



WEATHER: Sunny, High 80, Low 54

Thursday, October 15, 2015

Bands of America compete at JSU

Katelyn Schneider
Staff Reporter

High school bands crowded the stands all day Saturday for the annual Bands of America (BOA) Regional Competition. It was Jacksonville State University's sixth year hosting the event.

The highest scoring band, and the winner of BOA JSU Regional, was the Kennesaw Mountain High School Marching Band. JSU's Director of Bands Kenneth Bodiford said, "Bands of America is a wonderful event. It promotes the highest level of excellence for marching bands in our country."

The competition is the first step in displaying the hard work that each and every one of the students have put in since July.

The shows are all very different from each other, but each one requires extreme dedication. The East Coweta High School show was themed after The Hunger Games series, and the Flanagan High School Marching Band's show had a pinball theme. Each show was very entertaining for the crowd.



Katelyn Schneider/The Chanticleer

On October 10, the Marching Southerners perform at the Bands of America Regional competition. 16 high school bands competed for different awards.

Originally there were 19 marching bands planning to attend the JSU Regional. The bands were from all over the Southeast.

Participating states included Alabama, Georgia,

Tennessee, Florida and Arkansas. Three high schools from South Carolina were going to attend the competition but were not able to due to flooding in their area. However, 16 march-

ing bands still took the field. The Bands of America competition allows bands of all sizes to compete. The bands may have anywhere from 30 to 300 members marching. These

bands can be classified as 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A.

The prelims began with the first band taking the field at 10:45 a.m.

The Jacksonville

See BOA, Page 2

JSU fraternity chapter revoked

Jefferson Varner IV
Staff Reporter

Jacksonville State University fraternity unit Sigma Phi Epsilon is to face a three-year shut-down, following heated allegations of hazing activity.

The victim in question made it known on the weekend of September 2 that Epsilon was the focal point of his long-enduring "depression," following the allegations of sporting "improper public apparel," that allegedly comprised of a "suit and tie," according to a close source off-campus.

The claim comes as no joke, as wearing "public apparel [in] conspicuous and not normally in good taste," is boldly outlined and supported within the 2015-2016 JSU Handbook under 'hazing policy.'

Since the alleged details violated a section of the JSU policy, a month's-worth investigation was launched by collegiate officials throughout the month of September, placing Sigma

Phi Epsilon on suspension.

This effectively posed a potential threat to the fraternity's reputation as the Greek chapter serves as the rare fraternity establishment to maintain official housing on-campus.

On October 4, it was readily decided by its national organization that Sigma Phi Epsilon was to be shut-down, and to not become eligible for rechartering until 2018.

As an immediate result, brothers of the fraternity program were ordered to clear the Sigma Phi Epsilon house prior to an estimated deadline of one week.

A non-regional native shared with The Chanticleer that the respective members of the fraternity chapter have been "heavily distraught" over the recent shut down, and more deliberately the "rushed move out" process.

As of yet, there has been no confirmation if the now-defunct Sigma Phi Epsilon members will file a court appeal, despite selective public recommendation.

In the meantime, several are

trying to evaluate and determine the authentic nature of the still-developing episode. JSU Public Relations Director Buffy Lockette, who was among the informed, has not received further insight regarding the hazing claim, however did state: "[The Epsilon fraternity] has three years till eligible reinstatement."

Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Affairs Dr. Timothy King, who was a major key element to the height of the event, could not be reached for comment.

The baffling allegations of hazing activity occurring within JSU's closest quarters does not necessarily stop short of similar scenarios that have occurred in past time.

In late 2011, off-campus residential chapter Alpha Phi Alpha endured suspension after two students were sent to the hospital for concealed injuries pertaining to hazing routines, according to "WBRC FOX6 News." Lockette refused to comment on the prior incident.



Lauren Jackson/The Chanticleer

Sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi serve people that pay for a plate of food at the annual "Smoke Out Arthritis" fundraiser on Wednesday, October 8.

Sorority hosts Smoke Out Arthritis fundraiser

Lauren Jackson
Staff Reporter

the Arthritis Research Foundation.

The annual Smoke Out Arthritis took place on the Theron Montgomery Building lawn on Thursday, October 8.

The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi put on the event and raised \$4,700 for

The members sold barbecue plates, hosted a Corn Hole tournament and sold shirts to benefit the cause.

The event lasted from 5 to 8 p.m. and had live music for those attending.

The sisters of Alpha

See SMOKE, Page 2

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BOA, from Page 1

State University Marching Southerners concluded prelims with an exhibition performance.

An Outstanding Musical Performance, Outstanding Visual Performance, and Outstanding General Effect award was given out for each band classification.

These are referred to as the High Achievement Awards.

First, second and third place awards were also given out in each division.

Then, the ten finalist bands were announced.

The finalist bands were selected regardless of their class division.

Some of the finalist marching bands were from East Coweta High School, Ken-

nesaw Mountain High School and Flanagan High School.

The marching bands performed in finals in no specific order.

Finals started at 7:30 p.m. with an exhibition from the St. James School Marching Band, and it was then followed by the ten finalist bands taking the field for competition.

The 10 bands each performed their 2015 show again in hopes for first place.

The first place winner of this regional competition will go on to compete against the other regional winners at the Grand National Championships.

All regional winners will compete in the BOA Grand National Championships in Indianapolis this November.

The final performances after the last band took the field, and the final presentation of the awards began at 10:30. Every member of each of the finalist bands took the field to hear the results of the competition.

