

Bibb Graves gets brighter

JSU administration hosts annual holiday lighting ceremony

Lauren Jackson
 Staff Reporter

The JSU campus became much brighter after the annual JSU in Lights on Monday, November 30. The traditional event marks the official start of the holiday season across campus as it attracted students, faculty and community members alike to the decorated front steps of Bibb Graves Hall.

The event started with a performance by the Christmas hat adorned JSU Chamber Singers. Featuring Christmas carols, the group performed on the front steps surrounded by bright poinsettias, garland and several unlit Christmas trees. "It was an honor that President Beehler invited Chamber Singers to sing," said Jessie Hill, a member of Chamber Singers and a Junior at JSU.

In addition to enjoying the holiday cheer, the SGA



Lauren Jackson/The Chanticleer

JSU Chamber Singers perform on the front steps of Bibb Graves on Monday as part of the JSU in Lights event.

hosted their annual toy drive spreading Christmas cheer as well. "Everyone brought all around," said Destiny Jordan, a member of Fresh-

man Forum.

The toy drive is a service project that helps bring all

of the community together, and helps make Christmas

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Griffin's Jewelers in Jacksonville opens under new ownership

Lauren Jackson
 Staff Reporter

After 30 years of business in the same location, Griffin's Jewelers of Jacksonville is now under the direction of Talladega native, Richard Merrell. Merrell has been with Griffin's Jewelers for 40 years, and has served as the manager at the Anniston location before making the purchase of Griffin's Jewelers of Jacksonville.

He made the decision to keep the name because "everyone knows it and trusts it."

Merrell was trained under the direction of Millard and Sarah Griffin at the Anniston location before becoming the manager for 20 years. "They taught me everything I know about jewelry, and keeping the name is a way to pay homage to them," said Merrell.

The transition from manager to owner has had very few changes for Merrell. "I

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Lauren Jackson/The Chanticleer

New owner Richard Merrell and employee Susan Barrs stand behind the counter of Griffin's Jewelers in Jacksonville. The store will celebrate its grand opening this weekend.

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Secondary Education prepares students to be future educators of Ala.

Katelyn Schneider
 Staff Reporter

One of the initial purposes of Jacksonville State University was to serve as a teachers college. Education is the focus of every college, but preparing students for a career in education has been a goal of the university since 1930.

That is one reason why such a high percentage of JSU students major in education. The Secondary Education Department has continued the focus of turning students into teachers.

The department is located in Ramona Wood Hall. Dr. Emily Sims serves as the Secondary Education Department head.

She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Jacksonville State University before receiving her Doctorate from the University of Alabama. She has

been the Department Head for a year and a half.

Students majoring in Secondary education learn in university classrooms, but they are also able to gain real world experience. They are able to participate in both practicas and internships. Students handle real classroom situations and learn lessons to aid them in their teaching careers.

David Crunkilton, a student majoring in secondary education, said, "My time with the secondary education program has definitely prepared me for graduation. All of the courses that they offered and all of the in-school experiences have helped me develop skills that I will use as long as I teach."

Before a student may enter the Secondary Education program, there are specific requirements that

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Opinion: Bryant's retirement is shocking

Nathan Cavitt
Staff Reporter

It was a strange scene Sunday night. One wouldn't have expected to see Kobe Bryant smiling after the Los Angeles Lakers lost 107-103 against the Indiana Pacers while shooting only 4-for-20 from the field, but he did so hours after officially announcing his retirement.

"I've known for a while," Bryant said, "A decision like this, you can't make that decision based on outside circumstances. It has to be an internal decision, and finally I've decided to accept that I can't actually do this anymore, and I'm OK with that."

The five-time NBA Champion's words rang home to me. A historic basketball player, a record-breaking

player, was announcing his retirement. The NBA would never be the same.

However, I thought back to all the times Bryant had been talked about in the media. Everything from the sexual assault allegations back in 2003 to the more recent talks of Bryant refusing to take a pay cut, despite lack of production and little to no support cast behind.

All around the world analysts are talking about his Hall of Fame career, and what a great career Kobe had, but little are talking about the smudges, the black-caked grime of his career. Marks that were caused by Kobe himself.

Bryant is a great player, maybe one of the best, but a severely flawed player who could have been the best player of all time.

It all started in 2003 when Bryant was accused of sexual assault, darkening his squeaky clean reputation. He pleaded not guilty, and the charges were eventually dropped after the accuser refused to testify in court.

Furthermore, Bryant has often been described as a difficult and demanding teammate. Former Laker's center Dwight Howard, when asked about playing with Bryant, described it as being "very tough."

Most notably, Bryant and former Laker Shaquille O'Neal seemed in constant frustration with one another on the court, despite winning three of Bryant's five NBA Championships together.

A most notable mark on Bryant's career is his declining production, leaving many to believe that Bryant

should have retired years ago.

It was thought that over the last couple of years Bryant would admit his falling production, his age, and accept a lower paid contract, allowing the Lakers to acquire a big name in free agency to supplement the aging shooting guard. However, according to ESPN, Bryant has been the top-paid player in NBA over the past six years.

The lack of production this year had been a hard pill to swallow for the future Hall of Famer. Bryant had been shooting around 31%, a career-low and the lowest in the league among players who had taken at least 150 attempts. His three-point percentage of 19 was also a career-low and a league-low among players who had tak-

en a least 60 attempts before his announcement.

However, this isn't exactly a sudden change. Bryant has been steadily declining since 2011. Some would say that the contract situation is not on Kobe, it's on the Lakers.

While maybe true, there have been several aging players in NBA who have taken pay cuts in order to build a better team. Bryant wasn't going to be one of them.

In the end, Bryant was a great player—anyone who can score 81 points in a single game is great. However, whenever I think about Bryant I think about the man who forced Dwight Howard out of Los Angeles, or the man who failed to live up to his own expectations toward the end of his career.

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ran the store then like it was mine," he said. "I love making people happy."

The husband and father of three is from Talladega originally, but drives from his Lincoln home each day to the store. He is a member of Eastaboga First Baptist Church, and his wife works with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind in Talladega.

Susan Barrs is a retired high school teacher, and a former secretary for the Dean of Admissions at Jacksonville State. "I came in to get a watch battery replaced, and wound up with a part time job," she said.

