



## inTHE NEWS

### International House Presentation: Nepal

Students from Nepal will present on their home country on Thursday, January 25 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the International House. Admission is free to all.

### Nursing White Coat Ceremony

Students who have been accepted into JSU's School of Nursing for the Spring 2018 semester will be honored at the White Coat Ceremony on Thursday, January, 25 at 4 p.m. in Leone Cole Auditorium.

### Cocky Guerilla Theater

Alpha Psi Omega presents its first Cocky Guerilla Theater of 2018. The theme is Sweater Weather, and guests are encouraged to wear their best or tackiest sweater. Tickets are \$3 and provide a night of fun games and talented performers. For more information, email [jsu.apo@gmail.com](mailto:jsu.apo@gmail.com).

### Student Symposium

Submissions for the 2018 Student Research Symposium are due February 1. Any student may participate. See the Facebook event for more information.



Alissa Camplin/The Chanticleer

**Students and community members hold posters at the Athletic Committee meeting on Jan. 22, 2018. Jessica Forbus (kneeling right) organized the protest.**

## UNIVERSITY UNDER FIRE

### Students protest at Athletics Committee meeting

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

A group of students stoically held posters at the back of the room during the Board of Trustees Athletics Committee meeting on Monday, January 22. The signs bore messages like “It’s on us” and “to be part of the solution,” “to be proactive” and “to stop sexual assault.” They were gathered to protest JSU’s decision to sign Landon Rice to the football team.

Rice was signed to play football at Auburn University in 2016 but left the program in September of that year. A Title IX investigation conducted by Auburn found Rice “responsible” for an alleged sexual assault incident in April

2016. At the time, Rice was banned from Auburn’s campus until 2024. He was not charged with a crime. Rice transferred to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College before being recruited by JSU, and, in September 2017, Auburn’s ban was lifted.

Jessica Forbus, a 2016 JSU graduate organized the protest on social media with help from the JSU College Democrats.

“The idea for this protest stemmed from a desire to voice our concerns with the recruitment of Landon Rice,” Forbus said. “We chose to address the Board of Trustees meeting because we felt that it was our best chance to get in front of the people who make these decisions on

campus.”

About 20 JSU students and community members took part in the protest, and a small group of students stood to the side in support of Rice. Following the committee meeting, the Board of Trustees gave one member from each side five minutes to address the Board.

Katelin Molan, a former student athletic trainer, took to the podium and alleged that she was sexually assaulted by a university student coach in August. Molan reported the assault, which occurred off-campus, to JSU’s acting Title IX director, Dr. Timothy King. The whole incident has tarnished her experience at JSU.

See PROTEST, page 8

## Lauren Reaves crowned Miss JSU 2018

**Grace Cockrell**  
*Staff Writer*

On January 12, ten beautiful, intelligent and classy women stepped onto the stage in Leone Cole Auditorium and gave it their all in the hopes of being crowned Miss Jacksonville State University 2018.

One contestant, Lauren Reaves, impressed the judges the most, not just in one category, but overall. Reaves won the talent portion of the pageant and was ultimately named Miss JSU 2018, following her predecessor, Camden Swatts.

The psychology major is very excited about her upcoming journey, but the road to her title required hard work.



Matt Reynolds/JSU

**Miss JSU 2018 Lauren Reaves (center left) and Miss JSU 2017 Camden Swatts (center right) are pictured with the other contestants at the annual Miss JSU pageant held Friday, January 12. Reaves will go on to represent JSU at the Miss Alabama pageant June 6-9 for a chance to compete at the national Miss America pageant that is typically held in September.**

Reaves philanthropy platform is Autism Speaks, a national advocacy organization that sponsors research and outreach for those affected by autism and education opportunities for communities,

families and government entities.

“I plan to get my Master’s degree in Behavioral Analysis, so I can forever work with children that are on the Autism Spectrum,” Reaves told JSU. “My

heart absolutely melts for people with Autism, which is why I love volunteering my time with my platform.”

Reaves’s winning talent performance was a Micheal Jackson rendition on flute. She

describes winning the talent category as “so exciting and rewarding.” As a flute player since seventh grade, her work from the past years amounted to something magnificent.

“Winning the whole

See MISS JSU, page 2



# Storytime success at Children’s Corner

**Brannon Cahela**  
*Staff Writer*

Tuesday, January 23 marked the first ever Children’s Corner story time on the fifth floor of the Houston Cole Library. A group of children and parents listened, laughed and clapped along as JSU’s cheerleaders read them titles selected by fifth floor librarian Mrs. Laurie Heathcock. Houston Cole’s Children’s Corner was opened in October 2017. Formerly inhabited by old reference books and shelves, Heathcock decided the space would better be used as a fun area where children could come to read and relax. The first guest readers at Houston Cole Library’s Children’s Corner were the JSU cheerleaders and Cocky. There were many laughs and smiles by all in attendance as the cheerleaders got to

take time to meet with the children before story time began. “It’s an honor to be asked to read to these children,” said cheer captain Carlee Waits. “It’s amazing to be seen as a mentor and a role model to these kids. As a cheerleader, complete strangers know who I am, and it’s great to represent the university in a positive way.” Head cheerleading coach R.J. Conroy was also there to show his support for the new children’s reading program at Houston Cole. “This is a great way to show these kids the importance of reading, which is something we’ve kind of gotten away from,” Conroy said. “This is just a great way to share with the community something new going on at JSU” Stephen and Jennifer Craig, JSU alumni, brought their daughter Ella to the event after reading about it in The Anniston Star.



Jacksonville State University Houston Cole Library/Facebook

**Cocky and the JSU cheerleaders smile with the children from the library’s inaugural storytime at the fifth floor Children’s Corner.**

“I think it’s great that athletes are giving back to the community in a way that makes these kids so happy,” said Jennifer. It not only brings joy to the children to have such strong role models read to them. “It just really put smiles on all of our faces the way these kids look up to us,” said cheerleader Dayleigh Dorsett.. The first

installment of story time at Houston Cole Children’s corner was certainly a success, but Laurie Heathcock has big plans for the space’s future. “We would love partner up with local public libraries to provide them with more space to do their summer reading programs,” Heathcock said. “It would be amazing if we could bring in children’s authors and

illustrators to meet and interact with the kids.” If you are interested in being a reader at Children’s Corner, please contact Laurie Heathcock through her e-mail at lheathcock@jsu.edu, or give her a call at (256) 782-5245. Heathcock said she would love to see fraternities and sororities volunteer to read, so if your Greek organization needs

community service projects, contact her immediately. While Children’s Corner is a celebration of childhood literature, it also a colorful refuge from the grey dullness of the rest of the library. If you’re sick of staring at your anatomy textbook, head over to Children’s Corner and enjoy the colorful murals and beanbag chairs.

