



CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

JSU goes trick-or-treating

SGA holds annual Harvest Fest

JP Wood
Staff Reporter

The quad was packed Monday night for the Jacksonville State University Student Government Association's annual Harvest Festival.

Booths from campus organizations lined the sidewalks with games and candy for the Jacksonville community as well as JSU students and faculty. The event, much like welcome week's Spirit on Mountain Street, is an opportunity for outreach from the University—namely, the SGA—to the city.

"We just love to do this with our community and give our students the chance to interact with them more" said SGA president Kasey Gamble of the Harvest Fest.

Each organization is given the opportunity to set up



JP Wood/The Chanticleer

The Jacksonville Community gathered for the SGA's annual Harvest Festival Monday night.



at the event. They are encouraged to incorporate a game or activity, and candy for the students of Jacksonville.

"We have about 20 organizations here, which is super awesome," said Gamble.

Freshman Forum, the Public Relations Student Society of America, multiple Greek houses, and JSU Athletics, among many more, were represented Monday night.

The festivities also included a performance from the "Crazy About Dance" Dance Studio.

see HARVEST page 2

in ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



A review of JSU Drama's *She Kills Monsters* Page 4

in VIEWPOINTS



OV-See ya Later: Why it's time for JSU to consider conference realignment Page 3

in SPORTS



Gamecocks return to winning ways against Murray Page 8

on CAMPUS

International House Presentation: Ivory Coast Thursday, November 1, 11:00 a.m. International House

Come learn more about the Ivory Coast from one of our JSU students!

FAFSA Frenzy Thursday, November 1, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Ramona Wood Building

The Financial Aid Office will be hosting 'FAFSA FRENZY' each Thursday during the month of November to assist students and parents in completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). These sessions will be held in Ramona Wood Hall, Room 210 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

CAMPUS

New play a 'Monster' success for JSU Drama

Sydney Spencer
Staff Reporter

Since last Friday, Jacksonville State University has hosted four showings of *She Kills Monsters*, a play by Qui Nguyen and directed by Dr. Michael Boynton. This new contemporary and cutting-edge play helps set the bar at an even higher level for JSU's top-notch Drama Department.

With many opportunities to go see it, the reviews for the show have been outstandingly positive. This play has become popular around JSU's campus because it is relatable for young high school and college students facing the challenges of growing up.

The play is a wacky comedy about two sisters that takes place in the 1990's.

The younger sister is a gaming nerd, while the older is an English teacher in her mid-twenties. Unfortunately, the younger sister passes away from a car accident and leaves the older sister guilty because she feels as if she did not truly know her. The older sister decides to play the younger's Dungeons and Dragons campaign. While playing

the game, the older sister and the younger sister are alongside each other defeating monsters and meeting other creatures, allowing the two to learn more about each other along the way.

With all the action going on, the main purpose of the play is to be an empowering message for women. Female actors had a lot of involvement with the play from

the main actresses to the fighting scenes. Some of them had to hit the gym and learn how to fight with real swords. During production, the main situation they were concerned about the most were the technical difficulties.

According to Dr. Boynton, "two days leading up to show-time things were falling apart, but came together when the lights came on."

There was nothing but positive critique and feedback after shows. After the Saturday show, there was a great talkback where special guests from Birmingham from the (MCAC) Magic City Acceptance Center who enjoyed the show as well.

The Magic City Acceptance Center is a drop-in center for see MONSTERS page 2



Photo Courtesy of JSU Drama

JSU's production of *She Kills Monsters* was by all accounts a success for JSU Drama



@ChanticleerJSU

NATION

Florida man arrested in pipe bomb mail case

Scott Young
Staff Reporter

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced in a press conference that Cesar Sayoc, a man suspected of mailing pipe bombs to several outspoken Democratic figures, has been charged with five federal crimes and is facing up to 58 years in prison. None of the pipe bombs exploded, but FBI Director Christopher Wray stated that the bombs were “not hoax devices.”

“Over the past week, more than a dozen suspicious packages have been sent through the United States Postal Service to a media outlet, a Hollywood actor, and at least seven high ranking current and former political leaders in the Democratic Party,” said Sessions in his press conference. “This is utterly unacceptable. Political violence or the threat of violence is antithetical to our vigorous system of self-government.”

Among those that were mailed pipe bombs include former President Barack Obama, former Vice President Joe Biden, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, billionaire George Soros, former Attorney General Eric Holder, former CIA Director John Brennan, actor Robert De Niro, Senator Cory Booker, and former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper.