Griffin's Jewelers of Jacksonville was run by Mary Stanford for 25 years before Merrell purchased the location from the Griffin's family.

"Mary Stanford is well-liked and well-respected in Jacksonville. Because of Mary, the store did well, and she still comes in to visit sometimes," said Barrs.

Griffin's Jewelers of Jacksonville is having their grand opening on the December 3, 4, and 5, and will be having saving from 30-50% off some items, several giveaways and some light refreshments. The giveaways include

diamonds, ladies and men's watches and a diamond pendant.

The store makes, repairs, and remounts jewelry and also change watch batteries, repair watches, have clock repairs and offer free jewelry cleaning on the spot.

"We would like to start getting affordable jewelry that can meet the college budget," said Barrs.

The store has college sections dedicated to Auburn and Alabama, and features a Santa holding a Jacksonville State flag. Griffin's is currently in the search of pieces that can represent the Gamecocks, and is also looking to have affordable jewelry that even college students can buy as gifts. They have selections such as Endless bracelets, and hope to add more pieces soon.

"JSU has a huge impact, and we support the university 110%," said Merrell.

The store accepts all major credit and charge cards, and has some financing options available. They offer free appraisals, and are currently hosting a Christmas giveaway to the Smoky Mountains.

Merrell's wife supports him, and is always ready to make a deal. He stays busy with the store, and is "constantly on the go," said Barrs.

Griffin's of Jacksonville can be found on Facebook and Instagram.

possible for children that would otherwise not have one. Roxanne Bailey, an ambassador at JSU, said, "JSU in Lights is my favorite event of the entire year because it brings all of JSU and the community together in the name of community service and Christmas, and you can practically feel the cheer in the air."

President Beehler helped ring in the festivities with a short speech among the unlit decorations. "The future is very bright for JSU," Beehler said.

The Jacksonville Council President Mark Jones also attended the event and said JSU in Lights is "a great opportunity for the city and university to work together."

In the past JSU in Lights has been celebrated at the house of the president, but because of ongoing renovations, it was moved to Bibb Graves. SGA

must be met. Students must take and pass the English Competency Exam (ECE), the ETS Proficiency Profile (EPP), and the PRAXIS II.

They are also required to take the Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program (AECTP), which is a test that consists of three different portions. Each portion of the test must be passed. These are required standardized tests for similar programs at other universities as well. There may also be other standardized tests that are required, depending upon the student's concentration.

The Secondary Education Department offers both undergraduate and graduate programs. There are about 15 undergraduate programs. Some of them include biology education, English language arts education, Spanish education, history education, music education, family and consumer sciences education and

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Lauren Jackson/The Chanticleer

The Gold Room in Bibb Graves is decorated and holds refreshments for those in attendance of JSU in Lights on Monday

President Tyler Brown said the change was a great way to "embrace the tradition while bringing in the new."

As the darkness began to settle over the campus, President Beehler again took to the stage to begin the actual lighting of the campus.

With the "magic button" in tow, he led an excited countdown with the crowd before sparking the lights. The decora-

tions included the trees, the garland, and a giant wreath. The top level of the library was also decorated with its customary star and the new addition of red lights.

In addition to the festivities, refreshments were served and everyone was welcomed to enjoy the inside decorations of Bibb Graves. Inside the Gold Room, a long table featured an array of Christmas

cookies shaped like snowmen and trees.

Decorative poinsettias lined the room, and it hosted a tall tree decorated in everything Christmas and JSU. Students lingered to take photos with friends, and families brought their children to share in the magic.

"JSU in Lights is my favorite event of the year because you get to see family and friends, and all of you here are

TEACH, from page 1

mathematics education. There are about 10 graduate programs. Many of the programs are similar to the undergraduate programs, but they are more advanced. The undergraduate and graduate programs are consistently reviewed and improved to ensure that the students are getting a high quality and beneficial education. There are faculty advisers for each type of program.

The faculty advisers also aid students in reaching their graduation requirements. "They put forth a great deal of effort to make sure that we are as prepared as possible to enter the workforce," Senior student Courtney Brown said.

"The best part of the Secondary Education Department is the staff at Jacksonville State University. They are always willing to help students to the best of their ability," David Crunkilton said.

When students grad-

uate, they are able to teach their major program in grades six through twelve in Alabama public schools. "Based on recent data provided by the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama, Jacksonville State University graduates more teachers than any of the other Educator Prepa-

ration Providers in the state. We systematically place our candidates in diverse school settings to allow them to experience various learning environments. Our programs will equip candidates with the necessary knowledge, skills, and dispositions all effective educators must possess," Sims said.

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Seasons greetings from The Chanticleer staff! To get in touch with the staff over the holidays, please email chantynewstips@gmail.com

STUDY BREAK



By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics and animations visit FilbertCartoons.com

Need Advice?

The Chanticleer staff is happy to help!

Email 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.

Dear Chanty,

I have three finals next week and I don't know where to start. Between math, biology, and my political science class, I really have my hands full. It doesn't help that I am on the borderline between an A and a B in both biology and math. Lately, my end of the semester laziness has kicked in, and I have gotten behind on the material in all of my classes. Since I have a term paper and a project due by the end of this week, I really won't be able to start studying until this weekend. I am trying to decide whether I should study equally for my three finals, which seems to be the smart decision. However, I'm afraid if I don't spend enough time studying math and biology I will end up with Bs in both classes. Can you help?

Sincerely,
Finals Stress

Dear Finals Stress,

I have been in your situation before and it is a tough place to be. First, you will have to evaluate how well you understand the material for all three of your exams. Also, keep in mind the order in which you will be taking the exams. For instance, if your math test is first, then you will need to focus on that a little more than your other classes. I would check to see how much each Final is weighted in relation to your overall grade; each professor does things a little different. Another thing to keep in mind is the format of the tests. Exams with a lot of essay and open-ended questions will require more studying. After you do all these things, you should be able to assess how much and when you will need to study for each exam. Best of luck!

Yours truly,
Chanty

Campus crime report: 11/19 to 11/30

Witness a crime?

