



# The Chanticleer

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT-PUBLISHED NEWSPAPER SINCE 1934

WEATHER: Mostly Sunny, High 82, Low 58

Thursday, April 13, 2017

inSIDE

J-DAY GAME IS TODAY AT 7 P.M.!!



## inTHE NEWS

### Exit Strategy Senior Showcase

Seniors graduating with a BFA or BA in art will showcase their capstone projects, collectively called "Exit Strategy", on Thursday, April 13 from 5-7 p.m. in the Hammond Hall Art Gallery. Admission is free.

### Holocaust Remembrance

JSU's annual Holocaust Remembrance program will be Thursday, April 13 from 7-9:30 p.m. in the Stone Center Theater. The guest speaker will be Dr. James Sedlis, the son of a Jewish resistance member.

### ISO Yard Sale

The International Students Organization is sponsoring a yard sale on Saturday, April 15 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the International House. Funds raised from the yard sale will go to future ISO events and activities.

### Finals Week Spring 2017

Finals will be held April 17-21. Go online to [www.jsu.edu/registrar/final\\_exam\\_schedule](http://www.jsu.edu/registrar/final_exam_schedule) for a complete schedule.



# BENTLEY RESIGNS



Albert Cesare/AP

Former Alabama governor Robert Bentley gives a press conference at the State Capitol on Friday, April 7. Bentley resigned from office on Monday, the first Alabama governor to do so since 1837.

**Katie Cline**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Alabama governor Robert J. Bentley resigned from office on Monday, April 10 after allegations arose that he had used campaign funds for personal gain.

Bentley's reputation was irreparably damaged when an affair with his top adviser, Rebekah Mason, was brought to light in March 2016.

Bentley's wife, Dianne, had filed for divorce the previous year, and it was finalized in September 2015.

The governor's resignation comes in the wake of official impeachment hearings that began Monday morning.

"All indications are that Governor Bentley is going to resign shortly," Koven L. Brown, a state representative for District 40, wrote on Facebook on Monday. "He has submitted his letter of resignation to Lt. Gov. [Kay] Ivey

and she is to be sworn in a little [later] this evening. As sad as this situation is, I am relieved that it is over and our state can move on. We have much work to do in this legislative session and it will hopefully move smoother with this cloud lifted. Please continue to pray for all of us in state government. Most all of us love to serve our respective districts and take our legislative positions very seriously."

See BENTLEY page 2

## Invassssive snake found by JSU student

**JoAnna Mitchell**  
*Staff Writer*

On April 4, a student in Dr. George Cline's herpetology class found a rare species of snake in a flowerbed in Baldwin County.

The Brahminy blind snake has been found in Alabama on only two verified occasions. The first was found in Theodore, Ala. in Mobile County only a month ago and released back into the wild.

Cline's specimen was sent to Auburn University on April 7 where

Raymond Corey of the Alabama Herpetological Society confirmed its identity. It will be used for educational purposes in their herpetology department. According to Auburn University, this is the only vouchered specimen for the state of Alabama.

The scientific name for the species is *Indotyphlops braminus*, which comes from *Indo*, meaning India or Indonesia, *typhlops*, a Greek word meaning "the blind" and *Brahmin*, a caste of Hindus. Brahminy blind snakes are found on

See SNAKE page 2



Katie Cline/The Chanticleer

The snake Cline recieved is pictured above next to a dime for size comparison.

## 5k raises 1k for suicide awareness

**Alexander Cooper**  
*Staff Writer*

Jacksonville State's Freshman Forum held its second annual Light Up a Life 5k on Friday, April 7 and raise over \$1000 for the suicide awareness and prevention group To Write Love on Her Arms.

The purpose of the 5K was to help raise awareness on the issue of suicide, and all proceeds from the event, including donations and proceeds from a raffle drawn at the onset of the run, went towards To Write Love on Her Arms. This organization served as the Freshman Forum's philanthropy for the year, and it is built on both raising awareness on the problem of suicide and consequently working to prevent it.

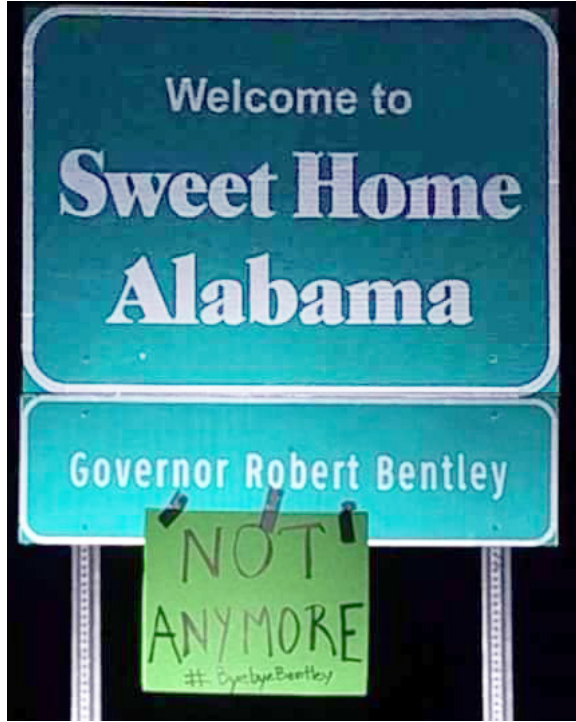
"We started planning this event in January," said Keaton Glass, the Freshman Forum advisor. "It's a race, and it's an awareness thing for suicide prevention. That's what this event is all about, and we wanted to get members of campus to come and hang out just to let them know they're not alone, and suicide effects everyone."

