Welcome Home, Gamecocks!

Welcome Week kicks off new year at JSU

By Katie Cline
Editor-in-Chief

Welcome Week is a fun time for everyone to come out, meet some people and really get involved and immersed in the culture of the campus the first week back,” Payne said.

“We’re trying to change everyone’s attitudes,” said Payne. “We want students to see that UPD is here for a good reason, and we want UPD to understand that there are things they can do to make themselves more appealing to students. We want to humanize the badge, and UPD is really excited. They’re on board, and they want to improve this relationship.”

Also new this year is the SGA’s community spirit initiative. Twenty-eight businesses pledged to support JSU by advertising on their buildings. For a $100 donation, businesses received a game day poster to post in their windows.

“We noticed at the end of playoffs last year that Jacksonville really started to feel like a college town,” Payne said. “Everyone had ‘Go Gamecocks!’ in their windows and things like that. And we really wanted to cultivate that community spirit year-round, because Jacksonville’s success is JSU’s success and vice versa.”

For more information on SGA activities, contact Casey Payne at sgadop@jsu.edu or stop by the Office of Student Life, room 402 on the fourth floor of the TMB.

Southwesterns start 2016 season, pg. 4

Panhellenic recruitment, pg. 2

Soccer defeats Georgia Southern, pg. 8

WEATHER: CONDITION, High 93, Low 72

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Students have come Week 2016.

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URHL to host Stu
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come Week 2016.

Students have already been able to attend several Wel- come Week events this week, and on Aug-
ust 25, URHL will host the Cocky Daze block party on Dillon Field from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. followed by the Cocky Dance-a-thon from 10:00 p.m. to midnight in Stephenson Hall.

All Welcome Week activities are free to students.

W e l c o m e Week is planned largely by the SGA Executive Team. The executive team is made up of six elected students. This year the team is Jesslan Sharp, SGA pres-
ident; Hayden Clay, vice president of stu-
dent senate; Ranger Rumrill, vice pres-
ident; Amy Sims, chief justice; Dylan Jones, vice president of or-
ganizational affairs and Casey Payne, di-
ector of publicity.

“We love Welcome Week. It’s a really great opportunity, because it kicks starts the ‘new experience’ feeling I want every-
one to have when they come to college that openness and that willingness to do new things.”

One such event is Cookout with the Cops. In an effort to improve the relationship between JSU students and the University Police Department (UPD), the SGA is sponsor-
ing a free cookout on Dillon Field from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Friday, Au-
gust 26.

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Freshman Convocation rings in new semester

Lauren Jackson
Staff Writer

The largest Formal Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment in Jacksonville State University history hosted 212 women seeking to join one of the five sororities on campus. Women of all different backgrounds began the journey to finding their sorority on August 16 with an orientation and ended the journey with an exciting run from the Theron Montgomery Building to their new sisters on August 21.

The process of recruitment allows potential new members (PNMs) the opportunity to interact with each of the sororities on campus to find the one they fit best with.

“Joining a sorority can be beneficial because it can help a student gain leadership skills, advance their academic achievement and become involved in philanthropies and community service,” said Terry Casey, the Director of Student Life at JSU.

Freshman Alexsis Ragsdale embraces Phi Mu sister Madie Whisenant on the TMB lawn after receiving her bid.

Sophomore Leodan Lechant / Facebook

Recruitment is a mutual process in which the PNMs and the sorority members meet each other in a structured setting. The PNMs base their decision on a variety of factors such as academics, character and community involvement. The sororities evaluate the PNMs to match their personal values. PNMs are guided through the decision by a sorority woman that has disaffiliated from her particular sorority to help with recruitment and are referred to as Rho Gammans. Through- out recruitment, the Rho Gammans keep their sorority a secret, counsel the PNMs in making their decisions and host fun activities for the groups to get to know each other.

