

inTHE NEWS

International House Presentation: Korea

Korean students will present on their home country and culture on Thursday, November 30 at 11 a.m. in the International House.

Beyond BFA Senior Showcase

Beyond, featuring work from senior BFA students, will open on Thursday, November 30 with a reception from 5-7 p.m. in the Hammond Hall Gallery.

JSU Drama Student Showcase

The second night of the annual Student Showcase will be Thursday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Stone Center Performing Arts Center. The one-act plays will be directed, designed and performed by students. Tickets are \$12.

Midnight Breakfast in the Caf

Take a break from studying and join the SGA for Midnight Breakfast in the Caf on Monday, December 4 and Tuesday, December 5. The Jack Hopper Dining Hall will have special hours and will be open from 10 p.m. to midnight on these days so students can re-fuel during Finals Week.



Katie Cline/The Chanticleer

The front of Bibb Graves Hall as it was lit up for JSU in Lights. The lights will be turned on each night through the holiday season .

JSU in Lights “turns on” holiday cheer

Katie Cline
Editor-in-Chief

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at JSU. On Tuesday, November 28, President John Beehler, Dr. Pam Beehler and the JSU SGA invited students, faculty, staff and community to Bibb Graves Hall for the annual JSU in Lights tree-lighting celebration.

“My favorite part is the lights!” SGA President Ranger Rumrill said. “I enjoy seeing all of my friends and Gamecock family kick off the season by lighting up our beautiful

campus.”

After a countdown from ten, President Beehler flipped the switch, and lights illuminated Bibb Graves. Additional lights can be seen at the President's house, and a massive wreath hangs on the front of the TMB. The star on the top floor of the Houston Cole Library, which lit up on November 11 in honor of Veterans Day, will now be lit every night through the holiday season.

JSU in Lights also doubles as a communi-
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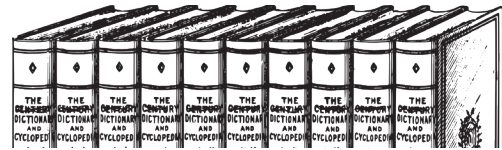


JSU SGA/Instagram

Willow Tree employee and JSU student Sabrina Martin (second from right) presents SGA VPSA Kasey Gamble, President Ranger Rumrill and VPOA Breon Moore a check for \$945 for JCOC.

In the books

Meet librarian Kim Westbrook



Brittany Robertson
Staff Writer

It is the first building seen by anyone traveling through town. The

tallest and occasionally the brightest in the city of Jacksonville: the Houston Cole Library. At thirteen stories high and divided into eight

“micro-libraries,” the Houston Cole Library is the tallest building at Jacksonville State University and in the tallest academic build-

ing in the state of Alabama. And, of course, with such a huge building and so many books, there need to be librarians to help navigate it.

Kim Westbrook works on the fourth floor of Houston Cole, which houses the subjects of Criminal Justice, Finance, Accounting, Management and Marketing, Political Science, Sociology and Social Work. Westbrook has been a Houston Cole Librarian for two years and is best recognized by her bubbly personality. Everything she does is done with so much energy, from chatting about how she is rearranging shelves to how she loves sharing infor-

mation with students about various topics.

BR: What were you before you became a librarian?

WESTBROOKS: “I am originally from Rome, Georgia. I came here to Jacksonville State University in 2002 as a student. I met my first friend, who turned out to be my future husband. I have an Undergraduate degree in Music Performance and a minor in Math and English. I know crazy, right? I was a student worker while I was here and absolutely loved it. I then went to the University of Alabama where I received my Masters in Library Science. While I was



Cassidy Smith/The Chanticleer

Kim Westbrook at her table at the library's Homecoming tailgate party in October 2017.

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IN THE BOOKS from page 1

here, I lived in Dixon Hall and marched for the Southerners. It was the best three years of my life.”

BR: What is the best part about being a librarian?

WESTBROOKS: “Helping people, of course!”

BR: When you are not here at the library, what do you enjoy doing?

WESTBROOKS: “I sing or play my flute. I am an avid churchgoer. I am also the convention head of Annicon, which is the anime convention that takes place in Anniston in the spring. Some days my husband and I will take our son out to hike, bike and camp. We even have a two-person bicycle that has an extra attachment, so we could ride with our son on the end.”

BR: Coffee or Tea?
WESTBROOKS: “Coffee, with lots and lots of sugar.”

BR: Favorite book?

WESTBROOKS: “Great Expectations” [by Charles Dickens].”

BR: Do you think librarians are still relevant? Why?

WESTBROOKS: “Of course. Librarians do not just go around telling students to be quiet. We are here to help and guide students and anyone in the community. We live in a time where we have information overload, so you have to wonder what is relevant and what is not. Librarians like myself help with that. Another reason why we are still relevant is that of the 800,000 titles we have in the library; only a small portion of our

reference material is digital. That means, even if you search for it on our website it may not pop up. I really want to encourage students to come talk with us and let us be librarians and help.”

BR: If you were not a librarian, what would you be?

WESTBROOKS: “An Opera singer (laughs). That was my plan from the very start. I enjoy music and becoming a singer would have been wonderful, but I have to admit that I much prefer being a librarian. I love receiving new material for the library and helping students find books and gain knowledge. So, while I wish my first dream had come true, I am very happy as a librarian.”

BR: It has been great getting to know you. My final question for

you is do you have any advice to give to students?

WESTBROOKS: “Question everything. We are living in a time where information is at our fingertips, but I want students to remember that not everything out there is accurate. So, my advice to them is to question every source and think about where it comes from. Does it contain personal interest or an agenda being pushed? Those sort of things are why I encourage students to come talk to me so I can point them in the right direction. I enjoy helping others.”