Regardless of class division, the High Achievement Awards were given out one more time. The Kenesaw Mountain High School Marching Band won each of them.

When the placements were decided, the name of the school was announced along with the score that they received.

After the announcement, the school was able to perform their 2015 show one more time to celebrate their win.

SMOKE, from Page 1

Omicron Pi were working hard to keep up with the flow of people. They worked stations to take up tickets and money, as well as an assembly line to help guests with their plates.

There were three different games of Corn Hole going on, and plenty of tables for people to enjoy the atmosphere at.

The Delta Epsilon chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi is made up of 90 sisters, and they host one philanthropy event per semester to go towards arthritis research.

The event is particularly special to the new members being welcomed into the sisterhood of Alpha Omicron Pi, because it will be their first event.

"They are real pumped about it and ready to jump in and be helpful," said Sally Davis a Junior at JSU and treasurer for Alpha Omicron Pi.

"This was my first event and I enjoyed see-

ing how many people came out to support our philanthropy. I loved being able to bond with my sisters and getting to see what kind of difference we make on campus," said Taylor West, a Freshman at JSU and a new member of Alpha Omicron Pi.

The event is host to many students of Jacksonville State, as well as the surrounding community.

Dylan Jones, a Junior at JSU and the Vice President of Organizational Affairs, said "I came to support my friends in Alpha Omicron Pi, and their philanthropy because my family has been affected by it."

In the spring, Alpha Omicron Pi will host another event to go towards the Arthritis Research Foundation.

Last semester Alpha Omicron Pi put on their annual 'Strike Out Arthritis' in the spring and raised \$5,000 for arthritis.

"Arthritis is such an

important cause, because not many people know the facts about it. So many people think it is just the elderly, when truthfully there is more women and children affected by it than anyone else, and there is no known cure," said Davis.

Alpha Omicron Pi has been having Smoke Out Arthritis for ten years, but the last time that the Delta Epsilon chapter hosted it was in 2013.

The sisters were excited to bring back the event and felt that it was going well. "We are having a great turnout," said Davis.

The tickets to get a plate for the event and to play in the Corn Hole tournament were \$5 a piece, and the shirts were sold for \$18 with all the proceeds going to the Arthritis Research Foundation.

"I think the event went very well. Everyone seemed to enjoy the barbecue and the entertainment," said West.

To catch up on additional campus news stories, visit us at www.jsu.edu/chanticleer

Remembering a lost friend and fellow student, Daniel Davis

Jefferson Varner IV
Staff Reporter

On Tuesday, the world lost an angel. His name was Daniel Davis, a neighbor, a hero, a fighter, but more importantly a close friend of mine I had known since my very first step in residing in the town of Jacksonville, since 2007.

It was mid-August of 2007 when I first met Daniel.

My family and I were new to Jacksonville. We had just departed from our summer stay at La Crescenta, California, and decided to move to Jacksonville, Alabama as a location for my former military-serving mother to retire. Courtesy of our previous landlord, Dr. Jeffrey Hedrick, we were introduced to the Davis family.

As my mom began to socialize with Daniel's parents, and my little brother began conversing with Daniel's little brother Jamie, I got a chance to get to know Daniel Davis and what his interests in music, film and entertainment were.

I found that like me, Daniel enjoyed playing video games, and soon discovered that he and I shared nostalgia for early 2000's cartoon favorites, specifically Invader Zim.

But it was much more than our genuine conversation of cartoons that instilled our friendship. Each weekday morning, he and I would await at his driveway for our bus, the 'green-and-white one' to pick us up for school.

During our waits, we would frequently make small chit-chat among one another. Both of us sharing what grade we were in; I was in eighth, Daniel attending in seventh.

Soon, the tiny conversations would come to an end when on a very chilly Friday morning, while awaiting the bus, Daniel approached me and handed me a folded letter. I did not know what to expect at first glance; I assumed it would be something his parents drafted for my mom, in request of something important.

When I opened the note, I discovered it was a heart-warming message, handwritten by Daniel. "You may not have noticed I haven't talked to you much," wrote Daniel, "That's because sometimes I get a little shy. On Sunday, I'm probably going to be busy, and today [Friday] and Saturday I don't know what I'm doing, [but it'd be nice if] you could come over... Your friend, Daniel Davis."



Facebook

Daniel even added a P.S. message that will forever be locked in time with me, of which he requested to know my name once more since he couldn't hear it clearly and was "too shy to ask again." What soon followed was the reiteration of my name in a louder tone, and moreover an awesome friendship.

Each weekend, Daniel and I would hang out at each other's house. There have been countless moments of which we often bonded over; immediate memories like playing outdated Mortal Kombat games, viewing Robot Chicken reruns and yesterday anime classics, and watching the then-unknown "YouTube Poop" craze when our parents were not looking, always came to thought when recollecting our hang-outs.

I will never forget that special day in January of 2008, when my brother and I got a chance to sleep at the Davis place, while our mother was recovering at the hospital from a vertigo. It was like yesterday when that night Daniel and I were discussing everything from the Idiocracy film to what tomorrow would bring.

I did not want the day to end. Sadly, like someone in previous time once addressed: "All good things soon come to an end."

By the third quarter of 2008, the bond between Daniel and I began to wane.

Our parents remained minimal among another, and soon my schedule alongside Daniel's were meeting conflicting hours; it was impossible to hang out as we once did during our beginning high-school years.

Though we still rode the bus, awaiting at that same stop on his driveway, we remained awkwardly silent towards each other for the remainder of our school years; unsure as to why this very day I did not manage to break the silence, I could have drafted a personal letter

to give him, as he once did for me.