Suicide remains the second leading cause of death among college-aged people, and that is one of the

See 5K page 2

VISIT [WWW.jsu.edu/chanticleer](http://WWW.jsu.edu/chanticleer) for the latest in JSU NEWS

**BENTLEY from page 1**



*The Ostrich/Facebook*

A “not anymore” sign was taped under Robert Bentley’s name on the Alabama welcome sign on Monday night. The hashtag “#ByeByeBentley” has since been circulating on social media platforms.

Bentley, who was serving his second term as governor, had been under investigation by the Alabama Attorney General’s office for criminal felony charges. The Alabama Ethics Commission confirmed that it had probable cause to support these accusations.

On Monday afternoon, Bentley pleaded guilty to two misdemeanors: failing to file a major contribution report and knowingly converting campaign contributions to personal use.

As per the plea deal, Bentley has one week to pay \$36,912 in campaign funds, essentially emptying that fund and giving the money to the state. He will also be required to pay thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket fines to return the misappropriated money to the campaign fund before that fund can be closed.

Bentley must also perform 100 hours of community service and is prohibited from running for public office again.

In a report released on April 7, the lawyer for the Alabama House of Representatives alleged that Bentley had coerced, sent threatening messages to and threatened to prosecute some of those who had criticized his affair with Mason. The report described how Bentley reportedly used a member of his security detail to end his relationship with Mason on his behalf and how he allowed Mason to use official state vehicles after she had left state payroll.

Also included in the report are accounts of how Bentley attempted to cover up audio tapes of sexually charged conversations between himself and Mason.

Bentley has been succeeded by Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey, a former state treasurer, high school teacher and bank officer. Ivey is only the second female governor of Alabama, the first being Lurleen Wallace, who served from 1967-68.

“The Ivey administration will be open, it will be transparent and it will be honest,” Ivey said on Monday.

**5K from page 1**

the big reasons why the Freshman chose to focus their fundraising efforts on suicide awareness and prevention.

“We want to shed light on that, and kind of start conversations about it,” said Glass “We just want to let people know that we are here from them and connect them to services that we have on campus as well.”

SGA Vice President of Student Senate Hayden Clay was there to support the Freshman Forum after running in the 5k

last year. “This kind of personally affects me”, Clay said. “My grandmother actually committed suicide when I was two, so this is important. It’s important to remind people that it is not just diseases that kill people, but there are other things that affect people like depression and anxiety.”

Clay also stressed the importance of involving freshman in particular in events like the 5k: “College is hard, and a lot of students fall into anxiety

and depression with- in their college years, people who are getting educated about these issues as they are just starting their college careers.”

Light Up a Life was the final event for Freshman Forum this semester. The race kicked off at 7:30 p.m. and the participants take up glow sticks to run the perimeter of the campus.

“It’s been a really nice experience,” said Lexi Tisdale, a Freshman Forum

member who helped plan the event. “You just learn so much from hands-on stuff. I’ve learned so many things, so it’s hard to remember them all.”

Tisdale believes that her experience with Freshman Forum will translate into her college life later.

“It’s a great foundation for those who want to get involved in leadership,” Tisdale said. “It’s been a really great experience.”

**SNAKE from page 1**

almost every continent, but cold temperatures prevent northern expansion. The blind snake spends most of its time underground and has evolved reduced eyes that sense light and dark as opposed to seeing like most snakes.

Brahminy blind snakes are often mistaken for worms due to their small size. The snake is very slender and typically only reaches around 200 mm, or 8 in. in length. The blindsnake is not venomous, and if it were, its mouth is too small to be able to bite a human. They feed on soft-bodied invertebrates such as ants, ant eggs and termites.

This species of snake is the only known all-female species.

“Females are able to produce viable, fertile eggs without being fertilized by male sperm. his process is called parthenogenesis, and it can be seen in numerous invertebrates and vertebrates (some fishes, amphibians, and lizards),” said Cline. “This is the only species of snake in the world that can reproduce in this manner.”

Furthermore, this species is also considered triploid, meaning that even though they only have one parent, they have three sets of chromosomes.

While triploidy is common in plants, most sexually reproducing species, including humans, are diploid, receiving one set of chromosomes from the mother and one set from the father.

“Usually, individuals that have unbalanced (odd-numbered) sets of chromosomes suffer high mortality,” said Cline. “Brahminy blind snakes have somehow solved that problem evolutionarily.”

The implications of finding this non-native species in Alabama are hard to pinpoint.

“It’s a non-native with no native predators,” said Cline. “Its ability to reproduce from a single specimen suggests that its population size could increase rapidly.”

