Meet the Chanticleer’s first ever Crosswalk of the Year award winner: Kasich Smith

Season is best recognized by her bubbly personality.

“Micro-libraries,” the Houston Cole Library is the tallest building at Jacksonville State University and in the tallest academic building in the state of Alabama. And, of course, with such a huge building and so many books, there need to be libraries to help navigate it.

Katie Clin
Editor-in-Chief

It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas at JSU. On Tuesday, November 28, President John 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 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.

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JSU SGA/Instagram

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JSU SGA/Instagram

Meet librarian Kim Westbrooks

Kim Westbrooks at her table at the library’s Homecoming tailgate party in October 2017.

In the books

Meet librarian Kim Westbrooks

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

Kim Westbrooks works on the fourth floor of Houston Cole, which houses the subjects of Criminal Justice, Finance, Economics and Accounting, Management and Marketing, Political Science, Sociology and Social Work. Westbrooks 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 information 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 absolutly loved it. I then went to the University of Alabama where I received my Masters in Library Science. While I was...
Katie Cline/The Chanticleer

Bibb Graves Gold Room was locked and closed to students for safety reasons.
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!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Holidays!

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

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How can you tell whether you had a fire Christmas? A Lit-mas test!
Anthony Scaramucci quits Tufts Advisory Board after tangling with student paper

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

As reported in The Tufts Daily, Scaramucci threatened to sue the student newspaper for its coverage of his time on campus. He resigned in protest of the university's decision to invite him to speak on campus.

The Tufts Daily published op-eds critical of Scaramucci's past statements and actions. Scaramucci's lawyer responded with a 10-page letter alleging defamation and threatening legal action.

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 Tufts officials.

Mr. Scaramucci said he was stepping down from the advisory board to dismiss him and the threat to sue. "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. "I think it was a diplomatic thing to do, and the conflict escalated when Mr. Caballero wrote in a Nov. 6 op-ed that Mr. Scaramucci's presence on campus was threatening the credibility of the school. He described Mr. Scaramucci as an 'unethical opportunist' whose 'career in con- tradiction 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.)

Mr. Caballero's assertions, and if he does, then there will be no reason to sue him." The American Civil Liberties Union representing Mr. Caballero criticized 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 escalated in a way he had never expected or even wanted. "One day I'm sitting here writing an op-ed about some- thing I'm passion- ate about, and a few days later we've got a whole team trying to defend free speech," he said. "This was a community discuss- tion that was going on internally, and we wanted to main- tain it that way, but how things evolved and the threat to sue created more of a na- tional conversation, unfortunately."

Mr. Caballero declined to discuss how he would respond if Mr. Scaramucci did not receive his master's degree from Tufts in 1986, argued that free speech laws did not protect Mr. Cabal- lero's assertions, and that the campaign against his planned appearance on cam- pus 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. They had been on the advisory board at Fletcher since last year.

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Getting to class on time. Giving pedestrains 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 ner-vous college freshmen to busy professors and visiting grandparents, this crosswalk has heightened the lives of hundreds of thou-sands 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 few besties in Ranger Rumrill (even though she definitely makes a better [SGA] President than him). I've been the voice of the people when I stood up to the JSU News Twit-ter page. I can say that my Twitter page has helped to make a dif-ference 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-need-ed 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 im-pact to me. The Crosswalk's personality is hilarious. Always up-to-date with what's going on on campus. Also, it is able to in-teract 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 Jackson-ville recently remodeled the city's crosswalks over the summer, leaving JSU Crosswalk with-out its catchphrase, and the topic is a sore spot out 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 bénéficie-faded when Camplin brought up the award, which officially makes JSU Crosswalk the "best" crosswalk on campus. "In all honesty, I al-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 recogni-tion has been flattering. I won't let this fame get to my head; I'm go-ing to remain the same cool, humble, saucy crosswalk that every-one loves and crosses." The Crosswalk of the Year Award hon-ors 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 every-thing. I love what I do," Crosswalk told The Chanticleer. "Quick side tip, do you like what you do and you'll never feel like you are work-ing 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 the anchor that makes JSU what it is all about, the friendliest campus in the South." The Crosswalk's love extends to every-one on campus, and it even had some kind words for the newspa-per and football team. "We 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 in-sistent on getting back to its crossers, proof that a true public serv-ant never rests. When asked for any final comments, Crosswalk said, "As always, you may cross Pelham Street."
Reflections of the Sports Editor: Graduating Chanticleer editors look back on their time at JSU

Rebekah Hawkins
Associate Editor

Reflections

7 years.

And no, it’s not the beginning of some twisted horror nov-

el where a videotape kills you, it’s more like a twisted college
collapse, and a great thing is that you’re degree.

I’ve been in college for seven years.

Two years in comm-

unity college and five years at JSU to get my four-year de-
gree. I’ll be 25 next

year and I’ve thought of quitting a lot over the years. I’ve

had multiple jobs, some-
times at one time, to

pay for college because

school without loans, so

school has been a steady progression taking what I can as

I can afford it.

Spoiler alert: I can’t

afford it.

But here we are. Sev-

en years, and some 25

years since I gradu-

ated high school and

at the age of 25 I’m

finally going to get to

walk across that stage and get the degree. I’ve thought of

more than anything else.

It’s my degree. To say I’m ex-

cited doesn’t even begin to cover it and to

say I’ve never thought this day would come doesn’t even come

close to covering it.