11/19/2015
Theft of Property
Stone Center

11/19/2015
Violation of Student Code of Conduct
Central Station

11/21/2015
Arrest- Disorderly Conduct & Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Salls Hall

11/28/2015
Criminal Mischief
Hammond Hall

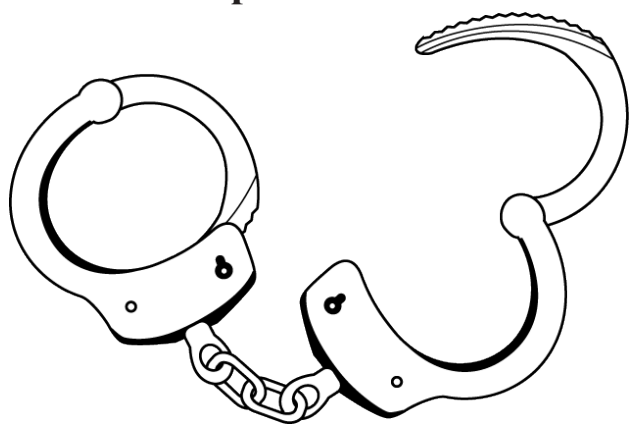
11/30/2015
Violation of Student Code of Conduct
Bibb Graves

11/30/2015
Domestic Dispute
Brewer Hall

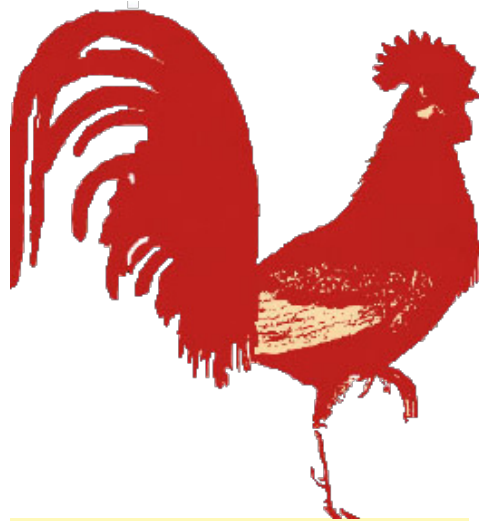
11/30/2015
Information Report
Park Place III

11/30/2015
Medical Emergency
Brewer Hall

For emergencies, dial 6000 from any campus phone.



Chicken Scratch



If I get one more Cyber Monday email...I'm trying to be smart and save money, and all you want me to do is go broke.

This week only, use promo code "NETFLIX" for 50% off of final exams.

The only good thing this semester was the turkey last week.

To my neighbor playing the electric guitar: it's nearly 1 a.m.

Research papers make me want to curl up in a ball and cry... Especially at the end of the semester.

7:45 final on Friday...ugh...

This far into the semester and I'm still wondering if my class is on the second or third floor.

I want to crawl into a hole until finals are over.

I just want to ignore all of my responsibilities.

Finals stress has me eating 2 king size Hershey Cookies N' Cream Bars at one time. No shame.

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

7-day weather outlook



TODAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

Sunny
High: 56°
Low: 32°

Sunny
High: 60°
Low: 33°

Sunny
High: 63°
Low: 34°

Sunny
High: 63°
Low: 37°

Partly Cloudy
High: 62°
Low: 43°

Partly Cloudy
High: 61°
Low: 43°

Rain
High: 62°
Low: 44°

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

December 3: A day of art at JSU

Christina MacDonald
Arts & Entertainment
Editor

For the Jacksonville State University campus, December 3, 2015 is going to be a full day of art.

Those who have the evening free are invited to celebrate the arts through senior showcases to film works.

Starting at 5 p.m., is “NOW,” the senior exhibition of JSU art majors. The exhibition will take place in the Hammond Hall Gallery until 7 p.m.

It will feature the works of students Stephanie Blackston, Aimee Coutu, Brett DeBoer, Morgan Edge, Ariel Graham, Katie Hicks, Kayla McGlathery, Megan Sosebee, Emily Muir, Matthew Blaskowski, Jasmine Hammond, Sebastian Mendez and Joshua Bourke. Admission to the art exhibit is free and open to the public.

Emily Muir, a senior graphic design student who will be showcasing at “NOW,” reflected on the process of preparing for the show.

“You know Murphy’s law? Everything that can go wrong will. [It] is completely true. But when you finally have the show hung and you see it on the wall, a wave a relaxation just rushes over your entire body. Yes, it was stressful semester, but it made me a stronger artist,” Muir said.

Muir explained her work by saying, “My project is about mission work and how it’s not just churches going to different countries, but [instead how it really is] the common person helping their fellow man in need. So, I conceptually created a non-profit that helps you ‘find your mission’ that also fits your abilities. I have ad posters, info-

graphic pamphlets, and a website.”

Sebastian Mendez is also a senior graphic design student that will show at “NOW.” Students were asked to write a statement of purpose for their artwork.

Mendez shared his: “After five years living in Jacksonville, Alabama, it has been a great experience for me, especially because I have a different perspective, since Guatemala is my homeland.”

“Alabama and Jacksonville State University have given me many experiences, and I have learned to love it here. Everywhere I have gone, people have opened their homes and arms and made Alabama a place that feels like a home away from home,” said Mendez.

Mendez has been a member of the Jones International House since he came to JSU.

The International House motto, ‘Know one another and you will love one another’ is something that Mendez truly believes in its mission and feels has develop himself as an artist and as a person. It can be seen in his work and is heavily an inspiration to his showcase. He currently serves as a resident assistant within the program.

“You do not know what you have until you lose it. Especially my senior year, I [have] realized I am about to move [on] with my life away from my alma mater and perhaps from Alabama. This realization gave me the idea to use my talent and the skills I have developed at JSU to create a tribute to the places and cities that make my second home special and unique,” Mendez stated.

Department head professor Seth



Katie Hicks



Johnson, explained that “NOW” is the senior students’ final presentation of their work. It showcases their hard work and creativity.

“The students are grades on professionalism, creativity, and content,” Johnson said.

Johnson explained further that this showcase is to represent that work they have done with the knowledge and experience the students have gained and received throughout their time at Jacksonville State University.