If left unchecked, Brahminy blind snakes may dominate fossorial competition and have negative effects on native underground invertebrates.

Invasive species are appearing in the country, both accidentally and intentionally, at an increasing rate. Several species, such as geckos and anoles, have been introduced by the sale of ornamental plants. Others, like cane toads and pythons, have been introduced through the exotic pet trade.

“More insidious are the diseases that have been introduced, for example the chestnut blight, Dutch Elm disease and avian flu in birds,” said Cline. “We just don’t know what impact blindsnakes could have.”



*The Ostrich/Facebook*

Katie Cline holds the Brahminy blind snake that was delivered to JSU. Even when it is fully grown, the snake is small enough to fit in the palm of an adult’s hand.

**FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE SPRING 2017**

DATE	CLASS TIME	EXAM TIME	DATE	CLASS TIME	EXAM TIME
4/17	8:45 a.m. MWF	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	4/19	7:30 a.m. MWF	7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
	10:00 a.m. MWF	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.		3:00 p.m. MWF	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
	4:00 p.m. MW	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.		4:30 p.m. W	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	4:15 p.m. MW	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.		6:15 p.m. MW	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
	4:30 p.m. MW	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.		6:15 p.m. W	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	4:30 p.m. M	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.		7:45 p.m. MW	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	6:15 p.m. M	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.			
4/18	9:15 a.m. TR	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	4/20	7:30 a.m. TR	7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
	12:45 p.m. TR	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.		11:00 a.m. TR	10:00 am.m - 12:00 p.m.
	4:00 p.m. TR	4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m. TR	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	4:15 p.m. TR	4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.		4:30 p.m. R	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	4:30 p.m. TR	4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.		6:15 p.m. R	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
	4:30 p.m. T	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.		7:45 p.m. TR	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	6:15 p.m. T	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.			
6:15 p.m. TR	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.				
			4/21	12:30 p.m. MWF	8:00 a.m. - 10: 00 a.m.
				11:15 a.m. MWF	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
				1:45 p.m. MWF	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

# STUDY BREAK

## Artist's Showcase

"Succulents"  
by Katelyn Sims



### About the Artist:

Katelyn is a junior art major who hopes to pursue painting and become a fine artist someday. To see more of Katelyn's art, like her on Facebook at Katelyn Sims - Artist/Painter.



"Buddy"  
by Justin Turner



*About the Artist:* Olivia is a freshman art major who hopes to pursue art education and become an art historian. To see more of Olivia's art, you can follow her on her personal Instagram account @bobcatwithasadle.



"Lion with Roses"  
by Olivia Sims

### About the Artist:

Justin is a junior art major focusing on graphic design and photography. Justin hopes to do more with photography in the future. To see more of his pictures visit [justinclayturner.com](http://justinclayturner.com).



## CHICKEN SCRATCH



Your weekly dose of online humor!

If Mariah Carey can stay irrelevant for 11 months out of the year and peak in December, I sure as hell can do the same for finals week.

Going into finals week: Bank account, low; Health, low; Motivation, low; Predicted GPA, low; Stress/Insanity, all time high

Finals week is 10% studying, 50% calculating the lowest possible grade I can get in order to pass, and 100% crying.

Just got to get 3,675,683,785% on the final to pass the class.

Finals week is upon us. The College Kid's Prayer:

"God if you help me pass this final exam, I promise I'll study harder next semester."

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



<https://twitter.com/JSUDems>

## Donuts with the Dems brings awareness to inequality

**JoAnna Mitchell**  
*Staff Writer*

On Wednesday, March 29, Brewer Hall room 230 saw the gathering of a group of passionate young students who stand together against inequality. The group served donuts and drinks while discussing issues within our society.

The College Democrats are a nationally chartered branch of the Democratic Party who seek to further the ideals of the party through fundraising and other forms of issue based campaigning.

“We want to be

the armed force for everyone at JSU,” said Kyteria Marshall, the Public Relations Director for the JSU chapter. “We stand for everyone.”

Founded in August 2011, the group focuses mainly on issues of inequality and acceptance within society. According to their Facebook page, JSU College Democrats, they are “committed to providing JSU students and the community with the ‘other side’ of the story in Alabama politics.”

The group also seeks to encourage students to educate themselves on the issues affecting

our society. Other Chapter officers include President Tyler Gay, Vice President Landon Watson, Secretary Caitlin Waits, Treasurers Dalton Cuttergoode and Hayden Hope, and Community Relations Director Alexis Paige.

One issue concerning the College Democrats is that of mental health. Marshall has noticed that within African American communities especially, mental health is not given proper attention.

This issue is close to the heart for Marshall, who recently lost a loved one to suicide.

Marshall’s cousin Erica was told to simply “pray it away” when she approached their grandmother about her depression. Without proper support and professional attention, Erica could not cope with her mental health issues. Marshall hopes to educate people and prevent others from losing their life to a treatable illness.

The group is also concerned with issues involving the LGBTQ community. Several members of the College Democrats are also members of the LGBTQ community and the group feels strongly about acceptance and

understanding. “They are our brothers, sisters, friends,” said Marshall. She feels that in the south, many people fail to recognize this.