## MISS JSU from page 1



Photos by Matt Reynolds/JSU

**ABOVE: Miss JSU 2018, Lauren Reaves, is crowned by Miss JSU 2017 Camden Swatts. RIGHT: Lauren Reaves performs her talent.**

competition,” Reaves said, “was such a shocking moment. I had no idea I was capable of winning it all.” Reaves also says how proud she is for being so prepared. For her stage question, she stayed informed with current events while developing her own opinions and articulate thoughts on political matters in order to fully and confidently answer

the question that would be given to her. Her biggest preparation was for the fitness category. She started working with trainer and she put herself on a nutrition plan. She said she continuously disciplined herself by making herself hit the gym even on the days where she did not want to go. “The overall experience was

overwhelming—but in a good way!” Reaves said. Reaves’ advice to future contestants is to “go for the title. It can be intimidating at first, because of all of preparation required, but you learn so much about yourself, and the whole experience of just competing is so worth it.” At JSU, Reaves is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority

and a JSU Ambassador. Taylor Anne Beckham was named first runner-up; Kelsey Lenard was named second runner-up; Breanna Lucas was named third runner-up, and Courtney Williams was named fourth runner-up at the pageant. As Miss JSU 2018, Reaves will represent the university onstage at the Miss Alabama pageant in June.



# New year, new bus station

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

Renovations in Daugette Hall have prompted Jacksonville State University rearrange its university transportation system. The Gamecock Express central bus station has been moved to a new location this semester, freeing up 60 new parking spots for students and faculty. The central station, formerly known as the Gamecock Express Grand Central Station, was

located off the Quad between Fitzpatrick and Daugette Halls as of the end of the Fall 2017 semester. Effective Spring 2018, the station will be in the parking lot adjacent to the Amphitheater behind Stone Center. It has been renamed the GX Bus Station. Gamecock Express bus routes have been adjusted to accommodate this relocation, and the new routes can be found on JSU’s website. The parking spots

created in the old bus station are now designated as orange south zone parking and will primarily serve the residents of Fitzpatrick and Daugette Halls. Students who are able to park at Meehan Hall, Curtiss Hall, Kennamer Hall, Paul Carpenter Village, Colonial Arms Apartments, Campus Inn Apartments, Penn House Apartments, Jax Apartments and the athletic field house can also park in this new lot. Fitzpatrick Hall is

a traditional female freshman dorm, and Daugette Hall houses both male upperclassmen and offices. Students must have lived on campus for a least one semester or be a transfer student to request a room in Daugette Hall. The single-occupancy rooms feature one twin bed, one desk, one chair, one dresser, two closets, wireless internet and premium cable television access as well as a lounge area and four community

bathrooms. On the other side of Daugette Hall are offices for several departments, including Veteran Services (room 101), Counseling Services and Testing Services (room 140) and Disability Support Services (room 139). The Center of Excellence for Veteran Students Support is located in the basement of Daugette and provides military veteran students with information on VA Educational Benefits,

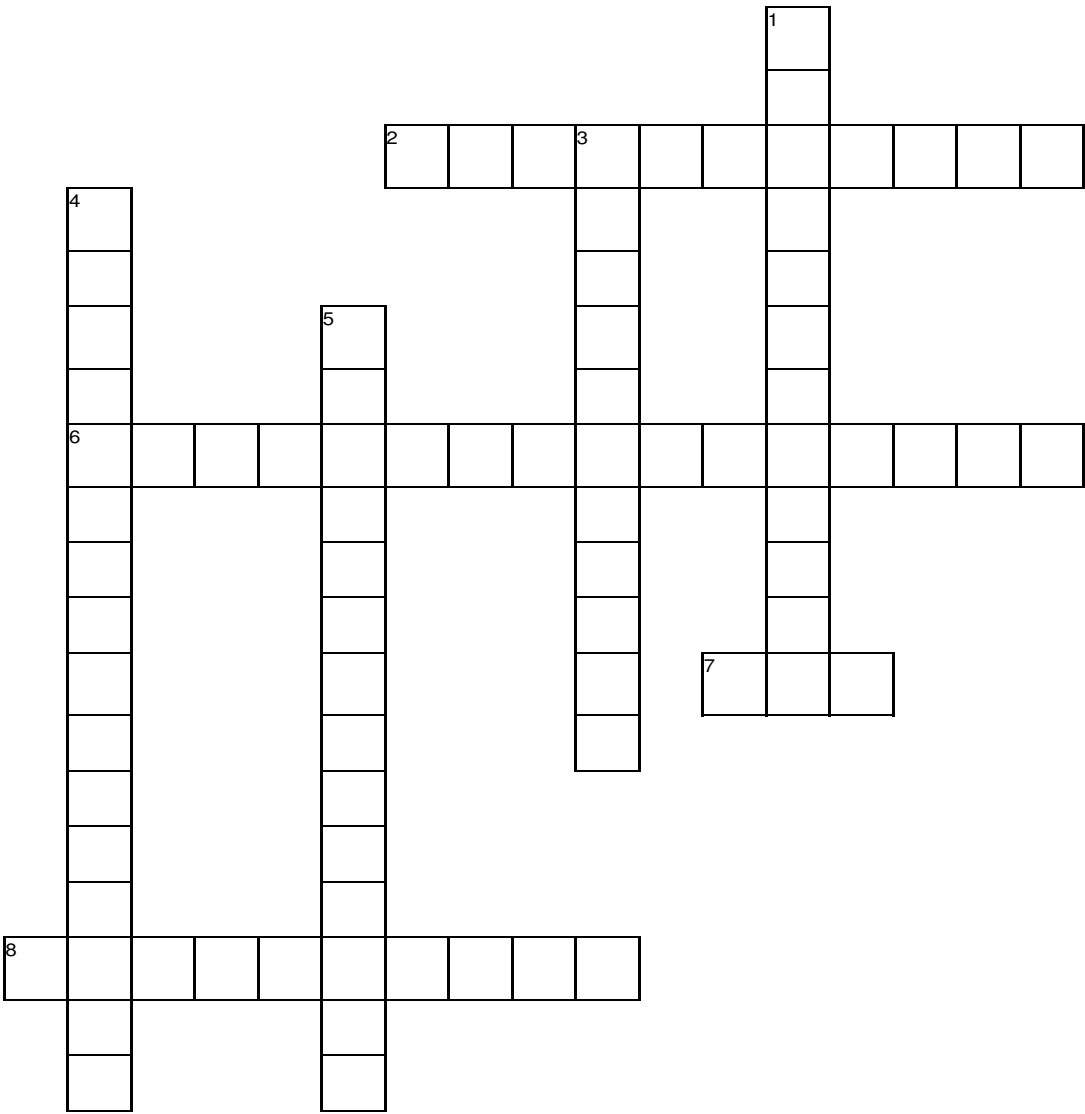
careers, scholarships, registration, tutoring and counseling opportunities. Offices of individuals from the IT Department, including Enterprise Information Systems and Systems and Security can be found on the first and second floors. For any additional questions regarding parking, contact UPD Parking Enforcement Supervisor Buddy Smith at bsmith@jsu.edu or (256) 782-5566.