Recruitment includes four days for the PNMs to get to know their potential sisters. Each day is themed: meet and greet, philanthropy, sisterhood and values and preferences day. Meet and greet allows the PNMs to meet with sisters from each sorority and have casual conversations. During philanthropy day, the sororities share the community projects that the chapter hosts and the particular cause or awareness that the sorority supports. According to Casey, Greek Life on campus donated 7,300 hours of service to both local and national charities and raised a total of $85,549 in 2015.

For many students at Jacksonville State University the start of the 2016-2017 academic year brings a return to an established routine of classes, studying and extracurricular activities, but to the many first-year freshmen gathered in the JSU stadium on Monday August 22 it means the beginning of their first college experience and a brand new chapter in their lives.

Incoming students were welcomed Monday evening for Jacksonville State’s Freshman Convocation, which serves an introduction of sorts to start of their time at the University.

The program started with Shelby King and Martha Guthrie welcoming the students to Convocation, as well as the University itself. Shortly after, the Jacksonville State Faculty made their entrance to the field, including JSU President Dr. John Heebler.

Heebler spoke first, encouraging the students to make use of the JSU faculty as a resource and assured the students that every member of the university staff behind him was there to help. He also expressed the importance of hard work and involvement with extracurricular activities, and how it would help make for a better experience at Jacksonville State.

After President Beehler finished speaking, Freshman Bailey Bryant walked onto the field for the official Bell Tapping ceremony to ring the bell that signaled the beginning of the school year for both she and her new classmates.

As the ceremony ended, JSU’s cheerleaders and Marching Southerners led the new class in their first Pep Rally as students at Jacksonville State. Here they learned both the spirit chants and southerners’ cheers, as well as the JSU fight song.

After the cheers and fight song had been played SGA president Jesslan Sharp got up to speak. She encouraged the new students to take advantage of the opportunities that would come their way during their time at JSU and for each student to push him or herself “to be the very best” and further encourage campus involvement, saying “There is something for each and every one of you at Jacksonville State.”

Sharp also spoke about her belief in the importance of this introduction to campus life saying “I think Freshman Convocation is important because it is an introduction for the Freshmen. You get to hear from the seniors, you get to learn things before you’re thrown out there.”

The Convocation ceremony ended after President Beehler and the Marching Southerners led the students in an enthusiastic version of “I’ll Fly away” and JSU’s fall 2016 freshman class gathered together for a group picture.

After, many of the students made their way to the cookout at “Get on Board” day on Dillion Field next to the stadium. Here, many JSU organization had tables and booths set up for the University’s newest students to explore.

Two freshmen, Samatha Guthrie and Jessica Williams, had a booth of their own outside. Both expressed their enthusiasm for the upcoming school year, saying “It helps bring more people together.”

Guthrie also shared how the first few days I didn’t really know what to do. If it wasn’t for this, I wouldn’t have met as many people and felt as comfortable.”
JSU mourns loss of prestigious alumnus

By Nathan Cavitt

The campus of Jack- sonville State and the entire state of Alabama are mourning the death of James R. “Jim” Bennett, a former JSU student and Alabama Secretary of State.

Bennett arrived on the campus of JSU in 1957, and through- out the 1960-61 year he served as editor-in-chief of The Col legian—the Chanticleer’s predecessor. Bennett also served on the student government and played trumpet for the Chanticleers during his time on campus.

Bennett, however, was best known as the incumbent chairman of the JSU Board of Trustees and as the for um Alabama Secretary of State for 10 years.

“Jim Bennett will be missed and long remembered,” said former JSU president Dr. William A. Meehan, who was in office when Bennett became chairman. “He was a dedicated public serv ant, talented musician, writer and actor. The Chairman was my boss, friend and JSU’s 1 Gamecock! I have a large empty spot in my heart. God bless the Bennett family.”

As a member of the JSU Board of Trustees, Bennett oversaw a massive growth in attendance as well as ex pand in the college.