I guess at the time, I did not even bother to sit down and understand fully as to what was occurring in his own personal life.

I soon found that Daniel was suffering from cancer.

It was not until January 2013 when we managed to reconnect, thanks in part to an invention called Facebook.

DM-ing a personal message detailing my concern for his health and reassurance that he and his family will always be in my prayers, Daniel responded with a genuine thank you and insisted that his health was bettering well enough for him to return home.

Looking back, Daniel was always being directed in-and-out to hospitals, depending on the severities of the cancerous disease.

At one point, the cancer left a toll on a portion of his pelvis, making it difficult for him to walk.

I vowed to him that during that summer and the next that I would visit.

I kept my promise, and in between the summers of 2013 and 2014, Daniel and I cruised down memory lane. We began to watch an array of shows as we once did during our initial high-school years.

Though it didn't quite "feel the same," it was still worthwhile seeing my buddy, and how strong he had come in battling cancer. In between playing video games, and him convincing me to give "Adventure Time" a chance, I noted how difficult it was for him at the time to utilize a walker to get from place to place.

It was a scene that sent chills down my spine; just knowing that my own best friend is going through this. But not once from my visitations have I ever heard him whine or complain how "life was unfair," he was a trooper, and more importantly a hero working to rid away cancer.

One of the last times I saw Daniel, I saw him driving his parents' truck.

It was so ground-breaking to see him behind the wheel, still going about his day like nothing was interrupting his daily life.

My last ever physical encounter with Daniel goes back to late 2014.

I just entered my sophomore year and changed my major to Communication.

As I walked back to a former neighbor's house, Daniel's truck was driving along my route. Daniel stuck his head out the ve-

hicle's window as much as he could, hollering: "JEFF! BUDDY! We got to hang out sometime!"

I hollered across the street, in wake of busy traffic, responding: "I will Daniel! I won't forget!"

We kept in frequent touch via Facebook up to January of 2015, until Daniel's health further worsened.

On October 12, after news broke of Daniel getting weaker and weaker, countless others, including myself, posted a get well message on his wall, and thoughtful messages in his DM box, as a hopeful effort for him to stay strong.

Sadly, one day later, on October 13, Daniel had passed.

For some, Daniel's unfortunate death was a coming moment; but for many others, it still came as a shock, for Daniel was always viewed as someone lively and more than ever, someone who was always there.

Glancing at the sight of the eight-year-old personal letter Daniel drafted for me, now sprawled upon my desk as I compose this piece, I sit here thinking how funny some things start the way they end. Because when Daniel and I first met, he handed me a letter.

And now that I say goodbye to him, it is I that now drafts a letter.

May your sweet, brave soul be now free from all the pain, dear friend. You will never be forgotten.

You and your family will forever be in my prayers. Rest peacefully in paradise.

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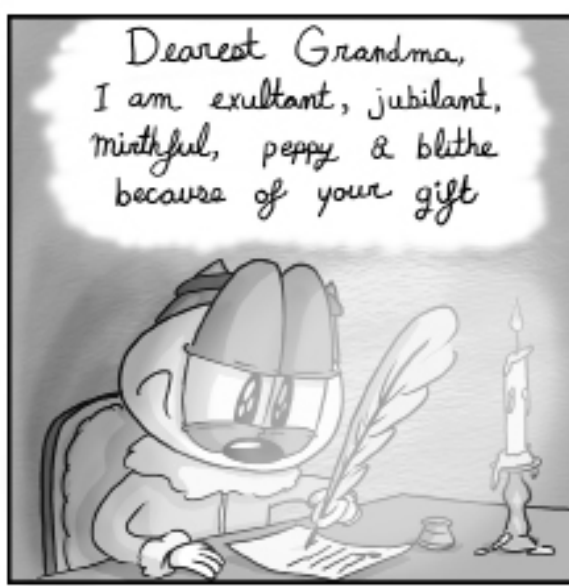
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STUDY BREAK




By: L. A. Bonté

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A little about Anthony

Hi, I am the creator of Filbert Cartoons, I like to draw cartoons! My other interests include architecture, traveling, storytelling and stand up comedy! I was going to try to make this "about me" funny, but all my ideas seemed stupid. But if you want to see more comics visit my page at filbertcartoons.com

Campus crime report: 10/09 to 10/12

<p>10/09/2015 Arrest-Possession of Marijuana, Drug Paraphernalia, Illegal Prescription Drugs, and Alcohol by a Minor Paul Carpenter Village</p> <p>10/09/2015 Arrest-Possession of Marijuana & Drug Paraphernalia Millican Avenue</p> <p>10/10/2015 Medical Emergency JSU Stadium</p>	<p>Witness a crime?</p> <p>For emergencies, dial 6000 from any campus phone.</p> 	<p>10/10/2015 Fire Campus Inn Apartments</p> <p>10/11/2015 Possession of Marijuana Houston Cole Library</p> <p>10/12/2015 Criminal Mischief, Trespass Issued, & Violation of Student Code of Conduct Crow Hall</p> <p>10/12/2015 Automobile Accident Logan Hall Parking Lot</p>
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Dear Chanty,

I am taking 16 credit hours this semester so I am really busy throughout the day. And because of that, I have finally gained the "freshman 15," or should I say the freshman 25. I barely have any time to eat in between classes so I have to resort to vending machine food for breakfast and sometimes lunch, too. And my homework exhausts me, so instead of cooking, I usually just get a pizza or drive-thru food for dinner. For the past month I have gone to the gym in Stephenson a few times, but it isn't making much of a difference so far. I would really like to lose all of this weight that I have gained. But since I am so busy, I don't know how I could eat healthier and still make it to all my classes on time. Do you have any ideas?

