



# The Chanticleer

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT-PUBLISHED NEWSPAPER SINCE 1934

inSIDE

Disney musicale with the ladies of SAI,

Page 4



WEATHER: Cloudy, High 71, Low 60

Thursday, February 15, 2018

## inTHE NEWS

### Third Thursday Workshop

On Thursday, Feb. 15, join Career Services in room 10B of the library from 1-2 p.m. for its Third Thursday workshop. Admission is free to all. This month's topic is interpersonal relationships.

### Arbor Day Ceremony

JSU will celebrate Arbor Day on Feb. 15 at 3:30 p.m. at Bennett Field. Speakers will include President Beehler, Mayor Jonhny Smith, Dr. Jimmy Triplett and Mr. Christian Dunn.

### Accepted Students Day

Prospective JSU students will be on campus Friday, Feb. 26 for Accepted Students Day and will be enjoying campus tours and lunch in the Caf.

### Black History Month

A free lunch and lecture with speaker Dr. Reginald Tiller, the acting Superintendent of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument and Freedom Riders National Monument will be offered on Tuesday, Feb. 20 in room 10B of the library. RSVP online via the link in the event on JSU's event calendar: <https://jsuweb.wufoo.com/forms/k1id-0h4o0jvu531/>



## JSU remembers Justin Tinker

Brannon Cahela  
Staff Writer

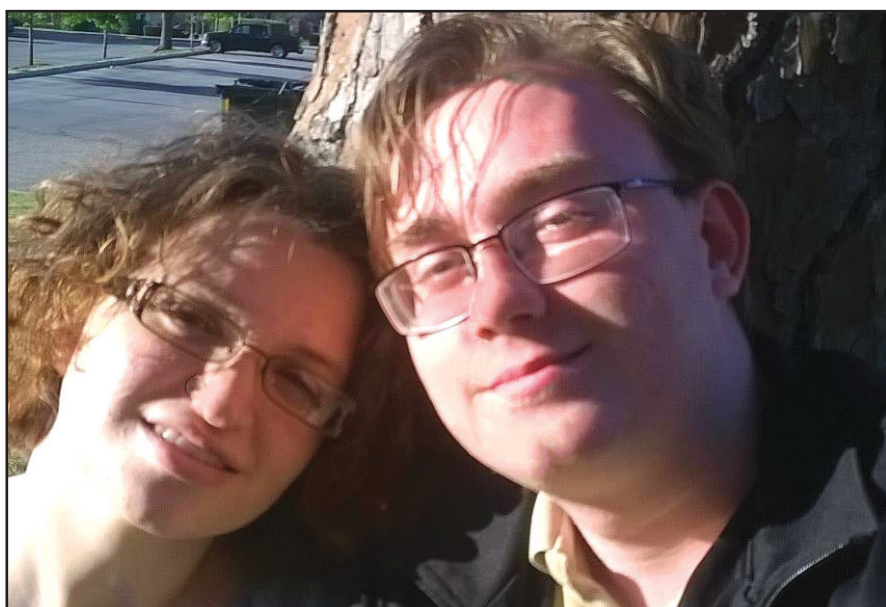
Students gathered to mourn the loss of graduating senior Justin Tinker on Monday evening at the TMB auditorium. Tinker was struck by a vehicle on Highway 204 near campus on Tuesday, February 6.

Active Minds Club President Paris Coleman, the Active Minds Club, ACE tutoring services and the SGA came together to plan a candlelight vigil to honor the memory of Tinker. Among those in attendance were his family, friends and professors.

Tinker, a chemistry student, planned to attend graduate school at Auburn University. He shared his knowledge with other students as a tutor with ACE.

Tinker was very intelligent and had a great knack for music and art. He was a talented drawer

See TINKER, page 2



Justin Tinker/Facebook

Justin Tinker in his one of his Facebook profile pictures. His most recent profile picture was this photo with a Gryffindor house filter.

## AOII brings Mardi Gras spirit to Jacksonville

Nick Adrian  
Staff Writer

A bit of New Orleans made its way to Jacksonville this past week as JSU celebrated Mardi Gras culminating with its first ever Mardi Gras parade on Saturday, February 10.

The event was hosted by Alpha Omicron Pi to raise money for their philanthropy, Arthritis Research.

Mardi Gras is a thousands-of-years-

old celebration that has roots in the Roman festivals of Saturnalia and Lupercalia. Today, it is celebrated on Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday and the start of the Christian season of Lent—the 40 days preceding Easter. Mardi Gras festivities have gained particular notoriety in America in the post cities of New Orleans and Mobile, but the holiday is celebrated worldwide,

including France, Germany, Spain, Italy, England, Canada and Denmark. In Brazil, it is known as Carnival, a weeklong festival of vibrant colors, elaborate costumes, dancing, eating, drinking and celebrating.

JSU's celebrations started early in the week on February 5, which included spreading word for the parade, encour-

See MARDI GRAS, page 2



Brianna Winkles/Facebook

Freshman Brianna Winkles (left), a sister of Alpha Omicron Pi smiles with Mardis Gras King 2018 Paul Hicks.

## Children's books for Black History Month

Rebekah Hawkins  
Special to the Chanticleer

Five books sat posed on the stage that sits in the Children's Corner of Houston Cole Library.

Every Tuesday is storytime in the Corner and librarian Laurie Heathcock says that although it's a new thing, she hopes it will take off soon.

"We just finished the Children's Corner not too long ago," Heathcock said. "It's a great chance for both the JSU students to read and the children who are read to."

JSU students can volunteer or be invited to read to the children each week. Heathcock says Cocky has made a visit with the cheerleaders and that the JSU soccer and softball teams are scheduled to make an appearance.

Sophomore Amari Pearson made her second visit to the Children's Corner for the special Black History Month reading.

"I got involved because I like kids," Pearson said. "Kids like to find people that they can look up to, and when people read to them they can learn."

Both Heathcock and Pearson took turns reading the four loose biographies and West African legend that made the book list for the week.

Heathcock says she has other special events scheduled for the children's corner including a bilingual storytime in March. She says there will be movies in Spanish and English as well as readings.

"Children have so much distraction with technology now," Heathcock said. "It's important for children to not just read but to be read to. It helps with vocabulary and social skills and imagination. Plus I learn a lot from the books too."

