

in**THE** NEWS

Hidden Figures Movie

Join the SGA for a screening of "Hidden Figures" on March 8 from 6-8 p.m. in the TMB Auditorium in honor of Women's History Month! Admission is free, and snacks will be provided!

Open Mic Night

The Spanish Study Abroad Program is hosting an open mic night on March 8 from 6-8 p.m. in Maerrill Hall room 101 to raise money for the traveling students. Open to the public. Admission is \$1.

Track and Field Invitational

The annual Gamecock track and field outdoor season opener will be Saturday, March 10 from 12 to 4 p.m. at Choccolocco Park in Oxford. All track and field teams will compete.

Student Symposim

Active Minds in sponsorship with the National Alliance on Mental Illness is putting on a mental health awareness event on Tuesday, March 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the TMB Auditorium. Come rock out to your favorite song in karaoke or grab the mic to read a poem! Admission is free to all.



The life and love of Tatum Deason

Katie Cline
Editor-in-Chief

"I'll definitely miss JSU's Wonder Woman," Paris Coleman wrote on Facebook.

"Wonder Woman" is Tatum Deason, a grounds caretaker at JSU who was killed in a car accident on March 1.

The Anniston Star reported that, at the time of the accident, Deason was traveling north on Alabama 9 into Centre around 8 a.m. when her vehicle left the roadway and flipped.

Following the announcement by JSU, hundreds of people expressed their condolences and shared memories of Deason on the Chanticleer's Facebook page.

"I remember one time when she was landscaping in front of Houston Cole [Library] and she told me that she had 'been doing this for 20 years!'" wrote Joseph Read, an accounting student at JSU. "I could tell by her words and actions what a genuine and encouraging person

she was. She is missed. Let's continue to pray for her grieving family."

Deason was also a JSU student, and many students fondly remembered the classes they had with her.

"Tatum, in 2014 we shared multiple classes together and then 2015 came and we shared one class," English language education student Whitney Gillespie wrote. "In that class I learned more about myself from the dialogue we held within our group. Your story and your determination to provide and help others was above and beyond. You were working full time on campus, going to school full time to finish your degree, raising your own children and then supporting sporting events often. Your love and your wisdom will be forever cherished and carried."

Old friends of Deason's spoke of Deason's childhood and her



Steve Latham/JSU

Tatum Deason

See **DEASON**, page 2



Steve Latham/JSU

The 2012 Employees of the Month, including Deason (second from right): Michael Walker, Linda Prickett, Jennifer Evans, Tony Hulsey (2012 Employee of the Year), Kathy Matthews, Debrah Fragoso, Kerri Reese, Gina Glass, Lora Spivey, Tatum Deason and Debra James.

JSU gets colorful for Holi festival

Lauren Jackson
Staff Writer

The first ever Holi celebration took place at the JSU International House on Friday, March 2. The event hosted students from all over campus and featured games, presentations and traditional Indian food.

"It's a big festival celebrated in Hindu countries. It is about celebrating life and colors. This is something that has never been done before at JSU, and we are making sure that students can celebrate and that we support them," said Stephanie Marmion-Smith, Coordinator of International Students and Programs.

The celebration be-

gan with Indian students sharing the meaning of the event and telling stories of their experiences from home. Holi is a festival of colors and love to celebrate the arrival

of spring. Guests were given leis and presented with a dot of red powder on their forehead in welcome.

Indian students then demonstrated how to

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Lauren Jackson/The Chanticleer

The Holi festival honors the beginning of spring and involves dousing attendees with colored powder or water, as shown above.

Bipartisan Ball unifies parties for an evening

Nick Adrian
Staff Writer

On Sunday, March 4, JSU College Republicans and Democrats hosted their first Bipartisan Ball. The event was held on the eleventh floor of the Houston Cole Library from 6-9 p.m. and featured speakers from both sides of the political parties.

Doors opened at 5:30 and the event began promptly at 6 with Chairman of the JSU College Republicans, Jesse Battles, giving the welcome and leading in the pledge of allegiance. College Republicans member Coleman Amazon gave the blessing for the dinner catered by Sodexo.

Senator Phil Williams was the first speaker featured for the night. He was followed by the department head of Political Science Dr. Timothy Barnett, activist Lilly Ledbetter, State Representative Craig Ford and Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill.

Merrill posted photos on Facebook the following day and expressed his support for the students.

"These students are leading the way!" Merrill wrote.

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DEASON from page 1



Steve Latham/JSU

On Oct. 19,2009 Confederate Roses that had been donated to JSU by Mr. Ralph Haggarty were planted on the President’s Home lawn and near Ayers Hall. Pictured from left to right are Tatum Deason, Haggarty and Steven Johnston. Deason was employed by the university since 2007 and was honored as Employee of the Month in November 2012.

Old friends of Deason’s spoke of Deason’s childhood and her caring heart. “I remember becoming friends with Tatum when her mother worked with my family in the store at the crossroads,” Stacey Barnes I haven’t seen her since we were kids, many years ago. Then after many years we reconnected our friendship on here [at JSU]. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family. She was a sweet friend and I will miss her dearly.” “I’ve known her since she was about 10 years old,” Rodney Hamby wrote. “She always had a strong but compassionate spirit taking in small animals that had fallen out of the nest or

when a tree fell with young ones in it and raised them till they could fend for themselves. Truly a rare trait in this world we live in today, she will be missed.” Deason could often be seen around campus tending to the shrubbery or handling a leaf blower and always made time to talk to students. “She told me once that she doesn’t work any harder than the men, but that people weren’t used to seeing a woman do that kind of work,” Buffy Lockette, the JSU Director of Public Relations told the Star. “She looked like a Disney princess ripping a tree out of the ground. It was an empowering image. She

was a little hero on campus. [Her loss is] really shocking and sad.” Deason’s funeral was Sunday. She left behind two elementary-aged daughters and other extended family members. The Jacksonville community has rallied around the family, and Kitty Stone Elementary School counselor Brandie Green started a Take Them a Meal page to help provide food for them in the coming weeks. Individuals or groups can sign up to deliver a homemade meal or send a delivered meal to the family. Dates range from March 7 to May 31. For more information, contact Brandie Green at bgreen@jcsboe.org.