As the Secretary of State, Bennett fought for political reform, specifically when it came to elections. What many people don’t know about Ben nett was his work in journalism. Before be coming a politician, Bennett spent 1961-71 working for the Bir mingham Post-Herald during a period that can only be described as a harsh time for the city of Birmingham.

In 2014 Bennett played a reporter as an extra in the movie “Selma,” but in real ity he lived the life of a reporter during the Civil Rights Move ment. Bennett helped cover the riots in Bir mingham where he witnessed Bull Connor ordering fire hoses to be used against civil rights protesters.

Bennett spoke to an AL.com reporter in 2014, and said that it wasn’t unusual for him to interview Gov. George Wallace, Con nor and Martin Luther King Jr. in a single day. He described it as “Forrest Gump” the way he was involved with history.

In 1969 the Ameri can Political Science Association selected Bennett for a national award for his report ing on public affairs. Bennett completed his master’s degree at the University of Alabama in 1980 and went on to be politically active up until his death on Aug. 17 from complications with liver cancer.

Despite living with illness, Bennett was re mained active in poli tics, and the day before his death he had been approved to be on the ballot as one of 538 members of the Elec toral College who se lect the U.S. president. He also attended the JSU Board of Trustees meeting on July 18.

Bennett was a mem ber of the JSU family all the way to the core, and the JSU students and faculty as well as his immediate family will mourn his death.

Putting a new face on an old place

Academic restructuring to begin soon

By Nathan Cavitt

Jacksonville State’s plans to reorganize its academic di visions have been postponed until Sep. 1, according to Dr. Rebecca Turner, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

For those who haven’t heard, JSU started making plans in early July to alter the current academic organiza tion, which consists of two large colleges of Arts and Sciences and Education, two small colleges of Nursing and Professional Studies, and two smaller colleges of Nursing and Business Administration.

The plan has been to split the four schools into six new schools, with the hope of or ganizing certain areas of study with a more logical fit for the required disciplines. Planned changes will include splitting the College of Arts and Sciences into three sepa rate schools as well as moving Communications, Applied Engineering and Sports Management from the College of Education to the new School of Business and Industry.

The Kinesiology Department will move from College of Education and Professional Studies and into the new School of Health Professions and Wellness, which will also include Nursing and Respiratory Therapy.

There will also be a new School of Human Services and Social Sciences which will feature a career focus based upon the protection of others, such as criminal justice and forensics, emer gency management, mili tary science, social work, psychology and sociology.

The School of Arts and Sciences will be separat ed, forming the School of Arts and Humanities and a School of Science.

With the institution of two new schools, the Univer sity plans to hire two new deans. As of this writing, there have been no announce ments regarding the new deans, but according to the information sent out by the JSU Board of Trustees, the deans will be selected from within the University.

Listed beneath the arti cle is a graphic format of the two new Schools, as well as their departments.
The Marching Southerners wrapped up the eleven-day long band camp on Monday night with a final rehearsal after Freshman Convocation at Burgess-Snow field. They are one step closer to debuting their 2016 production, “Heroes: Lost and Fallen.”

A record-breaking 533 people auditioned to fill around 460 marching member spots. It was the most that have ever auditioned, according to director Ken Bodiford.

While eleven days of twelve-hour a day rehearsal blocks may seem long, it was actually one of the shortest band camps that the Southerners have seen.

“The band has been invited to Hawaii to observe the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attacks. The Southerners’ trip will be from December 9th to December 15th of this year, and they will perform a ceremony near the USS Missouri battleship. Bodiford continues with, “We all feel like our nation is facing tough times and we could all be reminded of patriotism. The country almost seems to be split down the middle.

We hope that this production will make people forget politics and remember one thing: we’re all Americans and in the long run, we fight for the same things. And we hurt for the same things.”

The Marching Southerners ended their last rehearsal of band camp with a special recording of the band singing, “I’ll Fly Away.” It is Southerners tradition to sing the hymn at the end of every stadium rehearsal, football game, or exhibition. The video will be sent to Louisiana State University in condolences to the recent flooding that the state is facing.