**This is the first iteration of Brittany Robertson’s “In the Books” Library Series, where she interviews the librarians of Houston Cole. Come back next semester to meet the rest of the librarians! **



Katie Cline/The Chanticleer

The Houston Cole Library is located beside Martin Hall and across from Wallace Hall. It can be seen from Pelham Road directly across from the TMB. Floors 2-10 of the library house a different area of books. The floor librarian has an office on his or her respective floor, and the basement houses additional staff offices. The 11th floor consists of variously sized conference rooms, and the 12th floor is the observation deck. The deck is typically locked and closed to students for safety reasons but can be accessed with permission of library staff.

LIGHTS from page 1

ty service opportunity each year. Guests were encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy to place under the Christmas in the Gold Room. The toys will

then be donated to the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center (JCOC) for families in need, ensuring that every child has a gift this Christmas.

“As members of the community, I think we play a huge role in setting a good example to our fellow neighbors and the future generations of

our society by helping out those in need,” Rumrill said. In addition to the toys guests brought, the Willow Tree boutique in Jacksonville

presented the SGA with a check for \$945 on Monday to benefit the JCOC.

The JSU Cheerleaders and Marching Ballerina—clad in Santa hats to match their traditional red and white “Santa suit” uniforms—were in attendance on Tuesday, and the JSU Show Choir provided entertainment, singing classic holiday songs like “Jingle Bells” and “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.” After the official lighting, the show choir performed two choreographed numbers: “Puttin’ On the Ritz” from “Young Frankenstein” and “Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree.”

Cocky, dressed as Santa Claus, posed for pictures with guests.

Following the lighting, guests were invited inside the Bibb Graves Gold

Room for cookies and cider. While the cookies were gone before the crowd of roughly 200 were, guests could still admire the festive décor on the second floor of Bibb Graves, including two life-size nutcracker’s standing guard outside President Beehler’s office. “Not only are we kicking off the Christmas and holiday season,” JSU President John Beehler said, “but, as you know, we are finishing up the semester and getting ready for final exams, and our professors are working hard to prepare those for you. I’m sure they’ll make them easy,” he joked. JSU in Lights falls during students’ last week of classes. Next week, December 4-8, will consist of final exams, and winter commencement will be December 15.



Katie Cline/The Chanticleer

Guests piled presents for Jacksonville area children under the Christmas trees at JSU in Lights on Tuesday.

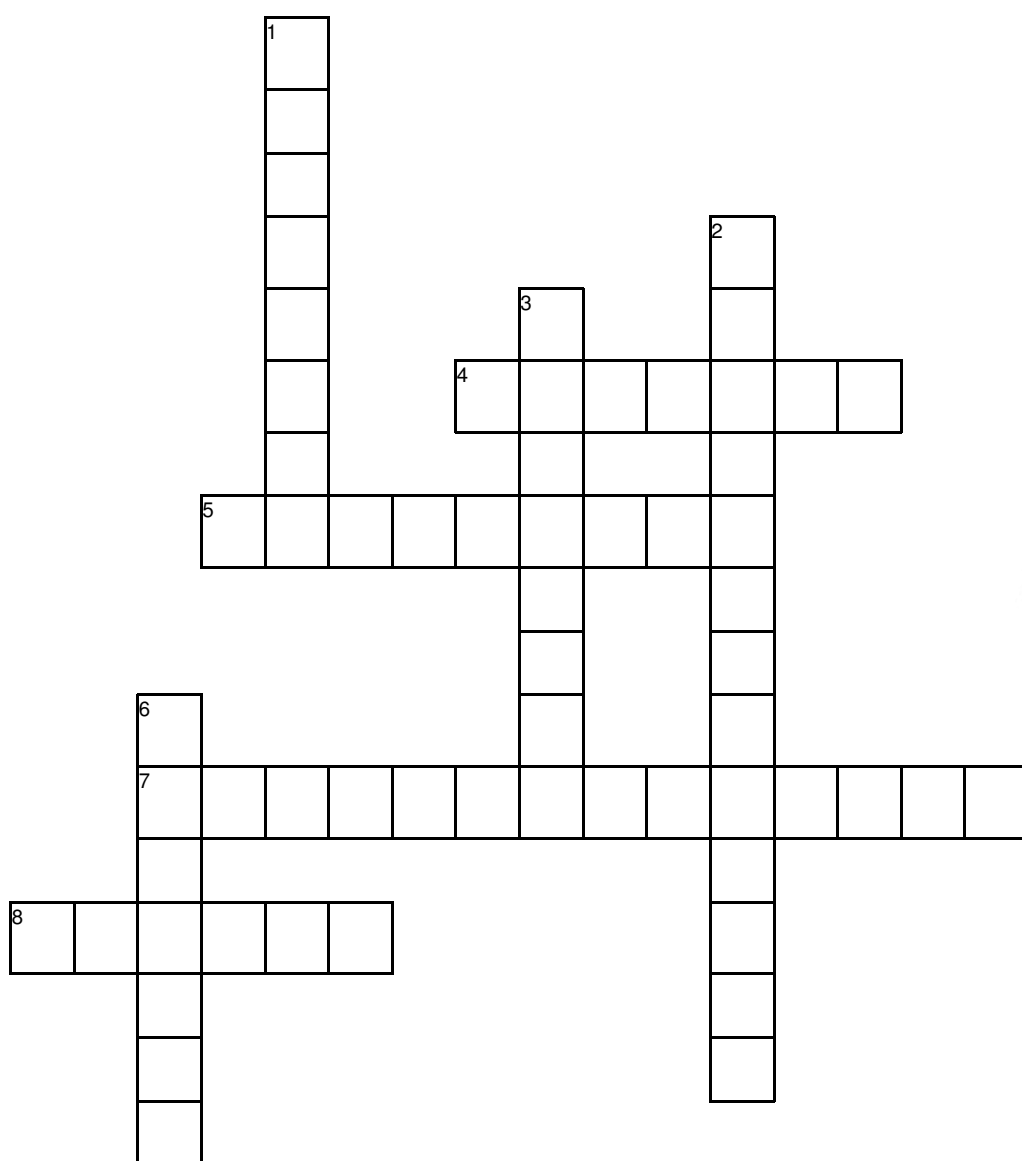
FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE FALL 2017

DATE	CLASS TIME	EXAM TIME	DATE	CLASS TIME	EXAM TIME
DEC. 4	8:45 a.m. MWF	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	DEC. 6	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.			
DEC. 5	9:15 a.m. TR	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	DEC. 7	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 a.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.
DEC. 8	6:15 p.m. T	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	DEC. 8	12:30 p.m. MWF	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
	6:15 p.m. TR	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.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

Campus Crossword Holiday Edition! Week 12

Happy Holidays!