Sayoc has been arrested numerous times in the past in relation to a bomb threat in 2002, grand larceny and other misdemeanor charges. Prior to his arrest, social media posts indi-



Photo Courtesy of WPLG Local 10, Miami

Florida man Cesar Sayoc was arrested and charged in connection with Pipe Bomb case

cate that he was under a large amount of emotional distress, with tweets containing conspiracy theories and threats toward political figures.

In a tweet written one month before his arrest, he sent a threatening tweet toward former Vice President Joe Biden saying, “Hug your loved son, Niece, wife family real close every time you walk out your home.” In the tweet was a photo of Biden’s home with his family.

Another tweet alleged that Parkland High School student David Hogg, famous for his involvement in the March for Our Lives protests, never attended Parkland High School and “is a paid George Soros actor fraud.”

Sayoc’s van was seized by law enforcement and found to be plastered in pro-Trump stickers. He’s known to be an ardent supporter of President Trump, attending a Trump rally in West Palm Beach, Florida on October 13, 2016. Many have attributed the rhetoric and tone of Trump with the increasing

rage in Sayoc which enabled him to commit these violent acts, while others have argued that Sayoc’s violent history well precedes the rising popularity of Trump, citing his 2002 arrest for a bomb threat.

“There’s no blame, there’s no anything,” Trump said. “If you look at what happened to Steve Scalise, that was a supporter of another party,” citing the shooting of a Congressional Baseball Game, where James Hodgkinson, a Bernie Sanders supporter, shot Congressman Steve Scalise and other attendees of the game. Later, Trump condemned the attacks saying, “No nation can succeed that tolerates violence or the threat of violence as a method of political intimidation, coercion, or control.”

Both fingerprint and DNA evidence located on the explosive ordinance and packaging led to the arrest of Sayoc. He is set to be transferred to the state of New York where he will be prosecuted for his charges and represented by a public defender.

CAMPUS

JSU Botanist awarded research grant

Dr. Jimmy Triplett, assistant professor of biology and curator of the JSU Herbarium, has been awarded a \$20,000 grant by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to research a critically endangered aquatic plant only found in a few areas of Northeast Alabama and Northwest Georgia, including Little River Canyon.

The four-inch tall, pointy-tipped Kral’s Water Plantain, or “Sagittaria secundifolia,” grows just below the surface of the river, flowering from May to July. The species is clonal – meaning it is connected through one root system – and reproduces asexually. Water pollution is one reason the plant has become endangered, as it depends on clean water to survive.

Dr. Triplett will conduct ecological and genetic studies aimed at better understanding the diversity and reproductive biology of the plant. The goal is to secure the survival of this rare plant in the wild while providing educational opportunities for JSU students assisting with the research. The grant represents a nationwide effort to protect endangered American species, through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

T. Wayne Barger with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources praised Dr. Triplett’s conservation and research efforts in the grant award letter, stating: “Your research investigating the rare flora within the state of Alabama is a valuable asset to the scientific community.”

HARVEST from Page 1

The Jack Hopper Dining Hall also participated in the event, hosting a night of carnival style food to fit in with the theme on the quad.

Speaking on her term of SGA President, Gamble said she’s noticed an uptick in student participation of campus events.

“I think everyone’s just grateful to be back” she said, in reference to the wake of the March tornado. “The school pride that I’ve seen has been amazing.”

Gamble said she wants to push for the best possible experience for students at JSU. Given the turnout, excitement and fun of the Harvest Fest this year, the Gamble-led SGA is making good on that goal.

The Harvest Festival, combined with the numerous Halloween-themed parties, concerts, locations and events on campus, helped to create a spooky atmosphere for JSU students heading into Halloween

MONSTERS from Page 1

LGBTQ youth and their allies, ages 13-24 who can come be themselves and where everyone is celebrated for who they are. This correlates to the play because the older sister at the end of the play finds out her younger sister was a closeted lesbian and never spoke to her about it. The older sister feels awful because she was not able to be there for her sister as someone she could talk to about her sexuality.

After the show, the audience got to ask questions and critique. All actors did well during their performances says Boynton. He adds, “I feel like every actor in the show grew. Even my first-year students and students who had no clue what they were doing.” He also feels like his senior students who plan on acting for

a living did an amazing job as well. He mentors them by telling them “to deepen their technique and hone their skills. They have learned more ways to approach character and prepare themselves for the professional world.”

Not only have the actors been working hard, but also the technical crew and faculty who are behind the scenes.

Everyone altogether have put in at least forty hours a week and some of them even more time just to make sure their job is perfected. There is a lot of work that goes in to making a show what it is. On top of rehearsals, memorization, classes, jobs and trying to have a social life, the cast still managed to put on a tremendous production. All of the cast worked really

hard and created a great working atmosphere. Boynton explains the importance of teamwork in casts and how this cast made themselves a family which made it easy for everyone to get along and focus on the main goal of a successful production. Even with minor elements not fixed before showtime, the play still had a triumphant turnout.