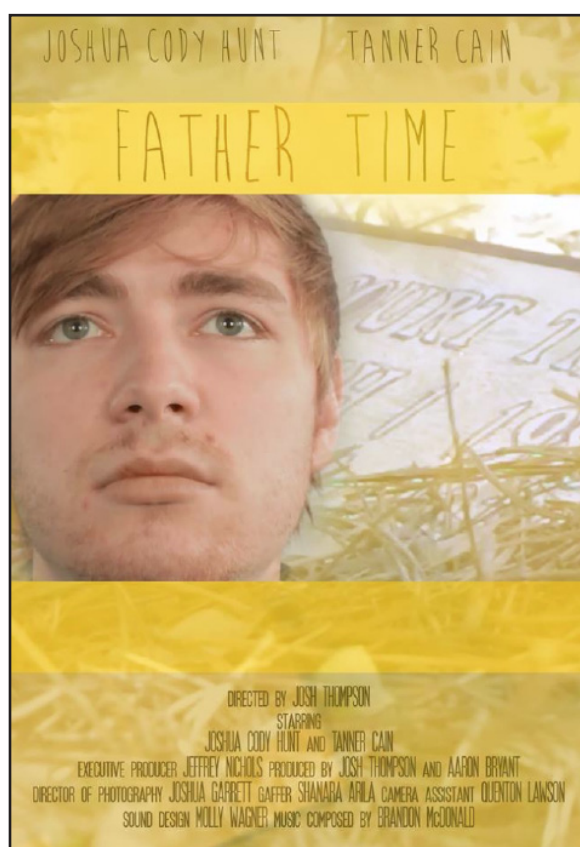
The senior exhibition

ends at 7 p.m., following which the premiere of “Echo of Smoke,” the JSU Film Student Showcase, will begin.

A quick walk around from Hammond Hall to the JSU Roundhouse will allow you to check out all the students’ hard artistic work.

It is hosted by the Jacksonville State University Film Club.

The theme of the event is to never stop believing in your imagination. And this is something the students must have kept this in their minds throughout the process as the event will serve as the final



project for the students of DR 430, Film Entertainment Technology.

The president of the film club, Alex McFry, said “This premiere will be a unique experience for all those involved.”

“We’ve never done something like this, so I hope it’s just as exciting to those who plan to attend as it is for all of us,” said McFry.

He continued by saying, “Watching all of the team’s hard work unfold has been the most enjoyable part of this process.”

“Echo of Smoke” is a McDorky Production. Starting with

“NOW” at Hammond Hall and finishing with the film showcase at the JSU Roundhouse, December 3 is truly a day of art.

The students of JSU have put in great effort to present to the campus and local community, their work and efforts.

For more information on the film showcase, you may contact the JSU Film Club by calling the Drama Department at 256-782-5623.

And for further information on “NOW” you may contact the JSU Art Department at 256-5626.

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JSU Choir students host Madrigal Dinner

Collins Maroa
Staff Reporter

On December 4 and 5, the JSU Choral Department will be hosting the 2015 Annual Renaissance Madrigal dinner, an annual event for the department.

The event will be held at the Leone Cole Auditorium on the Jacksonville State University campus at 7 p.m. on both dates and will end at 9:15 p.m.

Reservations for the event were closed at noon on November 18, and were taken to help prepare for the dinner head count. Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. Therefore, guests will have enough time

to get seated and feel comfortable before the event begins.

The performances will feature JSU Chamber Singers, Acapella Choir and a guest choir from Oxford High School.

Dinner will include a multi-course meal and wassail, which Christopher Serrano, a student in the Music Department, described as “a drink that is more than just a drink, but a toast and good wishes towards each other in show of the Christmas spirit.”

The event is taking place shortly following the Thanksgiving break; so, one can be sure the holiday season will be in full gear.

Dr. Patricia Corbin said, “The Madrigal Dinner is a fun and creative opportunity for our JSU Choir students to be creative, explore early music repertoire, entertain an audience of both children and adults, and be a little silly!”

She continued, “I have a terrific crew of students who have helped me write a new story every year and put on this major production with a very limited rehearsal time. Although it is a great deal of work, it is a fun way to end the semester!”

The tickets are going for \$28 for adults and \$14 for children. However, a seat next to the “Royal Table”



Patricia Corbin/Special to the Chanticleer

The annual Madrigal Dinner will take place at the Leone Cole Auditorium on December 4, performed by the many JSU choral students.

is available for \$50 per person.

The organizers insist that reservations cannot be made until payments are made. Seating will

be based on first-come-first-serve basis and it is important to note that the tickets are non-refundable.

For more information

on the annual Madrigal dinner and further performances, contact Patricia Corbin by emailing her at pcorbin@jsu.edu.

‘Welcome Back #JaxSU’ to be held on December 4

Jefferson Varner IV
Staff Reporter

Are your musical senses tingling? Perhaps it is because this Friday, a free concert, Welcome Back #JaxSU, will be held at the Jacksonville Square establishment Brother’s bar.

The event will feature an array of multi-genre acts such as math rock collective Pace House and hip-hop sensation Blake Graham.

The versatile post-Thanksgiving showcase will run from 9 p.m. until whenever the party stops, and is opened for ages 18 and up.

Graham made headlines earlier this year for dancing on the JSU quad and happens to be both the lead headliner and main organizer of the event.

He said he felt it was necessary to give the JSU students something to do “when they [return] from their [Thanksgiving] break.”

His and performers’ dream outcome for the event is for people to have a good time and to spread the word of their showcase numbers.

As an artist, Blake Graham hopes potential attendees

who may be inexperienced to his sound will enjoy the show.

Other than him and Pace House gracing the stage, four other acts will attain the experience in hopes of captivating attention from the Jacksonville crowd.

Remaining line-up performers include Thump, David Lewis, The Sunsets, Couture Major and Black Label; the latter of which will be granted a 10-minute spot.

As in some familiar concerts, promotional items such as CDs and T-shirts are often sold at the door to encourage event-goers to check out more of the

performers’ material.

However, lead organizer Graham confirms that he may be the only crowd-thumper selling items.

“I can’t speak for everybody, but I’m gonna set up a booth that’ll have CDs like my 6-track EP that will be on sell for \$3, and then my last full-length mixtape ‘Co-Creation,’ which will be on sell for \$5,” said Graham.

In regards to guests, disc jockey Ace Twan of 91.9 FM WLJS will be the DJ for the sets, as others like communication major, Gabrielle Ferrell of N-GEN and local female pact Pretty Face Promotions have

been in talks to assist in promoting the show.

With so much effort and energy being put in the show, many have grown curious in the recent days as to why the concert is signified “so special” unlike previous events.