HOLI from page 1

play cricket and introduced various games to the attendees. In one game students attempted to pop each other’s balloons while protecting their own. In another, three students attempted to find a penny in a bucket of colored water among other coins. The person that was able to find the penny twice dumped the colored water on the other two players. Wilson O’Dell, a Junior studying social work, initially came to event as part of a school project but enjoyed the games at the festival. “It seemed like something fun and different to do around here,” said Wilson. Sabin Banj Zara is an international student form Nepal. He is a freshman at JSU studying computer science. He was all smiles at the festival as he shared the celebration with students. “This is amazing! It is our first time having this event, and we are so excited to have all these people!” said Zara. Zara’s favorite thing about the ceremony was the involvement of the people. “We have these events so that people can have a better understanding of other cultures,” he said.

Oore Olayinka was another International Student in attendance to the event. She is studying criminal justice and is from Nigeria. Olayinka said, “I try to support students. I think people should come check out the International House events, because they are usually really fun. This has been much more fun than I thought it would be.” The final part of the event took students to the back of the International House where the colored water and powder was used. Indian music played as students drenched themselves—and each other—in colors. “In India, this is such a big deal and to live this is like my bucket list,” said Grace Cockrell, a Freshman Communications student. Cockrell added, “This is the coolest thing ever! It is so awesome to see all these cultures come together.” Organizers of the event were impressed with the turnout “This is great,” said Jim Hazarika, one of the international students leading the event. “We were expecting 30 people to come, but there was so much more than that!”



Lauren Jackson/The Chanticleer

Activities at the Holi celebration included a photo frame and traditional games.

BALL from page 1

Chairwoman of the JSU College Democrats, Alexis Paige, delivered the closing and thanked everyone for attending the event. Candidates currently running for office on both sides were in attendance. They, as well as the elected officials, students and members of the community stayed afterwards to hear from each other. “This was one of the most rewarding experi-

ences I have ever had,” said Battles, who was heavily involved with organizing the event. “I want Jacksonville State to be an example of how individuals with different political philosophies can engage in civil discourse with their peers. I am thankful for everyone who helped make this event happen, as well as those who attended. It was an amazing experience with inspirational people.”

The JSU College Republicans meet in Brewer Hall room B100. Food is provided. For more information, contact Jesse Battles at jbbattles@stu.jsu.edu The JSU College Democrats meet in Brewer Hall room 229 and often host events such as Donuts with the Dems. For more information, contact Alexis Paige at apaige1@stu.jsu.edu.

***** THE FIGHT OF THE YEAR *****

PRESENTING

2018 ANNUAL STUDENT SHOW

HAMMOND HALL GALLERY

5-7 PM

MARCH 15-APRIL 12

RECEPTION & AWARDS: 5PM ON THE 15TH

JSUARTBLOG.COM

JSU ART & DESIGN

ROUND BY ROUND

BLOW BY BLOW

NO COVER

JSU HONORS PROGRAM

ESCAPE ROOM

March 12-14

4:00-7:00

@ The Honors House

\$5 per ticket

Groups of 5 or fewer

Mon (3/12)

Tue (3/13)

Wed (3/14)