Photo Courtesy of JSU Drama



Viewpoints



"OV-See ya Later" It's time for Conference Realignment

JP Wood
Sports Writer

For the past few years now, the discussion about Jacksonville State moving up to the FBS level has grown a little louder. The general idea is that JSU would move to the Sun Belt, bringing back the old Troy rivalry, starting new ones with schools like South Alabama and Georgia Southern, and profit off the increased revenue and recruiting bump of competing in an FBS conference. With the success of recent FCS transplants Georgia Southern and Appalachian State in the Sunbelt, this discussion is likely to gain even more steam.

There is a discussion to be had about JSU aligning themselves with a new conference; however, the Sun Belt is not the answer. Not yet, at least.

Instead, look to the Southern Conference. The Southern Conference currently houses Wofford, The Citadel, Mercer, UNC-Greensboro, East Tennessee State, Furman, West Carolina, Virginia Military Institute, and traditional JSU rivals Samford and UT Chattanooga.

Geographically, the SoCon makes so much more sense than the Ohio Valley currently does. In the OVC, road matchups in any sport are essentially impossible to attend for most students. The remainder of the conference schools are all located much closer to each other than to Jacksonville. Our closest OVC neighbors are Tennessee State, a three-and-a-half hour drive from JSU's campus. Furthest away is Eastern Illinois, which is an eight-and-a-half hour drive. The average distance from JSU to another OVC school is over a five hours. In comparison, the average distance from JSU to a SoCon school is around four. In the case of three of those schools, the total drive comes in under three hours—compared to zero such drives in the OVC. The closer schools would allow students to go on the road with the teams, and represent our school like it deserves to be.

Additionally, the entire atmosphere of all sporting events, especially football, would be

far elevated. As it is now, most of our conference football games are walks in the park. We have a big, beautiful 24,000 seat stadium, but in the 2017 regular season only held an average attendance of 18,583. Conference games had an average attendance of just 17,243. By halftime of most games this year, the vast majority of the student section typically has filed out, because in all but one case against Austin-Peay, the game was already decided. Not to mention, the large amount of road fans who come dressed as empty seats, because of the long drive for most of them to make to Jacksonville just to watch their team get waxed. In the SoCon, football games would be much more competitive- drawing larger crowds, both home and away, and bolstering an already amazing atmosphere inside Burgess-Snow across four quarters instead of just two. Games such as Chattanooga and Samford would boast near-capacity attendance numbers year in, year out.

How well would Jacksonville State fit in to the conference? By enrollment, JSU is currently the 8th largest member of the OVC. In the SoCon, JSU would become the 6th largest. By facility size, JSU holds and would retain the largest football stadium in the conference. Pete Mathews Coliseum would be about average in the SoCon, whereas it is one of the smaller arenas in the OVC. Rudy Abbott Field would be the second largest baseball venue, only 200 seats behind The Citadel. In softball, University Field would also rank among the largest in the conference. The only facility that wouldn't match up to the Southern Conference would be in soccer.

With a move to the SoCon, the entire Athletic Department is bound

to benefit. The SoCon is one of the most competitive conferences in the FCS. In other sports, teams would benefit from shorter road trips, as well as all that comes from playing in an arguably more prestigious conference. Obviously, all sports must be considered when it comes to conference alignment. However, JSU is a football school, and the OVC is not a football conference. The overall competitiveness in sports like basketball,

baseball and volleyball would change very little. In the case of men's basketball, their 11-7 record and third place finish in 2017-2018 would be good enough for fourth in the SoCon.

The Southern Conference in recent years has also served as a springboard to the FBS level. Two current Group of Five powers in the FBS spent time in the SoCon before making the jump to the SunBelt. Georgia Southern and Appalachian State played in the Southern, where they combined for 6 national titles between 1990 and 2007, including 3 in a row for App State from 2005 to 2007. The departure of these programs led to the rise of current owners of the entire FCS subdivision, North Dakota State. If JSU wants to defeat NDSU, or other powers such as James Madison, it isn't going to come as a member of the OVC. A battle hardened team that can run the gauntlet of the SoCon has a better shot in the playoffs than a team who sleepwalks through their conference schedule each year and then gets shell-shocked by a rough team in the playoffs. We just witnessed the negative side effects of such an easy conference schedule against SEMO. No one took that game seriously, and the team came out with very little energy. There would be very few reasons to sleepwalk if Jacksonville State played a more competitive conference schedule.