Sincerely,
Health Problems

Dear Health Problems,

I'm sure you are really busy. Fortunately, there are some steps you can take. First, buy some healthy snack bars, nuts, and some fruit that is easy to carry, such as apples or bananas. You can eat these instead of vending machine food. Second, try not to drink more than one soda a day. Third, buy bread, peanut butter, and other stuff to make sandwiches with. This can be your dinner food when you don't want to go out. When you do go out, eat Subway or Asian food, since it is typically healthier. If you have to get drive-thru food, order a salad instead of a burger. And if you have to eat pizza, eat less of it, and try a veggie pizza if you can stand it. Keep exercising and try to drink more water than anything else. Good luck!

Yours truly,
Chanty

Chicken Scratch



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Have something you want us to see? Use #chanticleerjsu

- The only thing getting me through this semester is knowing there is a chance of snow days next semester.
- When you make a major breakthrough on your chemistry homework so you throw a mini-rave in your room.
- Pizza and creme soda for breakfast..
- I had no idea we were millionaires until I saw my roommate rip off 4 paper towels at once.
- I've got peas on my head, but don't call me a pea head.
- Sometimes I reorganize my dorm room instead of doing homework.
- What is a Jedi's favorite candy? A light-saver.
- I reward myself for doing homework by looking at boots online.
- My soulmate is more than likely a slice of pizza.
- Sacrificing sleep in exchange for good grades and a career.

7-day weather outlook

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny High: 80° Low: 54°	Sunny High: 77° Low: 45°	Sunny High: 69° Low: 43°	Sunny High: 69° Low: 43°	Sunny High: 68° Low: 45°	Sunny High: 70° Low: 51°	Partly Cloudy High: 72° Low: 57°

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Latin Film Festival returns

Department of history and foreign language celebrates Latin American cultural arts

Eric Taunton
Staff Reporter

The department of history and foreign language will be bringing Latin American culture to JSU through film for a third time.

Dr. Alexandra Martinez, a Spanish professor and head of the Spanish Club at JSU, believes that this is an opportunity that all students should take advantage of.

According to Mar-

tinez, films of this nature are usually shown in cities with a big film industry such as Los Angeles or New York, and people who participate in these film festivals usually have to pay to be admitted.

Residents that wish to attend the Latin Film Festival in JSU, however, are not required to pay in order to attend.

The festival is funded by the Department of History and Foreign Language at JSU and Pragda, a film distribution company based in Brooklyn, New York with a mission to share and spread the spirit of Latin American culture by giving grants to multiple groups and organizations throughout the nation.

"It's really phenomenal that here at JSU, we'll be able to see new, unique, cutting-

edge films that are the latest to come out of Latin America," Martinez said.

Students will be able to see films like *Pelo Malo: Bad Hair*, a movie about a nine year-old boy that wishes to straighten his hair but receives strong disapproval from his mother; *Barefoot in the Kitchen: Con la Pata Quebrada*, a documentation about the representation of women in cinema; *I Travel Because I Have To, I Come Back Because I Love You* (*Vlajo Porque Preciso, Volto Porque te Amo*), a film about a man who helps some people by building a canal in North-eastern Brazil, but hurt others because they are in the canal's direct path.

By watching these movies, students will

be able not only to see different cultures but also be able to see different Latin American landscapes.

Films from multiple Latin American countries including Spain and Venezuela will be shown at this year's film festival.

There is something about the movies that Dr. Martinez cherishes deeply: the humanity in the films.

"Through film we can learn about other cultures and at the same time realize that we're all human and that we all experience the same feelings and the same realities in some ways. These films show us that although things are different around the world, there are still some things that we share with other cultures." Martinez said.

Martinez welcomes

all potential attendees with open arms, wanting to see as many as people as possible.

Because it is Hispanic heritage month, there is no better time to expose students and local residents to Latin American culture.

The festival began on October 6 and will end on November 10.

Food and beverages may be provided at some of the showings.

These movies will be shown in Wallace Hall [the nursing building, across from the library] every Tuesday evening from 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Martinez encourages all students, faculty and local residents to participate in the Latin Film Festival, hoping to see many people there and seeing them exposed to Latin American culture.



Eric Taunton/The Chanticleer

Dr. Alexandra Martinez is head of the Spanish Club at JSU and helps with the Film Festival.

JSU Drama presents 'Dead Man's Cell Phone'

Christina MacDonald
Arts & Entertainment Editor

JSU Drama will start its 2015-2016 season on Thursday, October, 15 with "Dead Man's Cell Phone," written by Sarah Ruhl.

Randy Blades, chair of the Department of Drama, described the play saying, "'Dead Man's Cell Phone' is a play that touches some heavy themes with a pretty light touch... The lead character's journey is one of self-discovery with a bit of satire of modern life but with a pretty romantic outlook. We think it is going to be a great example of how talented our students are in a lot of ways. We are performing it in our black box, which will make it a nice intimate show."

The comedy takes a look at the nature of morality, redemption,

and the personal challenges linked with death. The work itself has been heralded a beguiling new comedy by The New York Times.

Due to some language and content, the play is recommended for ages thirteen and older.

Multiple show dates are available: October 15-18 and October 22-25. All shows running Thursday through Saturday will start at 7 p.m., while the Sunday shows, respectfully, will take place at 2 p.m.