The College Democrats also tackle the issue of race relations within U.S. society. The “I Refuse to Hate” campaign was started to bring students together regardless of race, gender, or sexuality, in telling the world why they refuse to hate one another. The campaign posts pictures of students holding a sign stating “I refuse to hate” along with a brief statement, to social media.

Marshall began this campaign after experiencing discrimination as a black woman. The photos can be found at any of the groups social media accounts. Search “JSU College Democrats” on Facebook and Twitter.

The bi-weekly meetings for the College Democrats are held every other Wednesday in Brewer Hall room 230 and begin at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining the group, you may email a member via the social media accounts. There is a \$10 membership fee.

**The staff of the Chanticleer would like to say a big “Thank You!” to our readers for a wonderful semester.**

**See you in the fall, Gamecocks!**

**Katie, Rebekah, Timothy and Alissa**

**Meet,  
Eat,  
Jolt**



coffee-sandwiches-pastries

**M-F  
S**

7am-9pm  
8am-2pm

**Public Square 5**

# 13 Reasons Why creates big splash on Netflix



Maxresdefault

**Alissa Camplin**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Thirteen Reasons Why has been rocking Netflix screens since its release on March 31, 2017. According to Huffington Post, the series is actually the most talked about in Netflix history.

According to leading social media research firm Fizzology, 13 Reasons Why has seen more social media volume than any other Netflix original show in its first week post-premiere.

The series deals

with important issues like suicide, death, betrayal, denial, and guilt. It portrays high school in a more authentic and uncensored way than in other broadcast networks. The bullying is harsh and often obscene, but that is not the darkest part of the story. There are elements of rape and suicide scenes that are real and scary.

The series tells the story of Hannah Baker and the thirteen tapes that she left behind for the thirteen people, or reasons, why

she killed herself. The teens spend thirteen episodes piecing together a story left behind by Hannah Baker, who is played by actress Katherine Langford. The main male counterpart, Clay Jensen, is played by actor Dylan Minnette.

Most were familiar with the series prior to the Netflix release. It is based off the best-seller Thirteen Reasons Why written by Jay Asher in 2007. It was published by RazorBill, a young adult imprint of Penguin Books.

The official IMDb of the series is mostly surrounded with positive reviews.

One user said, “[Thirteen Reasons Why] is a difficult, but an important... no...a necessity to watch. A refreshing and unflinching look at taboo subjects that are rarely touched upon in mainstream media.”

Rotten Tomatoes gives the series an approval rating of 90% based off of 30 reviews. The average rating is 7.5/10/

Not everyone is convinced that the

show is the correct way to bring awareness to mental health, though. A popular still from the series recently circulated on Twitter that shows a line where Clay Jensen says, “I cost a girl her life because I was too afraid to love her.”

An upset user replied with, “No offense, but if you want to raise awareness for suicide then you should drop the whole ‘Love can save you’ trope and actually discuss mental health.”

Rebecca Nicholson of The Guard-

ian also said that she thought the show did a poor job at trying to attract older viewers.

Regardless of specific user views, the show had brought attention to suicide and teens. The series was credited for an almost 100% increase in the number of calls to Brazil’s suicide hotlines.

The National Suicide Prevention Hotline is available 24/7 at 1-800-273-8255 for anyone that may be struggling with suicidal thoughts and tendencies.

**Call us today for a tour!**

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# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## From the Editor's Desk:

*Reflections of my first year*

**Katie Cline**

*Editor in Chief*

One year. Almost to the day. That's how long I've had the job of editor-in-chief.

When I was hired last April, I didn't know what to expect. I didn't know that I'd start thinking on a week-to-week basis. I didn't know that I'd start measuring the semester in newspapers. I didn't know that I'd spend more time in my office than I did in my dorm room.

But I also didn't know that people would come up to me and tell me that they read the paper this week or that they were glad The Chanticleer was a "voice for the students again" or that the paper had undergone "an Elizabethan rebirth under my tutelage." And those comments have been worth everything.

As my roommates can tell you,

I come home from work every day complaining about something that's gone wrong: someone's story was late, my computer crashed (again!), there's absolutely nothing going on on campus this week. They've heard it all—plus things I'm not allowed to print in the paper.

But they've also heard all the wonderful things: "This new writer turned in their story, and it's amazing!" "We launched the new website, and I'm in love with it!" "That story got shared 10 times today!"

So, if I had to pick 3 words to describe my job, they'd (ultimately) be validating, rewarding, and satisfying. There's nothing quite like looking down at something and knowing that you made it. But, of course, I would never have

survived without my editors.

Tim, thank you for sticking around to help with the Gamecock Guide last May. You were the only person who had any idea what was going on, and you really got me through my first semester on the job.

Bug, even though you had to go and graduate on us, thank you for making my first semester as smooth as possible! You're awesome in every way, and I know you're going to be a great journalist or writer or editor or whatever you set your mind to!