A JSU move to the SoCon may also prompt other schools in the region to make the jump as well. Schools like budding rival Kennesaw State and traditional rivals North Alabama would fit just as perfectly in the SoCon and provide even more meaningful matchups, as well as road game opportunities for students and fans alike. Sustained success in the Southern Conference could eventually lead to a jump to the Sun Belt or Conference USA, but that is all dependent on JSU's performance in the SoCon.

All in all, JSU has grown stagnant in the OVC. It's time for a change of scenery. Four straight conference football titles with zero national titles shows we have nothing left to prove in this conference; but that we have everything left to prove on the national stage.

Contact Us!

The Chanticleer Viewpoints page is an open forum for JSU students, faculty, and alumni. To submit a guest opinion piece, contact us at chantynewstips@gmail.com



DRAMA REVIEW

She Kills Monsters Kills

Taylor Mitchell
A&E Editor

This past weekend JSU’s Drama Department opened its 2018-2019 season with their production of *She Kills Monsters* by Qui Nguyen. The play is an interesting one about a woman named Agnes Evan who lives and always has lived in the small town of Athens, Ohio. Agnes’ family, including her younger sister Tilly, have recently died in a car accident, leaving Agnes alone and with the realization she never really got to know her sister. Agnes discovers a binder containing a Dungeons and Dragons campaign her sister had written, she decides to play through it in hopes of finally get to know her sister. Along the way, Agnes not only gets to know the world and characters her sister and her friends made, but also who her sister was as a person.

Since this was the first time I have seen the *She Kills Monsters* in any form I feel compelled to talk first about how wonderfully it is written. The writing, in equal parts, had me snorting with laughter and my friend sitting next to me in tears. It is a very personal story, but with that in mind it never takes itself all that seriously. Many characters possess a snarkiness to them that always keeps them grounded and never overly dramatic. It also seems to truly its subject matter. As a Dungeons and Dragons player myself, (oh no looks like that secrets out) this play felt like a love letter to the game I love. The set up for the twist at the end is especially brilliant as it had me second guessing my own understanding of the game. Most people probably didn’t even notice it, which makes it a wonderful bit of foreshadowing. The script also just has wonderful amounts of heart that, when put together with the humor, weaves together a story that hits exactly like it should.

The way JSU Drama brings it all together is both ambitious and complicated. The show required a large amount of specialized pieces to work. There was puppetry, projec-



Courtesy of JSU Drama

From left to right: Kevin Jannot as Orcus, Chloe Barnes as Tilly Evens, Anika Corsi as Kaliope, Allison Lawley as Agnes Evans, and Jessika Holmes as Vera/a Beholder

tion, and sword fighting; all of which were wonderfully done and you can just feel all the work that went into them. The acting was also amazing. Chloe Barnes and Allison Lawley are magnificent as the leads Tilly and Agnes. They bring both wonderful comedic timing as well as really showing just what loss can do to people. Lawley does a very good job at portraying just how lost Agnes is and how confused she is about what she is doing and feeling. Barnes is wonderful as the sometimes braggy and sarcastic, but also incredible insecure Tilly. The sup-

porting cast is also altogether wonderful. I specifically enjoyed Tiffany Jenkins as Lilith/Lily and Christian Watts as Chuck. They both brought fun and energy to their parts that was incredible enjoyable.

All and all the play was fantastic. If you got to see it I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did, and if you didn’t I sincerely hope you make it to another show. If JSU Drama can bring the same quality to their other shows as they have this one, we are in for a very good season.

GAMING NEWS

Red Dead Breaks Records

Peter Glagowski
Destructoid

Rockstar Games has a knack for breaking all kinds of records with its titles. Both Grand Theft Auto IV and V set records in their day and now the recently released Red Dead Redemption 2 is following suit. While not eclipsing the same three-day sales record as GTA V (which launched on a Tuesday), RDR 2 has become the biggest opening weekend ever in all of entertainment. The game managed to sell around \$725 million worldwide, which is insanely impressive.

Put another way, Red Dead Redemption 2 is the biggest entertainment launch of 2018 (and will likely continue that steam into the holiday). It was also the most pre-ordered full game in the history of the PlayStation Network, now holds the biggest day one sales record on PSN and also claimed the biggest three-day full game sales stat on PSN.

This is even before considering that Red Dead Online will be coming next month. Who knows how well RDR 2 will clean up during Christmas when everyone has more time to play it? I guess the eight years between releases hyped people up a bit.