After 23 years, I still get choked up hearing ‘I’ll Fly Away,’” says Bodiford. “It is so special to know that the band dedicated it to the people of Louisiana. I’ve never experienced a band program like this; it’s so much more than marching and playing an instrument. This band has a soul. You can feel it.”

The Southerners, alongside the football players and cheerleaders, are in the process of organizing a campaign to collect non-perishable canned goods for the flood victims. More information about this will be released as soon as it is finalized.
Pokémon GO takes over Jacksonville
Collins Moran
Staff Writer
Pokémon GO is the game of the season. At least that is what millions of people around the globe think. Jacksonville and JSU as a whole have not been left behind when it comes to the Pokémon phenomenon.
Pokémon GO is an augmented reality, free-to-play game that connects to a smartphone device GPS signal and allows the player to go around their area locating pokemon and even taking part in virtual battles with fellow players.

A drive by the city square is enough to confirm that Pokémon GO is taking over the world by storm. Old and young gather around the Jacksonville square in huge numbers to collect the number of pokemons made available in that area.

According to Joshua Blumenstein, a former JSU student and Pokémon GO enthusiast, the square happens to have the highest concentration of pokémon in the area, therefore facing the high number of people there.

There have been reports of players walking around aimlessly into private property in search of pokémon making many critics to refer to the game as a hazard. However, Blumenstein disagrees with such arguments saying that the game has caused more good than bad by making millions of people enjoy themselves while staying physically active.

“The assumption that Pokémon GO may be causing accidents, trespassing incidents, among other things may have some merit but it’s all about following instructions. It’s right on the intro screen that you need to watch out,” he added.

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Renée Lyons
Special to The Chanticleer
What started out as a trip to Nashville for a private party with promises of something special quickly turned into a day that we would never forget with a life-changing event.

As part of the Jacob Davis Squad, a fan club for up-and-coming country artist Jacob Davis, Katelyn Schneider and I got to attend a private CMA Fest performance in June with Jacob.

The two of us and 29 other squad members showed up from all across the country to Black River Sound Stage studio in Nashville and were treated with more of a treat than we ever imagined possible.

Once seated in a small recording studio located in the historic Sound Stage studios, Gordon Kerr, Chief Executive Officer of Black River Entertainment, entered the room to address the squad and let us in on a huge secret.

Not only were we able to witness a private performance, we were about to witness Jacob sign a record deal with Black River Entertainment.

What made that secret even more exciting for the squad was the fact that Jacob and his band had no idea it was about to happen.

Jacob and his band, Teddy Christensen, Caleb Allen-smooth, Brian Campbell, and Justin Burgess, played an acoustic set of songs in the same studio his music video for “Something to Remember You By” was recorded in.

Halfway through the set, Kerr stopped Jacob and the band to tell the audience a little bit about the history of the building we were in.

This speech, unknown to Jacob, was all part of a grander plan.

Mid-speech Jennifer Solorzano, Squad Leader, interrupted Gordon Kerr to give Jacob a present. This threw Jacob and his band for a secret even the most excited of people.

Jacob being the go-with-the-flow type of guy he is began opening the box still unaware of what was below the silver and black wrapping paper.

“What is this? What’s in here?” Jacob asked as he realized what was in the box.

“It’s a record deal, and it’s for you to be a Black River artist,” Kerr replied.

With his band, squad, family, friends, and Black River reps surrounding him Jacob signed his record deal with a “well this is something special.”

“Will ink this thing and get going on this journey,” said Kerr.

So much love, support, tears, and “oh my goshs” filled the room as Jacob signed the paperwork and made things official.

It was an amazing, rare moment to get the opportunity to witness.

To watch Jacob sign his record deal and see performances from the party, check out my YouTube channel, “Renée Lyons.”

Also, be sure to check out Jacob Davis on all social media avenues to stay up-to-date with his recording progress, and request a free CD from Jacob’s Soundcloud.
Campus crime report: 08/19 to 08/24

Witness a crime? For emergencies, dial 6000 from any campus phone.