For Pearson it's about helping texpose children to different cultures and ideas.

"It's all part of history," she said. "What got us here, different cultures and people. It keeps up realizing where we

See LIBRARY, page 2

## No crap (game) here: JSU drama puts on "Guys and Dolls"

Katie Cline  
Editor-in-Chief

1930s New York City comes to Jacksonville with JSU Drama's production of "Guys and Dolls" February 23-25 and March 2-4. The musical follows Nathan Detroit, a gambler, as he tries to set up the biggest crap game in the city, much to the dissatisfaction of his fiancée of 14 years, Miss Adelaide. But with Sky Master-

son in town, Detroit may be able to scrape up the funds to run his game, if he can win a bet that Masterson can't take Sarah Brown, an uptight missionary on a date to Havana.

At the reins of this production is Assistant Professor of Drama Carrie Colton, who's excited to be taking on a classic musical of this caliber.

"For the most part, we are keeping it very traditional," Colton said. "'Guys and Dolls' is one of the most famous musicals of all

time for a reason. And if it ain't broke don't fix it."

Eric Wilkerson, a junior drama major who plays Detroit, has enjoyed being able to find himself in the character.

"The most fun, I have to say, is the sense of satisfaction whenever each of us are able to bring something unique to our characters," Wilkerson said. "Carrie

See GUYS AND DOLLS, page 4

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



**MARDI GRAS from page 1**

encouraging people to attend and giving out traditional favors like beads and MoonPies.

“Planning this event was a blast,” AOOI Philanthropy Chairman Hannah Blue said. “I got to meet so many people and network with my peers and people in my community.”

Rain may have put a damper on the parade route, but it couldn’t dampen the spirits of those in attendance.

The inaugural Mardi Gras parade began at

3 p.m. on Saturday, starting off at Bibb Graves Hall, traveling around Trustee Circle and concluding at the Alumni House. Miss JSU 2018 Lauren Reaves and Homecoming King and Queen 2017 Paris Coleman and Shea O’Donnell all braved the dreary weather to participate. There was also a Mardi Gras float and plenty of beads, candy and even more MoonPies.

When the parade was finished, the

celebration continued with a red beans and rice dinner, raffles, prizes and a live jazz concert by members of the JSU Jazz program.

Students Bobbie Ann Oliver and Paul Hicks were crowned as JSU’s first ever Mardi Gras queen and king.

The event ultimately wound up raising over \$9,000 for Arthritis Research, leading to an incredibly successful Mardi Gras celebration that will surely become an annual favorite on campus.



Megan Harvey/Facebook

**Rain couldn’t keep the sisters of AOOI from having fun at the Mardi Gras themed photo booth at JSU’s inaugural Mardi Gras parade on Saturday, February 10.**

**TINKER from page 1**

and was able to pick up any instrument and be able to play it within minutes. To know him was to love him, family and friends said. He was very kind-hearted and generous to anyone he met, and had a great love for all animals.

“At JSU we are more than just college students, we are a community and we are a family,” said SGA Vice President of Student Activities Kasey Gamble. “JSU is a super close-knit school, and it is important for us to acknowledge when we lose a member of our family and help one another in any way we can.”

Among those who spoke at the candlelight vigil held for Tinker

were: Active Minds Club President and 2017 Homecoming King Paris Coleman; Dr. Donna Perygin, Tinker’s research advisor; Quinton Thornton, personal friend and science education major; Dr. Laura Weinkauff, Tinker’s physics and astronomy professor; Dr. Nixon Mwebi, Tinker’s chemistry professor; Bro. Joey Hanner, Pastor at Union 3 Baptist Church of Gadsden, and Tinker’s younger brother Tristan.

Those that spoke had nothing but kind words to say about Tinker. He was beloved and respected by those who knew him. Those that shared their memories of Tinker at the vigil portrayed him as an

incredibly intelligent, hard-working, humble and resilient young man who showed great love and kindness to those he came into contact with every day.

It is often difficult to understand the loss of someone so young and with such potential. Students seeking help during this time may call (256) 782-5475 to schedule a free important with the JSU Counseling Services.

Tinker was scheduled to graduate this spring, and his diploma will be presented to his family at the spring ceremony.

Those in attendance asked Justin Tinker and his family be kept in the thoughts and prayers of the JSU community.



Tabitha Angela Rinault/Facebook

**Justin Tinker (left) poses with other members of the Gaston High School marching band in August 2012. Tinker marched saxophone before graduating from Gaston in 2013.**

**LIBRARY from page 1**



Rebekah Hawkins/The Chanticleer

**JSU sophomore Amari Pearson (left) and librarian Laurie Heathcock (right) show off a selection of children’s books from a special Black History Month storytime at the Children’s Corner on February 13.**

are all here.”

Find all the stories at the Black History Month storytime below:

*Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves Deputy US Marshal* by Vaunda Nelson

This biography tells the true story of Bass Reeves a former slave who became a deputy US Marshal and remained one for 32 years.

*Ananse and the Lizard* by Pat Cummings

A West African legend about a spider named Ananse who seeks to become chief by learning the name of the chief’s daughter in order to marry her. When he accidentally discovers the name, he shares it with a lizard only to be betrayed.

*Martin’s Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport

A biography of Martin Luther King Jr. and the words that he used from when he was young to when he became a minister and changed the world for the people that followed him.

*Jimi Sounds Like a Rainbow* by Gary Golio

A loose biography of musician Jimi Hendrix as he grew up in the boarding house drawing and learning how to play music.

*Barack Obama: Son of Promise Child of Hope* by Nikki Grimes

Young David sees a video of Barack Obama and asks his mother who he is. His mother spins a tale of the life of Barack Obama from his beginnings in Hawaii as Barry to his presidency in the present.