All shows will take place in the Stone Center for the Performing Arts. Ticket prices are \$10 for students, military, seniors and university personnel. General adult tickets are \$15. For tickets, call 256-782-5648.

The complete JSU Drama Season of Plays can be accessed on the JSU website.



JSU News

Catie Stahlkuppe and Aaron Martin star in JSU Drama's opening show for the 2015-2016 season, "Dead Man's Cell Phone."

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TCKs make up part of JSU's diversity

Christina MacDonald
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The term 'Third Culture Kid' was coined by sociologist, Ruth Hill Useem. [They are called], "Third Culture Kids because TCKs integrate aspects of their birth culture (the first culture) and the new culture (the second culture), creating a unique 'third culture,'" according to tckids.com.

Interracial or intercultural parents are another example of TCKs, where the mother and father's native cultures serve as different influences on the child.

The International House is a speciality housing program, centrally located on our universities' campus.

It is made up of 20 international students, each with an American roommate.

Together the International House represents over 23 countries and nineteen languages.

Within the 40 students there are several TCKs, such as Clement Dikoko and Marignima Souané.

"TCKs are still greatly researched and this research shows good and bad as to being a TCK. The 'good' is very highly developed skills

for problem solving and creating networks of support. They hit the ground running with new environments. The 'bad' is that they don't know where 'home' is. They feel that everyone has an identity that they do not. Their identity is split between two or more places," said the Dr. John J. Ketterer, past director of the International House Program.

"I really like the International House because it's an environment that I'm comfortable in. I can talk with people and relate because we understand each other about 'culture shock'. The House creates a home environment for us," said Clement Dikoko.

"Before coming to the States, I lived four years in Congo, three years in Gabon, four years in Nigeria, one year in France, two years in Holland, and four years in Malaysia," said Dikoko.

Marignima Souané was born in Senegal to a Christian Korean mother, and a Muslim Senegalese father. "Wherever I am, I am different than the community. In Senegal, they used to call me 'Chinese,' and when I was in Korea, they called me a 'black person,' said Souané. She continued, Even when I went



www.jsu.edu

Several members of the Jones International House Program are TCKs.

to my own embassy in the US, they didn't believe I was from Senegal. For me, home is where I live really. This [the International House] is the closest home I can get because I have people from Africa and Korea. I can identify with both cultures within one house."

The motto of the International House is "Know one another and you will love one another."

And with just an afternoon spend at the Housing Program, one can see this embodied as these students create a "home" here at Jacksonville State University.

Haunted Mason returns for another scare

Mason Hall's Halloween celebration, Haunted Mason, helps fundraise money for the JSU jazz program

Katie Cline
Special to the Chanticleer

There's a chill in the late October air. Nighttime falls over the campus of Jacksonville State University. Everything is still and inconspicuous—except for the long line of students in front of Mason and Ayers Halls. There's only one thing that could bring so many people out here at this time of night: Haunted Mason.

Each year around Halloween, Mason Hall undergoes a transformation into a haunted house thanks to the efforts of the Mu Iota chapter of the Kappa Kappa Psi music fraternity. The event, known around campus as Haunted Mason, puts the "frighteningly

fun" in fundraiser as its members dress up and scare unsuspecting visitors to the typically benign Mason Hall.

The event is used to raise money for the music department. In 2014, Kappa Kappa Psi raised around \$1200 and used the proceeds to help fund the purchase of a 20J tuba. But this year the organization has decided to donate the money raised to the university's jazz program after its funding was cut earlier this year.

The 2015 incarnation of Haunted Mason is entitled "A Journey to Hell." Guests are expected to have a good time getting scared.

"[Devils and flames are] the idea," said Katelyn McGraw, the treasurer of JSU's Kappa Kappa Psi chap-



Christina MacDonald/The Chanticleer

Mason Hall will host its annual Haunted Mason attraction on October 30 starting at 8 p.m.

ter. "People will take a journey to hell through Mason Hall. We are trying to keep the rest of it a surprise for when

people come through." Tickets for the event can be purchased ahead of time for \$3 or at the door for \$5. Ad-

vanced tickets will be sold on the front porch of Mason Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the weeks

prior to the event and every day the week of Oct. 26-30. The "gates to hell" open at 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30.

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Wanted: Speaker of the House

Kevin Spann
Political Columnist

In a turn of events that may one day be worthy of a movie adaptation, House Republicans currently have no clear leader to replace the departing John Boehner.

The saga leading to this turn of events has been long in the making. Boehner's apparent heir, and former House Majority Leader, Eric Cantor was picked off last year in a primary challenge.

In one of the biggest upsets in congressional history, college professor Dave Brat used both tea party frustration with Cantor, and the unexpected support of Democrat and former Dukes of Hazzard star Ben "Cooter" Jones, to upset the congressman.

With Cantor gone, the next House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy seemed to be Boehner's next in line. However, shortly after announcing his candidacy for the Speakership, McCarthy made a costly gaffe.

While trying to boost his conservative credentials on Fox News, McCarthy spoke of the House Select Committee on Benghazi in such a way that Democrats barely had to twist his words to make it sound like the committee's

main duty was harming Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

Additionally, McCarthy has been hit with an as yet unsubstantiated rumor of engaging in an extramarital affair. Given that McCarthy's support from the far right and more libertarian leaning members of his party was already shaky at best, these issues have caused him to withdraw his name from the Speakership.

