Tennessee Tech  
1:00 p.m.
- Softball at Tennessee Tech  
1:00 p.m.
- Softball at Tennessee Tech  
3:00 p.m.
- Football vs J-DAY SPRING GAME  
5:00 p.m.
- 4/12
- Baseball vs Tennessee Tech  
1:00 p.m.
- Softball at Tennessee Tech  
1:00 p.m.
- 4/14
- Softball vs Kennesaw State  
5:00 p.m.
- Baseball at Kennesaw State-  
Women's Tennis at Shorter  
6:00 p.m.
- 4/15
- Softball vs Georgia Tech  
5:00 p.m.
- Baseball vs Alabama State  
6:00 p.m.

**JSU's Dylan Gee is named the OVC Men's Tennis Player of the Week**

### NCAA Basketball National Championships

#### Men's

-Duke defeated Wisconsin 68-63

#### Women's

-Connecticut defeated Notre Dame 63-53



# JSU Softball reaches 25th win of season



Matt Reynolds/JSU Sportswire

Members of the Jacksonville State Softball team celebrate as they earn their 25th overall win of the season after beating Alabama State 6-1.

**Rebekah Hawkins**  
*Staff Writer*

The Jacksonville State softball team put their 25th win of the season in the record books as they defeated Alabama State 6-1 Tuesday afternoon. Emily Woodruff led the way in runs with two. Jordan Bullock, Ella Denes, Caitlyn Sapp and Stephanie Lewis also contributed to the win with one run each. It didn't take the Gamecocks long to score their first runs of the game. At

the bottom of the first, with help from Sara Borders and Bullock, Woodruff scored her first run of the game. Not long after, Bullock was behind her with her own run. With no score from Alabama State as they moved into the bottom of the second, Lewis homered as soon as she stepped up to bat. It put the score 3-0 in the Gamecocks favor. Again with help from a Borders' double, Woodruff scored her second run to put the Gamecocks up by four. The third inning proved

fruitless for both teams. Finally, as the fourth inning began, Alabama State scored on a Carly Evans homer. It was their only run of the game. The Gamecocks wouldn't score again until the bottom of the fifth when Sapp sent a home run up and scored. Right behind Sapp was Denes who bumped the score up to 6-1 in Jacksonville State's favor. It would prove to be the final runs of the game as both Alabama State and Jacksonville State went scoreless in the sixth.

The Hornets went into the seventh hanging onto hope but it was quickly stifled. The Gamecocks would walk away with the victory. JSU moves to 25-11 on the season and 8-3 in conference play. At the moment, they sit second in the Ohio Valley Conference standings just behind SIU Edwardsville. The Gamecocks head to Cookeville, Tenn next to play Tennessee Tech in a three-game series starting April 11 at 1 p.m. and ending the following day.

## The impact of small school football programs

**Daniel Porter**  
*Staff Writer*

The University of Alabama at Birmingham made national headlines a few months ago when the school announced last December it was shutting down its football program. UAB became the first school that competed in the NCAA's top division (FBS) to drop the sport of football since the University of the Pacific did so in 1995. The university claimed the decision came as it expected to have to spend \$50 million over the next five years to maintain the program. Reports to the Department of Education state that UAB spent over \$7 million annually on the sport of football alone, and only landed in the black when subsidies from the university were included. But this isn't uncommon; most athletic departments at universities require added subsidies to break even. The most recent report by the NCAA states that only 20 athletic departments that compete in the FBS level of football (such as UAB) generate more revenue than expenses. In UAB's own conference, only four other institutions reported better finances. While some are predicting UAB to be just the first

of several schools to have to close the doors on football because it's too tough for smaller schools in smaller conferences to support, the trend is actually moving in the opposite direction. The fact is football is as popular as ever among colleges and universities and between 2008 and 2016, 59 universities are planning to or have started new football programs (figure 2)

ing fields so small private institutions with 1,200 students enrolled didn't have to fight for championships against the University of Texas or Alabama, there were 484 institutions with football programs. Today, that number has increased to 657 programs. Yes, financially, very few of these schools see direct return from ticket or merchandise sales on game