The Sunflower Shootout

The Burning Bridge

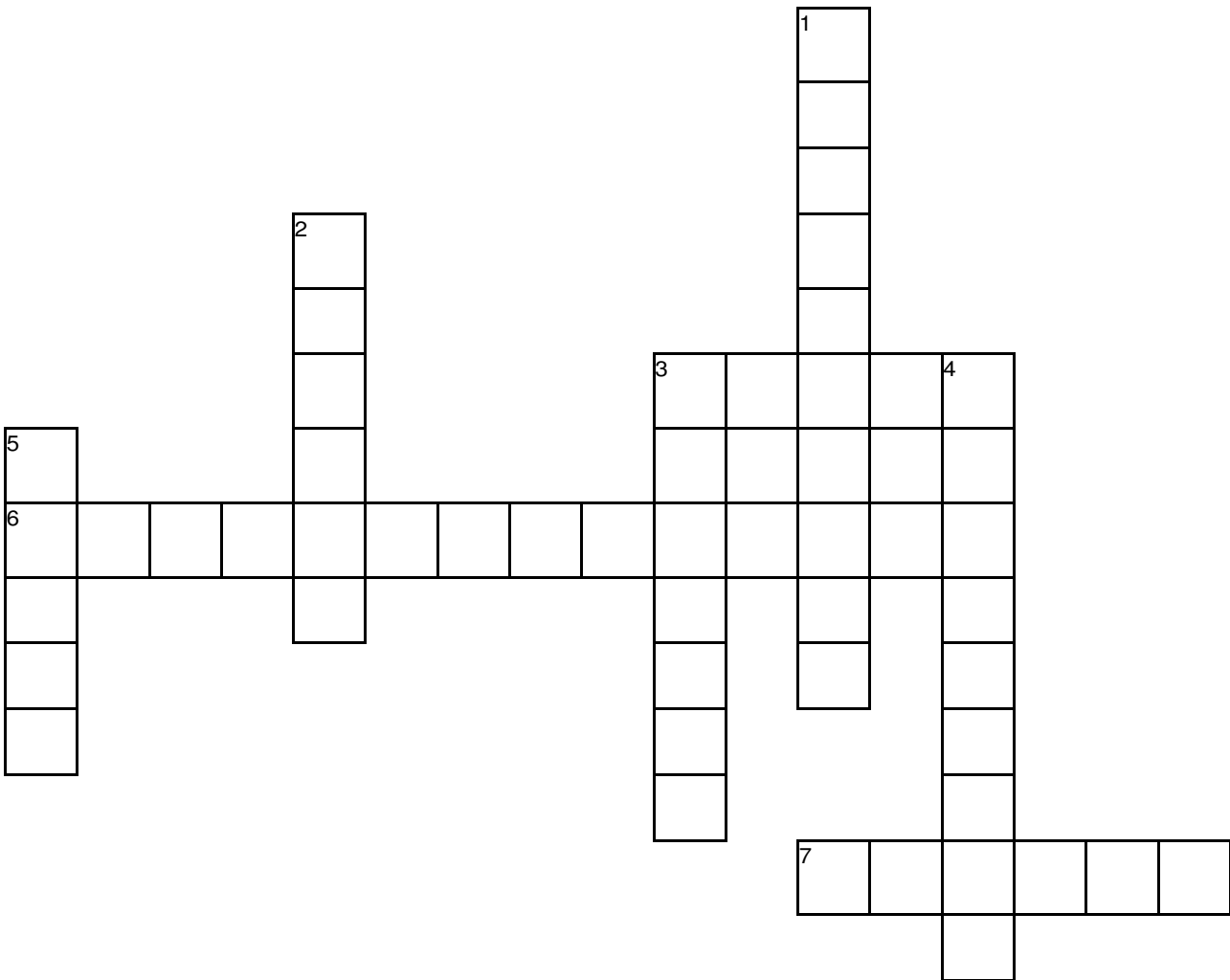
The Diner Disappearance

email kpeyton1@stu.jsu.edu to sign up

Study Break

Campus Crossword! Music Edition

The Hot 100

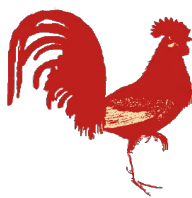


Across

- 3. God's Plan
- 6. Thunder
- 7. Young, Dumb and Broke

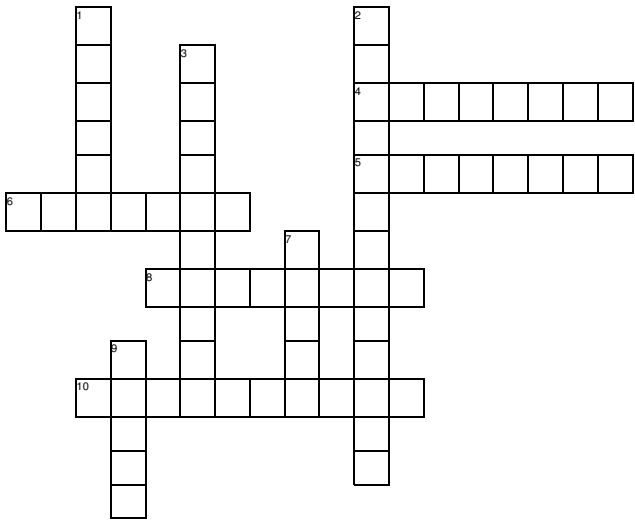
Down

- 1. Rockstar
- 2. Bodak Yellow
- 3. New Rules
- 4. Perfect
- 5. Stir Fry



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

Disney Movies



Across

- 4. You Got a Friend in Me
- 5. Can't Wait to be King
- 6. When Will My Life Begin
- 8. I Can Go the Distance
- 10. Just Around the River Bend

Down

- 1. Love is an Open Door
- 2. Under the Sea
- 3. A Dream is a Wish
- 7. I'll Make a Man Out of You
- 9. You're Welcome

Last Week’s Solution!

Chris’ Random Fact:

Austin Richard Post,
better known as Post
Malone, was born
on July 4, 1995 in
Syracuse, New York.

THIS MAYES IS CORNY!



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



WHAT NOISE DO YOU MAKE IF YOU ARE SICK IN CHICAGO? AN ILL-I-NOISE.

A FEMALE LADDER IS CALLED A LASS-DER.

A SMALL WARDROBE WOULD BE CALLED A BATTLEDROBE.

WHAT’S THE NAME OF THE DELIVERY SERVICE STARTED BY SPURNED LOVERS OF U.S. GOVERNMENT EM-
PLOYEES? FED EX.

WHAT CANDY MAKES YOU VERBALLY COMBATIVE? ARGUE-MINT.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The brothers Brewster: JSU faculty find new home in community theater



Katie Cline / The Chanticleer
Brian Jones (Officer O’Hara, left), JSU IT analyst Glenn Davenport (Jonathan Brewster, standing) and JSU associate professor of drama Dr. Michael Boynton (Mortimer Brewster, seated) rehearse a scene.

Katie Cline
Editor-in-Chief

What do a drama professor, an IT worker and the manager of student media have in common? They’re playing the Brewster brothers in CAST’s production of “Arsenic and Old Lace” March 8-11.

Dr. Michael Boynton, an assistant professor of drama; Mr. Glenn Davenport, an IT support analyst and Mr. Mike Stedham, the manager of the JSU student newspaper and radio station are starring in the Joseph Kesselring comedy as the trio of untamable brothers Mortimer, Jonathan and Teddy Brewster.

A love of theatre runs deep for these men. Boynton has worked as an actor, director and playwright and is now a teacher, but during his undergraduate career at St. Mary’s College of Maryland he studied chemistry, English and film in addition to theatre.

“Usually, you get roped into theatre by a friend,” Boynton said. “I got my start in community theatre. I was in high school. I didn’t know what I was doing. I was a chemistry nerd, and my friends roped me into doing theatre.”

Davenport, too, was “roped into” the theatre world by his friend Dani Ratliff, who plays Officer Brophy in CAST’s production, while they were both students at JSU in the early 2000s.

“She wanted me to audition for ‘Into the Woods,’” Davenport said, “and I was kind of like, ‘I don’t know,’ so I told her, ‘If you guys ever do ‘Hamlet,’ I’ll come do ‘Hamlet.’ And so the next fall, JSU did ‘Hamlet,’ and I got one of the smallest parts in one of the biggest, longest plays in existence, and I’ve been doing theater ever since.”

Stedham found his acting chops in high school when he was

cast as Dr. Frederick Chasuble in Oscar Wilde’s “The Importance of Being Earnest” his senior year. He carried that passion for performing arts into his career as a journalist for the Anniston Star and news director at WDNB radio.