As such, in perhaps a first in congressional history, the majority party has no clear leader waiting in the wings. Utah representative Jason Chaffetz, who is seen as further to the right than Boehner, has thrown his hat in the race along with tea party favorite Florida representative Daniel Webster.

At this point, it is unknown if mainstream Republicans will find a candidate of their own. Former Vice Presidential nominee Paul Ryan and South Carolina Representative Trey Gowdy, who has made a name for himself on the Benghazi Committee, have been approached for the nomination. Ryan says he does not want the job, citing his young children at home and not having the time to dedicate. Meanwhile, Gowdy could probably

appeal to all factions of the party, but, as recently as last month, he was considering not running for re-election.

This leadership void has lead to some proposals which, while innovative, are unlikely to take off. Because the House Speaker does not have to be a member of Congress, some have suggested inviting Newt Gingrich back for another shot at the job.

More likely, however, whoever the next Speaker is may have to count on Democratic votes to receive a majority. Assuming establishment Republicans eventually decide on a candidate, the dwindling number of Blue Dog and conservative Democrats, who could back a Republican Speaker without suffering much blowback with their voters and donors, may well find themselves being courted for votes.

Whoever arises as the eventual Speaker will then have the thankless job ahead of trying to keep the various Republican factions united. Given the difficulties Boehner has faced, it should come as little surprise that younger men like Ryan and Gowdy, who may have long political futures ahead of them, seem reluctant to pursue the position.

Fandom becomes commonplace in society

John Sterling
Staff Reporter

The Hulkbuster just hit New York City. At this year's New York Comic Con, one of the main attractions was the nine and a half foot, 95 pound costume of the now famous "Hulkbuster" armor featured in Avengers: Age of Ultron.

You probably heard about it. It was trending on Facebook for a few days. It's a testament to how fandom has changed in the last 10 or 20 years. It's a new era for the geek, the nerd, where our interests are not only socially acceptable—they're the norm.

It's a vast change from 30 or 40 years ago, when fans of comics and fantasy were scorned, mocked, even persecuted at times. From Seduction of the Innocent to Dark Dungeons, a now infamous comic amongst players of Dungeons & Dragons, geeks and nerds have dealt with a strange stigma.

Considered childish at best and dangerously delusional at worst, now comics and gaming

have entered the mainstream to an incredible extent.

The Big Bang Theory is one of the most successful sitcoms at the moment, and the 2005 revival of Doctor Who is a runaway success.

And it continues ever onward. With Marvel's cinematic wing exploding into a billion dollar industry, and with DC Comic's titles such as The Flash, Green Arrow and Hellblazer hitting mainstream, primetime television, it seems that it's here to stay.

I see this as a good thing. The days where someone must fear accusations of Satanism for rolling dice and playing a game of D&D with their friends seem mostly behind us. Now the fan who dedicates 1,600 work hours to building an elaborate, nine foot tall copy of his favorite hero's costume so that he can step into that role, is praised and admired for his effort.

In the grand scheme of things, it doesn't seem like a very big deal. It's just a game, just a comic, just a show, just a book. But for some of us, it can be ev-

erything; an escape, a diversion, a way to get away. Some people watch football, some people build model planes. We build worlds, and we try to live in them for a time.

It seems that these groups, these fandoms, are slowly becoming just another niche in society. It's just another hobby, whether reading or collecting comics, dressing up in costume, discussing your favorite plot hooks and twists. Sometimes, if you're dedicated and skilled enough, it's even a career.

It's a strange world now, to be so accepted that it's almost trendy to declare yourself a geek, a nerd, or an outsider. But this is not about accusations against those who might be "bearing false witness."

It's about having a good time, and being free to enjoy what you love. A story, a song, a comic, a game, aren't really everything, but they're still important. And the freedom to embrace and practice what you love is perhaps the most important bit of all.

Harmonix releases Rock Band 4 with new features

Myron Jones
Tech Columnist

Last week, Harmonix Music Systems, Inc. ("Harmonix") released Rock Band 4 for Playstation 4 and Xbox One. The game is available as both a standalone release and a bundle containing the game disc, a wireless guitar, wireless drum set and a microphone.

The last main Rock Band game, Rock Band 3, was released in 2010 for Playstation 3 and Xbox 360. It has been 5 years since a new title was added to the main series.

After several years and a new generation of consoles, the multiplayer party game is hoping to revive the music game genre with new features and some forms of back-

wards compatibility. Rock Band 4 supports downloadable content from previous consoles within the same family.

Playstation 4 players who own DLC from previous versions of Rock Band on Playstation 3 will be able to use songs from their music library in Rock Band 4; the same applies to Xbox One players who own Xbox 360 content.

Rock Band 4 works with instruments from previous games on both Playstation 4 and Xbox One.

To use wireless Xbox 360 instruments on Xbox One, players must purchase a Legacy Game Controller Adapter. Playstation 3 instruments should work on Playstation 4 out of the box. A full instrument compatibility chart can be found on

the Harmonix website.

In addition to supporting previous hardware, Harmonix has redesigned hardware for the next generation consoles. The new Playstation 4 instruments no longer require a dongle and wirelessly connect directly to the Playstation 4.

According to Harmonix, the new fret buttons on the guitar have better action and activation which gives the guitar a better feel and more precision. The new drum set contains an updated microcontroller unit that natively supports analog inputs for more precise and accurate cymbals (sold separately).

Some users have reported issues with the new wireless guitars and drum sets. Harmonix and Mad Catz have released firmware

updates to improve instrument performance. The firmware updates can be found on the Rock Band 4 website or through Mad Catz.