Alissa, thank you for filling Bug's big shoes! You jumped right into this chaos and didn't flinch! I love your sass and your big ideas and how you'll do anything to get the job done. You bring so much laughter to the

office (and our group chat), and I'll always be grateful for that.

And, Rebekah, you literally just got here, but you are one of the hardest working and most selfless people I know, and I'm so lucky to have gotten you as associate editor! You've taken so much weight off my shoulders these last few weeks, and now that I have you, our team is complete!

My job isn't easy. But I love it. I definitely work more than I get paid to. But I don't usually mind. I might complain about it in the moment, but I'm convinced that you don't complain about things if you don't care about them. And I love my job a lot. I haven't done everything I wanted to do, but I've done a lot. And, there's always next year.

## Summer 2017 Payment Due Date

**The summer payment due date will be May 9, 2017. To avoid having summer classes and housing assignments cancelled, students must pay their account balance in full, be enrolled in the payment plan, or have enough financial aid applied to their account by close of business on May 9, 2017.**

**For complete details on the Payment Plan view the Office of Student Accounts Webpage at**

**<http://www.jsu.edu/bursar/paymentplan.html>**

**JSU now offers Electronic Direct Deposit of student account funds. View details at:**

**<http://www.jsu.edu/bursar/refundpolicy>**



## To the Moon:

### Thoughts from a High Functioning Autistic



**Taylor Mitchell**  
*Special to  
The Chanticleer*

The first review I ever wrote for The Chanticleer was about a small Indie game called "To the Moon". The article was a review so I have never really been able to explain why I chose that particular game to be my first review. I wanted to write this, with no real expectation of it being published, to tell the story of why.

The story goes back to 2014 when I was an 18 year old senior in high school. After always not understanding and being unable to relate to other people's emotions, or even regulate my own, it was brought to my attention by a counselor that I might have autism. It was confirmed not long after that I did indeed have autism. You see I was told when I was a kid doctors didn't un-

derstand autism very well and were scared of diagnosing it, so I was diagnosed with ADHD instead. I was floored, I couldn't understand it. It was like my entire life had been somehow invalidated by it. It was like I was not myself anymore in some way, but that wasn't true. I know that now just like my dad, my step mother, and my grandparents, especially my recently departed Nana Ginny, all told me. I had grown up learning how to deal with this thing and got so much better as I went. It having a name didn't change that, it didn't change me, but I could not see that at first. I despaired, but then a YouTuber I watch began a "let's play" series on a game called "To the Moon". That is when I learned about River.

River is one of the main charac-

ters in "To the Moon" she also is a high functioning autistic being diagnosed with what was previously called Asperger's syndrome. This is the same condition I was diagnosed with. Now River is not the same as me, no two autistic people are the same just like no two neurotypicals are the same, but I saw some of myself in her. River folds paper rabbits, she carries around a stuffed platypus, and she wants to be friends with a lighthouse. Yet, I saw some of myself in River. I have a physical need to be at least 30 minutes early to every event, I chew on straws to deal with anxiety, and have a desperate need to know everything without having any idea why I need to know it. To put this into perspective, I once did two days of research on Marxist-Leninist thought

and the communist revolution in Russia. I am also an expert on Aaron Burr. These kinds of things aren't something I control they are just part of who I am just like they are for River. For both of us this was normal even if no one else could see it. I think really that was what my fear was, not being "normal" or not having a "normal life". It was a fear I had my whole life but the name somehow made it so much more real to me.

For River, however, she never feared, she never despaired about her autism. In fact, she worried more about her husband Johnny and the lighthouse, Anya, far more than herself. You see in "To the Moon" you see Johnny's entire life and always in the center of it is River. They meet, they date, they fall in love, they

live together, they have a life together. Maybe her life isn't normal but what is normal really? What fun would normal be? She has a good life and that is what matters most. I think that may be the thing River taught me in the end.

She taught me that this condition doesn't doom you to some sad and lonely life. She taught me that I should just embrace it, that this is who I am. I no longer care if I am normal because I know I am me. No matter what happens, no matter what I cannot understand or who cannot understand me, that doesn't change who I am.

I still remember one day the week after my diagnosis I was sitting at my Nana's kitchen table talking to her, my step mother, and my older sister about it

and my Nana looks at me and tells me that I had been dealing with this my whole life without even knowing it and that the diagnosis didn't change who I was. She was right. She died last year, and I never told her how right she was. I regret that, but I thank God everyday she was right. I guess I said all that to say this: if you have some kind of "defect" or are just what people call "weird" remember that you are you, and that all that matters. Don't let some diagnosis rule your life because you are more than that.

# SPORTS

## Gamecock Side Bar

### Upcoming Gamecock Action

**4/13**  
- Baseball  
at SEMO\* 6 p.m.  
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

- Men's Tennis  
vs. Alabama 6 p.m.  
Jacksonville

- Football  
J-Day 7 p.m.  
Burgess-Snow Field

**4/14**  
- Track and Field at South Alabama  
Invitational, Mobile, Ala.

- Beach Volleyball  
vs. UNC Wilmington 9 a.m.  
vs. College of Charleston 3 p.m.  
Columbia, S.C.