“My drama teacher told me that there were no small roles, just small actors, and I’ve spent the past 50 years trying to prove her wrong,” Stedham joked.

In 1999, Stedham was approached by a colleague to help start a new community theatre group in Anniston. Shortly after, CAST—Community Actors Studio Theater—was born.

“We needed a community theater,” Stedham said. “If we didn’t put it together, nobody else would.”

CAST performed its first show in January 2000 in the Donoho School’s auditorium.

Boynton, Davenport and Stedham

each stressed the importance of community theatre.

“I think some people, especially in our culture today, think that art is something that ‘those people over there’ do,” Boynton said. “No, we all need to write poetry. We all need paint. We all need to find what we enjoy, whether or not we get paid for it.”

And theatre is not just for theatre majors.

“I was in six or seven plays, and I was never a drama major or minor,” Davenport said. “It’s always fun. It doesn’t matter what part you’re doing. Despite the many hours you put into it, once you get on stage, it’s worth it.”

Behind the scenes of “Arsenic and Old Lace” is JSU freshman theatre major Tara Kittrell. Kittrell serves as the assistant stage manager for the production, but has acted onstage before.

“I enjoy both working backstage and performing,” Kittrell said, “but I prefer backstage work, because I think it’s important to recognize all aspects of putting on a production and not just what’s happening on stage.”

Boynton sees community theatre as a gateway for people who want to break into theatre, either professionally or as a hobby.

“Everyone gets their start somewhere,”



Katie Cline / The Chanticleer
Boynton (left) and Mr. Mike Stedham, the student media manager at JSU (Teddy Brewster, right) rehearse a scene from Act 3 of “Arsenic and Old Lace” at the CAST headquarters in Anniston on February 20.

Boynton said. “A lot of people are like, ‘I’m a lawyer, but I do this on the side,’ and I think that’s lovely. We need community theatres. It’s an outlet for artists—even if they’re artists-in-training—or just a cool place where people get together and make theatre and have a good time.”

Kittrell agrees. “Everyone should consider community theater because it’s a great way to meet people—not only where you’re working or going to school but throughout the community,” Kittrell said. “It’s a great way to make friends and different connections you wouldn’t have made before.”

“Arsenic and Old Lace” is directed by 21-year-old Dylan Hurst of Anniston

and also stars Debby Mathews as Abby Brewster, Sylvia Pancake as Martha Brewster, Hannah Culpepper as Elaine Harper, Cory VanEkris as Dr. Einstein, Stuart Henderson as Officer Klein, Chris Colvard as the Rev. Dr. Harper, Darrell Farmer as Lt. Rooney, Howard Johnson as Dr. Witherspoon, Brian Jones as Officer O’Hara and Gene Black as Mr. Gibbs.

The play will run March 8-11 at the JSU McClellan Theater (100 Gamecock Circle Anniston, AL 36207). The curtain rises at 7:30 p.m. on March 8, 9 and 10 and at 2:30 p.m. on March 11. Thursday, March 8 is “pay what you want” night. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$20 for adults for all other performances.



Katie Cline / The Chanticleer
Davenport’s character sleeps prior to the opening of a scene.

COAST TO COAST

Blind man scared of dogs to get UK’s first guide horse

SkyNews

Mohammed Salim Patel, 23, has a degenerative condition called Retinitis Pigmentosa, and had given up hope of having a guide animal as he has a phobia of dogs.

But in a couple of years he’ll have his own miniature horse to help him around the streets of his hometown Blackburn, in Lancashire.

Digby, an eight-month-old American miniature horse, is being trained for Mr. Patel by Katy Smith, from Northallerton in North Yorkshire.

His training will take another couple of years but Digby will be able to help his owner in much the same way as a guide dog.

“I have always loved horses but it is good to see the benefits for people who are visually impaired,” Mr Patel told the Lancashire Telegraph.

“He needs to get used to being out and about in Blackburn.

“I also think I will have to give myself an

extra hour to try to get around my daily routine as people will all want to come and see it and touch it.”

Horses have a longer lifespan than dogs, living to be between 45 and 50 years old, which some have argued makes them a more appropriate lifelong companion for blind people.

Ms Smith, who runs KL Pony Therapy, said: “You may have to have two or three guide dogs and then you have to think about the emotional bond to them.

“Another thing is that people may have an allergy, phobia or for health reasons and it is a choice for people.”

She added that Digby wears nappies and is toilet trained.

Mr Patel told The Guardian that despite only having met Digby once before their last training session in Blackburn, his future furry companion remembered him well.

He added: “He rubbed his neck against my leg and stood next to me, which apparently

is a sign.

“I’m amazed at how good his temperament is, despite the fact he’s only eight months old.”



SWNS
Mohammed Salim Patel with Digby on the streets of Blackburn.

Walmart and Dick’s raise minimum age for gun buyers to 21

Julie Creswell and Michael Corkery
New York Times
Special to the Chanticleer

Two of the nation’s leading gun sellers, Walmart and Dick’s Sporting Goods, took steps on Wednesday to limit their sales of firearms, thrusting themselves into the middle of the polarizing national debate over gun control.

Walmart, the biggest gun seller, announced late in the afternoon that it would not sell any gun to anyone under 21 years of age. It also said it would no longer sell items resembling assault-style rifles, including toys and air guns.

Early in the day, Dick’s said it was immediately ending sales of all assault-style rifles in its stores. The retailer also said that it would no longer sell high-capacity magazines and would also require any gun buyer to be at least 21, regardless of local laws.

Under federal law, a person must be at least 21 to buy a handgun from a firearms dealer. But 18-year-olds can buy semiautomatic rifles and other firearms.

The dual announcements, made two weeks after 17 students and staff members were killed in the school shooting in Parkland, Fla., were among the most significant actions taken on guns by corporate America. Both retailers said their decision were a response to the shooting.

Earlier, President Trump met at the White House with a bipartisan group of lawmakers and called for a series of gun control measures, some of which the National Rifle Association has vigorously opposed.