Graham proudly confirms that it is a free concert – a great deal for some JSU students, especially following the hectic rituals of Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

With the mention of the concert being free making moves across town, Blake Graham is hoping people will “just come see and give [him and the

musicians] a chance.”

The proud organizer and aspiring rapper questions, “What’s the worst that could happen?”

Graham even blatantly addresses to those who may be still undecided in showing up to the lively experience.

“You go to the show, have a good time, this is a free concert, you don’t have to pay anything,” he said.

But Graham’s focus is not fixated on those still in the deciding, he is more interested in channeling the energy from those excited to appear at the event. Something he said he will be deeply appreciative of.

OPINION & EDITORIAL

Democrats struggle throughout 2015 races

Kevin Spann
Political Columnist

If the 2015 races say anything about the playing field next year, Democrats are not in a particularly strong position, and Republicans were less successful than they could have been. As an off year, 2015 had no Senate races and only three special congressional elections to fill vacancies.

All three of which were a wash for Democrats, particularly New York's 11th district, which should have been competitive due to the relatively even makeup of the district and scandals related to the seats former Republican Congressman.

The 2015 Gubernatorial races, however, were something of a mixed bag. In Mississippi, Governor Phil Bryant routed his Democratic opponent truck driver Robert Gray in the lowest Democratic turnout in at least 16 years.

Kentucky, meanwhile, was a major victory for Republicans. While Kentucky has been a reliably Republican state, during Presidential elections, the Democratic Party has largely dominated state government.

If the recent gov-

ernor's race was any indication though, Republicans may well be reversing this status quo. In a surprising victory, the ultra-conservative Matt Bevin pulled off a comfortable lead with seemingly everything stacked against him.

His Democratic opponent Jack Conway was young, handsome, and a scandal-free Attorney General with arguably a more conservative record than Kentucky's current Democratic Governor. In an even more surprising turn of events, Democrats proved victorious in the Louisiana Governor's race.

Conservative Democrat John Bel Edwards pulled off the seemingly impossible: becoming the first Democrat to win a Governor's race in the deep south in quite some time. However, Edward's victory had more to do with his opponent's sex scandal involving prostitution coming back to haunt him, rather than an upsurge in Democratic support.

As such, Democrats have to turn to the down ballot races, such as the New Jersey General Assembly, adding Democratic seats, or Pennsylvania Democrats gaining a majority of the state's Supreme Court to find much to be hopeful about in

2015. The results were not entirely gloom and doom though.

A Democratic victory in Louisiana proves the party can still be competitive in the south, provided Republicans have a flawed candidate and their own nominee has some crossover appeal to conservatives.

Other Democrats also illustrated the ability to appeal to just enough independents or conservatives to survive. Democrats held onto offices like the Attorney General of Kentucky and Mississippi, and a potential rising star in the Democratic Party, Allison Grimes, held onto her post of Secretary of State in Kentucky.

As such, Democrats should count their blessings as they had a very real chance of totally being removed from the board. The handful of Democratic successes mostly came down to local factors and does little to counter the conventional wisdom that the party is verging on extinction south of the Mason-Dixon line. While not a total rout, this is not the sort of record Democrats would have liked to go into 2016 with. It shows that Republicans may well have the momentum going into next year.

Snapchat announces new interactive feature

Myron Jones
Tech Columnist

On November 23, a new Story Explorer was announced for Snapchat. Story Explorer is a new feature that allows users to interact more directly with events posted in stories.

When using Story Explorer, a user can swipe up from the bottom of certain stories and related snaps will be displayed to possibly show the event or area from different angles.

According to the Snapchat blog, "Story Explorer relies on technology developed by our research team to provide more depth to every Snap in a Story. When you see a moment that inspires or excites you, simply swipe up to see more Snaps of that same moment — from every perspective".

The feature will only work on specific curated stories for now, with city stories and select events being planned. As of November 23, Story Explorer only works on the New York and Los Angeles Live stories but will be rolling out to other Stories soon.

This new feature comes soon after a recent change to Snapchat's Privacy Policy and Terms of Service. Many users were concerned when the new policies stated that the company had the rights to reproduce, modify and republish

photos and save them to Snapchat's servers.

This change was meant to directly target Live Stories, but was the cause of both fear and confusion as users heard about the adjustments.

Snapchat made a blog post to ease some of the concerns. Snapchat stated, "The Snaps and Chats you send your friends remain as private today as they were before the update. Our Privacy Policy continues to say — as it did before — that those messages 'are automatically deleted from our servers once we detect that they have been viewed or have expired.'"

While private messages are still private, things posted to Live Stories can be reproduced by the company as per the new Privacy Policy and Terms of Service. A user can use the privacy settings within the app to "restrict the scope of that license so that your personal communications continue to remain truly personal," according to Snapchat's blog.

Snapchat has been making several changes over the last couple of months, including the new Lenses that launched in September, and more recently, a focus on improved security. One notable change for Android power users is that Snapchat is trying to block users with root access.

According to Tomek

Kondrat, a moderator for XDA-Developers (a website that focuses heavily on modifying smartphones and other devices), "Snapchat users will soon face, if not already, a serious inconvenience, as Snapchat will stop working on our devices. Yes, Snapchat will not work on rooted devices."

This change is likely because having root privileges on an Android device allows for unintended modifications to the Snapchat app and even undesirable features such as saving Snaps without notifying the sender.

One of the more popular mods, Snap-prefs offers some of the following features: stealth viewing (view snaps you receive without notifying the sender), unlimited viewing time, saving videos and pictures, and unlimited caption text in addition to many other modifications.

For users, additional features are often appealing, but for the company and the app's success, some of these features are consequential.

The major appeal of Snapchat is the idea of self-destructing images that a person can not save. If users are circumventing the app's built in security, it gives people reason to doubt Snapchat's reliability for sensitive content.