# Study Break

## Campus Crossword Returns! Week 1

Welcome back! Answers can be found on the JSU website homepage!



Across

- 2. According to the homepage, what lies before you? You can hear it calling.
- 6. Takes place on March 8, 2018
- 7. What is known as the "Friendliest Campus in the South"?
- 8. Sport currently ongoing, new Gamecocks can catch a game at Pete Mathews Coliseum

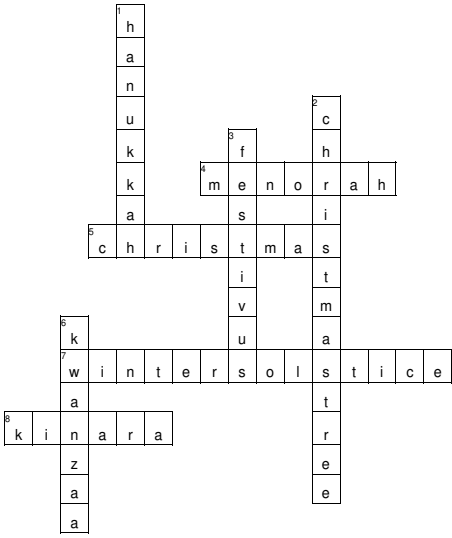
Down

- 1. Crowned Miss JSU
- 3. "Classes are starting and we're saving you a seat"
- 4. Program that recently marked it's one year anniversary
- 5. Currently in the faculty spotlight



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

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

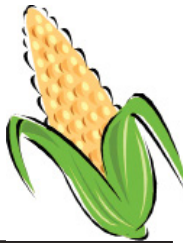
Down

- 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

Last Edition’s Solution!

Welcome back,  
Gamecocks! Thank  
you for reading  
The Chanticleer  
last semester!

# THIS MAYES IS CORNY!



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

- If you ride for 26 miles on a female horse, it’s called a Mare-athon.
- Remember Left Shark? I do because I have a good meme-ory
- If you give up your seat to someone, it’s called chairity.
- When I tell someone I’m willing to listen if they need to talk, I say “I’m hear for you.”
- Statistics about relationships are called Date-a

# COAST-TO-COAST

## One after another, athletes face Larry Nassar and recount sexual abuse

Scott Cacciola & Cristine Hauser  
*The New York Times*

Armed with pieces of paper etched with their memories of sexual abuse, they stepped forward, one by one — nearly 100 of them, with more to come.

For four full days this week, in a fluorescent-lighted courtroom here, women and girls — some of them the best gymnasts in the country, others with dreams prematurely crushed, they said, by a man who now sat in handcuffs 10 feet away — leaned into a microphone to address him, sometimes through sobs, sometimes with screams, but always with determination.

Aly Raisman, 23, who won gold medals at the past two Summer Olympics, told of late-night knocks on her hotel door while she was competing overseas, as the man, Dr. Lawrence G. Nassar, then the team doctor, arrived to abuse her.

A teammate at the 2012 London Games, Jordyn Wieber, who until Friday had not identified herself as a victim of Dr. Nassar’s, recalled the torment of the Games, where she was a part of the American team that won a gold medal but, she said, had to submit to his care under the auspices of the sport’s governing body, U.S.A. Gymnastics.

“Our bodies were all hanging by a thread in London,” she said. “Who was the doctor that U.S.A.G. sent? The doctor who was our abuser.”

For other young athletes just striking out, there seemed little they could do but give in, buckling under the pressure of knowing so many stars had seemingly benefited from him. And so a young gymnast named Chelsea Zerfas, now 15, spoke of anguished probing, under the guise of treatment, face down on an exam room

table when she was 13, feeling helpless to challenge a doctor at that age.

The occasion of the hearing, to help a judge decide Dr. Nassar’s prospective sentence on state charges of nearly a dozen sexual assaults, appeared almost beside the point. He had been sentenced to 60 years in federal prison on a child pornography conviction, and the judge in this state court hearing has said that Dr. Nassar, 54, who has pleaded guilty to several sexual-assault charges, can expect to spend the rest of his life in prison.

But before then, she allowed so-called victim impact statements from the 140 girls and women whom prosecutors accuse Dr. Nassar of abusing, leading to days of wrenching testimony here that has evolved into not only a nationally televised reckoning of his crimes but an indictment of a sport that his victims say did little to protect them.

At the same time, the hearing has dovetailed with the continued expansion of the #MeToo movement that seeks to hold predatory men to account — in this case, in excruciating detail.

“Come hell or high water, we will find a way to take every last one of you down that could have stopped this monster,” said Amy Labadie, a former gymnast who testified Friday morning. She added, “It’s hard to see into the future and not think this will affect me forever.”

Some of the victims described how the team doctor’s actions spawned suicidal thoughts and ruptured their families, how they hoped he would rot in prison, and how they desperately wanted the blame and repercussions to extend far beyond him — to the people and the organizations that turned a blind eye.

“Imagine feeling like you have no power and no voice,” Ms. Raisman said Friday. “Well, you know what, Larry? I have both power and voice, and I am only just beginning to use them. All these brave women have power, and we will use our voices to make sure you get what you deserve: a life of suffering spent replaying the words delivered by this powerful army of survivors.”

*“Larry, you do realize now that we, this group of women you so heartlessly abused over such a long period of time, are now a force, and you are nothing... The tables have turned, Larry. We are here, we have our voices, and we are not going anywhere.”*  
*-Aly Raisman*

Dr. Nassar pleaded guilty in November to seven counts of sexual assault, and his sentencing hearing, which began Tuesday, is now expected to continue next week, as the number of women who have wanted to speak in court has grown, from 88 to 105 to 120, at last count — emboldened by what has happened here this week. Judge Rosemarie Aquilina said she had cleared her docket.

“You are all superheroes,” the judge said Friday morning after one of the victims, choking back tears, read her statement.

Dr. Nassar entered the courtroom at 9:04 a.m. He wore a dark blue prison uniform. After he reached the witness box, where he has sat with a hangdog expression since the hearing began, he appeared to recognize that Ms. Raisman and Ms. Wieber were seated together in the front row. Dr. Nassar looked down and slowly shook his head.