**JSU Unity Meeting: #HereToo Panel**

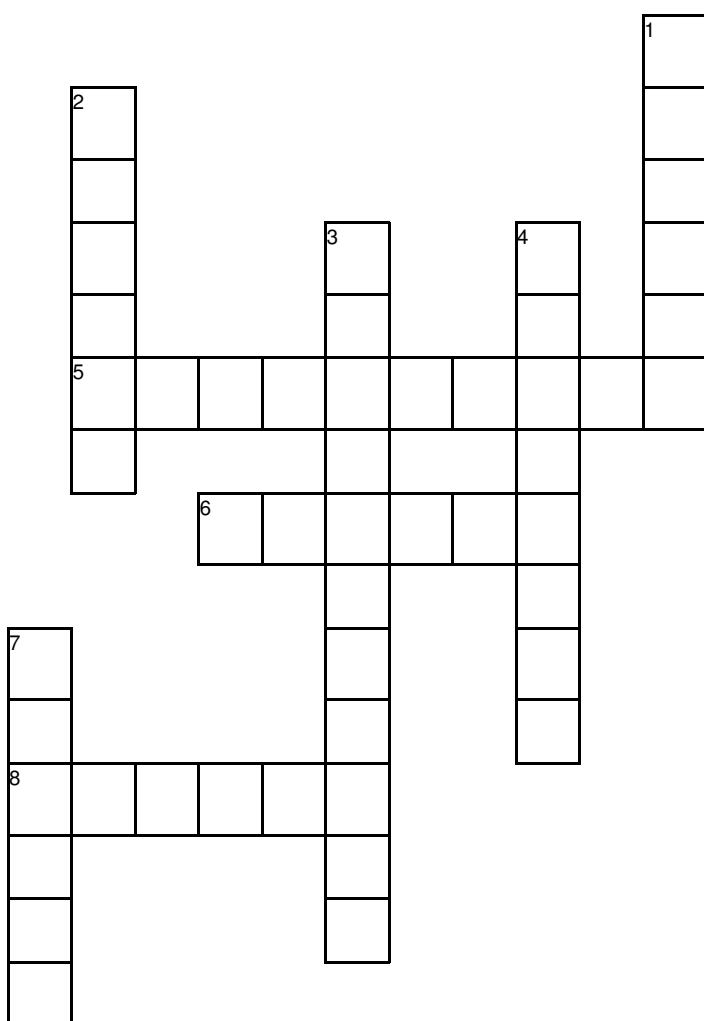
**Come out to the second annual Unity Meeting from 7-8:30 p.m. on Feb. 21 in Self Hall Room 236 to listen and ask questions about sexual harassment and the perception of women in the media. Guest speakers include Veronica Kennedy and Eddie Burkhalter, formally of The Anniston Star and Trace Fleming, a sexual abuse and domestic violence advocate.**



# Study Break

## Campus Crossword! Winter Olympic Edition

### Winter Olympics 2018

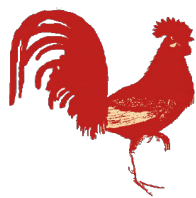


**Across**

- 5. This American is the only person to ever win gold medals at both the Winter and Summer Olympics
- 6. This U.S. city was awarded then rejected the 1976 Winter Olympics
- 8. This country was banned from participating due to a lengthy doping investigation

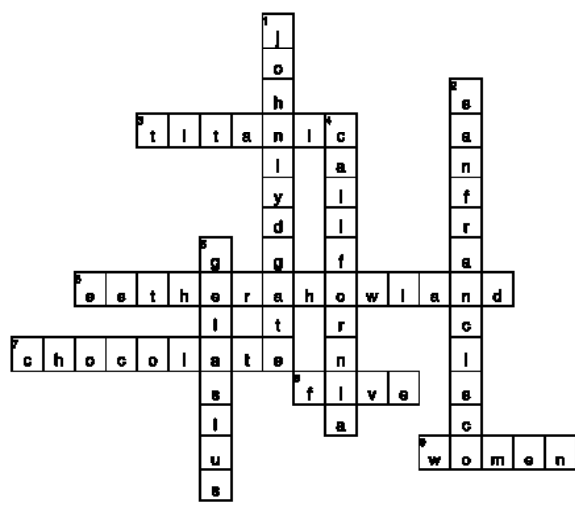
**Down**

- 1. This country is the only one to ever boycott a Winter Olympics
- 2. This sport did not break from its regular season to allow athletes to participate in the Games
- 3. This South Korea city plays host
- 4. This country is represented for the first time at the Winter Olympics
- 7. This country has captured more gold medals than any other country



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

**Valentine's Day**



- Across**
- 3. The all-time highest grossing romantic movie
  - 6. This guy began selling mass-produced valentines in America in the 1840s
  - 7. 94 percent of Americans want this as a gift
  - 8. Besides the United States, how many countries celebrate Valentine's Day
  - 9. This gender purchases nearly 85 percent of all valentines

- Down**
- 1. A writer hired by King Henry V to compose a valentine note to Catherine of Valois
  - 2. This is the "best" city to celebrate Valentine's Day
  - 4. This state has the top two "best" cities to celebrate the holiday
  - 5. This Pope declared February 14th as Valentine's Day

**Last Week's Solution!**

**Chris' Random Fact:  
Boston Celtics  
have won the most  
championships in NBA  
history with 17. Lakers  
are second with 16**

# THIS MAYES IS CORNY!



... Puns from the collection of:  
**Sports Editor Daniel Mayes #shootpunsnotguns**

I'M GLAD IT'S CALLED A WALLET, BECAUSE IF IT WAS A CEILING-ET YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO REACH IT.

THE MEDICINE TO CURE THE URGE TO STEAL THINGS IS CALLED KLEPTO-BISMOL

A FEMALE DONKEY MAKES THE SOUND "SHE-HAW"

I WISH I COULD GET RID OF THIS MASSIVE WALL OF DEBT—BUT I CAN'T BUDGE-IT

MY GIRLFRIEND LIKES TO BAKE, SO I GOT HER FLOURS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

GUYS AND DOLLS CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

gives us a lot of room to explore letting us add our own subtle quirks here and there. This has allowed me to really have a sense of ownership to my interpretation of Nathan.”

And Colton is thrilled with how the show is coming along.

“The cast is amazing!” Colton said. “Several of my actors are working with me for the very first time, and I have so enjoyed all of them. These are some great kids, and, watch out, they’re going to Broadway!”

Colton started at JSU in 2016, and the job has been her first foray into academic theater. Prior to teaching, Colton studied theatre at Southern Utah University and Florida State University and worked professionally.