- Men's, Women's Tennis  
vs. Belmont\* 12 p.m.  
Jacksonville

- Softball  
vs. Austin Peay\* 1 p.m.  
vs. Austin Peay\* 3 p.m.  
University Field

- Baseball  
at SEMO\* 6 p.m.  
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

**4/15**  
- Beach Volleyball  
vs. Tulane 9 a.m.  
at South Carolina 1 p.m.  
Columbia, S.C.

- Men's, Women's Tennis  
vs. Tennessee State\* 11 a.m.  
Jacksonville

- Baseball  
at SEMO\* 2 p.m.  
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

**4/17**  
- Women's Golf at OVC  
Championship, Huntsville, Ala.

**4/18**  
- Baseball  
vs. Alabama State 6 p.m.  
Choccolocco Park, Oxford, Ala.

**4/19**  
- Baseball  
vs. Troy 6 p.m.  
Choccolocco Park, Oxford, Ala.

**4/21**  
- Men's Tennis at OVC  
Championship, Nashville, Tenn.

- Women's Tennis at OVC  
Championship, Nashville, Tenn.

- Track and Field at War Eagle Invite,  
Auburn, Ala.

- Baseball  
vs. Belmont\* 6 p.m.  
Choccolocco Park, Oxford, Ala.

**4/22**  
- Baseball  
vs. Belmont\* 1 p.m.  
Choccolocco Park, Oxford, Ala.

- Softball  
vs. SIUE\* 1 p.m.  
vs. SIUE\* 3 p.m.  
University Field

**4/23**  
- Baseball  
vs. Belmont\* 1 p.m.  
Choccolocco Park, Oxford, Ala.

- Softball  
vs. Eastern Illinois\* 1 p.m.  
University Field

**4/24**  
- Men's Golf at OVC Championship,  
Muscle Shoals, Ala.

**4/25**  
- Baseball  
at Alabama 6 p.m.  
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

**BOLD = Home Event \* = OVC Event**



JSU Sportswire

## A look back in preparation for J-Day

**Daniel Mayes**  
Staff Reporter

With the Jacksonville State football program coming off of

2015's historic run to the National Championship game in Frisco, Texas, and star quarterback Eli Jenkins and remarkable receiver Josh Barge coming back, the Gamecocks seemed poised to make it right back to the same position in 2016.

Although JSU didn't quite meet the massive expectations heaped upon them after the legendary 2015 campaign, last season was still a great one for Head Coach John Grass' Gamecock squad.

JSU opened 2016 with a home victory over in-state Division II power North Alabama, then traveled to Baton Rouge, La. to face LSU.

The Gamecocks played the then FBS No. 21 Bayou Bengals to a scoreless first quarter and even took

a 3-0 lead, but LSU rallied to put down JSU 34-13.

The road loss to an SEC foe would be the only setback of the regular season for JSU.

However, the Gamecocks rebounded the next week by squeaking past the Chanticleers of Coastal Carolina 27-26 to kick off a nine game win streak.

JSU once again dominated their Ohio Valley Conference competition, finishing with an unblemished 7-0 OVC record for the third straight time under Grass.

The Gamecocks closed the regular season with a 33-7 win over UT Martin to give them a 10-1 record and clinch the third consecutive OVC title for JSU.

JSU thrived in 2016 despite some key injuries limiting the Gamecock offense from reaching the same level as it did in 2015.

Josh Barge started off the season injured and

never really regained his form, finishing with just 41 catches for 662 yards and two touchdowns, down from his 2015 totals of 92-1145-11.

Without his number one option completely healthy and battling injuries himself, Eli Jenkins also struggled to match his 2015 output in the final season of his storied JSU career.

Jenkins stumbled to just a 49.8% completion rate after converting on 60.7% of his passing attempts in 2015 and tossed just 11 touchdowns, down from 21.

Auburn transfer and key running back Roc Thomas also missed three games with a concussion near the end of the season, throwing the Gamecock offense into further disarray.

JSU was still able to run past their competition by their competition thanks to a dominant defense and some flashes of brilliance from the some-

times stifled offense.

Following the regular season, Jacksonville State was selected as the three seed in the FCS Playoffs.

JSU's offensive issues finally came back to haunt them in their first playoff contest, as the Gamecocks were upset by unseeded Youngstown State, who went on to become National Runners-up, 40-24, ending the Gamecocks' season and the careers of Jenkins and Barge.

JSU kept pace in the first half and trailed just 20-17 at the break, but the Gamecocks were unable to muster more than seven second-half points as the Penguins pulled away.

Jacksonville State closed out the 2016 season ranked sixth and seventh in the final STATS and FCS Coaches Polls respectively.

The Gamecocks will hold their annual J-Day game tonight at 7 p.m. at Burgess-Snow Field.

## Gamecocks release home football schedule

Jacksonville State's regular season begins one week before everyone else. On Aug. 26, The Gamecocks will face rival Chattanooga in the Guardian Credit Union FCS Kickoff at the Cramton Bowl in Montgomery. The game will be televised on ESPN at 5 p.m.