Ms. Wieber, 22, was the first person to testify on Friday — but the 69th to have her statement heard since the proceedings began. Ms. Wieber said Dr. Nassar began treating her when she was 8. Like many of those who came before her, Ms. Wieber said that Dr. Nassar had manipulated her by bringing her food and coffee at pressure-cooker training camps where such

abusing athletes in 2015.

“At that time, U.S.A. Gymnastics indicated that they were in the process of contacting the appropriate law enforcement agencies,” Mr. Jones said. “We are heartbroken that this abuse occurred, proud of the brave victims that have come forward and grateful that our criminal justice system has ensured that Nassar will never be able to harm another young woman.”

At the same time, Mr. Jones said, the Olympic committee will continue to press for “meaningful change” in the gymnastics federation.

The federation announced on Thursday that it would cut ties with Karolyi Ranch, a renowned training facility that was one of the places where Dr. Nassar molested the gymnasts.

“The development camp taking place through Sunday is the last U.S.A. Gymnastics activity at the Ranch,” the federation said in a statement on Friday. “Next week’s training camp for the U.S. women’s national team is canceled and the Acro World Team Trials scheduled for the first week in February has been relocated.”

Kara Johnson, now a high school student, spoke about how she was taken to Dr. Nassar for back and hip treatment when she was a 13-year-old runner. Dr. Nassar, she said, placed her on a table on her stomach and then molested her. She described how he left the room, returned with a lubricant and repeated the abuse. He then smacked her on her “bare butt,” called her “sweetie” and told her that if she ever had her period when she came to see him, to be sure to let him know, she said.

“How was I supposed to know at the age of 13 what was medically acceptable and what

the boundaries were?” she said.

Her sister Madeline was also abused. Now 15, she told the court that as a 12-year-old gymnast, she was sent to Dr. Nassar for back treatment and underwent the same abuse. “At only 12 years old, I had no idea that it was inappropriate, illegal and wrong,” she said.

On Thursday, McKayla Maroney, 22, another Olympic gymnast, said she had “scars” that might never heal after being abused by Dr. Nassar, starting when she was 13 or 14.

“Dr. Nassar was not a doctor,” she said in a statement read for her by a prosecutor. “He in fact is, was, and forever shall be, a child molester, and a monster of a human being. End of story.”

The impact of the trial, and Dr. Nassar’s history of assault, is spreading well beyond the courtroom. Michigan State University, which employed Dr. Nassar, was also facing increasing pressure after revelations that 14 people, including the president, Lou Anna K. Simon, had been warned about his conduct.

Ms. Raisman added that she had not been planning to speak in court — “I was scared and nervous,” she said — but decided to add her name to the list once she began listening to the impact statements that were delivered earlier this week.

“My dream,” she said, “is that one day everyone will know what the words ‘me, too’ signify, but they will be educated and able to protect themselves from predators like Larry so that they will never, ever, ever have to say the words, ‘me, too.’”

The room filled with applause as Ms. Raisman thanked the judge and backed away from the microphone. More women were waiting their turn.



# COAST-TO-COAST (cont.)

## ‘Human error’ result in false missile emergency alert in Hawaii

**Chris Allen Brown**  
*Associate Editor*

Ever wondered what would happen if an emergency official pressed the wrong button? Look no further than Hawaii’s direction. Last weekend, a civil defense employee in the United States’ 50th state pushed the wrong button and sent out an emergency alert to residents’ cellphones about an incoming missile threat. The alert read “BALLISITC MISSILE THREATINBOUNDTOHAWAII. IMMEDIATE SHELTER. THIS IS NOT A DRILL.” This threat, however, was later deemed false. “Even after learning it was a

mistake I felt maybe they were just saying that so we all wouldn’t panic,” Lori Citro of Newark, Delaware told CNN. Citro’s daughter, Kelsey, lives in Hawaii. “I feel like if they are practicing this drill it’s because it’s a possibility. Maybe they were really expecting an attack and it was thwarted at the last minute ... I am still afraid.” With threats from North Korea, Hawaii, according to CNN, started a monthly testing of a nuclear warning siren system in December to alert residents of possible nuclear missile strikes. The state is 4,661 miles from North Korea and would only have roughly a 20-minute warning before a strike would hit

the islands. The tests are the first of their kind for Hawaii, which are home to 1.4 million people, since the Cold War concluded. It took Hawaii emergency officials 38 minutes to notify the state’s residents that the alert was a false alarm. “It’s a human error we are going to fix,” said Vern Miyagi, the administrator for the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, in a press conference. “The threat is there. If this goes out, there will be a 12-14-minute warning for an actual event.” Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, told CBSN last Saturday, “We’re taking a deep breath knowing that it was a false alarm. What

I am hearing, and I don’t know for sure, is that it was a human error. Regardless of whether it was human error, a glitch or a hack, whatever it was, it is totally unacceptable.” The alert was particularly poignant in Hawaii because of Pearl Harbor, a U.S. naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, was the destination of a surprise attack by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941. The attack resulted in more than 2,400 American deaths and 1,000 more people were wounded. The action resulted in President Franklin D. Roosevelt asking Congress to declare war on Japan. Thus, entering the U.S. into World War II.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## This is one man’s cover letter for being a boyfriend, if relationships required them

If the interview for a job is like the first date, then the cover letter is almost like asking a for a phone number.

**Timothy Reid Warren**  
*Texas Tech University*  
*Special to the Chanticleer*

1/17/18

Potential Girlfriend

Heaven Productions Inc.