“I am new to academic theater,” Colton said. “I am used to working Summer Stock Productions and with professional actors, so it took a little bit for me to get used to working with student actors and a whole new design team. It’s been a challenge but a wonderfully positive one.”

Putting on a musical requires hard work from everyone involved. The 35-man cast needs to be fitted in costumes—many of which have to be made—and the entire company needs dance and vocal training on top of the usual dialogue and movement work.

“The most challenging part of ‘Guys and Dolls,’ for me at least, has been balancing the acting aspect alongside the musical aspect,” Wilkerson said. “This is such a different show compared to a drama like [last semester’s production of] ‘An Enemy of the People’ that it requires a completely different mindset to make sure that each of these aspects are given proper time

and dedication in and out of the rehearsal hall.”

But Colton believes all the cast and crew’s hard work will pay off come curtain time.

“I guarantee this is going to be one of the funnest shows you’ve ever seen!” Colton said. “There are so many laughs, so many wonderful musical numbers, and it is a beautiful way to escape whatever nasty reality you’re living in. For two hours, I can guarantee you will have a good time and forget whatever is happening outside of that theater.”

“There’s nothing quite like seeing a live performance,” Wilkerson added. “You get to be taken on a journey through a show full of people that have spent months practicing and polishing to make something truly great for the audience to experience.

In a live performance, you really get a sense of interaction with the show itself. Your reactions fuel the actors, letting them play off the audience as well as their scene partners.”

The musical “Guys and Dolls” is based on two short stories by Runyon also stars Brianna Garrett as Miss Adelaide, Brandon Clark as Sky Masterson, Dominique Cheney as Sarah Brown, Gavin Haynes and Philip Frazier as Detroit’s gambling friends Nicely-Nicely Johnson and Benny Southstreet and Aaron Williams as the by-the-books police officer Lieutenant Branningan.

Tickets for JSU’s production can be purchased online or in the box office. Performance times are 7:30 p.m. February 23-24 and March 2-3 and 2:30 p.m. February 25 and March 4.



Above: Students work in a set for “Guys and Dolls.”

Below: The poster for “Guys and Dolls.” Shows will be presented February 23, 24 25 and March 2, 3 and 4. Both photos are taken from the JSU Drama Department Facebook.

 A poster for the musical "Guys and Dolls". The title "GUYS AND Dolls" is written in a stylized, glowing red font. "GUYS AND" is in a blocky, outlined font, while "Dolls" is in a cursive script. There are two glowing red dice, one above "AND" and one below "GUYS". The background is dark blue with a starry pattern. At the bottom, there is text about the drama department, performance dates, and ticket information.
 

**DRAMA**  
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 23RD-24TH @ 7:30  
FEBRUARY 25TH @ 2:30

MARCH 2ND-3RD @ 7:30  
MARCH 4TH @ 2:30

MUSIC/LYRICS BY FRANK LOESSER  
BOOK BY JO SWERLING & ABE BURROWS

FOR TICKETS AND INFO, CALL 256-782-5648  
OR VISIT WWW.JSU.EDU/DRAMA

ERNEST STONE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
11TH ST. NE. JACKSONVILLE, AL 36265

## Spring musicale brings Disney to Mason

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

The sisters of Sigma Alpha Iota took audience members to “A Whole New World” as part of their musicale on February 6. Twelve members graced the stage in the Mason Hall Performance Center to perform selections from the classic Disney movies “Hercules,” “Rapunzel,” “A Little Mermaid” and “101 Dalmatians.”

Deandrea Stowe started the evening with a dance and flag routine to “Go the Distance” from “Hercules.” Stowe is a upcoming 6 year member of the Marching Southerners color guard.

Following Stowe, Megan Allen and Katie Urquhart

performed the duet “I See the Light” from “Rapunzel” on flugel horn and trumpet.

Lindsey Chavers serenaded the audience with a piano rendition of “Part of Your World” from “The Little Mermaid.”

The final act featured a group performance of “Cruella De Vil” from “101 Dalmatians” by Aubrey Beall, Rebekah Belton, Sarah Brown, Lydia Clarke, Anna Cline, Autumn Drew, Annie Kelley and Jennie Tanner.

Clarke belted the tune in a Cruella-inspired white faux fur coat while the group accompanied her: Tanner on piano, Drew on drum set, Cline on trombone, Beall on trumpet, Brown on clarinet

and Kelley and Belton on saxophone. Cline, Brown and Kelley each had a solo throughout the performance.

The recital concluded with all past and present sisters in attendance coming together to sing the Sigma Alpha Iota chorale.

Sigma Alpha Iota is an all-female music sorority. JSU’s Theta Beta chapter, which has been on campus since 1993, currently has over 40 members.

Each semester, Sigma Alpha Iota accepts new members. Theta Beta currently has ten prospective members, known as members-in-training or MITs. The members-in-training spend time learning about Sigma Alpha Iota’s national

history, Theta Beta’s chapter history and what each woman hopes to accomplish through the sorority. The members-in-training are also given time to get to know the other

members. At the end of the process, each new member is surprised by her “big sister” and inducted into the chapter.

For more information on

JSU’s Theta Beta chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, contact chapter president Haley Stansky at hstansky@stu.jsu.edu.



Jennie Tanner

L to R: Anna Cline, Autumn Drew, Aubrey Beall, Jennie Tanner, Lydia Clarke, Sarah Brown, Rebekah Belton and Annie Kelley after their performance of “Cruella De Vil.”



# COAST-TO-COAST



WSVN

Students and police gather in the intersection outside of Stoneman Douglas High School.

## Shooting reported at Florida high school; 20 people reported injured

Christal Hayes  
USA TODAY

Several people are reportedly injured after a shooting in a south Florida high school Wednesday and the suspect is still at large, police said.

The shooting happened about 2 p.m. at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., which is about 30 miles northwest of Fort Lauderdale, according to the Coral Springs Police Department. The Broward County Sheriff's Office said they are also responding to the high school and injuries have been reported.

The school district released a statement explaining the shooting happened closed to dismissal time. When students heard what sounded like gunfire, the school was placed on lockdown.

Students ran single file from the school with their hands in the air. Each student threw their backpack in a large pile and huddled under trees across the street from the high school.

Police believe they know who the gunman is and have described him as a stu-

dent and member of the JROTC program. Authorities have said he was wearing a hoodie and has red hair.