Courtesy of Game Informer Magazine

A good old fashioned robbery is one of the many activities players can enjoy in Red Dead Redemption II



TV REVIEW

Castlevania doesn't suck (it's just the vampires)

Sean Collier
A&E Writer

On October 26, 2018 Netflix released the newest season of *Castlevania*. The first season, even if it was only 4 episodes, proved to be a huge success visually along with its creative storytelling. Since it *is* the season of spooks, I'm going to give you my analysis of the show as a whole and give my opinion on whether or not the second season lived up to the standard the show had placed. Oh, and for all of you that are worried I'll avoid any major spoilers.

If you are unfamiliar with *Castlevania*, the show is actually an adaptation of the video game series. The games were popular due to the grit and violence along with their seemingly impossible difficulty. The show specifically loosely follows the story of *Castlevania III: Dracula's Curse*. The creators of the show definitely took some creative liberties by adding or changing characters. When I first saw that this show was being created I was excited, but concerned. I wasn't sure how they planned going about telling stories based on the game but still be unique and groundbreaking. However, they did it and they did an amazing job.

When Dracula is brought up, people think of the stereotype that originated from Bela Lugosi's Dracula. It has gone beyond that though. The more Dracula has been portrayed, the further away from the history and myth it goes. In some cases, even his power as a vampire has been greatly changed. This show does a very good job in showing how powerful Dracula is. But wait, there's more... this show also does a really good job in making the viewer actually feel for him. In the beginning of the show, Dracula has secluded himself from everything but is sought out by a woman who wants to learn more about advanced medicine and science to help people in need. She actually becomes his wife and seems to give him some hope that humanity isn't all bad. This changes when his wife is burned at the stake after being accused of witchcraft. She had sent him away so he could travel and try to give him more hope in all of humanity in general. When he returns, he finds out she's dead. The way the show portrays his emotional breakdown and how driven he is for revenge make him so believable. He gave humanity one year to try to absolve for what they did to him. News flash, they ignored it... and Dracula doesn't take that too kindly. This is where the purge of humanity begins. In the second season, we get to see more of Dracula as this war goes on. He doesn't come off as a purely evil character, but more of just a broken man. At one point, it is shown how nihilistic he has become. He doesn't care about the brutal methods he used to enjoy, or even feeding. He just wants the end result.

I know that's a lot about one particular character, but having that much character development is great. Especially when it is the primary villain. As the viewer, you know he is the big villain, but he really doesn't feel like it. That is a prime example of why I think the writing for this show is so well done. In season 2, it develops almost every key character in the story by giving the viewer backstory or just showing more of their personality and mindset. The fact it does all of this in



Courtesy of Netflix

a show that is only 12 episodes in total is impressive. It makes all of the characters identifiable and it challenges the viewer when they attempt to pick what side or character they follow.

Another really cool part of this show is the visuals. On top of just being visually stunning in general, the action sequences are probably some of the best I've seen. In the second season there are fights where, if you look closely, certain details stop at certain points in motion. However, it does not feel unnatural. What causes this is that the sequences were animated by holding the initial movements longer than the follow through motions. In doing so the fights and actions are super easy to follow and it looks amazing. It also emphasizes the initial motion so that the viewer sees exactly what the character is doing. For example, the main protagonist in the show is Trevor Belmont. He primarily uses a whip as a weapon. When he does the different actions to move the whip where he wants them to go it is obvious that he is the one in control of it. He is actually that skilled in using those kinds of weapons. If that wasn't emphasized it could be taken as if he was just really lucky and it just so happens to work in his favor. Along with the stunning visuals and action sequences, the show is also brutal. It shows plenty of gore and death. I understand if that isn't your cup of tea, but this show would not

be near as impactful without it. To realize the world from the games into the show, it would have to be dark and the gore would have to be involved. Dracula isn't going to be merciful or humane when issuing a full on war against humanity. The show doesn't overuse gore though, it makes sense in the places where it is. With all of that said, there will definitely be some moments that will make you cringe. With all that said, I love the way the show looks and feels and the character designs are top notch. When the first season came out, I wasn't even disappointed there was only 4 episodes. I was so impressed by how much they did in so little.

So after all that I still need to answer the question: Did season 2 live up to the first season's standards? Heck yes it did. It did that and so much more. I could go on and on forever about this show. It is definitely close to the top of my favorite Netflix shows and I would recommend it to anyone. So if you are wanting to watch a spooky show or just trying to find a dark anime to watch, it is definitely worth your time. After seeing all of this show I will give you some advice: Do not mess with Dracula, even on his bad days.