the area of the country best known as a hotbed for the sport. Leading the Southeast in this recent trend of bringing new programs to life is the state of Georgia where seven different schools have made the decision to start competing in the region's most popular sport. One of those schools is located in the city of Kennesaw just 30 miles Northwest of Atlanta and is home to the

ing back a program that had previously been disbanded. While the Owls will officially go down as having started football in 2015, Director of Athletics, Vaughn Williams, speaks about the process of beginning the football program which has been underway for more than a decade. "There was a feasibility study down in 2004 and another in 2009," said Williams. "Vince Dooley (former legendary football coach and athletic director at the University of Georgia) was appointed the chair of the 34-member committee. I think his experienced helped us tremendously in going forward." As the committee found football would be a positive addition to Kennesaw State's athletics, Williams laid out the initial three phases that had to be passed before anything happened. The students would have to vote on a \$100 football fee to be added to their tuition, the athletic department would need to raise capital and investors as it estimated football would require \$5-10 million just to get off the ground, and the Board of Regents would then have to give its final approval.

~ See full story at [jsu.edu/chanticleer](http://jsu.edu/chanticleer)

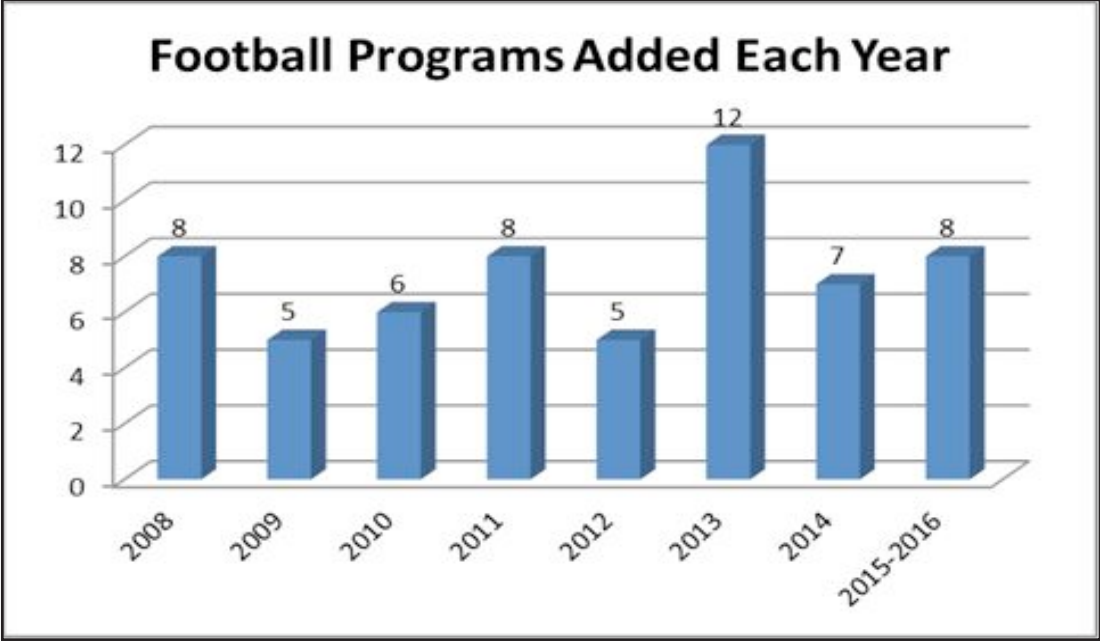


Figure 2

from the ground up. Some of those schools are already competing at the highest level of NCAA competition. When the NCAA split its members into divisions in 1978 (FBS, FCS, Div. II, Div. III) to level the play-

day. However, all of these small schools see positive influences in other areas persuading them to begin these football programs. Of the 59 newest programs since 2008, 33 of those are located in the Southeast and Texas,

third-largest university in the state, Kennesaw State. KSU will play its first-ever football game this fall on September 3 when it plays East Tennessee State, another program that will also be in its first season after bring-

WHERE YOU'RE GOING.