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Where there is a hello, there is a goodbye

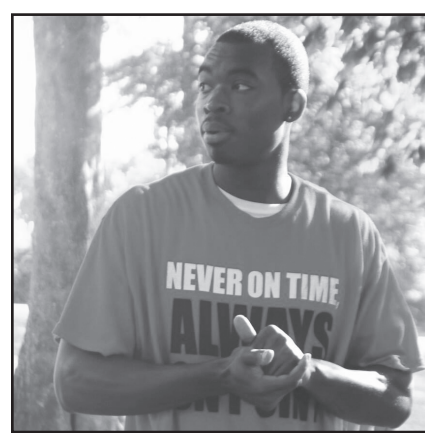
Marvel Robinson
Sports Editor

I never would've thought in a million years that I, Marvel Robinson Jr., would've been Sports Editor of a college campus newspaper. To be honest, it's hard for me to believe that I'm graduating from college. Well, I am and it's about that time to let it soak in. I am the Sports Editor of my college campus newspaper, The Chanticleer, and I am indeed ready to graduate this fall on December 18, 2015. I'm just not as eager to say goodbye as I was to say hello.

I started with The Chanticleer in 2013 as a staff writer. I remember being so naïve and new to this newspaper thing. I covered sports, but I used to not even know what to write about because I wanted it to be per-

fect since it was going in the campus newspaper. I was so excited about writing about sports and just seeing my name in the paper. I thought that was the coolest thing ever. Then, I got that phone call. Christiana Tyler, former Arts & Entertainment Editor of The Chanticleer, called me in the early part of the summer of 2014. I don't answer numbers I don't know or recognize, so she left a message. I checked my voicemail, and after bouncing back and forth on the couch, I called her back and knew then that I basically had the job.

I remember meeting with Marie McBurnett (Chief Editor of The Chanticleer) for an interview later that summer. I was a little nervous, but it went really well. She was cool and I knew we would get along easily. Besides, she played a big role in hiring



Megan Wise/Special to The Chanticleer

me, so how could I ever turn my back on her. With that being said, shout out to Mike Stedham (my adviser) for recommending me for the job.

Sports Editor was way cooler than just being a staff writer. For one, I had an office with my own key. Not to mention, we, The Chanticleer,

pretty much have the best parking spots at Self Hall. It was more fun than work for me because I love sports. I used to love sitting in the press box and watching the football games. That was a nice view and even a better feeling. I also used to like being court-side at the basketball games. Those situations really made me feel like somebody important, somebody special.

This has been an amazing experience for me and it has been an honor to work for The Chanticleer. I've been around to see three different staffs. Man, just saying that makes me feel older than I am. This school and this job helped me open up more and they both helped jump-start my career. I'm a better writer than I was before and most of all, I'm a better person. Thank you, Chanty!

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SPORTS

JSU fights to beat Alcorn State

Rebekah Hawkins
Staff Reporter

After being down by 12 late in the final half, the Gamecocks pulled it together and beat Alcorn State 67-65.

The Gamecocks played well overall as they made 50% of their free throws and went 42% on two-pointers made on the night. Gretchen Morrison and Destiny James led the team in shots made with five each. Morrison and Courtney Strain both had the lead in 3-pointers with two apiece.

The game started with an Alcorn State bucket. After a quick tie by the Gamecocks, ASU jumped out to an aggressive eight point lead before the Gamecocks even scored again. They held ASU at 10 and after a Morrison 3-pointer and another quick score by Chloe Long, the Gamecocks were within one.

After another tie at 15, JSU took their first lead of the night by one. They led by five before ASU scored two more bringing the score to 20-17, JSU still in the lead. The Gamecocks would miss a free throw and make another to close the first quarter with the score in their favor 21-20.

The second quarter opened with ASU moving back in on the Gamecocks by scoring another four to tie the score again at 21. The score then took a rotating turn with the two teams both being with one or two of each other.

It wasn't until a layup by ASU's Day Russell in which the Braves were finally able to take a three-point lead on the Gamecocks at 31-28. They managed to make it to six before JSU started taking the score back and eventually the score was



JSU Sportswire

Briana Benson hit a late-three to help lift JSU to a home victory.

tied again at 34. JSU's Kelly Naughton made a free throw to close the half and put JSU up by one 35-34.

The second half took off with a successful layup by ASU's Brianna Tolliver to put the Braves up 36-35. They ran with their lead and pulled the score out to six at 43-37. A 3-pointer from Naughton brought the Gamecocks within three, but ASU continued to score being out seven points twice, while the Gamecocks struggled to play catch up.

The third quarter wound to a close after JSU managed to score a layup to bring the nine point deficit back down to seven at 53-46, ASU.

The fourth quarter opened with

more scoring by the Braves as the Gamecocks remained at 46. The score sat at 58-46 before JSU scored another two to cut it to 10 at 58-48. ASU pushed it back up to 12 with a score of their own.

The Gamecocks rallied after a jumper by Strain and cut their point deficit to two at 63-65 with ASU still clinging to a lead. With 34 seconds left, JSU took the lead by one thanks to a three by Briana Benson. A free throw sealed the win at 67-65.

The Gamecocks move to 2-5 with the win. Next, they play Georgia Southern away and then return home to play Tuskegee. They begin OVC play Dec. 31 against SIU Edwardsville.



JSU Sportswire

Malcolm Drumwright (21) goes up for the score against Samford's defender. JSU lost at home 77-71.

Gamecock Men falls to rival Samford, 77-71

Timothy Cash
Staff Reporter

Following Jacksonville State's women's basketball team 67-65 victory over Alcorn State, where they had to battle back from being down 12 points, both JSU and Samford men looked to finish the night with a 'W'. However, Jacksonville State (3-7) fell 77-71 to in-state rival Samford University (6-2) at 'The Pete' for their 89th meeting on the hardwood on Tuesday, the first since 2008.

Samford struck first when Darius Jones-Gibson was able to get a layup. The Gamecocks didn't allow the Bulldogs to keep the lead for long, however. Christian Cunningham went up for a one-handed dunk to bring the game back to a tie.

Jacksonville State was constantly maintaining a two-to-three point deficit, but at the 13:47 mark, the Gamecocks were briefly able to take the lead. Cam Biedscheid was able to tie the game at 10, and then make a free throw to give Jax State a one-point lead.

The Bulldogs quickly turned Jax State's lead into an eight-point deficit. The Gamecocks were not able to score again until Cunningham was able to knock down a couple of free throws.

With 7:19 left in the first half, Jacksonville State cut their deficit in half to only four points. The Gamecocks were once again able to take the lead at 24-23 on a three-pointer by Malcolm Drumwright, but Samford would not go down easily. After trading the lead for a brief period,

the Bulldogs shot to a 31-29 lead.