08/19/2016
Abandoned vehicle
Paul Carpenter Village

08/19/2016
Automobile accident
Logan Hall parking lot

08/19/2016
Criminal mischief
Campus Inn Apartments

08/20/2016
Automobile accident
Logan Hall parking lot

08/20/2016
Automobile accident
University Circle

08/20/2016
Criminal mischief
Campus Inn Apartments

08/22/2016
Medical Emergency
Fitzpatrick Hall

JSU. All you people who are gonna drop out in 3 weeks, can you just stop now? I need your parking spot.

I thought college was supposed to be about napping the day away. I was wrong. I was lied to.

Arrived at my first freshman class 25 minutes early. This sounds about right for me. I hope college makes my timing better.

I think I greatly underestimated chemistry 2…

7-day weather outlook

TODAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 93°
Low: 72°

FRIDAY
Rain
High: 93°
Low: 71°

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 94°
Low: 71°

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 75°
Low: 47°

MONDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 91°
Low: 72°

TUESDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 93°
Low: 71°

WEDNESDAY
Rain
High: 92°
Low: 71°
A look at upcoming fall sports

**Rifle**

Rifle is an individual sport, with the season starting with invitational events in early October and lasting until NCAA qualifying begins in mid-to-late February. The 2015-16 season saw two Gamescocks selected to compete in the NCAA Rifle Championships. The Rifle team has won 10 conference championships, with the latest coming in 2015. They compete in Rowe Hall.

**Men’s Basketball**

The Men’s Basketball team had a tough 8-23 (4-12 OVC) season in 2015. The university has decided to bring in Ray Harper from Western Kentucky to help rejuvenate the program. The men’s basketball won the 1985 Division II national title, and has won 6 conference titles for the 1992-93 and 1993-94 seasons. The women's basketball season concludes with the men’s.

**Upcoming Fall Sports**

- **Soccer**
  - 8/27 - vs. Grand Canyon
  - 8/28 - vs. UT Martin
  - 8/29 - vs. Murray State
  - 8/30 - vs. Murray State

- **Football**
  - 8/29 - vs. Murray State

- **Volleyball**
  - 8/26 - at SIUE
  - 8/27 - vs. Murray State
  - 8/28 - vs. Murray State

- **Volleyball**
  - 8/27 - vs. Murray State
  - 8/28 - vs. Murray State
  - 8/29 - vs. Murray State

- **Soccer**
  - 8/26 - vs. Murray State
  - 8/27 - vs. Murray State

**Upcoming Gamecock Action**

- **Gamecock Side Bar**
- **8/26 - Soccer**
  - vs. South Alabama
  - Troy, Ala.
  - 4 p.m.

- **8/27 - Volleyball**
  - at Burgess-Snow Field

- **8/28 - Volleyball**
  - vs. Grand Canyon
  - Colorado Springs, Colo.
  - 5 p.m.

- **8/28 - Soccer**
  - at Colorado Springs, Colo.
  - 11 a.m.

- **8/30 - Soccer**
  - at Colorado Springs, Colo.
  - 7 p.m.

**Athletic Scholarships**

The Gamecocks football team and women’s basketball team are receiving three new athletic scholarships for the upcoming 2016 season, as they look to add to their already storied careers in their senior seasons.

**Athletic Facility Upgrades**

The Jax State Gamecocks football team will open the 2016 season at Jacksonville State at 6:30 p.m. on Burgess-Snow Field at JSU.

**Recapping the 2015 football Season**

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Rebekah Hawkins
Staff Writer

After a disappointing loss in their season opener against Middle Tennessee, the Gamecocks returned home for a victory against Georgia Southern. The Eagles had 17 shots on the day, three more than JSU’s 14, but the Gamecocks ultimately connected with the goal more for their 3-1 win.