Worried parents crowded around the the school, some asking television crews what they should do to get information on their child.

The White House released a statement as details of the shooting were still being released.

"The President has been made aware of the school shooting in Florida," Deputy Press Secretary Lindsay Walters said. "We are monitoring the situation. Our thoughts and prayers are with those affected."

The incident comes just weeks after a shooting at a rural Kentucky high school. In that incident, a 15-year-old faces two counts of murder and 12 counts of first-degree assault after police said he killed two and wounded more than a dozen others in a shooting spree at Marshall County High School in Benton.

The Kentucky shooting followed two others at or near a U.S. school in January.

 **Broward Sheriff**   
@browardsheriff

Avoid the area of Stoneman Douglas HS. #BSO is currently working a developing incident regarding a report of active shooter.

1:56 PM - Feb 14, 2018

 137  382 people are talking about this

Twitter

A screen shot of a tweet sent by the Broward Sheriff warning others to stay clear from the area around Stoneman Douglas High school in Fla.

## Texas man executed for killing his daughters while mom was on the phone

Nicole Chavez and Keith Allen  
CNN

A man who was convicted of killing his two daughters while his wife listened on the phone was executed Thursday night in Texas, the state's Department of Criminal Justice said.

John David Battaglia, 62, died of lethal injection, CNN affiliate KDAF reported.

In 2001, Battaglia and his daughters -- ages 6 and 9 -- were in his Dallas apartment when he shot them, officials said.

The girls' mother was on the phone with the 9-year-old when she heard the gunshots, said Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokesman Jason Clark.

"She heard the girl

screaming no daddy no, and then she heard several gun shots," an investigator told KDAF at the time of the incident.

On Thursday, Battaglia was given a last opportunity to speak before the execution but he refused to say a statement, instead, he addressed the children's mother, according to TDCJ.

"No, Well, Hi Mary Jean. I'll see y'all later. Bye," he said. "Go ahead please."

He was pronounced deceased at 9:40 p.m. (local time).

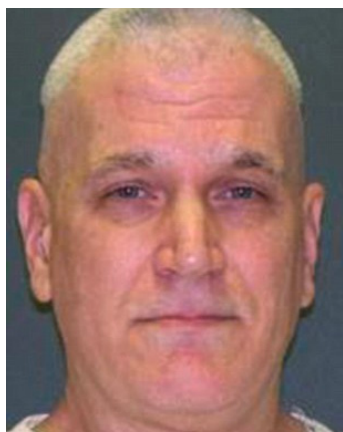
Battaglia's attorneys made several legal attempts to halt the execution throughout the years.

They argued that Battaglia was mentally ill and also accused the state of using expired drugs for the lethal injection, the

Dallas Morning News reported.

Battaglia's execution was the third one in Texas this year, officials said.

He was the second man put to death in the state this week. Convicted killer William Rayford was executed Tuesday.



Daily Mail

John David Battaglia, pictured above, was executed in Texas for the murder of his two daughters in 2001.

## Shaun White dismisses sexual harassment allegations as 'gossip'

He later admitted that "it was a poor choice of words."

Ron Dicker  
Huffington Post

Snowboarder Shaun White responded on Wednesday to sexual harassment allegations that resurfaced this week ahead of his winning performance in the halfpipe event at the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

During a press conference held shortly after the snowboarder won his third career gold medal, White was asked about the allegations, which were first made public in a 2016 lawsuit. In court filings obtained by Deadspin at the time, White's former bandmate, Lena Zawaideh, accused him of having "repeatedly sexually harassed her and forced his authoritarian management style on her for over seven years." The suit was reportedly settled privately last year.

"I'm here to talk about the Olympics, not, you know, gossip," White told reporters on Wednesday of the accusations.

Asked whether he thought the controversy would tarnish his legacy, the 31-year-old said: "I don't think so. I am who I am and proud of who I am. And my friends love me and vouch for me and I think that stands on its own."

Later on Wednesday, White apologized for using the word "gossip," telling NBC's "Today" show that "it was a poor choice of words to describe such a sensitive subject in the world today."

U.S. Snowboarding and Freeskiing event director Nick Alexakos eventually cut off the journalists, telling them the interview should focus on the competition.

White had previously admitted to sending sexually explicit texts to Zawaideh, but denied her other allegations.

"Many years ago, I exchanged texts with a friend who is now using them to craft a bogus lawsuit," he told TMZ in 2016.

According to the lawsuit, White "sent sexually explicit and graphic images to Zawaideh of engorged and erect penises, forced her to watch sexually disturbing videos, including videos sexualizing human fecal matter, and made vulgar sexual remarks to her such as, 'Don't forget to suck his balls!' when commenting on her boyfriend."

She also accused him of grabbing her behind, making an unwanted move to kiss her and touching his penis inside his pants, then trying to make her smell his hands afterward. The suit grew from her original claim that he withheld payment when he fired her.



KRQE.com

Shaun White, pictured above, after his successful qualifying run.



# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Celtics need Hayward now more than ever

Chris Allen Brown  
Associate Editor

Gordon Hayward's 2017-18 stat line reads: .500 field goal percentage, 1.0 rebound and 2.0 points per game. That doesn't include the 0's in the 3-point and free throw percentages, assists, blocks and steals per game columns.

Hayward, who signed a four-year, \$128 million contract with the Boston Celtics on July 14, 2017, fractured the tibia and dislocated the ankle in his left leg five minutes into his team debut against the Cleveland Cavaliers on Oct. 17. Soon after, the team announced the 27-year-old small forward would miss the remainder of the season.

Boston went on to lose to the Cavs 102-99 and then 108-100

to the Milwaukee Bucks the next night. However, the Celtics responded with a 16-game winning streak from Oct. 20 to Nov. 20 as Hayward began his recovery progress.

Despite sitting atop the Eastern Conference standings for much of the season, the Toronto Raptors recently claimed the top spot when Boston lost to the Indiana Pacers 97-91 on Feb. 9. But the more concerning thing, besides losing eight of their last 14 games, is how the Celtics aren't doing much to improve themselves.