Across

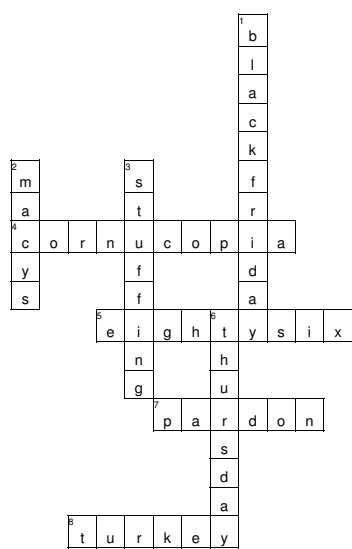
- 4. A nine-branched candelabrum used during the celebration of Hanukkah
- 5. Celebrated on December 25
- 7. Occurs on December 21, formal beginning of Winter, longest night and shortest day of the year
- 8. A candle holder used during the celebration of Kwanzaa

Down

- 1. A Jewish holiday celebrated for eight nights and days
- 2. Decorated with bright lights at Christmas, Santa puts gifts under this
- 3. A holiday created informally on Seinfeld, celebrated December 23
- 6. A holiday celebrating African heritage in African-American culture

Editor's Hint: Google is still your friend everyone!

Happy Thanksgiving!



- Across**
- 4. A cone shaped item filled with food, usually a centerpiece
 - 5. This is how much Guinness Book of World Records says the fattest turkey weighed
- Down**
- 1. The shopping day that falls on the day after Thanksgiving
 - 2. This department store is known for their Thanksgiving Day parade

Last Week's Solution!

From all the editors and staff at the Chanticleer, we want to wish our readers the happiest of holidays! Thank you for reading the Chanticleer this year!

THIS MAYES IS CHEERFUL!

Holiday Puns from the collection of:
Staff Writer Daniel Mayes #shootpunsnotguns



My friend Lee after learning that his wife is pregnant: what does that make me? Me: A parent Lee

In the future, the only viable occupation will be as a hair stylist. The world will devolve into barberism.

I was scared to direct message someone on Twitter, but then I said, "Carpe DM" and sent it.

The huge ice wall that I have to scale on my way to work melted! I love climb-it change

How can you tell whether you had a fire Christmas? A Lit-mas test!

COAST-TO-COAST



Ariel Schalit/Associated Press

Anthony Scaramucci in Jerusalem last week. He resigned from the advisory board at his alma mater, Tufts University, after threatening to sue the student newspaper there.

Anthony Scaramucci quits Tufts Advisory Board after tangling with student paper

Maggie Astor
The New York Times

Anthony Scaramucci, whose brief tenure last summer as White House communications director ended after a profane phone call to a New Yorker reporter, resigned on Tuesday from an advisory board at Tufts University after several weeks of conflict with students.

Mr. Scaramucci said he was stepping down from the advisory board of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy to spare Tufts, his alma mater, unnecessary scrutiny. But he stood by his threat to sue *The Tufts Daily*,

a student newspaper, and one of its writers if the writer did not apologize for critical op-eds published this month.

“I thought it would be better for the school and better for me personally if we parted ways,” Mr. Scaramucci said in an interview on Tuesday. “It’s a school of law and diplomacy. I thought it was a diplomatic thing to do to bow out.”

Camilo A. Caballero, the graduate student who wrote the op-eds, said Mr. Scaramucci’s resignation was a victory for Tufts students, many of whom had called for the university to dismiss him

from the board.

“Today is the day where we see a lot of important pieces come together for this result,” said Mr. Caballero, who will receive his master’s degree from the Fletcher School next month.

More than 250 Tufts students signed a petition this fall that called for Mr. Scaramucci’s dismissal, and the conflict escalated when Mr. Caballero wrote in a Nov. 6 op-ed that Mr. Scaramucci’s presence at the school threatened its credibility. He described Mr. Scaramucci as “an unethical opportunist” whose “career and ideals are dia-

metrically opposed to those ideas and who sullies the vision of the university.”

A week later, in another op-ed, Mr. Caballero criticized the university’s decision to invite Mr. Scaramucci to speak on campus about his background and about the campaign against him. The invitation, he wrote, would “give Scaramucci a platform to legitimize his unethical behavior.”

Mr. Scaramucci was incensed by the description of himself as unethical — which he said was tantamount to calling him a criminal — and by Mr. Caballero’s assertions that he had “sold his soul in contradiction to his own purported beliefs for a seat in the White House” and made his Twitter feed “accessible to friends interested in giving comfort to Holocaust deniers.” (In October, Mr. Scaramucci’s publication shared a poll on Twitter asking how many Jews were killed in the Holocaust. The options ranged from “less than one million” to “more than five million”; the actual number was six million. The publication, *The Scaramucci Post*, later apologized.)

On Nov. 21, Mr. Scaramucci threatened

a defamation lawsuit unless Mr. Caballero apologized and *The Tufts Daily* retracted parts of the two op-eds; in response, the university said it was “disappointed” and postponed his speech, which had been scheduled for Monday. On Tuesday, he reiterated his threat.

“Do I still intend to sue?” he said. “Well, that will depend on Mr. Caballero. He has the opportunity to apologize to me for the defamatory comments, and if he does, then there will be no reason to sue him.”