It was early in the match that the Gamecocks scored their first goal. 14 minutes in Nicola Dominikovich knocked a shot past the keeper for Georgia Southern with help from Danielle Lindo. It was one of only two shots that she took during the match.

A nearly 20-minute run of play and two attempted shots from the Gamecocks, Nadia Plawick connected with the goal on her shot assisted by Emma Meadows. The Gamecocks led 2-0 30 minutes into the match.

Carsen Taylor attempted her only shot of the night before the end of the first period but couldn’t connect. The Gamecocks ended the period ahead by two.

Alana McShane gave the Eagles their first goal of the match less than ten minutes into the second period. The Gamecocks’ Kayla Thompson, after a failed shot early in the second period, made her second shot of the period and connected for the much-needed goal.

The goal pushed the Gamecocks into front 3-1. The Gamecocks attempted six more shots before the end of the match while the Eagles attempted eight but there were no more goals. Although Thompson only connected with the goal once, she made six shots on the day.

Dominikovich also had two shots on the day along with Mackenzie Bellows and Claire Petersen. Goalkeeper Carolina Robinson had nine saves for the match against the Eagles’ Lauren Kainishik who only had two saves.

The Gamecocks head to Troy to compete in the Trojan Classicagainst South Alabama on Aug. 26 and then they will face host Troy on Aug. 28. They will return home on Sept. 2 to play host to Louisiana Tech.

Nicola Dominikovich (FAR LEFT), Nadia Plawick (LEFT) and Kayla Thompson (RIGHT) all scored goals in the Gamecocks 3-1 victory over Georgia Southern. Goalkeeper Carolina Robinson (FAR RIGHT) managed nine saves.

 malls had two shots on the day.

The Gamecocks’ transition into the program’s earliest days in them spanning back to the season practice with the Red/White alumni scrimmage as they near the opening match of the season on Aug. 26 at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The day began with current players meeting some of those who came before them spanning back to the program’s earliest days in the 1970s, to others more recently who were part of JSU’s transition into the Ohio Valley Conference. Many of the returning volunteers meeting some of those who came before them spanning back to the program’s earliest days in the 1970s, to others more recently who were part of JSU’s transition into the Ohio Valley Conference. Many of the returning alumni had yet to see Pete Mathews Coliseum since its 2015 renovations. Aside from the arena itself, alumni were given a tour of the team’s updated locker room as well as the new film room.

On the court, the Gamecocks went through their pregame warm ups and a handful of drills before the alumni took to the opposite side of the net.

Coach Gamble stresses the importance of a family atmosphere around his program, and was pleased with the initial turnout.

“It was great having some of the Gamecock volleyball alumni on campus today, said Gamble. “It was an honor and pleasure meeting them. I know my players enjoyed it.”

It was something I wanted to do since I started here and now I’m already looking forward to next year.”

Even in the friendly environment, the Gamecocks worked with mixed emotions continu ing to gain experience for a young squad which features 10 newcomers and zero seniors.

Despite the lack of experienced players, coach Gamble is optimistic about his squad.

“We have 10 new kids coming in, nine freshmen, one transfer, and no seniors,” said Gamble just before the start of fall camp. “We are very talented. It’s going to take time, we’re very young. But we’re very physical, very athletic. I think we’re ahead of the game recruiting-wise.”

The Gamecocks will be back home on Sept. 7 in the opening home match of the season against Alcorn State.

JSU Sportswire

THE CHANTICLEER
August 25, 2016

Gamecock soccer opens at home with a win

Volleyball preps with first alumni scrimmage

JACKSONVILLE- Head coach Terry Gamble’s staff invited former Gamecocks and their families to return to campus Saturday to take part in his team’s preseason scrimmage.

The Gamecocks capped their second week of preseason practice with the Red/White alumni scrimmage as they near the opening match of the season on Aug. 26 at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The day began with current players meeting some of those who came before them spanning back to the program’s earliest days in the 1970s, to others more recently who were part of JSU’s transition into the Ohio Valley Conference. Many of the returning JSU Sportswire