Walmart and Dick’s acted after a number of major companies moved last week to dissociate themselves from the N.R.A. Hertz car rental, MetLife insurance and Delta Air Lines, among others, publicly ended their relationships with the organization.

In a news release late Wednesday, Walmart noted that in 2015

it discontinued the sale of high-powered rifles, including AR-15-style weapons, in its stores in the United States. But at the time, Walmart sidestepped any controversy involving gun politics, attributing its decision to lower customer demand for the military-style rifles.

This time, Walmart directly linked its action to the shooting in Florida, saying, “In light of recent events, we’ve taken an opportunity to review our policy on firearm sales.”

Top Walmart executives made the decision and then informed the board, a company spokesman said.

Walmart sells guns in roughly half of its nearly 4,000 supercenters, the company said, but the sheer scale of its customer base gives its decision significant heft. Every week, more than 150 million people around the country shop at Walmart.

Dick’s decision was announced by Edward Stack, the 63-year-old chief executive whose father founded the store in 1948. Mr. Stack made clear that he was deliberately steering his company directly into the storm over gun reform.

“When we saw what happened in Parkland, we were so disturbed and upset,” Mr. Stack said in an interview. “We love these kids and their rallying cry, ‘Enough is enough.’ It got to us.”

He added, “We’re going to take a stand and step up and tell people our view and, hopefully, bring people along into the conversation.”

The decision drew immediate — and passionate — reaction on social media. By midday, the number of Twitter messages containing Dick’s name had jumped 12,000 percent from the average over the previous 10 days, according to Sprout Social, a social media management, advocacy and analytics software platform.

About 79 percent of the tweets had a positive sentiment, Sprout

Social said, including supportive messages from Hollywood actors and actresses.

But the company’s critics posted their plans to no longer shop at the retailer, some closing their tweets with “#boycott.”

Investors did not appear to worry about a backlash, as Dick’s stock spent much of Wednesday trading about 1.8 percent higher before finishing up 0.69 percent.

Mr. Stack said Dick’s hoped to move the conversation beyond social media and into the political realm. As part of its stance, the company is calling on elected officials to pass what it called “common sense gun reform”: raising the minimum age to buy guns to 21, banning assault-type weapons and so-called bump stocks, and conducting broader background checks that include mental-health information and previous interactions with law enforcement.

This is not the first time that Dick’s has made changes in response to a school massacre. In 2012, after a gunman killed 26 people at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., Dick’s removed assault-style rifles from its main stores. But a few months later, the company began carrying the firearms at its outdoor and hunting retail chain, Field & Stream.

As of Wednesday morning, the company said, AR-15-style and other semiautomatic rifles will no longer be sold in its 35 Field & Stream stores or on its websites. And this time, Mr. Stack added, the changes will be permanent.

Mr. Stack said the retailer had begun scouring its purchase records shortly after the identity of the suspected Parkland killer, Nikolas Cruz, became known. The company soon discovered that it had legally sold a gun to Mr. Cruz in November, though it was not the type used in the school shooting.

“But it came to us that we could have been a part of this story,” Mr.

Stack said. “We said, ‘We don’t want to be a part of this any longer.’”

That response raised rounds of discussions with the company’s top executives and its directors, all of whom backed the decision to take a stand, Mr. Stack said.

He said Dick’s remained a staunch supporter of the Second Amendment and would continue to sell a variety of sport and hunting firearms. Although he has never been a member of the N.R.A., Mr. Stack said, he is a gun owner and enjoys trapshooting.

But when it comes to selling guns to individuals under 21 or stocking assault-style rifles, Mr. Stack said, his company is done. “We don’t want to be a part of a mass shooting,” he said.

The company said that it had not decided what to do with its inventory of assault-style rifles but that they would not be sold in the marketplace.

Legal experts said they saw no likely challenges to Dick’s decision to stop selling assault-style rifles. But the decision to stop selling weapons to anyone under 21, however, could be tested in court.

Adam Winkler, a professor of constitutional law at the School of Law of the University of California, Los Angeles, said Dick’s could be challenged in lawsuits claiming a violation of laws that bar age discrimination. Although federal civil rights laws do not apply, some states, including New York, prohibit businesses from denying goods and services on the basis of age.

“Don’t be surprised if an aggressive attorney general of a gun-friendly state brings an age-discrimination claim against Dick’s,” Professor Winkler wrote in an email response to questions.

The company said that it believed its decision was in accordance with the law and that it was instituting the policy immediately.

OPINION & EDITORIAL

The kids aren't all bad

Katie Cline
Editor-in-Chief

Yes, I have an opinion on gun laws. No, that’s not what this op-ed is about. Because no matter what I say, people will get mad. I’m not going to pretend to have all the answers, because that’s not my job.

But I am going to talk about what I see happening right now in this country.

I was three-years-old when the Columbine shooting happened, and, growing up, just the phrase “Columbine” was bone-chilling. And I don’t remember talking about it. It was scary, the idea that I might have to hide under a desk and just hope and pray that I wouldn’t be shot and killed at school. It was a long shot in Jacksonville, Ala., of course, but that made it scarier—everyone thought it was a “long shot” in their hometown, too.

And now it’s 2018, and I’ve seen Sandy Hook where 20 children were killed—first graders. And I’ve seen Aurora, Colo. where people of all ages were killed in a movie theater—including a six-year-old. I’ve seen the Pulse nightclub shooting where 49 people were killed—because of their sexual orientation. And now, in the wake of the Parkland, Fla., shooting where 15 teenage students were killed, I’m seeing more and more “close calls” and smaller attacks, like the one at a day care in Oxford where a man threatened workers with a gun. I had a conversation where my roommate and I had to stop and say, “Which school shooting are you talking about?” And those are words that I never, ever thought I’d have to say.

But here we are.

And the difference between the Parkland shooting and everything else? The students who survived are not staying silent. Emma Gonzalez has more Twitter followers than the NRA. Students across the country are organizing walkouts and protests. Schools are trying to retaliate. The government is only half-listening. But these kids are fierce. They won’t stop.