101 Wife-Material Blvd

Breathtaking Town, United States of Gorgeous 568359

Dear Ms. Beautiful,

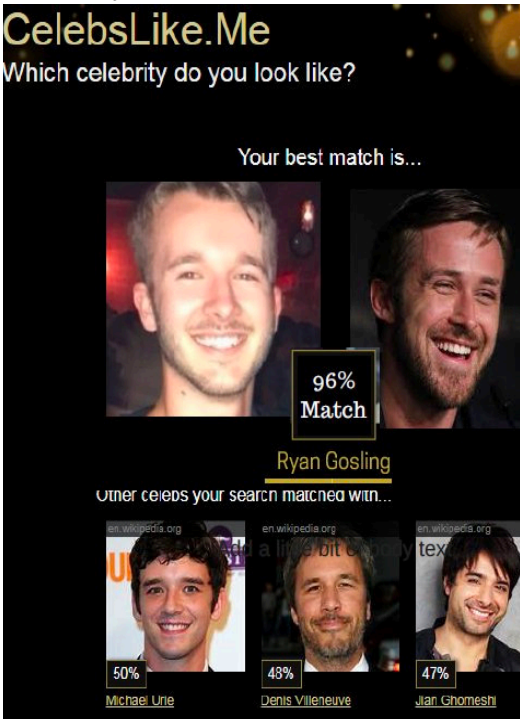
During a recent vacation, my family’s car broke down at a vineyard. Usually, if your car breaks down on vacation, the rest of your vacation is going to be ruined. However, due to my quick thinking and mild wine intoxicated state, I was able to fix the car in minutes. If you are looking for a boyfriend who can not only fix your car but is also classy enough to know decent wine, then please accept this letter as my formal application for your open boyfriend position. I currently study at Texas Tech University where I major in physics with two minors in math and actuarial sciences. I am a nerd in terms of general intelligence, but I have also been tested as a 96% face match with Ryan Gosling. I am listed as single on all forms of social media, including my tax forms. Not only do I have previous short and long-term relationship experience, but I also have a set of skills that make me an ideal boyfriend candidate. These skills include being an amazing listener (I rarely speak) and an excellent cook (I’ve challenged Gordon Ramsey several times). I also maintain a great sense of humor. Some of my other great boyfriend skills include: possessing expert level navigational skills, training in first-aid administration, self-taught bartender and sommelier, wanna-be world traveler, gym participant, and a lifetime of general handyman skills with the ability to fix almost anything. I have participated/won several bare-knuckle brawls so I will be able to defend you in physical confrontations. I once coded a 300 line program for a research project so I am very versed in all areas of tech. I can set up your router or brand new printer easily. I am a good dancer, and I won’t embarrass you on the dance floor. I also managed a

fire Spotify account while keeping a quality Instagram and Twitter presence.I have been told that I am a good kisser and hand holder, but I am sure you would rather rate those abilities for yourself. If you accept me as your boyfriend, not only will you be receiving a ride or die companion who will be there to hold your hair while you throw up copious amounts of strawberry margaritas, but also someone who is able to cook you a three Michelin star breakfast the next morning guaranteed to cure a hangover while also finishing your math homework. I certainly hope to have an opportunity to speak with you further, ideally during a first date. I further hope to have a future with you, your friends, and your family. I firmly believe that my past experiences, education, and skills will make me a perfect fit fulfilling the duties your boyfriend position require. If you decide to take this application to the interview portion (first date), then you will get someone who is not only loyal but also communicative and occasionally funny with a track record to prove it.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Timothy Warren



Timothy Warren / Twitter

**Texas Tech University student Timothy Warren references the above photo in his cover letter due to its 96% match with Ryan Gosling. It was originally posted with the caption, “Can’t argue with science.”**



Shannon Heupel

**Ashley Nicole and her angel singers perform a Taco Bell song. Dozens gathered in Montgomery in the Arby’s parking lot for a candlelight vigil for the Taco Bell next door, which caught fire Wednesday. The whole thing began as as a Facebook event joke posted by Katie James that drew the attention of thousands.**

## Montgomery mourns loss of Taco Bell

**Alissa Camplin**  
*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

It started as a joke on the internet. It ended with dripping wax and songs about Baja Freezes. A 24-hour Taco Bell caught fire in the early hours of Wednesday, Jan. 17. No one was injured and authorities have not determined the cause of the initial spark. The closure of Taco Bell deeply affected current and former Montgomery residents, as evidenced by the candlelight vigil to mourn the great loss that went viral this week. More than a hundred people came to honor the mecca of delicious and cheap food. “It just gave people something to talk about other than all the negativity that’s going on right now,” organizer Katie James said of the unconventional event. The crowd, full of teens and adults alike, brought Taco Bell products and candles. The group was forced to go into the Arby’s parking lot after the Taco Bell lot was closed down. A local comedian, Ashley Nicole Portis, performed a reprise of a Taco Bell parody video she released last year. Portis said that Taco Bell was an important instrument to earning her degree from Alabama State University. “I’ve had a lot of memories created at Taco Bell,” she said. “I was a theater major and we had long, long rehearsal nights. It was extremely taxing, and you don’t always have time to eat. You miss the cafeteria, it closes early. In Montgomery, everything else closes early.” As the crowd began to tire out, some headed into the Arby’s for a late dinner. But that restaurant closes at midnight, as does a nearby McDonalds. With the loss of the Taco Bell, Montgomery’s late night options have dwindled to a precious few. Shaw Gibbins posted on the event’s page on Facebook with this lovely poem of remembrance: “When McDonalds failed me, you lifted me up. When Sonic was closed, you filled my cup. When Arby’s went dark, you made me smile. Your quesadillas sustained me mile after mile.”



# OPINION & EDITORIAL

## Allow me to re-introduce myself: New Chanticleer editor a familiar face around JSU

**Chris Allen Brown**  
*Associate Editor*

(Author Note: I’m not good as introductions, so bear with me.)

Bonjour. Comment vas-tu?

My name is Chris Allen Brown. But you can call me whatever you see fit — as long as we leave the Chris Brown jokes in 2009.

To get the basic information out of the way first, I’m a 24-year-old senior Communications major from Jacksonville, Ala., but graduated from Weaver High in 2011.

Walks on the beach aren’t too bad as long as we don’t have to walk far to find somewhere to sit down. The dress is blue and black, not gold and white. LeBron James isn’t the greatest basketball player of all time. One can’t go wrong watching any Harry Potter or Star Wars movies. I saw nothing wrong with the finale of How I Met Your Mother — because tears were flowing out of my eyes, so I couldn’t really see anything. I’ll throw do in Mario Kart 64 any time, any day.



Courtesy Photo

I have the attention span of a squirrel — it’s taken me over an hour and a half to write this — and I often talk with my hands, which means I’m better than Ricky Bobby. I’m unique in that I self-describe as an introvert, but more times than not, I’m the complete opposite. I just like to make sure everyone is laughing and having a good time when I’m around.

Sports are my life. Besides Sunkist, sports — baseball, basketball, football, racing, soccer, fighting, etc. — are my second love. I could lose myself watching any of the above,

especially college sports because they’re doing it for the thrill rather than a paycheck.

Now, onto more valuable information ...

I didn’t start writing until I was a sophomore at Jacksonville State University, but since then, I’ve taken it upon myself to get better each and every time I open a Microsoft Word document. Hanging in my room is a painting from a high school classmate that reads, “I’m a nobody trying to tell everybody about a somebody who can save anybody.” I’m not into writing

for personal gain, but rather the pleasure of telling someone’s story in hopes that another person comes across it, connects with it and it change their life for the better.

Today’s random Chris fact (that may become a weekly thing in The Chanticleer, so watch out) is I knew all 50 U.S. state capitals when I was in fifth grade. To this day, I can tell you the capital of any state. For example, Montana’s capital is Helena. Boom. Mind Blown.