JSU's home schedule will begin under the lights on Sept. 23 with a 6 p.m. game against Liberty.

The Flames will visit JSU Stadium

in a return trip from the Gamecocks' win in Lynchburg, Va., last season.

It will be Band Day at JSU for the Liberty game.

The Eastern Kentucky game on Oct. 14 will kick off at 3 p.m. and will wrap up Preview Day and Family Day on JSU's campus.

Two weeks later, JSU will host Southeast Missouri for Homecoming, also a 3 p.m. kickoff.

On Nov. 4, the Marching South-

erners will hold their annual reunion during the Gamecocks' 1 p.m. game against Murray State.

The final game of the season will be the Thursday night game against Tennessee State at 6 p.m.

The TTU game marks the second-straight season JSU has hosted a Thursday night game, with the 2016 opener against North Alabama drawing over 22,000 fans.

**-JSU Sportswire**



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## Women's tennis falls to foe Southeast Missouri

**CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo.** – The Jacksonville State women's tennis team fell 6-1 to Southeast Missouri on Saturday in Ohio Valley Conference play.

Freshman Alba Conejero scored the Gamecocks' lone individual victory,

picking up a 2-0 win over Kseniya Zonova in the No. 3 spot.

Following a six-match road trip, the Gamecocks return to the JSU Tennis Courts tomorrow to host Belmont at noon.

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## Mist leads field at the Gary Koch Invitational

**GASTONIA, N.C.** – Gardner-Webb's Aaron Senior Jamie Mist fired a 7-under 65 in the second round to take the lead in the Gary Koch Invitational on Monday.

Mist tied for the fifth-lowest score vs. par in school history and the sixth-lowest score by a Gamecock to climb 10 spots to the top of the 81-player leaderboard at the Gaston Country Club.

After shooting a 1-under 71 to open play in the event that features five nationally ranked individuals and four nationally ranked teams, Mist rallied with an afternoon 65 on the par-72, 7,042-yard layout.

His 36-hole score of 136 leads the event by one shot ahead of a tie for second between North Carolina State's Jacob McBride and

Gardner-Webb's Aaron Thomas.

Mist's second round saw him open with back-to-back birdies and make the turn at 4-under and without a bogey.

However, he did bogey hole 11, but bounced back with an eagle on the par-5 hole 13.

Birdies on three of his last five holes capped his career-low round as a Gamecock.

Senior Camilo Aguiado is tied for 34 after an opening 75 and an afternoon 72, while junior Daniel Pico rallied from a morning 81 to shoot 76 I the afternoon to move into 75. Senior Pablo Torres is tied for 76, while senior Bo Hayes is 79 after dropping his score 16 shots from an opening round to a second-round 73.

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# JSU easily handles Tennessee State

**Rebekah Hawkins**  
Associate Editor

Tennessee State had no idea what they were getting into when the Gamecocks came into town, shutting them out and sweeping a doubleheader last Sunday.

The Gamecocks gave the Tigers no chance to score in either of the games, winning the first 7-0 and the second 8-0.

Alexus Jimmerson continued her impressive first year with three runs on the day.

Taylor Sloan was behind her and was 2-for-4.

Torre Roberts and Stephanie Lewis contributed with one run apiece.

At the top of the first the

Gamecocks jumped out ahead by two after a Lewis triple.

With Sloan on third and Jimmerson on second, both Gamecocks grabbed a run before the inning turned over to TSU.

It wasn't until the top of the fourth, with help from Whitney Gillespie's single, that Lewis was able to score her first run of the game and put the Gamecocks out ahead 3-0.

The Gamecocks exploded in the fifth inning with Sloan, Jimmerson and Roberts scoring.

Sloan went to bat first in the top of the fifth and singled to put her on first base.

With help from Jimmer-

son, Jamie McGuire and Gillespie, Sloan was able to score the fourth run for the Gamecocks.

Jimmerson scored next after Leila Chambers walked and loaded the bases.

Emily Woodruff was then hit by a pitch, giving Roberts the go-ahead to score.

The Gamecocks were ahead 6-0 heading into the sixth inning.

Jimmerson scored the last and final run of the game in the top of the sixth after she tripled and made it to third base.

McGuire doubled on the next pitch and Jimmerson ran home.

The game finished after a scoreless bottom sixth and

seventh inning, with the score 7-0.

Game two saw eight different Gamecocks score one run apiece to give the Gamecocks their 8-0 win.

Every one went through the lineup three times except for Anna Chisolm, who had two at bats.

McGuire scored the first run of the game at the top of second with help from Chambers and Gillespie who both singled to put McGuire on third.

The Gamecocks scored the remainder of their runs in the top of the third inning.

Chisolm scored first after she walked to first and was pushed to third with a

hit from Jimmerson and an error the helped Sloan advance.

Gillespie homered next and went home along with Lewis, Jimmerson and Sloan who scored unearned.

The score was at 6-0 and after Chisolm tripled at the end of the inning, scoring both Woodruff and Chambers to give the Gamecocks the 8-0 victory.

The sweep in the series gave the Gamecocks a 30-9 record overall and they remain at the top of the OVC standings.