New features were added to Rock Band 4 that help it stand out from previous entries in the series. Many songs from pre-Rock Band 4 have been updated to support new features as well.

Freestyle guitar solos are a new addition that abandons the traditional idea of copying songs note for note and instead favors artistic expression. By loosely following the onscreen cues, Rock Band 4 guitarists can play unique solos that use pre-recorded notes to add new flavor to existing songs. The game also features an endless solo option for songs that allows

players to freestyle all the way through some of their favorites.

Dynamic drum fills are another new addition targeted at Rock Band 4 drummers. Instead of playing the same fill for a song every time as in Rock Band 3, stylistic drum fills are chosen for each song and they can change each time. Both of the previous methods of drum fills are also available as options.

Vocal harmonies were originally introduced in The Beatles: Rock Band and carried over into Rock Band 3 and now Rock Band 4. Pre-Rock Band 4 songs have been updated to include harmonies as well.

A free feature update is expected to release in December to add additional features to Rock Band 4. Currently the

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SPORTS

Volleyball drops two games, ending four-game win streak

Rebekah Hawkins
Staff Reporter

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks' four-game win streak came to an end Friday night with a loss against Tennessee State and would continue with another loss against Belmont the following day.

JSU had won their last four games as they headed out of state to play the Tigers of TSU.

It was a rough night for the Gamecocks as they only hit .101 overall to the Tigers' .294 overall. Although they struggled for the first and last sets, the middle set was well matched and gave light to an otherwise lackluster performance overall.

Set one saw the Tigers jump out to a lead early and for the first couple of moments it seemed the score would bounce back and forth.

It wasn't until TSU was able to hold JSU at seven while they ran up to 13 that the scoring slowed on the Gamecocks' end.

The Tigers eventually made it to 20 and JSU sat at 12, where they stayed while TSU won with 25.

The second set was the most hard fought by the Gamecocks as it was forced into extra points to determine a winner.

JSU took the lead by four early and eventually had the lead on TSU 9-4.

However, they quickly went on a five-point run that put them within one at 9-8.



JSU Sportswire

Mandee Eberle is seen playing defense for the JSU Volleyball team.

The Gamecocks again took the lead 22-17 but some quick scoring from the Tigers put them right back in it, 23-20.

After a tie at 25 the score went back and forth before finally ending in the Tigers' favor as they won by two, 32-30.

The final set was a fight from the start, though TSU took the lead early.

The score sat at 6-5 in the Tigers' favor before they went on a four-point run to push ahead by five.

The Gamecocks were not to be beaten as they took a five-point run of their own and tied the score at 11.

Despite the best ef-

orts of the Gamecocks to stay in the game, they were halted at 19 while TSU scored five more times in a row to best them in the sweep 25-19.

Charis Ludtke led the night in kills with 13, while Mackenzie Rombach came behind her with seven. Both Ludtke and Kirk had doubles in digs with 10 and 17, respectively.

Jennifer Hart was true to form with 28 assists.

The following day was the match against Belmont which was just as tough for the Gamecocks as TSU had been.

Each set was taken by Belmont swiftly,

although the Gamecocks fought hard.

They were stopped short of 20 in each set as the Bruins took them all with 25.

The finals for the match were 16-25, 15-25 and 13-25.

The Gamecocks' overall percentage was higher than it had been previously at .123.

Kirk once again had doubles on defense with 14 digs, while Ashley Clingan recorded her first numbers with five digs.

The Gamecocks slip to 11-13 overall. They return home to play Eastern Kentucky on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m.

Tennis off to good start under Amores

JACKSONVILLE—The Jacksonville State women's tennis team ushered in the Andres Amores era with a solid weekend at the Coastal Georgia Invitational in Brunswick, Georgia.

After dodging rain that has hampered the east coast throughout the weekend, the Gamecocks came away from the first event of the fall slate by winning all four singles draws along with claiming one of the two doubles draw.

Junior Claudia Marsala won the top singles draw after taking down Florida Tech's Alahna Reto, 6-1, 6-4.

It was a battle between Jacksonville State's Genevie Ulanday and Diana Mirceta in the Flight B title match with Ulanday claiming a 6-4, 6-1 win over Mirceta.

In Flight C, it was another duel between two Gamecocks as freshman Nathalie Hedblom and junior Sadey St. Amant battled each other.

Hedblom edged St. Amant in straight sets, 7-5, 6-2. Flight D's final match also featured two JSU squad members facing off against each other.

Sophomore Courtney Conley turned back freshman Isabella Calves, 6-0, 6-1.

The Jacksonville State tandem of Mirceta and St. Amant won the Flight B Doubles crown over Jax State's team of Conley and Calves, 8-1.

In Flight A Doubles, the Gamecocks' duo of Marsala and Olivia Nguyen fell to Florida Tech's team of Reto and Mariana Cas-

taneiras, 8-6 in the semifinals.

The duo of Ulanday and Hedblom dropped an 8-1 decision in the semifinals to Coastal Georgia's pairing of Daniella Caruso and Emy Alplund.

"It was a great start for our women's tennis team. I am very happy with the results, but most importantly with the way they performed and represented JSU," said Amores. "This tournament helps us see which areas we need to keep working on so that we can keep playing at a higher level."

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks return to action on Oct. 15 as they will compete in the USTA/ITA Regional Championships in Auburn, Alabama.

The JSU Gamecocks will then travel to New Orleans to play in the Big Easy Classic.

The Gamecocks will be set to play the Privateers in the Big Easy Classic, which is scheduled from Oct. 23 - Oct. 25.