Because these are the kids who were told that they could grow up and be anything. They were raised on “Harry Potter” and “The Hunger Games” and “Divergent” and young adult literature that said, “You don’t have to take this. You can be something bigger than yourself. You can make a difference.”

That’s a lot to put on a child: “Go save the world.” But it’s given an entire generation incredible power. These “kids” are kids, yes, but they are so much more than that, because they’ve had to be. Because they have sat back and watched classmates die for far too long, and now they won’t let it happen again. Because that’s what Harry, Ron and Hermione did. That’s what Katniss and Peeta did. That’s what Tris and Tobias did. None of them asked for the life they lived, and neither did these students. None of the fictional characters they’ve grown up reading wanted to play the hero, but they did because no one else would. And that’s where these students are now.

Gone are the days of damsels in distress.

They’re going to save themselves.

So, do we help them do it, like McGonagall did? Like Haymitch did? Like Evelyn did? Or do we sit back and watch like Umbridge did? Like President Snow did? Like Jeanine Matthews did?

We better decide, because these kids are changing the world, with or without us.

Which side of history are we going to be on?



Katy Nowak/JSU

Jacksonville State starting pitcher Faith Sims (2) gathers with the rest of the Gamecock infield during the middle stages of JSU’s win over Samford earlier in the season.

Ready or not, here come the Gamecocks

Chris Allen Brown
Associate Editor

It hasn’t been the best start to a season for Jana McGinnis and the Jacksonville State softball team this year, but this is a program with a history of coming on when it matters most.

The Gamecocks, the preseason pick by many to win another Ohio Valley Conference championship, are off to a 7-12 start through 19 games. So far, JSU has a pair of wins over Army, one against Jacksonville University, Radford, Southern Mississippi, Lipscomb and Samford.

The win over Samford, 3-2, came on February 14th and stands as only one of two games (Gamecocks play Fort Wayne at 3 p.m. on March 7th) played at University Field so far, this season.

Despite the doubletake worthy record for JSU softball, it really doesn’t mean much of anything at

this point of the season. Why?

Because you can’t win an OVC tournament playing against non-conference opponents. You can’t earn a regional tournament appearance without playing Southern Illinois University at Edwards, Belmont, Eastern Kentucky, Eastern Illinois, Southeast Missouri, Tennessee Tech, Tennessee State, Austin Peay, Morehead State or Murray State.

Those are the most important games. The ones that determine if Jacksonville State even makes the OVC tournament. But don’t worry, they’re coming.

Just like the Gamecocks are.

JSU opens conference play with a doubleheader at UT Martin on March 24th, then jump over to Cape Girardeau, Mo., to play SEMO the next day. Five days later, a road trip to Murray, Ky.,

awaits.

It’s not until April 7th and 8th that JSU will play a meaningful OVC game in front of their fans at University Field when Belmont and Tennessee State come to Jacksonville.

A three-series road trip to Clarksville, Tenn., (Austin Peay), Edwardsville, Ill. (SIUE) and Charleston, Ill. (EIU) within a two-week span could separate contenders and pretenders among the conference standings.

From there, dates with Morehead State (April 28th), EKU (April 29th) and Tennessee Tech (May 4th) round out the regular season, before the OVC tournament starts in Oxford, Ala. on May 9th.

While McGinnis and her team have logged a lot of miles so far, this season, the time for throwing up your feet on the red chairs at University Field is quickly approaching.

They’re home.

The JSU Biology Department needs you.....to name our Dinosaur



Want to win a rare JSU Biology t-shirt? Come by the biology office in #242 Martin Hall and take a picture with the Dinosaur, post it to your social media page, (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) list the name of your choice and #JSUBYDino. The winner or winners, depending on how creative your picture is, along with the Dinosaurs name will be announced on April 23, 2018.

#JSUBYDino

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WE WANT YOU!

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SPORTS

JSU Sports Upcoming Events

Friday, March 9

Baseball
Game 1 vs. Austin Peay*
11:00 a.m.
Choccolocco Park

Women’s Tennis
vs. Tennessee Martin*
12:00 p.m.
JSU Tennis Complex

Rifle
NCAA
Charleston, SC

Saturday, March 10

Rifle
NCAA
Charleston, SC

Baseball
Game 2 vs. Austin Peay *
11:00 a.m.
Choccolocco Park

Men’s Tennis
vs. Chattanooga
11:00 a.m.
Chattanooga, TN

Soccer
vs. Alabama A&M
1:00 p.m.
Huntsville

Women’s Track
Gamecock Invite
Oxford

Sunday, March 11

Baseball
Game 3 vs. Austin Peay *
1:00 p.m.
Choccolocco Park

Men’s Golf
Cape Fear National
Wilmington, N.C.

Monday, March 12

Men’s Golf
Cape Fear National
Wilmington, N.C.

Tuesday, March 13

Beach Volleyball
vs. Huntingdon
Time TBA
Jacksonville

Softball
vs. Alabama State
5:00 p.m.
Montgomery

Bold = Home contest

* = OVC contest



Katy Nowak/JSU

JSU catcher Nic Gaddis was named OVC Player of the Week for his performance in the Gamecocks’ series win over FIU.

Gamecocks take series over FIU

Grant Benefield
Sports Reporter

JSU baseball took a weekend trip to Miami for a three game series with Florida International. The Gamecocks took two-out-of-three—both wins coming in extra innings.

Game one of the series featured plenty of free baseball, with the Gamecocks (8-3) and Panthers (5-6) holding a 6-6 stalemate from the seventh inning until the twelfth when Jacksonville State exploded for 6 runs to win 12-6.

Chase Robinson, Nic Gaddis, and Clayton Daniel each had multi-RBI days for the Gamecocks, recording 3, 2, and 2 respectively.

Garrett Farmer started on the mound for JSU, surrendering 4 runs over 5.1 innings, along with 2 walks and 4 strikeouts.