The American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts responded to the legal threat on Mr. Caballero’s behalf. In a 10-page letter to Mr. Scaramucci’s lawyer, dated Tuesday, it noted that public figures alleging defamation must prove that the statements in question were false and made with malicious intent, and said Mr. Scaramucci’s claims were “without merit.”

Mr. Caballero, for his part, said the questions raised by Mr. Scaramucci’s threat were about free speech, not partisan beliefs.

“This is an issue about very fundamental human rights,” he said.

Mr. Scaramucci, who attended Har-

vard Law School after receiving an undergraduate degree from Tufts in 1986, argued that free speech laws did not protect Mr. Caballero’s assertions, and that the campaign against his planned appearance on campus violated free speech more than his own threat to sue did.

Tufts officials, in a statement on Tuesday, said only that they appreciated Mr. Scaramucci’s “past service to Tufts” and wished him well. He had been on the advisory board at Fletcher since last year.

Mr. Caballero said the conflict had exploded in a way he had never expected, or even wanted.

“One day I’m sitting here writing an op-ed about something I’m passionate about, and a few days later we’ve got a whole team trying to defend free speech,” he said. “This was a community discussion that was going on internally, and we wanted to maintain it that way, but how things evolved and the threat to sue created more of a national conversation, unfortunately.”

Mr. Caballero declined to discuss how he would respond if Mr. Scaramucci did sue.

“I hope that we can move on now,” he said.



Ariel Schalit/Associated Press

Anthony Scaramucci, the former director of communications for the White House, resigned from the Tufts University Advisory Board.



ABOVE: An image posted by the JSU Crosswalk on Twitter changes the 2017 Gamecock Orientation theme from “JSYOU” to the Crosswalk’s catchphrase of “You may cross Pelham Street.” (photo via @JSUCrosswalk/Twitter). MIDDLE: The magazine cover announcing the JSU Crosswalk’s award, designed by Katie Cline/The Chanticleer. BOTTOM: The 2017-2018 SGA Executive Officers Miranda Fairel, Breon Moore, Kasey Gamble, Hayden Clay and Ranger Rumrill cross Pelham Street (photo by Katy Nowak/JSU)

Alissa Camplin
Arts & Entertainment
 Editor and
Katie Cline
Editor-in-Chief

helped to make a difference at this campus due to being a voice for the people.”

SGA President Ranger Rumrill is a close, personal friend of the JSU Crosswalk.

“The Crosswalk is definitely a comedic relief that is well-needed in times of stress for our campus,” Rumrill said. “Personally, the Crosswalk has made me laugh, face palm and help me campaign for elections at times! So you can definitely say that the Crosswalk has had a positive impact to me. The Crosswalk’s personality is hilarious. Always up-to-date with what’s going on on campus. Also, it is able to interact with people in a funny, but tasteful, manner.”

JSU Crosswalk’s most recognizable trait was, until this past summer, its melodic cadence of “You may cross Pelham Street.” The City of Jacksonville remodeled the city’s crosswalks over the summer, leaving JSU Crosswalk without its catchphrase, and the topic is a sore spot for this year’s honoree.

“How would you feel to have your voice taken away?” Crosswalk asked editor Alissa Camplin during its interview. “Would you like it if someone tried to keep you quiet? I didn’t think so. We know what must be done, and I’m sure the students at this wonderful university would agree whole heartedly.”

But the bitterness faded when Camplin brought up the award, which officially makes JSU Crosswalk the “best” crosswalk on campus.