~ JSU Sportswire



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Jacksonville State's Claudia Marsala won the top singles draw.

Gamecocks Side Bar

JSU Upcoming Action

10/15
-Women's Tennis at ITA Regional

-Men's Tennis at ITA Regional

10/16
-Soccer at UT Martin

-Volleyball vs Eastern Kentucky
7:00 p.m.

10/17
-Rifle vs UT Martin

-Cross Country at Berry Invitational
9:00 a.m.

-Football at Tennessee Tech
12:00 p.m.

-Volleyball vs Morehead State
2:00 p.m.

10/18
-Soccer at Southeast Missouri
1:00

10/19 - 10/20
- Men's Golf at Pinetree Intercollegiate

-Women's Golf at MTSU Blue Raider Invitational

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 @ Tennessee Tech*

6p.m.

10/24 @ Austin Peay* 4 p.m.

10/31 vs Eastern Kentucky**

1 p.m.

11/7 @ Eastern Illinois* 1 p.m.

11/14 vs Southeast Missouri* 1 p.m.

11/21 vs Murray State* 1 p.m.

*OVC game/ ** Homecoming

STATS FCS Top 25

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



JSU Sportswire

Madison Carruthers led the Jacksonville State Gamecocks with three shots, but none were for a score as they lost 1-0 to the Racers.

After edging Austin Peay, JSU gets edged by Murray State 1-0

Timothy Cash
Staff Reporter

The Jacksonville State soccer team took on the Murray State Racers, losing 1-0 on Sunday.

The Gamecocks fall to 6-7-1 overall and 3-2-1 in the Ohio Valley Conference, while the Racers remain perfect in OVC play.

The Gamecocks took a total of nine shots — two in the first half and seven in the second half — but they were unable to connect with the goal.

Freshman midfielder and defender, Madison Carruthers, led the Gamecocks with three shots, including one shot on goal (SOG).

Redshirt senior forward Courtney Hurt had two shots and one SOG, while Freshman midfielder Claire Petersen also contributed with two shots.

Junior defender and midfielder Abbey Clausen recorded one shot that counted for a SOG.

Senior Kelsey Bright also attempted one shot.

Sophomore goalkeeper Caroline Robinson had an impressive five saves during Sunday's matchup.



JSU Sportswire

Claire Petersen was named OVC Co-Offensive Player of the Week.

Murray State's Marissa Burroughs scored the Racers' winning goal in the 67th minute of the contest.

The Gamecocks had more hope in the game before Mur-

ray State, which was on Friday.

The Gamecocks were too much for Austin Peay, edging the Governors 4-3. Petersen scored two

goals on three shots.

Hurt was able to score one goal on four shots, and had two SOG's.

Junior midfielder Justine Panchuk was able to score a goal on her single shot.

Mackenzie Bellows, a junior midfielder, was able to rack-up an assist in Friday's matchup.

Despite allowing three goals by the Governors, goalkeeper Robinson also had three saves.

Austin Peay's Gina Fabbro scored two of the Governors' three goals, while McKenzie Dixon scored the third.

On Friday, Oct. 16, the Gamecocks will travel to Martin, Tenn. to take on the University of Tennessee — Martin Skyhawks.

The Skyhawks are 4-9 overall and 2-3 in the OVC, but has not lost at home this year.

Then, on Sunday, the Gamecocks will travel to Cape Girardeau, Mo. to face the Southeast Missouri Redhawks. The Redhawks are 7-5-2 and are 2-2-1 in OVC play.

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks next home game will be on Oct. 25 when they play Eastern Kentucky in another OVC match-up.

Men's Golf walks away with sixth-place finish

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Jamie Mist finished tied for seventh and Pablo Torres 13th to lead the Jacksonville State men's golf team to a sixth-place finish at the Western Kentucky Kenny Perry Invitational on Tuesday.

Mist, a junior from Hayling Island, England, carded a 75 in Tuesday's final round on the par-72, 7,319-yard layout at Olde Stone Golf Course.

The 3-over final round followed rounds of 73 and 72 on Monday and capped a 54-hole score of 220 in the two-day event.

Torres, a junior from Bogota, Colombia, also used a 75 on Tuesday to cap his tournament.

He shot rounds of 75 and 73 on Monday to set up a two-day total of 223 to claim 13th in the 67-player field.

Mist led the Jacksonville State Gamecocks with nine birdies in the event, while Torres was second on the team with seven.

The Gamecocks started the final round in seventh but jumped Ohio Valley Con-

ference foe Eastern Kentucky on the last day to finish sixth in the 12-team field.

Arkansas State won the event, passing Memphis atop the leaderboard on Tuesday.

Tennessee Tech finished third, while host Western Kentucky claimed fourth.

Marshall rounded out the top five, five shots ahead of Jacksonville State.

Junior Camilo Aguado followed Monday rounds of 77 and 77 to shoot 76 on Tuesday and finish tied for 28th with a 54-hole score of 230.

Junior Tom Lawton tied for 55th after a final-round 84 gave him a 240, while junior Bo Hayes' final-round 81 capped a 242 and tied him for 60th.

The Jacksonville State Gamecocks will be back in action Sunday in the Kennesaw State Pinetree Intercollegiate in Kennesaw, Ga.

The JSU Women's Golf team will also be in action in the MTSU Blue Raider Invitational in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

~ JSU Sportswire



JSU Sportswire

The JSU Men's Golf team ended with a sixth-place finish at the Kenny Perry Invitational.



WHERE YOU'RE GOING.