As the Cavs, which many people automatically wrote into the NBA Finals at the beginning of the season, made moves to acquire Rodney Hood (Utah Jazz),

George Hill (Sacramento Kings), Jordan Clarkson and Larry Nance, Jr. (Los Angeles Lakers) to better their roster before the 2018 NBA trade deadline on Feb. 8.

What has Boston done? Signed 27-year-old Greg Monroe to a one-year contract.

Outside of a handful of "assigned" and "recalled" with their G-League affiliate Maine Red Claws, the Celtics have made no significant transaction since Hayward's injury to combat what other teams around the Eastern Conference have done.

"What do we need? A versatile 6'8" defender who can switch one through four, handle the ball, create offense for others and make

shots. That's what we need. That's Gordon Hayward," Boston Celtic president of basketball operations Danny Ainge is quoted as saying in a recent Sports Illustrated article.

Hayward uses blog posts to keep everyone updated on his rehab process. Attached to a post on Jan. 29, his latest entry, is a 30-second video of Hayward taking a few shots on the basketball court prior to the Celtics' game against the Los Angeles Clippers, which Boston won 113-102, on Jan. 24.

"On a basketball court, I'm still limited to doing things where I'm basically standing still and then taking maybe one step. Everything is flat-footed," Hayward said in the post.

"So I can do a dribble pull-up, and though I don't jump in the air, I still do the dribble and the step. On the finishes around the rim, I can do a step and finish, but staying on the ground."

A. Sherron Blakely, who covers the Celtics for NBC Sports Boston, tweeted prior to the Celtics' 121-99 loss to the Cavs Sunday afternoon, that he briefly spoke to Hayward. Blakely states the Hayward said he plans to start traveling with the team next month.

Next month includes Hayward's birthday (March 23) and then a return to Utah, where Hayward was drafted 9th overall in the 2010 NBA Draft and spent the 2010-2017 seasons before signing with the Celtics, on

March 28.

Following the game against the Jazz, the Celtics will have seven games remaining during the regular season, including two against Toronto and one at the Washington Wizards, both of which should be in the mix atop the conference standings.

Maybe Hayward remains out for the season, like the team stated, but having a player who has known Celtics head coach Brad Stevens and his coaching methods for 10 years back on road trips during the regular season's final month will be critical if Boston wants to reach heights fans imagined when Hayward announced his signing before the season.

## Don't overlook what Pietri and the Gamecocks are doing this season

Chris Allen Brown  
Associate Editor

Jacksonville State women's basketball team's last-second 62-61 win over Tennessee State Saturday afternoon got me thinking — the Gamecocks are quietly having a remarkable season.

Yes, Rick Pietri's squad dropped back-to-back games against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville then Tennessee Tech, but the win against the Tigers over the weekend will all but send the Gamecocks to Evansville, Indiana for the Ohio Valley Conference tournament for the third time under Pietri and the first since 2014.

Early in the season, Jacksonville State held a first-quarter lead against nationally-ranked Florida State, and, despite scoring woes during the third quarter, the Gamecocks bounced back in the fourth to show their fight. JSU also has notable non-conference wins against Rhode Island, Eastern Carolina and New Orleans. It had a chance against Miami (Ohio) University, but a late fourth-

quarter rally came up short.

In conference play, wins over Eastern Kentucky, Morehead State and Tennessee State had Jacksonville State sitting atop the OVC standings at the turn of the calendar. The Gamecocks responded from a 16-point loss at Belmont with wins over Murray State, Austin Peay and Morehead State. JSU dropped the next two by a combined eight points, before knocking off Southeast Missouri State and Eastern Illinois, which lead into the losses against SIUE and TTU.

Four games remain on the regular-season schedule, including road games at Murray State, Austin Peay and Tennessee Tech. The lone remaining game inside Pete Mathews Coliseum for Pietri and his players is about Belmont, which this week broke into the AP Top 25 for the first time in school history.

The thing with this team, as Pietri has noted before, is everyone is in it together. Everyone isn't

playing for themselves, but rather the name on the front of the jerseys.

You won't find any player winning OVC Player of the Week, because everyone would rather help a teammate score rather than score themselves. For example, on a 2-on-1 breakaway fast break against TSU last weekend, freshman Taylor Hawks and senior Tasha Magruder passed the ball between them-

selves twice to make sure one had the great shot rather than a good shot.

11 players have seen game action in 17-or-more games. Of those players, every player has double-digit assists with Hawks leading the way with 74. Magruder (44), Leah Strain (37) and Rayven Pearson (32) are next on the list.

Speaking of Pearson, if she isn't on a postseason All-OVC team, it'll be a shame.

The junior forward from Hazel Green, Ala., is averaging 9.1 rebounds, 8.6 points, 1.3 assists, 1.3 blocks and 0.8 steals in 22.2 minutes per game. She also has seven points and rebounds double-doubles on the season.

The same can be said for Hawks and her 8.3 points, 2.9 assists, 2.4 rebounds, 0.8 steal stat line in 20.1 minutes per game as a true freshman.

However, besides

the assist totals and the defensive stops, maybe the most impressive stat is how Jacksonville State is 10-3 in home games this season.

Each coach will always say they want to make every home game as tough as possible, but it's all talk until the players back it up. And right now, despite only having one home game left this season, Pietri's players have backed up the talk.



Matt Reynolds/JSU

JSU's Taylor Hawks (0) looks to make a pass against two Murray State defenders.



# SPORTS

## JSU Sports Upcoming Events

**2/15**

Women's Basketball  
vs. Murray State\*  
5:00 p.m.  
Murray, KY.

Men's Basketball  
vs. Murray State\*  
7:00 p.m.  
Murray, KY.

**2/16**

Softball  
Madeira Beach Invitational  
vs Georgia So., Abilene Christian  
3:00 p.m. , 5:00 p.m.  
Madeira Beach, Fla.