Going into half time, the Gamecocks' Erik Durham hit a three-pointer just as the buzzer went off to bring the team three points of Samford's 37.

During the first half, JSU shot 41 percent from the field compared to the Bulldogs' 40 percent.

Samford came out of the locker room ready to take on the second half. At the 15-minute mark, Jax State were able to score seven points, but the Bulldogs' scored 12 to bring the score to 49-41.

After a short three-point contest with Biedscheid, Drumwright and Samford's Jamal Shabazz, the Gamecocks were able to bring the score to a more manageable 52-49.

Jax State was down 74-71 with 18.8 seconds to go, but the two made

free throws and layup by the Bulldogs' Jones-Gibson proved to be the nail in the coffin for Jacksonville State.

Drumwright led the team with 21 points. He also had four assist and two rebounds. JaQuail Townser led the team with six rebounds and five assist. Cunningham and Biedscheid both scored 14 points.

Jacksonville led the game with a 45 percent shooting efficiency. Samford shot 37 percent. Jacksonville had the lead in the game for 1:28. The game was tied for 3:26, and the Bulldogs led for 25:06.

On Saturday, JSU will remain at home when they host Florida's Jacksonville University. The Dolphins have gotten off to a slow 2-5 start on the season. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Gamecocks Side Bar

JSU Upcoming Action

12/4

-Track and Field at Ice Breaker Invitational

-Women's Basketball at Georgia Southern
6:00 p.m.

12/5

-Football vs Chattanooga (NCAA Second Round)
1:00 p.m.

-Men's Basketball vs Jacksonville
7:00 p.m.

2015 Football Schedule

9/5 @ Chattanooga W 23-20

9/12 @ Auburn L 27-20 OT

9/19 vs TSU W 48-13

9/26 @ UT Martin W 48-41

10/3 vs Mississippi Valley State W 49-7

10/10 Open

10/17 @ TTU* W 42-13

10/24 @ Austin Peay* W 27-7

10/31 vs ECU** W 34-0

11/7 @ EIU* W 24-3

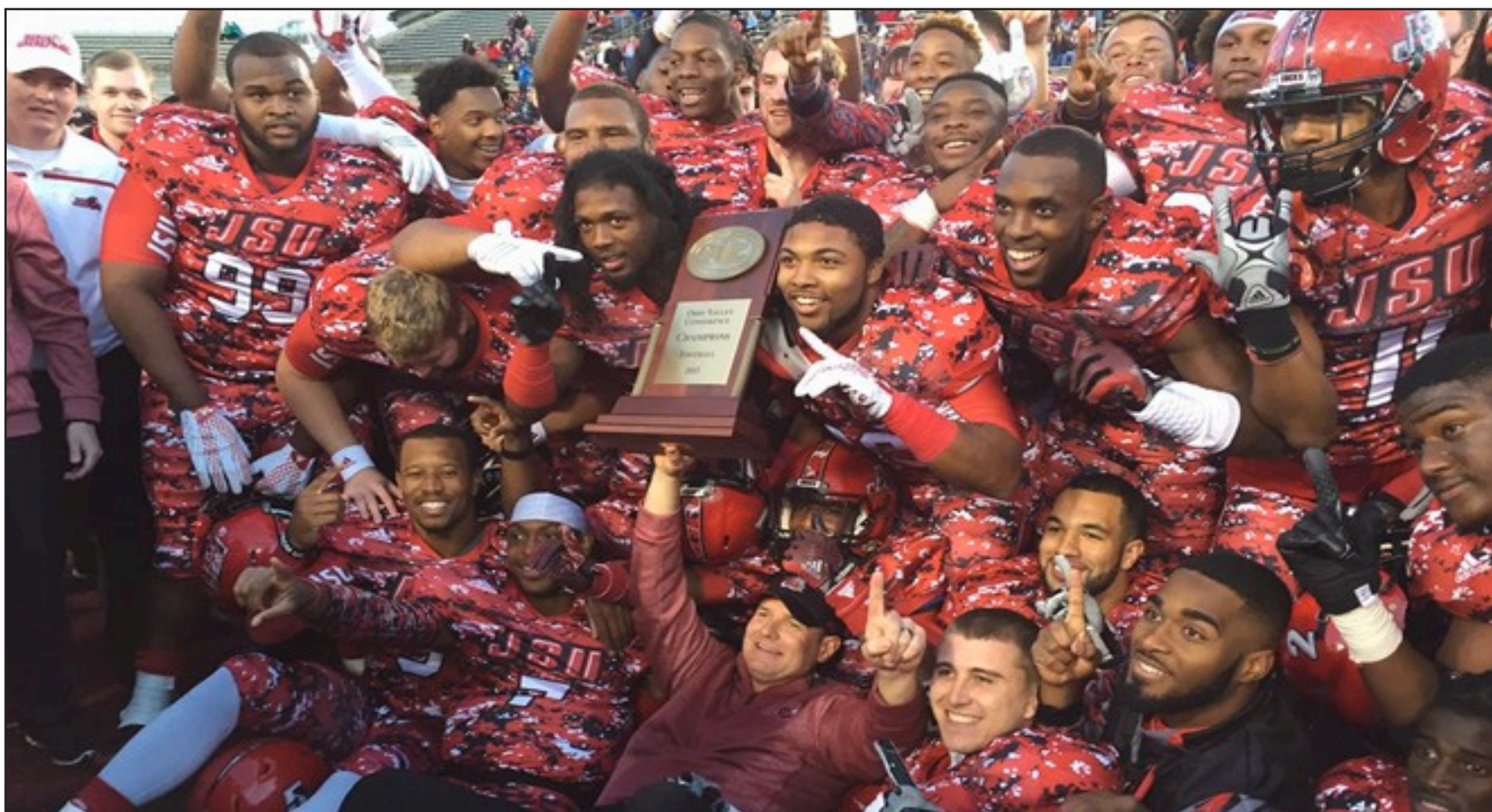
11/14 vs Southeast Missouri* W 56-28

11/21 vs Murray State* W 42-20

*OVC game/ ** Homecoming

STATS FCS Top 25 Final Week

1. Jacksonville State
2. North Dakota State
3. McNeese State
4. Illinois State
5. Portland State
6. Sam Houston State
7. Chattanooga
8. James Madison
9. Charleston Southern
10. South Dakota State
10. Coastal Carolina
12. Richmond
13. William & Mary
14. Fordham
15. UNI
16. Montana
17. Southern Utah
18. Citadel
19. Harvard
20. Dartmouth
21. Grambling State
22. North Carolina A&T
23. Eastern Washington
24. Eastern Illinois
25. Bethune-Cookman



JSU Sportswire

The JSU football team celebrates as Ohio Valley Conference Champions. They will host UTC in the FCS Playoffs second round on Saturday.