Study Break



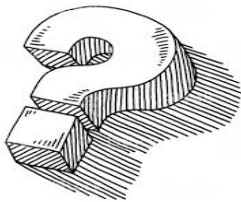
Movie Trivia:

1. What record-setting fee was Peter Jackson allegedly paid to direct 2005’s “King Kong”?
- A. \$20 million
B. \$12 million
C. \$4 million
D. \$8 million
2. How many official movies are there in the “Star Wars” franchise?
- A. 12
B. 3
C. 9
D. 6
3. Which blockbuster film is set in Pandora?
- A. The Dark Knight
B. Alice in Wonderland
C. Avatar
D. Titanic
4. “Nothing on earth could come between them” was the tagline of which film?
- A. Titanic
B. Finding Nemo
C. Shrek 2
D. Avatar
5. What was the name of the Keanu Reeves’s character in “The Matrix Reloaded”?
- A. Link
B. Trinity
C. Neo
D. Morpheus

Did YOU know?



- In 2006, an Australian man tried to sell New Zealand on eBay. The price rose to \$3,000 before eBay shut it down.
- Google’s founders were willing to sell to Excite for under \$1 million in 1999—but Excite turned them down.
- Reed Hastings was inspired to start Netflix after racking up a \$40 late fee on a VHS copy of Apollo 13.
- When three-letter airport codes became standard, airports that had been using two letters simply added an X.
- Nutella was invented during WWII, when an Italian pastry maker mixed hazelnuts into chocolate to extend his chocolate ration.



Riddle of the day...

You have three boxes. One has only red marbles, one has only blue marbles and the third has an equal number of red and blue marbles. The labels on the boxes have intentionally been switched so that each box is now marked incorrectly.

Your job is to relabel the boxes correctly. Of course you could just look in the boxes to find out which labels match, but can you do it without looking into each box? Reach into any one of the boxes and select one marble. Can you now correctly label all three boxes? If not, select a second marble from any box. What is the fewest number of marbles you need to inspect in order to correctly label each box?

JSU BASEBALL

Baseball caps off fall slate with sweep of Shelton State



JSU Sportswire

JACKSONVILLE – Freshman Brook Brannon delivered the game-winning home run in the opening contest and drove in the go-ahead run in the nightcap to lead Jacksonville State past Shelton State Community College on Thursday afternoon in a Fall friendly at Rudy Abbott Field at Jim Case Stadium.

The Gamecocks downed the Bucs 2-0 on Brannon's two-run home run to left field in the home half of the fifth inning. Brannon, from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, delivered the tying and go-ahead runs on an infield single in the fourth inning of the game in a 5-2 decision.

Brannon, who joined the JSU program after a solid prep career at Tuscaloosa Academy, was one of the highlights noticed by head coach Jim Case.

"He (Brook Brannon) did some really good things today with the home run in the first game and we just need him to continue to get better as we look toward the season," said Jim Case.

Case saw some other bright spots from his club, who was facing one of the top junior college programs in the state of Alabama and in the region.

"I am very appreciative of Shelton State for coming over to play this game. I think it is great to play outside competition because it give you a sense of where you stand as a program and it highlights things that we are doing well and points out things that we need to continue wo work on before February," added Case.

JSU went with another freshman on the mound to start the opening game

as Isaiah Magwood tossed the first two innings. The Hazel Green, Alabama product, who led the Trojans of Hazel Green High School to the Class 6A Alabama State Championship, worked a clean two innings, retiring the Bucs in order in both frames. Jax State used newcomers Alex London, from Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Michael Gilliland a native of Boaz, Alabama in relief.

Junior Andrew Naismith turned in a double down the first base side in the fifth to kick start the scoring in the frame before Brannon recorded the home run. Junior Chase Robinson also had a double in the inning. Gilliland, a left handed pitcher, continued on the mound before issuing an SSCC run in the first inning. JSU equalized in the first with an RBI single by sophomore Cole Frederick. The Bucs would take the lead again in the third on a sacrifice fly.

After back-to-back walks by redshirt sophomore Grant Atkins and senior Nic Gaddis, coupled with a stolen base by

Atkins and a balk on the SSCC pitcher, Brannon beat out a two-out infield hit, scoring both Atkins and Gaddis.

Jax State used red-shirt freshman Trey Fortner and Naismith in relief.

The Gamecocks will now finish out the Fall workouts for the remainder of October before looking ahead to the start of the 2019 campaign in the new Rudy Abbott Field at Jim Case Stadium. Opening Day is set for Friday, February 15 against in-state rival North Alabama.

JSU Sportswire

JSU CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country finishes 2018 season at OVC Championships



JSU Sportswire

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. – The Jacksonville State men's and women's cross country teams wrapped up the 2018 season on Saturday at the OVC Championships hosted by Southeast Missouri.