Now, let’s have some fun!

## 20 years too soon

**Alissa Camplin**  
*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

Twenty years is a long time.

Within the past two decades, the world has challenged the rules and regulations of what was acceptable and what we previously thought was possible. There were times of triumph, tribulation, and terror... and that’s only the start.

It was during this time that we met Dolly the sheep. She was the first mammal cloned from an adult somatic cell using nuclear transfer in 1996 (not EXACTLY within the past twenty years but who doesn’t love Dolly?)

We’ve seen the argument around peer-to-peer file sharing services since Napster got sued in 2000.

The earth stood still as America was rocked to its core by a terroristic attack that resulted in the deaths of nearly three thousand on 9/11.

The first iPhone made its debut into the tech world in 2007.

We survived the recession that began in 2008 as Wall Street crashed.

The United States took a stand against

racial tensions as they elected President Barack Obama in 2009, but also felt the tremor as President Obama declared Swine Flu a national emergency. This epidemic infected 22 million and killed 4,000 in that year alone.

Flappy Bird ruled iTunes top app charts in 2014, and the game received even more attention when the creator removed from all app stores due to its “addictive nature.”

Personally, the past twenty years have been pretty eventful, too.

My family picked up all we knew to move to Southside in 2000ish for my father’s job.

I said goodbye to my oldest brother, Bobby, who was taken from earth under unfair circumstances from a family that needed him the same year ...

I experienced the horror as I woke up on a school bus was parked in the driver’s yard for the night ...

To finish reading Alissa’s tribute, please visit <https://thechanticleer.wordpress.com/>

## Mayes enters maze as Sports Editor:

**Daniel Mayes**  
*Sports Editor*

That has a nice ring to it, don’t you think?

(You probably don’t think so, but I do)

(And my mom probably does too)

Every time I see it in print throughout this semester, I think I will be just as amazed as Future Daniel will be when he sees it for the first time.

Since August 25, 2016, when my name first appeared in The Chanticleer (it read Daniel Mayes, Staff Writer at that point), I have written a story for the sports section for every week that the newspaper has been placed in those red newsstands around campus for



Courtesy Photo

you to reluctantly grab on the way to class.

In that time, I have grown to love sports, journalism, and sports journalism, even more than I did when I started (which was quite a lot, by the way). Working for The Chanticleer has already lead me on some incredible experiences that I al-

ready know I’ll never forget. From stressing way too much over the specific wording in my first soccer recap, to having to take my mom with me to Nashville to cover JSU’s basketball team in the OVC tournament because I wasn’t old enough to get a hotel by myself, to actually getting to sit courtside in Bank-

ers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis for JSU’s NCAA Tournament game. In Actual March Madness. On Actual, National-TV CBS.

In my time with The Chanticleer I have grown as a writer, I have grown as a journalist, and I’d like to think I have grown as a person. It has forced me out of

my introverted comfort-zone and helped me develop into a more well-rounded person.

I think that’s enough mushy-gushy stuff, don’t you?

So a little more about me:

I am from a nowhere town on Sand Mountain in DeKalb County Alabama called Grove Oak (where?). I love sports (obviously) but basketball is my favorite. My cousin played basketball at JSU in the late 90s (And my side of the family didn’t receive any of that athletic ability). I am more than a little obsessed with Star Wars (I’ve seen The Last Jedi in theaters four times)

(so far). I also love The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter (but slightly less so than Star Wars). My favorite TV show is The Office (or maybe Arrested Development, it depends on which day you ask me). I could eat chicken wings every day of the week (lemon pepper with blue cheese is the way to go). I am an extremely zealous teller of bad puns (as you you will find out on page three of this paper. Yeah, This Mayes IS Corny).

I’m beyond excited to get started at The Chanticleer, and I’m looking forward to (officially) working with Katie, Alissa, and Chris.

Let’s do this!



# SPORTS

## JSU Sports Upcoming Events

1/25

**Men’s Tennis**  
**vs. West Alabama\***  
**2:00 p.m. Jacksonville**

**Women’s Tennis**  
**vs. West Alabama\***  
**2:00 p.m. Jacksonville**

**Women’s Basketball**  
**vs. UT Martin\***  
**5:30 p.m. Jacksonville**

**Men’s Basketball**  
**vs. UT Martin\***  
**7:00 p.m. Jacksonville**

1/27

**Women’s Basketball**  
**vs. SEMO\***  
**4:30 p.m. Jacksonville**

**Men’s Basketball**  
**vs. SEMO\***  
**7:00 p.m. Jacksonville**

Rifle  
UTEP/TCU  
El Paso, Texas

1/28

Women’s Tennis  
vs. Alcorn State University  
9:00 a.m. Alcorn State, MS

Men’s Tennis  
vs. Alcorn State University  
9:00 a.m. Alcorn State, MS

Rifle  
vs. UTEP  
El Paso, Texas

**Bold = Home contest**

\* = OVC contest

### OVC Men’s Basketball

School	OVC	O/R
Belmont	7-1	15-6
Murray State	6-2	14-5
Jacksonville State	6-2	15-6
Tennessee Tech	5-3	13-8
Austin Peay	5-3	10-10
SEMO	4-4	10-11
Tennessee State	3-5	8-11
Eastern Illinois	3-5	7-12
SIUE	3-5	7-12
Eastern Kentucky	2-6	8-13
UT Martin	2-6	7-14
Morehead State	2-6	6-13

### OVC Women’s Basketball

School	OVC	O/R
Belmont	8-0	18-3
SIUE	7-1	10-9
Jacksonville State	6-2	12-7
Morehead State	5-3	14-7
Austin Peay	4-4	11-8
SEMO	4-4	9-11
Eastern Kentucky	4-4	7-10
UT Martin	4-4	8-12
Murray State	3-5	7-12
Tennessee Tech	1-7	4-15
Tennessee State	1-7	3-14
Eastern Illinois	1-7	2-17

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

## Gamecocks deliver on expectations

**Daniel Mayes**  
*Sports Editor*

For the Jacksonville State men’s basketball team, things just keep getting better in year two under Coach Ray Harper.

After a run to an OVC Championship and the school’s first NCAA Tournament berth in his first season in Jacksonville, Harper set expectations high for the basketball program coming into the 2017-18 season.

So far, the Gamecocks have delivered.

Currently sporting a 15-6 overall record and a 6-2 mark in Ohio Valley Conference play, this JSU squad is proving that last year’s tournament success was no fluke.

It’s been a season of firsts so far for JSU.

On Jan. 6, the Gamecocks took down perennial OVC power Belmont in the Curb Event Center, Belmont’s home court, for the first time since the Bruins joined the OVC.