**Baseball**  
vs. Southern Illinois  
3:00 p.m.  
Oxford, AL

**2/17**

Men's and Women's Tennis  
vs. Alabama State  
11:00 a.m.  
Montgomery, AL

Women's Basketball  
vs. Austin Peay\*  
4:30 p.m.  
Clarksville, TN

Men's Basketball  
vs. Austin Peay\*  
7:00 p.m.  
Clarksville, TN

**Bold = Home contest**

\* = OVC contest

### OVC Men's Basketball

| School                    | OVC        | O/R         |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Murray State              | 12-2       | 20-5        |
| Belmont                   | 12-2       | 20-7        |
| Austin Peay               | 10-4       | 15-11       |
| <b>Jacksonville State</b> | <b>9-5</b> | <b>18-9</b> |
| Tennessee State           | 9-5        | 14-11       |
| Tennessee Tech            | 8-6        | 16-11       |
| Southeast Missouri        | 6-8        | 12-15       |
| Eastern Illinois          | 5-9        | 9-16        |
| UT Martin                 | 4-10       | 9-18        |
| SIUE                      | 4-10       | 8-17        |
| Eastern Kentucky          | 3-11       | 9-18        |
| Morehead State            | 2-12       | 6-19        |

### OVC Women's Basketball

| School                    | OVC        | O/R          |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Belmont                   | 14-0       | 24-3         |
| SIUE                      | 12-2       | 15-10        |
| UT Martin                 | 10-4       | 14-12        |
| Morehead State            | 9-5        | 18-9         |
| <b>Jacksonville State</b> | <b>9-5</b> | <b>15-10</b> |
| Austin Peay               | 7-7        | 14-11        |
| Southeast Missouri        | 6-8        | 11-15        |
| Murray State              | 5-9        | 9-16         |
| Eastern Kentucky          | 5-9        | 8-15         |
| Tennessee Tech            | 3-11       | 6-19         |
| Tennessee State           | 3-11       | 5-18         |
| Eastern Illinois          | 1-13       | 2-23         |

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

## Gamecocks come back on Senior Day

Long's free throw pushes Jacksonville State over Tigers with :02 left

**Grant Benefield**  
Staff Sports Writer

After trailing the entire second half, the Gamecocks rallied in the fourth quarter to take the lead with just 0:02 remaining and defeat OVC opponent Tennessee State.

The wild finish to Saturday's game at Pete Mathews Coliseum came when freshman guard Taylor Hawks scored an and-1 layup that brought the Gamecocks (15-10, 9-5) within 1. Hawks would convert the ensuing free throw, tying the score at 61 with 0:15 remaining.

Sophomore guard Morgan Towells then made a great hustle play to steal the Tigers' (5-18, 3-11) inbound pass and give the Gamecocks the opportunity they needed. With 0:02 left to play, Chloe Long would be fouled and given the chance to give her team their first lead since



Steve Latham/JSU

**Chloe Long netted a free throw with just 2 seconds remaining to lift the Gamecocks over Tennessee State**

early in the second quarter.

Long hit 1-of-2 free throw attempts to give the Gamecocks the 62-61 lead, and that would be all they needed, as Tennessee State would not be able to take a shot on

their final possession.

Senior forward Tyler Phelion had a phenomenal day for the Gamecocks, scoring a career-high 17 points, as well as recording 7 rebounds, 3 assists, and 2 blocks.

Hawks and Rayven

Pearson each added 9 points, with Pearson also grabbing a game-leading 9 boards.

The Gamecocks' Saturday started well, with the home team leading 16-12 after the first quarter.

However, a lackluster second quarter led to the Tigers outscoring the Gamecocks 26-9, giving the visitors the 38-25 lead at the half.

The Gamecocks chipped away at the Tigers' lead in the third quarter and brought the score to within 10 to start the fourth, before the Gamecock rally led to their ninth conference win of the season. This is just the fifth time the Gamecocks have reached that mark since joining the OVC.

The Gamecocks will look to further improve that record on a 2-game road trip next week, where JSU will take on Murray State on Thursday at 5:00 and Austin Peay on Saturday at 4:30.

## JSU Track sets program records at Samford

**BIRMINGHAM** – As the Jacksonville State track and field team moves close to the indoor championships, the Gamecocks took down a couple of program records during the second Samford Open meet of the spring.

Senior Laura Craig cleared an indoor career best height of 10-foot-11 3/4 inches on her way to third in the pole vault competition. It matched the height reached by teammate Samantha Patterson on

Thursday during the Georgia Super Meet in Emerson, Ga., where Patterson took first place in the platinum division.

Courtney Bennett took silver in the shot put with a distance of 14.38 meters. The Hinesville, Ga., native just missed out on the podium in the weight throw, but still set a new indoor school record with a toss of 18.24 meters. The distance just edged Bennett's own mark from last year's OVC cham-

pionship meet.

The Gamecocks placed two in the top five of the high jump with junior Erica Edwards in second followed by Briana Caudle in fourth. In one of the larger events, Brittany Cook brought home a top 10 finishing ninth in the long jump in a field of 37 competitors.

On the track, sophomore Emily Sorrell set a new personal best in the indoor mile run winning her heat with a time of 5:15.25. It

placed her fifth overall in the field of 24. She later posted a season-best 2:16.86 in the 800-Meter to also claim fifth.

Also in distance running, freshman Jasmin Ortega took seventh in the 1000-Meter crossing the line at 3:17.59.

JSU will turn its focus toward the OVC Indoor Championships on Feb. 23-24 in Charleston, Ill., on the campus of Eastern Illinois University.

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## Montenegro leads JSU Golf to win in Mobile

**MOBILE, Ala.** – Jacksonville State freshman Jesus Dario Montenegro moved up the individual leaderboard on Tuesday in the final round of the Mobile Sports Authority Intercollegiate with a final round 1-under par score of 71.

Montenegro, from Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina, finished just shy of the top-10 on the leaderboard, placing 12th. He entered the final round at the par 72 Magnolia Grove Crossings Golf Course in 17th place after recording rounds of 72

and 73 on Monday.

The Gamecocks finished seventh in the team standings with a three-round score of 884 (+20). Jax State opened the 54-hole event with a 297 and a 292. JSU wrapped up the event with a 295. Nationally-ranked Florida State won the 16-team event with a 30-under par score, 16 shots clear of host-South Alabama.

Junior Benedikt Thalmayr matched Montenegro's 18-hole score with a 1-under par round of 71. The Ouching, Germany native bounced back



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on Tuesday after an opening-round 74 and a 77 in the second round. He finished the event tied for 40th with JSU's Quim Vidal Mora.

Senior Daniel Pico rounded out JSU's

scorecard with a final round score of 74.