I wanted to talk about a lot of things in this piece. I want-
ed 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 frus-

tations, my struggles, my joy and hap-

piness and the bright

est of the bright spots

of my time here at Gamecock: my year as the Chanticleer

Associate Editor.

I’ve been a writer for the Chanticleer since I got here and I’ve

seen three different sets of editors come through, written for,

taken about all of them but only a few things I thank them for. I

remember when you found a $100 bill under the computer

during staff photos. I’ll always remember that you write from now

onwards. I love ya.

To Alissa:
The one person who loves her at
dog as much as I love mine. You are so amazingly

beautiful with a solid heart that was hard for you (heehee).

You are hilarious and so much fun, I’ll miss our Tuesday after-

noons just hanging out. Don’t forget us when you’re a big

sportswriter somewhere in New York or Wash, and I love ya.

Thanks JSU, for giving me my friends. Friends that I would

never 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 peo-

ple 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 Mar-

ie, Adam Higgins, Kaitlyn听着 Schnieder. 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 I come to mind first when I think back at

my time at the Chan-

ty.

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 having you about for how much time you have

served the Chanticleer, and I am so thankful for how easy you made my job.

I wrote my first ar-

ticle for the Chanty in

November of 2014. Specifically, the first

article I wrote was Jackson State’s men’s basketball

74-55 season-open-


That was four sea-

sons ago, but I still

remember listening

and taking notes to

Mike Parrish’s broad-

cast.

Marvel Robinson

asked me to write that story, testing the waters to see how

reliable I was. He

must have liked me

because over the next three semester,

he asked me to con-

tribute every week. Marvel graduated in

December 2015, and

Marie McBurnett, the Editor-in-Chief at the
time, suggested I apply for his pos-

ition. I was hired on the following Janu-

ary.

This December I will walk across the stage at graduation, and someone new will be in charge of

the sports depart-

ment. I look forward

to seeing where they take the sports sec-

tion, and read about all of the Gamecocks’ victories.

Lastly, I would also like to send a special thank you to Greg

Seitz, Josh Under-

wood, Tony Schmidt,

Tyler Brown, Daniel

Porter and the rest of the athletic depart-

ment. You all have

made my job as sports editor as easy as pos-

sible. I also would like to thank the stu-

dent body for sup-

porting The Chan-

ticaler. If it weren’t for all of you, The Chanti-

cleer would just be a memory gone by. Go

Gamecocks, and Go

Bobcats.
Jacksonville State head coach John Grass has been named a finalist for the 2017 STATS 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 University, the Robinson Award includes Mark Duffuller, Eric Russell, Chris Ault, Andy Talley, Paul Johnson, Joe Glenn, Jerry Kill, Jerry Moore and two-time winners McKey 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 season in 2017.

In their final career match, seniors Alyson Zahlek and Charis Ludike led with 14 and 12 kills, respectively.

"The game would tie at 19, 20 and 21, before a kill from Cooler and service ace from Kirk gave JSU 25-16 and take control of the second round of the NCAA 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.

"It was a thrill to see the Gamecocks' ceiling, the second year of a three-year plan. He brings our program to the next level."

Grass said he was honored to be named a finalist.

"It means a lot. It’s a great honor for our team. I’m just happy to have been here in the first place."

Grass has recorded 15 in her first match of the season in the setting role.

The Davidson, N.C., product had the second-best start to a career in FCS history behind Southeast Missouri State's Tuba Mete (1994-97) who had 551.

The Racers opened the first set 25-17, before a kill from Cooler and service ace from Kirk gave JSU 25-16 and take control of the second round of the NCAA 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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Battle of the Birds

Timothy Cash
Sports Editor

If Jacksonville State’s men’s basketball coach 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 Committee.

Then, they would probably say the bye week.

“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 prepared after nine-game strings, so it was good to get that time off and keep our game speed.”

With the Gamecocks’ last regular season game, a 66-win over Tennessee State, on a Thursday, Jackson State actually got almost a week to rest up for their second-round matchup against Kennewick State. Kennewick State (11-1) is making its first appearance to the NCAA playoffs in only their third year fielding a basketball team.

JSU returned home to the Pete Mathews Coliseum, and took on the Bulldogs at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Burgess-Inlow Field.

Men fall to MSU on last-second shot

STARKVILLE, Miss. — The Jackson State 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, tallying 15 points and 10 rebounds despite the loss. The seven-footer was six-for-11 from the floor and threw in three assists.

Jackson 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 Benull hit a layup to pull the Bulldogs within two, 8-6, and a couple of Tyrik Edwards free throws tied the game back up after the momentum swing 100-per-cent in the Gamecocks’ favor just 30 seconds later.

Barnell 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 claimed the lead, 50-49, at the 6:35 mark on a Quinndary 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, Weatherpoon stepped back and way into the end zone with a three pointer.

Barks led 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.”

By “we” they mean the last four years and two teams (in this round), senior defensive back Sirion 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 this preparing and this year we don’t want to have that experience again.”

Jackson State coach and Kennewick State will square off at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Hattiesburg, Miss.

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 nine-point run and a 10-point lead, 50-41, at the 6:35 mark in the first half.

The Pirates outscored the Gamecocks 28-13 in the third period, before SHU (4-1) used a 10-point lead, 50-41, at the 6:35 mark in the first half.

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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, Weatherpoon stepped back and way into the end zone with a three pointer.

Barks led 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.

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