The championship saw Eastern Kentucky take the team titles on both the men's and women's side as the Colonels continued their dominance in the event. It marked the seventh-straight year the ECU

women's team claimed the title, and the 13th consecutive championship for the nationally-ranked ECU men's squad.

JSU came home 11th in both races. Junior Corey Champion paced the Gamecock men with a time of 28:03.5 for the 8K championship course, while sophomore Chemutai Nereo led the women with a 5K time of 18:35.2.

JSU's women had a total time of 1:40.47 among the fuve scor-

ers. Behind Nereo, Jasmin Ortega posted a 20:02.0 mark, ahead of Emily Sorrell, Autumn Rich and Briar Poytress. The men's team averaged 29-minute runs, with sophomore Riley Slone following Champion with a time of 28.34.4. Slone was followed by Tony White, Seth Emmenegger and Jeremiah Burns who scored for JSU.

JSU Sportswire

2018 JSU Football Schedule

Aug. 25
North Carolina A&T
Montgomery, Ala.
6 p.m.
LOSS

Sept. 8
Mississippi Valley State
6 p.m.
WIN

Sept. 22
*Tennessee Tech
6 p.m.
WIN

Sept. 29
*Austin Peay
(Homecoming)
3 p.m.
WIN

Oct. 6
*at Eastern Kentucky
3 p.m.
WIN

Oct. 13
*Eastern Illinois
3 p.m.
WIN

Oct. 20
*at Southeast Missouri State
1 p.m.
LOSS

Oct. 27
*at Murray State
3 p.m.
WIN

Nov. 3
*UT Martin
1 p.m.

Nov. 10
*at Tennessee State
2 p.m.

Nov. 17
at Kennesaw State (SunTrust Park)
TBA

*-OVC Game
All times Central

JSU FOOTBALL

Gamecocks return to winning ways after defeating Murray State 42-15

MURRAY, Ky. – Jacksonville State started a new Ohio Valley Conference win streak on Saturday against league-leader Murray State.

Taking the field for the first time since their 36-game conference winning streak was snapped, the 12th-ranked Gamecocks jumped on the Racers early and overcame two turnovers to pull away for a 42-15 victory at Roy Stewart Stadium.

Jacksonville State (6-2, 5-1) moved into a three-way tie atop the OVC standings with Southeast Missouri and Murray State as the calendar flips to November.

"We talked a lot about coming out and being mentally ready to play," said Jacksonville State head coach John Grass. "I thought we played with a lot of energy. I'm very proud of our guys and how we did that."

The Gamecocks piled up 577 total yards – 286 through the air, 291 via the ground. Six JSU players had at least four rushing attempts and eight caught at least one pass.

"We were very disappointed last week how we ran the ball," Grass added. "We threw the ball efficiently and, besides the pick-six, the passing game was pretty good."



JSU Sportwire

Junior receiver Josh Pearson became the FCS leader with three more touchdown catches as he continues to rewrite the Jacksonville State single-season record. Pearson scored on passes of four, nine and 25 yards from Zerrick Cooper and now has 15 with three regular-season games remaining.

It was Pearson's second three-touchdown effort of the season and fifth with multiple TD catches. He had a team-high six receptions for 77 yards Saturday afternoon.

Cooper overcame the early pick-six and threw for 259 yards against the Racers (4-4, 4-1), completing 21-of-28 passes. He moves into a tie with Ryan Perrilloux (2008) for fifth-most touchdown passes thrown in a

season with 19.

The sophomore quarterback from Jonesboro, Ga., also scored on a 1-yard run in the second quarter and had 51 yards on the ground before yielding to backup quarterback Zion Webb early in the fourth.

Jacksonville State saw its lead whittled to 21-15 early in the third quarter when the Racers recovered a fumble at the Gamecock 48. Murray State quarterback Drew Anderson scrambled 17 yards for a touchdown to make it a one-score game with 13:32 left in the third.

JSU responded by scoring 21 unanswered points to pull away.

Jaelen Greene started the outburst with a 1-yard run and Cooper connected with Pearson for the third time to

stretch the Gamecocks' lead to 35-15 early in the fourth.

Webb finished off the scoring with a 4-yard TD in the fourth quarter for his sixth rushing touchdown. He led the Gamecocks in rushing with 74 yards.

Jacksonville was 12-for-17 (71%) on third-down conversions against the Racers; Murray State, meanwhile, was 0-for-11 on third downs.

Linebacker Zack Woodard had an interception in the fourth quarter for the Gamecocks, his team-best third of the season.

JSU plays its final regular-season game at Burgess-Snow Field when UT Martin (1-7, 1-4) visits. Kickoff is at 1 p.m. and the game will be televised on ESPN+.