The Gamecocks return to competition on Feb. 19-20, taking part in the Atchafalaya Intercollegiate in Patterson, Louisiana.

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# Softball wins back-to-back in extras

Daniel Mayes  
Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State Softball team won two in a row on Saturday and Sunday to finish the River City Leadoff with a winning record.

The event, which was held in Jacksonville, Florida, was the first of the season for the Gamecocks, and the Gamecocks took three of five games against the field of Army West Point, Connecticut, and Jacksonville University.

The two wins came in dramatic fashion, with both taking extra innings.

Saturday's contest saw a walk-off winner on a sacrifice fly from Emily Woodruff, and on Sunday, the Gamecocks used a five-run sixth inning come back from a 5-2 deficit, eventually winning the game in extras.

On Saturday, the Gamecocks followed up a 7-4 loss to UCONN earlier in the day with a 4-3 walk-off win over Army to earn a split on the day.

The Gamecocks earned an early lead thanks to a home run from freshman outfielder Jada Terry, the first of her young Gamecock career. Terry then reached base on her next at-bat, scoring again after an error to put JSU up 2-0



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**Taylor Beshears had a strong start to her career in a JSU uniform, earning an OVC Player of the Week nod in the process.**

in the third.

Army was able to tie the contest back up in top of the fifth before the Gamecocks seized back a 3-2 advantage in the bottom on a Hayley Sims RBI single that brought home Taylor Beshears.

Beshears had a sterling debut to her first season in a Gamecock uniform. The junior transfer from Wallace State tallied 10 hits on a .526 batting average, enough to earn her the title of OVC Player of the Week.

Army knotted the game up once again on an errant Faith Sims pitch that reached the backstop that allowed Kristen McPeck to steal home for the tying

run.

JSU kept the Black Knights off the board in the top of the eighth, then Anna Chisolm reached third on a bunt from Amber Jones.

Woodruff's sacrifice fly then brought Chisolm home and won the game.

On Sunday, both Jacksonville and Jacksonville State started off the first inning strong, with the Dolphins coming out of it with a 3-2 lead.

Jacksonville added two more in the fifth to increase their lead to 5-2.

The scoring remained quiet until the sixth, where the Gamecocks caught fire.

JSU tallied five runs in

the top of the sixth, thanks to RBIs from Sims, Jones, Beshears, and Lexi Hull, which gave the Gamecocks a 7-5 lead.

The Dolphins scored two once again in the sixth to tie the game up, eventually forcing extra innings.

A Beshears double in the top of the eighth brought home Woodruff, then JSU held the Dolphins scoreless in the bottom to take home the win and a winning overall record in the River City Leadoff event at 3-2.

The Gamecocks return to Florida for the Emu Madeira Beach Spring Invitational on beginning Feb. 16.



Matt Reynolds/JSU

**JSU Softball won its last two to salvage a winning record in their season-opening competition in Jacksonville, Florida.**

## Drumwright sets record as Gamecocks fall to Tigers

JACKSONVILLE – Senior Malcolm Drumwright posted 19 points and recorded a record-breaking start against Tennessee State on Saturday, but was not enough to overcome the hot-shooting Tigers, falling 65-47 at Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Drumwright was 6-for-8 from the floor and 4-for-6 from long range to lead JSU scorers, and became the program's all-time, Division I starts leader with his 95th nod tonight. He surpassed former Gamecock Brian Williams (2010-14) who held the previous record with 94.

Aside from Drumwright's 19 points, the Gamecock offense was held to its second-lowest shooting percentage of the season. JSU (18-9, 9-5 OVC) shot 34% (16-for-47) and totaled less than 30 points in each half. Junior Christian Cunningham bucketed the second-most points with eight, while fellow junior Jason



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Burnell had seven.

"Tennessee State did a great job," head coach Ray Harper said. "They cut hard and defended us really well. But at some point you have to finish some plays, and we didn't do it tonight."

The Tigers (14-11, 9-5 OVC) outscored the Gamecocks 22-18 in the paint and had three score in double digits. Ken'Darrius Ham-

ilton and Delano Spencer each tallied 15 points, while Kamar McKnight pitched in 11. TSU shot an even 50% and was 6-for-17 from 3-point range.

Jacksonville State jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead on a Drumwright 3-pointer to begin the game, and held an advantage for 2:25, but the lead diminished at the 15:38 mark when TSU's Hamil-

ton hit the first of his four 3-pointer to tie the game at 5-5. From that point on, Jacksonville State would only come within one point of seeing it tied a second time.

The loss dropped the Gamecocks to a 9-5 league record, putting them in a tie with the Tigers for fourth place in the OVC.

The Gamecocks are on



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## Portais earns first hole-in-one, victory

ESTERO, Fla. – Freshman Maximo Portais claimed his first collegiate hole-in-one and medalist honors at the Randy Grimes Memorial Shootout on Sunday, his first career win.

The native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, opened play in the 36-hole event with a 1-under 71 and then held off the field with an afternoon 74 that helped him claim a one-shot victory over Grant Renegar of host Florida Gulf Coast.

Portais' individual win led the Gamecocks to a second-place finish in the five-team shootout at the par-72, 6,697-yard Old Corkscrew Golf Club. JSU carded rounds of 308 and 299 to shoot a 36-hole 607 and finish just five shots behind FGCU.

Portais made the shot of the tournament in the morning round when he aced the 166-yard 12th hole. The hole-in-one set the stage for his win, turning his 1-over score at the time and led to his 1-under par round. That 71 kick started his 36-hole 145 that edged Renegar's 146 in the 27-player field.

Sophomore Patricio Freundt-Thurne finished tied for eighth for the Gamecocks, rallying with an afternoon 71 after opening the day with an 82. His 153 total featured five afternoon birdies after none in the morning round.

Freshman Juan Pablo Francavilla was one shot behind Freundt-Thurne and tied for 11th after a 154 over the day. He opened with a 75 and then shot 79 to close play. Sophomore Thomas Burchmann tied for 13th after a 155 that was set by rounds of 80 and 75, while sophomore Max Basler's 162 finished 22nd.

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the road for their next two OVC matchups, taking on Murray State on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. in Murray, Ky., followed by a 7 p.m. contest against Austin Peay on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. in Clarksville, Tenn. Both games are set to stream on the OVC Digital Network.

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