OVC Champs seek National Title

Jacksonville State Gamecocks are back on their journey to Frisco

Marvel Robinson
Sports Editor

If you ask Jacksonville State head coach John Grass or any of the football players what's the goal, they will tell you it has always been to win the National Championship. The Gamecocks are Ohio Valley Conference Champions, and that's cool, but their eyes are on the big prize.

The Gamecocks finished the regular season with a 10-1 overall record with

their only loss being to Auburn in overtime, 27-20. JSU went undefeated in the OVC and at home. Now, they have home-field advantage throughout the NCAA FCS Playoffs.

JSU are not looking to repeat the same steps they took last year. They had a bye for the first round and then a home game against Sam Houston State. They lost to Sam Houston State 37-26 in the second round.

One year later, they have another bye and another

second round home game. However, this JSU team is better and a lot more focus than last season's team. That second round loss to Sam Houston State may factor into that maturity and hunger.

This Saturday, Dec. 5 at 1 p.m., the Gamecocks face Chattanooga for the second time this season. It will be the three-month anniversary between the two teams. JSU won the first match-up, which was the first game of the season. The Gamecocks

came back to win 23-20. The game Saturday will be way more important than that first game. This is a playoff game and if you lose, then you're out. If you win, then the road to Frisco will continue. The FCS National Championship will be in Frisco, Texas on Jan. 9. Three wins and the Gamecocks will be in Frisco.

Chattanooga (9-3) played in the first round of the NCAA FCS Playoffs where they defeated Fordham 50-20. The win advanced them

to the second round to play JSU. Chattanooga had a strong regular season as well with only three losses coming to Florida State, Mercer, and of course JSU.

This second round match-up is set to be a good one as both teams are better than they were before the first time they played this season. Both teams know each other equally, so there is no clear advantage either way.

Kick-off is set for 1 p.m. at Burgess-Snow Field and will be televised on ESPN3.

No. 1 Gamecocks record 17 All-OVC honors

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. — Jacksonville State had 17 players earn All-Ohio Valley Conference honors on Tuesday, highlighted by John Grass being named the Roy Kidd Coach of the Year and Eli Jenkins the OVC Offensive Player of the Year.

One year after the No. 1 Gamecocks (10-1, 8-0 OVC) received a conference-record 18 All-OVC nods, the back-to-back champions garnered 17 honors in 2015.

Grass nabs his second-straight Roy Kidd Coach of the Year honor, while Jenkins becomes the second Gamecock (Ryan Perrilloux in 2009) to be named the league's top offensive player.

Jenkins, senior running back Troy-maine Pope and junior wide receiver Josh Barge earned First Team All-OVC honors at their skill positions, while the Gamecocks made up four of the five offensive linemen on the first team. Seniors Blake Burks and Adam Wright, junior Casey Dunn and sophomore Justin Lea all received first team honors.

On defense, senior defensive end Chris Landrum, Sr., senior linebacker Dawson Wells and senior defensive backs Folo Johnson, Brandon Bender and Jermaine Hough also grabbed first team all-conference mentions.

JSU had three second team all-conference players in senior defensive lineman Devaunte Sigler, soph-

omore defensive end Darius Jackson and junior return specialist Lawon DeBardelaben.

Sophomore linebacker Joel McCandless and junior defensive lineman Desmond Owino were named to the OVC All-Newcomer Team.

Jenkins led Jacksonville State to its first-ever No. 1 ranking at any level of football and its second-straight OVC Championship in 2015. In the process Jenkins improved to 26-0 in his collegiate career as a starter against non-FBS opponents during the regular season.

The junior from Birmingham has directed a Gamecocks offense that ranks fourth nationally in total offense (503.0 yards/game) and ninth in scoring offense (37.5 points/game).

With his team winning by an average margin of 21.2 points/game, Jenkins often sat out large stretches of the second half, including eight full quarters during the season. Despite that fact he still passed for 2,185 yards and 18 touchdowns and rushed for 640 yards and eight additional scores.

Jenkins was named OVC Offensive Player of the Week a league-high four times in 2015 including the last week of the regular season when he accounted for five touchdowns (2 passing, 3 rushing) as he passed for 212 yards and rushed for a season-high 130 yards against Murray

State; it marked the first time in his career he had passed for more than 200 and rushed for more than 100 yards in the same game.

Grass, in his second year as a collegiate head coach, made NCAA history this season in becoming the first FCS coach to begin his career with a perfect 16-0 conference record in leading Jacksonville State to its second-straight OVC Championship.

Jax State became just the third program in OVC history to complete back-to-back 8-0 seasons, joining Eastern Kentucky (1993 & 1994) and Murray State (1995 & 1996).

Grass' team started the season with a victory at No. 8 Chattanooga (the eventual Southern Conference champions) and followed that by becoming the first-ever FCS team to take a ranked FBS opponent to overtime in giving No. 6 ranked Auburn all it could handle before falling 27-20.

Despite the loss the Gamecocks ascended to No. 1 in the STATS FCS Top 25 poll, the first-ever No. 1 ranking at any level of football in program history. JSU was the first OVC team to be atop the FCS rankings since the 1999 season and has held that No. 1 ranking for 11 straight weeks entering the postseason.

This year's OVC Championship is the fifth in program history and JSU will be making its sixth FCS Playoff berth, this time as the No. 1 overall



JSU Sportswire

John Grass is named the Roy Kidd Coach of the Year

national seed. Grass, who is a finalist for the STATS FCS National Coach of the Year, is the eighth OVC coach to win the award in back-to-back seasons and first since EIU's Dino Babers in 2012 and 2013.

The OVC Coach of the Year award is named after Eastern Kentucky legend Roy Kidd, a member of the College Football Hall of Fame, who won the award a record 10 times during his career (1964-2002) and retired with 314 victories, the second-most in I-AA/FCS history.

~ JSU Sportswire



WHERE YOU'RE GOING.