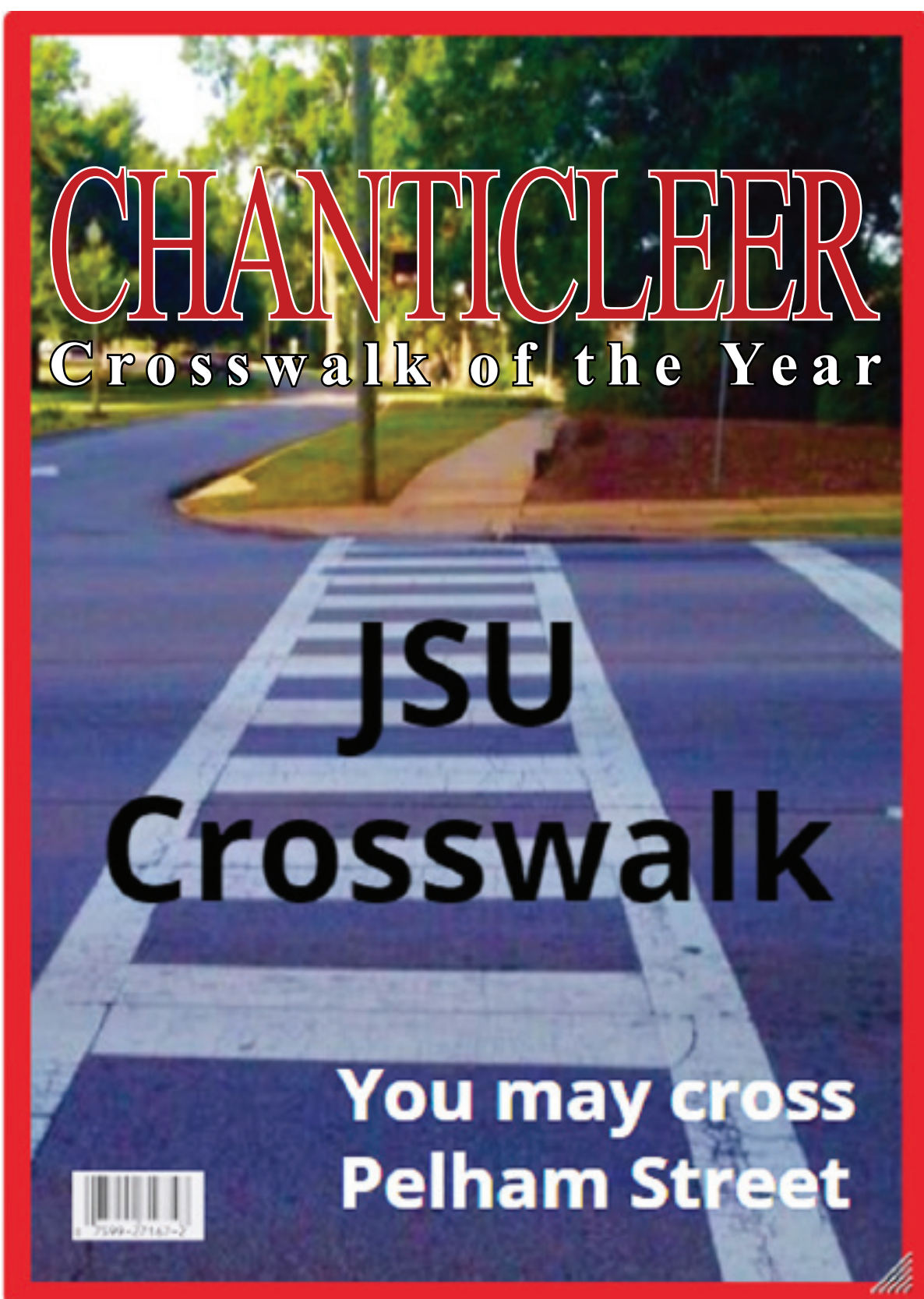
“In all honesty, I al-

Getting to class on time. Giving pedestrians priority. Not dying. These are just a few things that the students of Jacksonville State University rely on the campus crosswalks for, and, this year, The Chanticleer would like to honor one particular crosswalk with the Crosswalk of the Year Award. This crosswalk has shown an unprecedented dedication to pedestrians from all walks of life. From babies in strollers to nervous college freshmen to busy professors and visiting grandparents, this crosswalk has brightened the lives of hundreds of thousands of walkers with the simple phrase “You may cross Pelham Street.”

And, so this year, The Chanticleer is proud to present the Crosswalk of the Year Award to the JSU Crosswalk.

What makes JSU Crosswalk stand out from other run-of-the-mill crosswalks is its embrace of modern technology. Crosswalk has had its own Twitter account since 2013 and uses it to interact with the JSU community it serves.

“I got [my Twitter] so I could interact with the great people of JSU more,” Crosswalk said. “I have gotten to know some, made a new bestie in Ranger Rumrill (even though I’d definitely make a better [SGA] President than him). I’ve been the voice of the people when I stood up to the JSU News Twitter page! I can say that my Twitter page has



ready knew [I was the best],” Crosswalk said. “I mean, who else is there that can compete with the JSU Crosswalk? However, finally earning some recognition has been flattering. I won’t let this fame get to my head; I’m going to remain the same cool, humble, sassy crosswalk that everyone loves and crosses.”

The Crosswalk of the Year Award honors one crosswalk for its outstanding service to the school, a some-

times daunting task that the JSU Crosswalk always strives to do with a smile—or at least an enthusiastic beep.

“My favorite part [of my job] is everything. I love what I do,” Crosswalk told The Chanticleer. “Quick side tip, do what you love and you’ll never feel like you are working a day in your life. I love interacting with every single student or faculty member that walks across me on a

daily basis. They are what makes JSU what JSU is all about, the friendliest campus in the South.”

The Crosswalk’s love extends to everyone on campus, and it even had some kind words for the newspaper and football team.

“I would like to add how awesome The Chanticleer is in general,” Crosswalk said. “You made the right choice for this award and handled this interview with a crosswalk

professionally. I would also like to wish the JSU football team luck during the rest of the playoffs!”

After taking time out of its 24/7 job to conduct its first-ever public interview, the JSU Crosswalk was insistent on getting back to its crossers, proof that a true public servant never rests.

When asked for any final comments, Crosswalk said, “As always, you may cross Pelham Street.”



OPINION & EDITORIAL

Reflections of the Associate Editor:

Graduating Chanticleer editors look back on their time at JSU

Rebekah Hawkins
Associate Editor

7 years.

And no, it's not the beginning of some twisted college movie where a videotape kills you, it's more like a twisted college existence and the thing killing you is your degree.

I've been in college for seven years

Two years in community college and five years at JSU to get one four-year degree, and I'll be honest I've thought of quitting a lot over the years. I've worked multiple jobs, sometimes at one time, to put myself through school without loans, so school has been a steady progression taking what I can as I can afford it.

Spoiler alert: I can never afford it.

But here we are. Seven and some odd years since I graduated high school and at the age of 25 I'm finally going to get to walk across that stage and get the thing I've wanted more than anything else. My Bachelor's degree. To say I'm relieved is an understatement, to say I'm excited doesn't even begin to cover it and



to say I never thought this day would come doesn't even come close.

I wanted to talk about a lot of things in this piece. I wanted to talk about my time at JSU and how awful some parts of it were. About feeling like a number and not a person, about crying every single time they raised tuition and again when they cut my financial aid in half. I wanted to write about my frustrations and anger, about my sadness and tribulation, but then I decided not to. I decided instead to write about what became my saving grace, my joy and happiness and the brightest of the bright spots during my time as a Gamecock: my year as the Chanticleer Associate Editor.

I've been a writer for the Chanty since I got here and I've seen three different sets of editors come through, written for all of them but only really made true friends with the ones that are there now. Friendships I never expected, and didn't know how badly I needed.

To Katie:

Our fearless leader. You have been my friend from the beginning. From the first time I walked through that door and sat down at the desk beside yours. We've joked about how slow the computers are, accidentally got new ones, eaten lots of chocolate, told story after story, decorated for Christmas and so much more. For all of those things I thank you so much. Thank

you for all the love that you've given me and shown me, thank you for teaching me things when you didn't have to and being patient when I asked questions over and over. Thanks for listening to me ramble and go off on tangents about politics and religion and for always being there when I needed you. I love you and will miss you so much and I look forward to reading whatever you write from now until forever!