Gamecock reliever Austin Brewster earned the win for the Gamecocks with an outstanding performance over the last 5.2 innings of Friday’s game. Brewster allowed no runs, no walks, and just 2 hits along with 4 K’s to propel JSU to its big twelfth inning.

The second game of the series played oddly similar to the first, with JSU breaking another 6-6 tie in extra innings with a huge scoring outburst to take the 13-6 win in tenth inning.

This time, the Gamecocks were carried by a

phenomenal 6-for-6, 6 RBI hitting performance from Gaddis.

The junior catcher from Trenton, Ga, became just the third player in NCAA Division I this season to hit the 6 RBI mark in a game. Gaddis was named OVC Player of the Week for his efforts.

Derrick Adams recorded 5 innings and surrendered 4 runs in his start for the Gamecocks, but once again a reliever’s strong finish would earn the W, this time via Tyler Wilburn’s 4 innings of 1 run, 6 strikeout baseball.

The home team struck back in final game of the series, taking Sunday’s match 7-2 over the Gamecocks.

Colton Pate cruised

through the first six frames of his start for JSU, until the Panthers mounted an offensive attack in the seventh inning that chased Pate and resulted in 6 runs. Pate would suffer the loss, surrendering 3 runs and no walks with 6 K’s on Sunday.

The Gamecocks also struggled at the plate, recording just 6 hits and striking out 13 times.

Gamecock designated hitter Trent Simpson posted two of those hits in his 2-for-3 performance.

JSU will play Kenesaw State on Tuesday before opening its OVC schedule on Friday with a three game series against Austin Peay in Oxford.

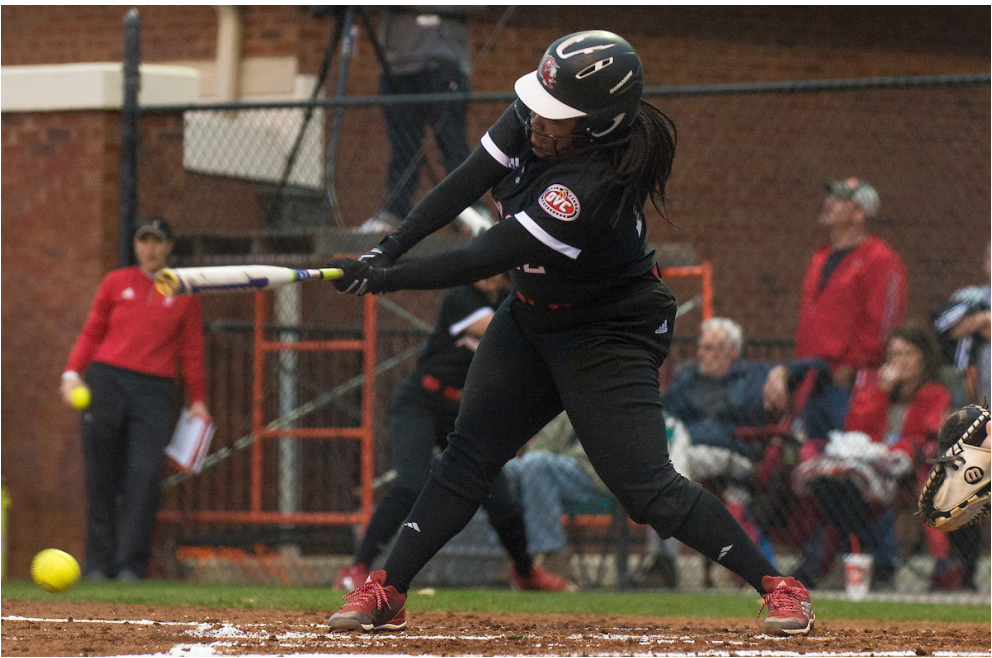
Softball salvages win over Radford

ATHENS, Ga. – Alexis Jimmerson had the last of four-straight singles in the seventh and led the Jacksonville State softball team to a walk-off 6-5 win over Radford in the final game of the Georgia Bulldog Classic on Sunday.

After seeing the Highlanders (12-7) rally to tie the game in the top of the seventh, the Gamecocks (7-12) answered in the bottom half to grab the win. Caitlyn Sapp started with her single through the left side and Anna Chisolm and Taylor Beshears followed with singles of their own to load the bases.

Jimmerson, a junior from Jackson, Tenn., drove Abby Morrow’s 2-2 pitch back up the middle and ended the game in walk-off fashion. It was Jimmerson’s first hit of the day, one that saw the top five spots in JSU’s lineup record all of the team’s 11 hits.

Senior Caitlyn Sapp homered, tripled, scored and drove in a run in the leadoff spot for the Gamecocks, who got a 4-for-4 day from junior Anna Chisolm in the No. 2 spot in the lineup. Chi-



Katy Nowak/JSU

Alexis Jimmerson led the Gamecocks to thier lone win of the Bulldog Classic on Sunday when JSU defeated Radford 6-5.

solm, a junior from St. Louis, doubled and stole two bases in the game, while Beshears went 2-for-3 with an RBI.

Jimmerson also pitched most of the game for JSU. The sophomore went 6 and 2/3 innings and allowed five runs, four earned, on seven hits. She walked five and struck out five. Faith Sims (4-5) recorded the final out and struck out and walked one before earning the win in relief.

Jessie Marvin started the game for Radford and was chased after recording just one out. She surrendered three

first-inning runs on three hits and a walk. Morrow (8-4) suffered the loss after allowing three runs on eight hits in 5 and 2/3 frames.

JSU scored three first-inning runs, starting with Chisolm’s RBI single that plated Sapp. Amber Jones doubled in Chisolm and then a Hayley Sims sac fly scored Jimmerson to put JSU up 3-0.

That score held until the fifth, when Radford tied the game on a Sofia Tapia three-run homer.

The Gamecocks reclaimed the lead in the home half of the fifth,

starting with Sapp’s first homer of the season and the second of her career. The solo shot cleared the wall in left center and put JSU back on top, 4-3.