The Gamecocks return home to play a doubleheader against Austin Peay tomorrow, with the first game beginning at 1 p.m.

## Gamecocks win series against TTU

**OXFORD** – Jacksonville State claimed its third OVC series on Sunday with an 8-3 decision over Tennessee Tech at Choccolocco Park.

The win moved JSU to 17-12 overall and level in the OVC at 6-6.

It was the fourth straight rubber game for the Gamecocks after the two clubs split the first two games.

Jax State topped Tech on Friday, 7-2 before Tech bounced back to claim Saturday's contest, 22-6.

TTU, who was unblemished in the OVC before the weekend in Oxford, and falls to 25-9 overall, 13-2 in the league.

JSU has now won back-to-back series against TTU after taking the series last year in Cookeville, Tenn.

Junior Trent Simpson broke up a 2-2 fifth inning

deadlock with a grand slam over the left field wall.

It was Simpson's seventh home run of the season and fourth at Choccolocco Park in his hometown.

It was JSU's first grand slam since Taylor Hawthorne's bases-clearing home run last season against Southeast Missouri.

JSU put together back-to-back one-out hits by Clayton Daniel and Chase Robinson before AJ Reynolds was plunked to load the bases.

The other Oxford, Ala., native on the JSU club, senior Joe McGuire, was once again solid on the mound and kept the potent Tech offense off balanced for 5.1 innings.

McGuire, who moved to 5-1 on the season, allowed five TTU hits and scattered three Golden Eagle solo home runs.

He finished with six strikeouts and did not allow a walk.

In his last five starts dating back to the Sunday game against Eastern Illinois, McGuire has pitched 24.2 innings and has allowed just 13 hits and fanned 21 batters and walked just three.

Tech posted took a 2-0 lead with solo home runs in the third and fourth innings and tacked on the third round tripper in the sixth.

After collecting 24 hits on Saturday, the JSU pitching quartet of McGuire, Nate Sylvester, Grant Chandler and Justin Hoyt limited the Golden Eagles to eight hits on Sunday.

Chandler pitched two full innings before handing the game to Hoyt with one down in the eighth.

JSU posted 11 hits off Tech in Sunday's win

with Simpson, Daniel, and Payton Young combining for eight hits.

After Tech got one of the runs off the grand slam back in the sixth on Kevin Strohschein's one-out home run, JSU expanded the lead in the bottom frame with RBI singles by senior Josh Bobo and Reynolds.

Freshman Andrew Naismith and junior Hayden White produced RBI in the fourth to equalize the contest.

The Gamecocks return to OVC action this weekend in Cape Girardeau, Mo., with the series against Southeast Missouri getting started today due to the Easter holiday, with First pitch is set for 6 p.m.

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### OVC Baseball

School	OVC	O/R
Tennessee Tech	9-0	20-7
Morehead State	8-1	18-6
Murray State	5-4	14-10
Belmont	5-4	10-14
SIUE	4-5	13-10
SEMO	4-5	1-10
Austin Peay	4-5	11-12
<b>Jacksonville State</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>12-10</b>
Eastern Illinois	2-4	4-19
Eastern Kentucky	1-5	14-12
UT Martin	1-8	9-12

### OVC Softball

School	OVC	O/R
SIUE	3-1	25-6
UT Martin	3-1	23-8
<b>Jacksonville State</b>	<b>3-1</b>	<b>22-9</b>
Eastern Illinois	3-1	17-15
Murray State	2-1	25-9
Eastern Kentucky	2-1	13-17
Belmont	2-2	25-8
Morehead State	2-2	19-9
Tennessee Tech	2-2	9-19
Austin Peay	1-3	11-17
SEMO	0-4	15-14
Tennessee State	0-4	8-19

## Men's tennis falls, looks ahead to senior day

**COOKEVILLE, Tenn.** – The Jacksonville State men's tennis team fell 6-1 Saturday afternoon to Tennessee Tech as the Golden Eagles remained undefeated in Ohio Valley Conference action.

The team of Pablo Caffarena and Adres Gomez took one doubles set, while senior Mathias Chaim downed Alberto Esteban in singles play.

Senior Day ceremonies will take place Saturday at 10:30 a.m., prior to the start of the TSU match.

The Gamecocks are set to honor men's tennis seniors Chaim, Austin

McCormick and Jaryd Reese. Claudia Marsala of the women's tennis team will also be honored prior to the women's match against Tennessee State.

JSU (9-7, 2-2 OVC) steps out of conference play to take on the Alabama Crimson Tide following four Ohio Valley contests.

The Gamecocks currently sit fourth in the OVC standings, representing one of just four teams with a record of .500 or better.

The Gamecocks wrap up the season Saturday against Tennessee State in what could be a very pivotal

match.

The Tigers enter the weekend with a 1-2 record; just 25 percentage points behind JSU in the OVC standings.

TSU will first have to meet with Belmont and Tennessee Tech before Saturday's match with the Gamecocks.

The OVC Tennis Championships are scheduled to begin April 21 in Nashville, Tenn. The conference's top six teams register for a spot in the tournament.

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