To Alissa:

The one person who loves her dog as much as I love mine. You are so amazingly wonderful and beautiful with a solid heart of gold. I remember when you found Liberty and then I remember when you decided to adopt her.

I remember all the fun stuff you bought for her. I loved getting to do stuff with you and Liberty and Milo, I hope we can still do all that. Thanks for always making me laugh, for making me feel loved and pretty, for being silly and making fun of Tim and for doing my make up for my pictures with Ethan. Thanks for eating all the candy that I bought for the office and thanks for laughing with me when the picture frame broke during staff photos. I'll always remember that. You're a rock and a star and I can't wait to see how far you go with Lib by your side! I love you!

To Tim:

My BFF. I've known you longer than Katie and Alissa. You were

my third sports editor. I only knew you through the computer and text messages before we actually met when I became Associate Editor. You were the first sports editor to actively tell me when my writing needed work and to tell me how to fix it. I'll always appreciate the constructive criticism, even if I joke and tell you that you a mean dictator. Thanks for talking sports with me, for enduring my jabs about the Dodgers, for being my pal at the Anniston Star after we finished writing and for letting us meet Diana. I know that was hard for you (hee hee). You are hilarious and so much fun, I'll miss our Tuesday afternoons just hanging out. Don't forget us when you're a big sports writer somewhere. Oh yeah, and I love ya.

Thanks JSU for giving me my friends. Friends that I never would have met anywhere else. I guess I owe you that much.

Goodbye JSU, I kind of hate to love you and you suck sometimes, but I'll miss you.

Reflections of the Sports Editor:

Graduating Chanticleer editors look back on their time at JSU

Timothy Cash
Sports Editor

When most people think about The Chanticleer they think it's just another college newspaper. When I think about you, though, I think about so much more than that. To me, The Chanticleer means family.

I worked that first semester with Marie, Adam Higgins and Katelyn "Bug" Schneider. Soon, graduation seasons led to Katie Cline, Alissa Camplin and Rebekah Hawkins becoming my work associates. These are the coworkers I have

worked closely with, and they will be who comes to mind first when I think back at my time at the Chanty.

Katie:

You have taken The Chanticleer to new heights, and I am excited to see where you take it next. The student body can't imagine how much time you have sacrificed just to make sure the paper get published every week.

Alissa:

We have had our differences at times, but I have truly enjoyed our time working together. I don't

know how we got any work done when we were in the office together, but we had fun every minute of it.

Rebekah:

There are not enough words to describe how thankful I am to know you. Before you took over as associate editor, you were about the only writer I could trust. More often than not, you and I were the only sports writers featured in The Chanticleer, and I am so thankful for how easy you made my job.

I wrote my first article for the Chanty in

November of 2014. Specifically, the first article I wrote was Jacksonville State's men's basketball's 74-55 season-opening loss to Marshall. That was four seasons ago, but I still remember listening and taking notes to Mike Parris' broadcast.

Marvel Robinson asked me to write that story, testing the waters to see how reliable I was. He must have like me, because over the next three semesters he asked me to contribute every week. Marvel graduated in December 2015, and Marie McBurnett, the Editor-in-Chief at

the time, suggested I apply for his position. I was hired on the following January.

This December I will walk across the stage at graduation, and someone new will be in charge of the sports department. I look forward to seeing where they take the sports section, and read about all of the Gamecocks' victories.

Lastly, I would also like to send a special thank you to Greg Seitz, Josh Underwood, Tony Schmidt, Tyler Brown, Daniel Porter and the rest of the athletic department. You all have

made my job as sports editor as easy as possible. I also would like to thank the student body for supporting The Chanticleer. If it weren't for y'all, The Chanticleer would just be a memory gone by. Go Gamecocks, and God Bless.

SPORTS

Grass named a finalist for Eddie Robinson Award

Jacksonville State head coach John Grass has been named a finalist for the 2017 STATS FCS Eddie Robinson Award, given annually to the coach of the year in FCS.

Grass was one of 18 finalists announced on Monday by STATS for the award, which will be presented to the winner at STATS annual awards banquet in Frisco, Texas, on the night before the NCAA Division I Championship Game.

Named for the legendary coach of Grambling State, past winners of the Robinson Award include Mark Duffner, Erk Russell, Chris Ault, Jim Tressel, Houston Nutt, Andy Talley, Paul Johnson, Joe Glenn, Jerry Kill, Jerry Moore and two-time winners Mickey Matthews, Sean McDonnell and Craig Bohl.

Grass has yet to lose a conference game in his career as a head coach, rolling up 31-straight Ohio Valley Conference victories after his fourth-straight unbeaten conference season in 2017.

He is the first coach in FCS history to post perfect conference records in his first two seasons, let alone his first four.



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He holds a 43-7 record as the Gamecocks' head man, the second-best start to a career in FCS history. He boasts a career .860 winning percentage, which is the highest career winning percentage among all active Division I head coaches.

Ohio State's Urban Meyer is second on that list.

Grass' Gamecocks went unbeaten against FCS opposition again this season, making him unbeaten in

the regular season against non-FBS foes in his four-year career.

JSU earned the No. 3 seed in the FCS Playoffs. It's the fourth-straight season in which he has led the Gamecocks to a top-three seed, something the program had never done before his arrival in 2014.