Chisolm followed with a single and then stole second, setting herself up to score on Beshears’ double into the right centerfield gap.

The Highlanders rallied in the top of the seventh, scoring one run on a throwing error from behind the plate. The tying run then scored on a Faith Sims wild pitch that set up JSU’s walk-off rally.

JSU Sportswire



JSU Athletics

LEFT: Christian Cunningham led JSU scorers with 16 Points against the Racers. ABOVE: The Gamecocks huddle before an attempted free throw.

Daniel Mayes
Sports Editor

EVANSVILLE, Ind. —

What a game. What a comeback. For Jacksonville State, what a heartbreak. Even after a furious 20-point second half comeback for the Gamecocks, JSU fell to Murray State 70-63 in the Ohio Valley Tournament semifinals to end their season. “These kids fought and battled right to the bitter end,” said Coach Harper. Early on, everything went Murray’s way. The Racers were scorching hot to begin the game. They raced out to an advantage by knocking down their first four three-point attempts and 10 of their first 13 overall.

After an 11-0 run by the Racers ending at the 9:59 mark of the first, Murray State held a 14-point lead at 27-13, and the crowd, which was overwhelmingly pro-Racer, became deafening. The Gamecock offense started to catch up with the Racers, however, and the two teams traded baskets for the remainder of the opening period, and the margin stood at 37-25 at the half. The Gamecocks came out of the locker room looking to cut into the deficit, but instead, it was Murray State that entered the second half on fire. After a Johnathan Stark three with 13:48 remaining, the Racer lead reached 20, and it looked like the Gamecocks would be run right out of the Ford Center.

Jacksonville State had been through too much this season to go quietly, however. A dunk by Jacara Cross, a three from Jamall Gregory and another slam from Christian Cunningham, and, suddenly, the Gamecocks were clawing their way back into the game. The run reached 13-0, cutting the deficit to 51-44, before the Racers finally answered. Then the Gamecocks just kept coming. With 4:19 left, the JSU comeback was complete. Jason Burnell spun past a defender in the post and laid it in to tie the game at 60-60. The Gamecocks even took a lead at 63-62 with 2:41 left. If this were a movie, the Gamecocks would have finished off the miraculous

comeback and gotten the win. But, sadly for the smattering of JSU fans in attendance, it wasn’t to be. Stark hit yet another three, then two free throws, then a Shaq Buchanan tip-in gave the Racers a six-point lead with 32 seconds left that sealed it. After the Gamecocks took their lead, Murray State scored the final eight points of the game to win it 70-63. Cunningham, Gregory and Marlon Hunter, who were the driving force behind JSU’s comeback run, finished with 16, 15 and 13 respectively. Senior captain Malcolm Drumwright, who scored the very first points of the game on a three, was held scoreless the rest of the way on 1-10 shooting in the fi-

nal game of a spectacular career in a JSU uniform. The game was also the final for Norbertas Giga, who has also been an instrumental part of JSU basketball in the last two seasons. “These two seniors have done things in the last two years that haven’t been done [at Jacksonville State],” said Harper after the game. Drumwright and Giga saw Jax State go from OVC basement dwellers to winning 20 games in each of their final two seasons, including the school’s first OVC title last year. The Gamecocks close the season with a 21-12 overall, a new Division I program wins record.

Can’t tourn it on

Record seasons end for Gamecock hoops

Daniel Mayes
Sports Editor

EVANSVILLE, Ind. —

They weren’t supposed to be here. Before the season the Jacksonville State women’s basketball team was predicted by the media to finish 2017-18 as the 10th ranked team in the Ohio Valley Conference. Yet there the Gamecocks were, going toe-to-toe with Nationally ranked and OVC-undefeated Belmont in the semifinals of the conference tournament. The Bruin’s firepower proved to be just a little too much for JSU to handle, and the Gamecocks fell 63-53 to

end their season Friday. “We did fight them to the end, that’s for sure,” Head Coach Rick Pietri said of the game. “[Belmont] knew they were in a fight today.” Much like their first tournament win over Morehead State, where they got out to an 8-0 start, the Gamecocks burst out of the gates blazing once again against Belmont, beginning the game 9-2. The Bruins struggled from the field to start, and the Gamecocks took advantage. Tasha Magruder scored the first four points of the game, and Gretchen Morrison nailed a long-range three to extend the lead. Magruder would score

10 points on the afternoon, tying for the Gamecock scoring lead in her final game with freshman Kiana Johnson. JSU would lead by as much as seven twice during the opening quarter, but a Kylee Smith layup with 4 seconds left cut the Gamecock lead to just 15-14 at the end of one. A week before, the Gamecocks played the Bruins close through a quarter, as they trailed just 9-8 at the end of the first before getting blown out 66-35 in the final home game. Friday, the Gamecocks stayed right in the game. Jacksonville State held the lead for over 19 minutes

of game time, and Belmont didn’t take over for the first time until the 2:27 mark of the second quarter. The Bruins held a four-point lead just before the half-time break, but free throws by Tyler Phelion followed by a buzzer-beating layup by Johnson tied the game up again at 25 at the half. The Gamecocks seized back the lead again to start the third quarter, but, after trading baskets for most of the period, the Bruins took the lead for good on a Darby Maggard three-pointer with 4:07 remaining. Belmont used another buzzer-beating three to push the Gamecock deficit to 41-37 at the end of the third.

From there, the Bruins took control. Maggard hit another couple of clutch shots, and suddenly the margin swelled to double-digits. The Gamecocks battled, but Belmont answered every attempt, finally dribbling out the clock for a 63-53 victory. The game was the final contest for JSU seniors Magruder, Phelion and Morrison. “This group of seniors accomplished a whole lot this year,” said Pietri. JSU finished out the season with a 19-12 record, tying the Division I program wins record, and 12 OVC victories, a new program best.

BELOW: The Gamecocks lock arms during the National Anthem. RIGHT: Senior Tasha Magruder led the Gamecocks with 10 points in her final game.

JSU Athletics