On Jan. 20, Jacksonville State defeated Eastern Kentucky on the road for the first time, having gone 0-13 previously.

The Gamecocks also beat Murray State for just the second time in program history on Jan. 11, bringing their record against the Racers to 2-20.

JSU boasts a much better record at home in 2017-18 than in the pre-



Matt Reynolds/JSU

**Malcolm Drumwright looks for an open teammate in Jacksonville State’s 76-61 victory over Murray State on January 11, 2018.**

vious year, as the Gamecocks are already 9-2. The Gamecocks managed just five wins in 10 home contests last season in a road-heavy schedule.

This 2017-18 squad has fit into the mold that has quickly become a hallmark of Ray Harper’s Jacksonville State units—unselfish teams that play defense.

The Gamecocks rank 28th in the entire NCAA in scoring defense, giving up just 64.9 points per game.

Anchoring the middle of the defense is Christian Cunningham, who patrols the paint for the Gamecocks, blocking 2.05 shots per game.

2017-18 newcomers Marlon Hunter and Jamall

Gregory are lockdown defenders on the perimeter, helping to shut down opposing guards, creating turnovers and easy scoring chance for JSU.

Helping turn that stifling defensive effort into wins is a balanced scoring threat lead by Senior stalwart guard Malcolm Drumwright.

Drumwright is the steadying, calming force for this basketball team. Harper looks to him to get a bucket when the Gamecocks need an important bucket, and the Rancho Cucamonga, California native usually delivers.

Outside of Drumwrights 14.0 points per game, five other Gamecocks are scoring between 7-12 per game, from Cun-

ningham’s 7.6 up to Jason Burnell’s 11.4.

Burnell, another newcomer for the 2017-18 season, has been a huge addition to this JSU squad.

The 6’7” versatile forward has been a nightmare for opposing defenses with his ability to play both forward positions, and he’s developed into JSU’s top three-point threat, nailing 41.2% of his attempts from behind the arc this season.

Heading into the last third of the season, the Jacksonville State Gamecocks are sporting a great record and tons of confidence, and now they gear up for a run at the tournament once again.

## Sorrel paces Gamecocks at Samford Open

BIRMINGHAM – The Jacksonville State women’s track and field team continued early-season progress at the Samford Open over the weekend held at the Birmingham Crossplex facility.

The two-day event featured 22 teams, including familiar foes Georgia State, Central Arkansas, Chattanooga, Lipscomb and Ohio Valley Conference members Belmont and Austin Peay.

The field events faired the best for JSU over the weekend. The Gamecocks placed two in the Top 10 of the high jump with sixth-place Erica Edwards and eighth-



Katy Nowak/JSU

place Briana Caudle both reaching the 5’-3” mark.

The senior duo of Samantha Patterson and Laura Craig each reached the 10’-6” height on the pole vault to tie for sixth in the event. Meanwhile, fellow senior Aquanita Branford finished 15th

in the weight throw with a distance of 13.09 meters.

Junior Brittany Cook took fourth in the long jump with a distance of 17’-8”, less than two inches away from the runner-up spot.

On the track, sophomore Emily Sorrell high-

lighted the Gamecock performance. The Neo-sho, Mo., native won her section race in the 800 meter run by nearly two seconds with a tome of 2:18.88. It would stand as third-best overall behind Florida A&M’s Destiny Johnson and North Florida’s Hallie Grimes once all 35 competitors ran their section races Sorrell later placed third in her section race for the one mile run, to finish 11th fastest overall with a time of 5:18.70.

JSU will travel next to Winston-Salem for the JDL Collegiate Duals held on January 28.

**-JSU Sportswire**

## JSU football lands Clemson transfer Cooper

**Daniel Mayes**  
*Sports Editor*

On Tuesday, Jacksonville State officially signed quarterback Zerrick Cooper, who transfers from ACC power Clemson.

The signing was announced via Twitter by Cooper and JSU Tight Ends Coach and Recruiting Coordinator JR Sandlin.

Cooper, who is a native of Jonesboro, Georgia, was a composite four-star recruit coming out of high school, and was selected as an Elite 11 final-

ist in 2015, a competition to name the top 11 high school quarterbacks in the country.

Cooper spent two years at Clemson, redshirting the 2016 season behind star quarterback Deshaun Watson and playing sparingly as a backup to Kelly Bryant, throwing for 256 yards and two touchdowns.

Cooper will enter the JSU QB room alongside incumbents Bryant Horn and Kendrick Doss as well as upcoming Redshirt Freshman Zion Webb.



Rich Barnes/USA TODAY Sports

**Former Clemson quarterback and Jonesboro, Georgia native Zerrick Cooper announced his intentions Tuesday to transfer to Jacksonville State.**



# Defense sparks Gamecock success

**Chris Allen Brown**  
*Associate Editor*

Seven. That’s how many conference games it took Rick Pietri and the 2017 Jacksonville State women’s basketball team to match its Ohio Valley Conference win total from a year ago.

But wait, there’s more.

Sporting a 12-7 record at the moment, if JSU earns two more wins during its remaining 10 games, that will allow the Gamecocks to surpass last year’s overall win total (13) and be the most since Jacksonville State went 19-10 during the 2014-15 season, which was when JSU knocked off SEC foe Alabama in Tuscaloosa 64-62 on

a last-minute basket by Destiny McLin.

The common thread between the two teams is on the defensive end of the court.

At the beginning of the 2014-15 season, Pietri and his players held seven of their first eight opponents to under 60 points — Alabama being the exception — en route to 9-3 non-conference record. During OVC play, the Gamecocks held five opponents under that mark.

Fast forward to this year and the Gamecocks have held 12 of its opponents under the 60-point mark and eight of those performances resulted in victories for JSU.

There’s been a youth surge, too.



Katy Nowak/JSU

**JSU’s Gretchen Morrison guards a Murray State player in the Gamecocks’ 97-65 victory over the Racers on January 11**

Six of 16 players listed on the roster are either true or redshirt-freshman. Ki-Ki Patterson, Gretchen Morrison, Tyler “Cocoa” Phelion and Tasha Magruder make up the senior class, while Leah Strain, Destiney Elliott, Bri-

anna Perry and Rayven Pearson are redshirt or true juniors. Morgan Towells is the lone sophomore on the team.

Of those six freshmen, Taylor Hawks, Kiana Johnson, Jayla Walker are seeing significant playing time. Hawks, spe-

cially, has started the last 11 games for Pietri and is shooting 40 percent from the field with 50 assists to 35 turnovers and 11 steals for the year. Johnson, like Hawks, has started the last 11 JSU games and has scored in double-figures against Morehead State twice and against Murray State.