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The 18 finalists:

- Mike Ayers, Wofford
- Al Bagnoli, Columbia
- Brian Bohannon, Kennesaw State
- Rod Broadway, North Carolina A&T
- Kevin Callahan, Monmouth
- Dave Cecchini, Valparaiso
- Curt Cignetti, Elon
- Charlie Fisher, Western Illinois
- John Grass, Jacksonville State**
- Will Healy, Austin Peay
- Mike Houston, James Madison
- Dan Hunt, Colgate
- Chris Klieman, North Dakota State
- Mike London, Howard
- Fred McNair, Alcorn State
- Tim Rebowe, Nicholls
- Pete Rossomando, Central Connecticut State
- Demario Warren, Southern Utah



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Gamecocks bested by Murray State in OVC Tournament

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. — The sixth-seeded Jacksonville State volleyball team's upset bid of No. 3 Murray State fell just short on Thursday as the Gamecocks' season came to a close in a 3-1 setback in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament.

The Gamecocks (23-13, 9-7 OVC) took the opening set against the defending tournament champion Racers (21-8, 12-4), but were unable to complete a late comeback in the second, and were bested 25-16 and 25-17 in the final two sets after intermission.

In their final career match, seniors Allyson Zuhlke and Charis Ludtke led with 14 and 12 kills, respectively.

Zuhlke, a first team All-OVC selection, added seven digs and four blocks in the contest. Madison Cooler closed her strong freshman season with 10 kills as the third Gamecock to reach double figures.

The Gamecocks were missing a valuable asset on Thursday as senior setter Jennifer Hart was unable to play due to illness.

The Davidson, N.C., product had three 1,000-assist seasons for the red and white, and played a vital role in the success of 2017.

In her place, sophomore Rachel

Perucki finished with 24 assists, followed by Shayla Schmidt who recorded 15 in her first match of the season in the setting role.

Perucki collected a double-double also recording 11 digs, while Schmidt pitched in two digs and two blocks.

In addition to Schmidt stepping up, freshman Kaylie Milton played big with a career-best 16 digs along the back row to lead the Gamecocks.

Senior Hannah Kirk, who played all 531 sets of her Gamecock career, finished with 15 digs to bring her career tally to 1,858 for second-most all-time in JSU history.

A staple of consistency, her 531 consecutive sets played ranks second all-time in NCAA Division I history behind Southeast Missouri State's Tuba Meto (1994-97) who had 551.

The Racers opened the first set with a 4-0 lead, but the Gamecocks began to slowly chip away at the early deficit and gained its first lead at 11-10 off a combo block from Kaylee Frear and Mackenzie Rombach. Rombach would finish the day with six blocks and six kills.

The game would tie at 19, 20 and 21, before a kill from Cooler and service ace from Kirk gave JSU enough separation to secure the first

frame, 25-22.

In the second, MSU used a 6-0 run to grab an 18-10 advantage midway through the set.

Jax State rallied with kills from Cooler, Ludtke and Kim Krutsinger to make it 21-20 late.

But the Racers tightened things, up and never allowed JSU to even the score, before taking the game 25-21 to even the match at 1-1.

Out of the break, MSU turned up the intensity hitting .448 in the third with only two attack errors to best JSU 25-16 and take control of the match.

The Gamecocks rebounded to begin the fourth with a 6-1 lead, but the experienced Racers who have won the tournament two of the past three years settled in to begin their comeback.

A 14-1 run filled with long rally after long rally propelled the Racers ahead and onto a 25-17 set victory to win the match 3-1.

JSU's 23-13 recorded marks its most wins since the 2009 season, which saw the Gamecocks advance to the second round of the NCAA tournament.

The program will begin to shift focus for the upcoming spring beach season.

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Gamecock Side Bar Upcoming Jacksonville State Gamecock Action

- 11/30
-Men's Basketball vs. Alabama State "The Pete" 7 p.m.
OVC Digital Network
WLJS, WVOK
- Women's Basketball at New Orleans New Orleans, La. 7 p.m.
- 12/2
-Football vs. Kennesaw State FCS Playoffs - Second Round Burgess-Snow Field 1 p.m.
ESPN3
JSU Radio Network
- 12/3
-Men's Basketball vs. Samford "The Pete" 2 p.m.
OVC Digital Network
WLJS, WVOK
- 12/8
-Men's Basketball vs. Louisiana - Monroe "The Pete" 7 p.m.
OVC Digital Network
WLJS, WVOK
- 12/9
-Women's Basketball vs. Miami (Ohio) Oxford, Ohio 2:30 p.m.
ESPN3
- 12/12
-Women's Basketball vs. Alabama A&M "The Pete" 7 p.m.
-Men's Basketball at Oregon State Corvallis, Ore. 9 p.m.
WLJS, WVOK
- 12/16
-Men's Basketball vs. USC-Upstate "The Pete" 7 p.m.
OVC Digital Network
WLJS, WVOK
- 12/17
-Women's Basketball at Clemson Clemson, S. C. 1 p.m.

BOLD = Home Event * = OVC Event

OVC Men's Basketball		
School	OVC	O/R
Tennessee Tech	0-0	6-1
Murray State	0-0	4-1
Jacksonville State	0-0	4-2
Tennessee State	0-0	4-2
Belmont	0-0	4-3
Austin Peay	0-0	3-3
Eastern Kentucky	0-0	3-3
SEMO	0-0	3-4
Eastern Illinois	0-0	2-4
SIUE	0-0	1-4
Morehead State	0-0	1-5
UT Martin	0-0	1-5

OVC Women's Basketball		
School	OVC	O/R
Austin Peay	0-0	4-1
SIUE	0-0	3-1
Belmont	0-0	6-2
Jacksonville State	0-0	4-2
Morehead State	0-0	4-3
SEMO	0-0	4-3
UT Martin	0-0	2-3
Eastern Kentucky	0-0	2-4
Murray State	0-0	2-4
Tennessee Tech	0-0	1-4
Eastern Illinois	0-0	1-5
Tennessee State	0-0	0-4

Standings and Polls do not reflect changes made on or after Wednesday



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Battle of the birds

JSU hosts Kennesaw State in the FCS second round action

Timothy Cash
Sports Editor

If Jacksonville State's football team had to choose what they liked best about their No. 3 seed in the playoff, most of the guys would say it is the respect they got from the Championship Committee.