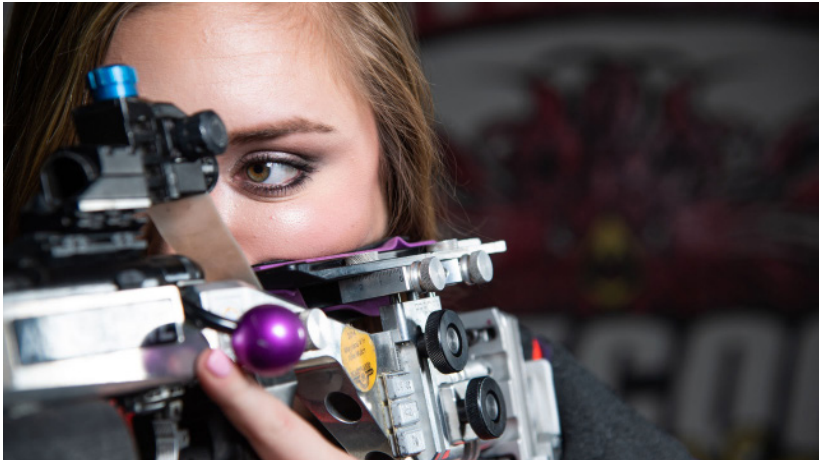
JSU RIFLE

Rifle Concludes Trip to Alaska

JACKSONVILLE – The nationally-ranked Jacksonville State rifle team ventured out to Fairbanks, Alaska to compete against the University of Alaska-Fairbanks in three separate matches.

Alaska-Fairbanks, ranked fourth in the nation, claimed all three outings against the Gamecocks, ranked No. 17 in the weekly College Rifle Coaches Association Poll. JSU returned in an aggregate mark of 4609 in the first of three outings last Thursday and posted a final mark of 4628 in back-to-back outings.

In the first match with the Nanooks, the Gamecocks were led by senior Mekenna Richardson. She turned in a 588 in air rifle and a 569 in smallbore for a total of 1157. Senior Hunter Behrends followed with a team-best 578 in smallbore and added a 575 in air rifle. Senior David Sink rounded out the top-10 individuals with a 578 in air rifle and a 575 in smallbore. Both squads returned to the range on Saturday at the Tanana Valley Sportsman Association Range after shooting at UAF's E.F. Horton Rifle Range on Thurs-



JSU Sportwire

day and Sunday. JSU was led by Sink, who claimed bronze in the individual standings. The Crumpton, Maryland native combined for an 1162 on Saturday. He registered a 586 in air rifle and a 576 in smallbore. Richardson carded the best smallbore mark for Jax State with a 579. She finished the day

with a 580 in air rifle. Freshman Mackenzie Van Patten added an 1154. The weekend wrapped up with Richardson claiming third place on the individual leaderboard with a combined score of 1165. The Rhodesville, Maryland product tallied a 588 in air rifle and a 577 in small-

bore. Junior Zach Schmidt concluded the trip with an 1157, while Behrends capped off the JSU scoring with an 1155.

JSU's will return to action closer to home on Saturday with a visit to Murray, Kentucky to face Ohio Valley Conference foe Murray State

JSU Sportwire

JSU VOLLEYBALL

JSU stuns Morehead in five sets



JSU Sportwire

JP Wood
Sports Writer

JSU Volleyball wrapped up an undefeated week with a thrilling upset victory over 17-8 (8-4 OVC) Morehead State on Saturday.

In its annual "pink out" game, the 14-12 (6-6 OVC) Gamecocks rallied in the fifth set to prevent a season sweep from the Eagles.

After a 25-13 blow out in the fourth set, the Gamecocks finally rectified their fifth set issues and overcame match point to steal the win from MSU.

Down 14-13, the Gamecocks were forced to take a timeout. With her 8th kill of the match, Mackenzie Rombach evened the score at 14 all. A MSU hitting error, followed up by an Addie Halverson match-ending kill, sealed the win and sent the Kennamer Hall crowd up and over the edge.

Kaylee Frear joined Rombach with eight kills, while Halverson and Lena Kindermann led the way with 13 and 12 kills each. Three Gamecocks collected double digit digs, Dani Steele with 14, Lexie Libs with 12 and Ashley Clingan with 11. The Gamecocks also registered 10 blocks as a team, with Frear leading the way at seven.

Only two weekends remain in the season, and Jax State currently holds a tie for fifth-place in OVC standings, along with Tennessee State and SEMO. JSU will face TSU and Belmont next weekend in Nashville, and will host SEMO on the 11th of November in Kennamer Hall.



JSU Sportwire