But no one player on the roster has had such a positive impact as Pearson, who has started the last 11 games. The Hazel Green native is averaging 9.1 points and 9.9 rebounds in 430 minutes of game action. She’s also blocked 22 shots, credited with 16 steals and 25 assists during the season.



Matt Reynolds/JSU

## Rifle places third at Withrow

MURRAY, Ky. – Junior Mekenna Richardson led the Jacksonville State rifle team to a third place finish in the Withrow Invitational, hosted by Murray State.

Richardson, from Rhodesville, Maryland, claimed second place in the overall individual standings after an aggregate score of 1175. Richardson, a 2016 NCAA Championship individual qualifier, posted a 590 in air rifle and followed that mark with a 585 in smallbore. Her final tally paced the Gamecocks to a team score of 4648. Jax State collected a 2341 in air rifle and 2307 in smallbore.

Sophomore Zach Schmidt and junior David Sink followed Richardson with final marks of 1162 and 1155 respectively. Both Schmidt and Sink were solid in the air rifle portion. Schmidt scored a 584, while Sink added a 582.

Rounding out the JSU scorecard at MSU was Junior Trace Haynes and Brantley Santrock. Hayes registered an 1156, including the second-best air rifle mark by a JSU competitor of 585. Santrock rounded out the team score with an 1145.

The Gamecocks will travel to the state of Texas next weekend to face Texas-El Paso and TCU. The match will be a tune up for the Ohio Valley Conference Rifle Championships that will be held in MSU on February 3-4.

-JSU Sportswire



JSU Sportswire



Matt Reynolds/JSU

## Burnell named OVC Newcomer of the Week

JACKSONVILLE— Jacksonville State’s Jason Burnell was named the adidas® Ohio Valley Conference Newcomer of the Week Monday, following wins over Morehead State and Eastern Kentucky over the weekend.

The 6-foot-7 forward totaled 35 points in two games, scoring 20 Thursday at Morehead State in a 58-57 win over the Eagles on

CBS Sports Network and 15 more Saturday in a 68-60 victory at Eastern Kentucky.

His 20 points at Morehead State set a career-high for the DeLand, Fla., native, topping his previous record of 16 scored Dec. 30 against Morehead State in Jacksonville. He was 8-for-11 shooting against the Eagles and hit three of six 3-point attempts in the Gamecocks one-

point win on national television.

Burnell followed up his career-high performance at Morehead with 15 points against Eastern Kentucky. He led the Gamecocks to their first ever win at Richmond’s Alumni Arena, topping the Colonels 68-60. His 15 points ranked second in the game, and his eight rebounds were tied for the most against ECU Satur-

day.

Since OVC play began, Burnell leads Jacksonville State with 14.1 points per game and is shooting .579 (44-for-76). He tops the stat sheet with a .414 3-point percentage, knocking down 12 through eight games, and has the second-most team rebounds in league play with 49.

Burnell is the first Gamecock to receive

weekly OVC honors this season. He shares this week’s newcomer award with SIUE’s David McFarland.

Jacksonville State returns to Pete Mathews Coliseum Thursday, Jan. 25 to take on UT Martin at 7:30 p.m. The two-game home stand wraps up Saturday with a 7 p.m. tip against Southeast Missouri.

-JSU Sportswire

### PROTEST from page 1

“JSU is signed up for multiple anti-sexual assault programs like It’s On Us and U Matter, but I see the guy who assaulted me everywhere I go, and no one does anything about it,” Molan said. “We have U Matter, but I don’t feel like I matter, and I don’t feel like other women in this boat have mattered, and that’s the problem that we have.”

Next, Spencer Goffigan, a former tight-end for the Gamecocks and a current graduate assistant football coach, spoke in favor of JSU’s decision to sign Rice.

“I’ve been around Landon Rice for the last week,” Goffigan said, “and I don’t know all the facts, but he told me his story, and I can tell you that Landon Rice is a good kid. Now, does that excuse his actions? No. Because, clearly,

he’s not at Auburn University anymore, but he was not convicted by a grand jury and he passed a polygraph test.”

Goffigan concluded his portion by quoting Romans 3:23: “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Immediately following Goffigan’s discourse, Jeannie Volpe, the mother of current JSU students, stood up and expressed her concern about the athletic department’s decision to pursue Rice through athletic recruitment.

“If JSU is legally obligated to accept this child, I understand, but what I don’t understand is why he was recruited or why anyone would make that decision,” Volpe said, “and I want you to know that if that was a decision you had

a choice in, you will be personally responsible for my children if they’re hurt, and I hope that that weighs really heavily on you.”

Thomas Dedrick, the chairman of the Athletics Committee, assured listeners that JSU took all necessary actions before bringing Rice on campus.

“Every student at Jacksonville State University is important,” Dedrick said. “Every student deserves to be protected. Every student deserves to be able to come here and enjoy their college experience and not be concerned about their well-being, and we do all that we can to make sure that happens ... This is not an issue to be taken lightly ... if we had any question that this wasn’t the right thing to do, we wouldn’t have accepted

him.”

In a statement after the meeting, JSU President John Beehler added that privacy laws like the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prevent the university from speaking about specifics related to Rice.

“There are privacy laws, so we can’t really say a lot, because the student is currently a student, and the privacy laws forbid us from releasing information that we may be privy to,” Beehler said. “All I can say is that both the Board and I are satisfied that due diligence was followed in the decision by the coach and the Athletic Director to bring this student to campus.”

Not all agreed.

“I’m disappointed in my university,” Molan said.

“I feel that the Board

neglected to address the concerns of students, alumni, parents and staff in any meaningful way,” added Forbus.

“Their lack of concern for the safety of students on campus has not gone unnoticed. I am disappointed in my alma mater’s acceptance of this individual’s behavior. In my final year, JSU committed to a campaign to end sexual assault. Simply saying “it’s on us” is not enough. It’s time to prove that Jacksonville State University has no tolerance for sexual assault.”

Of the students gathered to support Rice, most declined to comment on Rice to The Chanticleer. One man, who only identified himself as a childhood friend of Rice, refused to give his name but strongly supported Rice’s future at JSU.

“People who know [Rice] know he’s a great kid and tremendous kid. He’s probably the most respectful human that goes to this school ... At any point in life, everyone has not respected the word ‘no.’ As a little kid, people don’t know what ‘no’ means. That’s why they should be disciplined to know what ‘no’ means.”

On Tuesday, Auburn University issued a statement to AL.com regarding Rice’s suspension: “Mr. Rice and Auburn disagreed about whether the process as applied to him was legally sufficient. A compromise was reached under which the suspension was reduced to one year, but the finding of responsibility remained. Once the suspension period expired, Mr. Rice was again in good standing.”