Then, they would probably say the bye week.

After having two early bye weeks at the beginning of the season, the Gamecocks had to tackle then No. 16 Liberty and their OVC schedule without a break.

"It is good to be going in to the playoffs

and it was great having the bye week," head coach John Grass said at Monday's press conference.

"We were mentally and physically tired after nine-straight games, so it was good to get that time off and keep our game speed."

With the Gamecocks' last regular season game, a 36-6 win over Tennessee State, on a Thursday, Jacksonville State actually got almost a week and a half to rest up for their second-round matchup against Kennesaw State.

Kennesaw State (11-1) is making their first appearance to the playoffs in only their

third year fielding a football team.

"They are probably the hottest team in the country with 11-straight wins, which is really impressive," Senior linebacker Jonathan Hagler said.

"They have one of the top rushing offenses in the country, so we look forward to the challenge. They are a really good team."

The Owls suffered a close 28-23 loss to Samford to begin the season, but avenged that loss by eliminating the Bulldogs 28-17 in the first round of the playoffs.

Kennesaw State runs the triple option,

which the Gamecocks faced earlier this season when they traveled to Atlanta to face Georgia Tech.

"They are a little bit more multiple than Georgia Tech was," Grass said.

"Coach (Brian) Bohannon came from there, so they do a lot of what Georgia Tech does and they are very similar."

Running back Jake McKenzie gets much of the work load for Kennesaw State with 660 yards on 136 touches, but Shaquill Terry and Darnell Holland are on his heels with 634 yards and 622 yards, respectively.

Quarterback Chan-

dler Burks has passed for 1061 yards on 61 completions, including eight touchdowns, but if he doesn't see what he likes, he is not afraid to get out of the pocket.

Burks leads the team with 1061 rushing yards through the 12 games played this season, and has found his way into the end zone 16 times when scrambling.

"They really run to the ball and they have really good players," redshirt-junior running back Tramel Terry said.

"They have a chip on their shoulder since they have only had a team for three years.

They are playing for something."

However, the Gamecocks are playing for something too.

"I have been here all four years and two times we have failed (in this round)," senior defensive back Siran Neal said.

"With this being my last year, I don't want to fall short this year. This spot really means something because last year we fell short in preparing and this year we don't want to have that experience again."

Jacksonville State and Kennesaw State will square off at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, at Burgess-Snow Field.



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Men fall to MSU on last-second shot

STARKVILLE, Miss. – The Jacksonville State men's basketball team was not able to survive a late Mississippi State rally Sunday afternoon, falling 59-56 to the SEC foe on a last-second three-pointer at Humphrey Coliseum.

Senior Norbertas Giga picked up his first double-double of the season, totaling 15 points and 10 rebounds despite the loss.

The seven-footer was six-for-11 from the floor and threw in three assists.

Jacksonville State held the lead for nearly 25 minutes, beginning about halfway through the first half when the Gamecocks began a nine-point run.

With 12:47 remaining in the opening period, Jason Burnell hit a layup to pull the Bulldogs within two, 8-6, and a couple a Tyrik Edwards free throws tied the game shortly after.

The momentum swung 100-percent in the Gamecocks' favor just 30 seconds later.

Burnell rejected Holman at the basket dunked it on the other end of the court to put JSU up by two.

Marlon Hunter followed up with a three-pointer from the corner to put

the Gamecocks up 13-8 and force a Mississippi State timeout.

The Gamecocks took a 29-25 lead into the break and jumped out to an eight-point advantage to begin the second half via a four three-point buckets, but the Bulldogs would not go away.

Mississippi State reclaimed the lead, 50-49, at the 6:35 mark on a Quindary Weatherspoon layup.

The two teams exchanged baskets the remainder of the game and saw the score tied until the final seconds of the contest.

With 0.4 seconds left on the clock, Weatherspoon stepped back and sunk the game-winning three-pointer.

Jacksonville State had the opportunity to inbound, but only to have it touched up fall to the floor to kill the clock.

The Gamecocks return home tonight (Nov. 30) to take on Alabama State at 7 p.m.

The in-state contest begins a three-game home stand at Pete Mathews Coliseum, followed by a Dec. 3, matchup vs. Samford and a Dec. 8 game against ULM.

-JSU Sportswire

JSU falls to Seton Hall in Thanksgiving Classic Finale

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. – The Jacksonville State women's basketball team fell to tournament host Seton Hall in the championship game of the Thanksgiving Classic on Sunday afternoon at historic Walsh Gymnasium.

The Gamecocks (4-2) held tough against their Big East foes for the first half, before SHU (4-1) used a strong third quarter to pull away on its home court.

Junior Rayven Pearson had 13 points and eight boards to lead JSU.

As the Gamecocks claimed their runner-up trophy following the game, Pearson was joined by senior Ki-Ki Patterson as selections to the All-Tournament team.

Senior Tyler Phelion finished with nine points and five rebounds as Jax State fell for only the second time this season.

The scoring started slow as Morrison's triple midway through the first gave JSU a 5-3 advantage.

SHU then went on an 11-2 run forcing the Gamecocks to call timeout down seven late in the opening

period.

Still a seven-point different nearing halftime, McKenna Lawrence banked home a three from the top of the key to make it 29-25 with just under three minutes to play.

The Gamecocks maintained the four-point margin heading into the locker room trailing 32-28.

In the third, SHU broke the game open with a 22-3 run.

The Pirates outscored the Gamecocks 28-13 in the third period to take a commanding 60-41 lead into the final ten minutes of play.

JSU scored the first six points of the fourth to pull within 13, but SHU followed with a couple of big shots to reclaim a comfortable margin.

Huntsville product, Jayla Walker, entered in the closing minutes and hit a three in her only shot attempt as JSU fell 73-54.

The Gamecocks return home briefly before taking off against to face New Orleans tonight (Nov. 30) at 7 p.m.

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