The student body came together on the steps of Bibb-Graves Tuesday night for to light up campus for the holiday season. The annual ‘JSU in Lights’ event featured representatives from campus organizations, JSU cheerleaders, administrators, Cocky, and President Beehler. Hot Chocolate and Cider were on hand for the event, which also served as the SGA toy drive for children in need.

President Beehler and SGA President Kassey Gamble spoke to those on hand before flipping the switch and lighting up Bibb-Graves. “We’re really celebrating how far we’ve come since the tornado” said President Beehler. “We’ve really got a heck of a lot accomplished.”

President Beehler also spoke of his gratitude for those students whose drive to attend JSU was unwavered. “We lost hardly any students at all,” he said. “JSU in Lights” is a special celebration of not only the holiday season approaching, but all that the school has done over the past eight months. A number of campus organizations were also present. Freshman Forum was recognized for having the most representation at the event. A Christmas tree stands in Bibb-Graves with ornaments representing numerous on campus organizations, from Greek Life to Freshman Forum to SGA.

Protesters halted traffic on Highway 31 near the Galleria after new evidence suggested Emantic Bradford Jr. was not responsible for Thursday night’s shooting.

Scott Young
Staff Reporter

Last Thursday evening, a shooting broke out in the Riverchase Galleria Mall in an altercation between two people that left two injured and one dead. Emantic Bradford Jr., 21, was shot and killed by Hoover Police while “fleeing the shooting scene while brandishing a handgun.”

Initially, Hoover Police announced that Bradford was responsible for the shooting of an 18-year old man and 12-year old girl. “I’m just grateful for the rapid professional response of our police officers. They acted with such heroism,” said Gregg Rector, a Hoover Police captain. “They acted appropriately and quickly, and you know, acted in a way that prevented something that could have been much worse than what we have here tonight. It’s already a bad situation.”

On Friday night, Hoover Police recanted their statement and said there was new evidence suggesting that Bradford was not the shooter. “New evidence now suggests that while Mr. Bradford may have been involved in some aspect of the altercation, he likely did not fire the rounds that injured the 18-year-old victim,” said Rector in the new statement. “This information indicates that there is at least one shooter.”
COMMUNITY

Peter Pan to sprinkle pixie dust over Jacksonville Opera Theatre

Take the second star to the right, straight on to the Oxford Performing Arts Center, for the Jacksonville Opera Theatre’s production of J.M. Barrie’s beloved classic, “Peter Pan,” on stage Jan. 4-10.

It’s a story we all know and love. Peter and his mischievous fairy sidekick, Tinkerbell, visit the nursery of the Darling children late one night and, with a sprinkle of pixie dust, begins a magical journey across the stars they’ll never forget.

This high-flying Tony Award winning musical has been performed around the world and delighted audiences for 60 years. Featuring the iconic songs “I’m Flying,” “I’ve Never Had a Day” and “I Won’t Grow Up” and “I’m Panning for Gold” and “Never Land,” it’s the perfect show for a family with all of the markings of young and never growing up.

But this magical enchanting tale is familiar to audiences, the JSU production will contain a few surprises.

“One of the dangers with this show is that it has been done in so many ways,” said Carrie Colton, the JSU drama professor directing the production. “We are hoping to modernize it and find an edgier and more relatable Peter for 2019. The magic will be as original as the production.”

The production is comprised of JSU students and members of the community broken down into three major groups: Pirates, played by character actors; Brave Warriors, played by strong dancers including JSU Marching Band’s Marching Ballerinas; Lost Boys, played by local children.

“It’s a wonderful and diverse mix of individuals,” said Colton. “Peter Pan is such a complicated show with so many moving parts and on top of it all, we have to make the characters fly. Expect greatness, expect originality and expect to have a good time.”

Ticket prices for regular performances range $19-$29 for adults, $23 for OPAC Gold Circle members, and $7 for JSU students and guests younger than age 18. Purchase tickets online. School group performances will be held on Jan. 10 at 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Teachers can book online. The cost is $5 per child.

The Jacksonville Opera Theatre hopes to send 4,500 children to see the classic musical for free. A fundraiser is being held on Dec. 6 at Classic on Noble to purchase tickets for school groups. For $35, guests will enjoy dinner, entertainment from the Peter Pan cast, a cash bar and auction. Purchase fundraiser tickets online. To make a donation, contact Nathan Wight, director of operatic activities, at nwight@jsu.edu.

Since 2003, the Jacksonville Opera Theatre has presented vibrant, professionally staged productions featuring musical talent from JSU’s David L. Walters Department of Music. All productions are conducted, directed and designed by university faculty and staff and JSU music and drama students. Learn more about the Jacksonville Opera Theatre at www.jacksonvilleopera.org and more about its production of “Peter Pan” at www.ThePeterPan.com.
‘Tis the Season for giving back

Breanna Hill
News Editor

Students returned this week with full bellies and the knowledge that the only thing standing between another long holiday break is finals. This week, students are going to be pulling all-nighters and studying as much as possible for the upcoming exams. Once we’re all out for the holidays it’s easy to think of ourselves and our families, which is always a good thing, but it’s also important to think of the people who aren’t as fortunate as we are.

It is estimated that there are over 3,700 homeless people in Alabama alone. Think of how many of those people are children, and how many of them are young adults like you and I. These people have no idea where their next meal is coming from, much less have any way to celebrate for the holidays. With this thought in mind I’ve decided to share a few ways that we can help make someone’s holiday season just a little bit better.

There is a program named Hands on Birmingham. There is always a need for volunteers, and you can help out at one of the community kitchens, assist with Red Cross, or even help with the angel tree distribution.

The community kitchen is always a good way to go. Volunteering here means serving lunch for those who are in need of a nice meal. The dates for this event include December 26th, December 31st, January 1st, and January 2nd from 10 am to 2 pm. To help out at this event it’s important that you register. Registering can be done by contacting Kimberly Jeanty at this email address: kjeanty@thecommunitykitchens.org

The Red Cross Association in Birmingham has decided to ask citizens to make homemade DIY Christmas cards for Veterans and men and women serving in the armed forces today. Ask anybody and everybody you know to take a little bit of time out of their day to make a sweet card, thanking them for their service and showing support. Cards will mean a lot to those who aren’t able to be with their families for the holidays. Cards must be dropped off at the Red Cross location in Birmingham by December 9th. The address for the Red Cross Location is 114 22nd St S, Birmingham, AL 35233

When it comes to volunteering for the angel tree distribution there are many things that you could help out with—ranging from assisting with parking, carrying and loading bags into the vehicles, and or retrieving families gift bags. It should be noted that volunteers should not be under the age of 15.

Along with these three volunteering events there are several that Hands on Birmingham have organized. By going on their website: https://www.handsonbirmingham.org/holiday-volunteering you can see a full list of all the volunteering events going on this season.

Take some time to help out and volunteer during the long break we’re given. The holiday season is all about giving and being thankful for what you have. Appreciate what you have and be grateful because I can guarantee you that someone would love to be in your shoes.

Appreciate the Arts

Breanna Hill
News Editor

Growing up, a number of us were exposed to school systems that had praised the athletic programs and barely supported the arts. The dwindling percentage of students joining these performing arts programs is truly heartbreaking. I was a tiny little sixth grader when I picked up a trumpet for the first time, and it completely changed my life. I began to appreciate music more, and art, and writing, and everything to do with the concept of expressing yourself through these activities.

Schools should not be letting these programs seem as if they aren’t as important as the athletics. It should be equal. There should be shown support for the band members and the incredible artists who put as much effort into their passions as a football player or a soccer player does.

It takes talent and pure determination for all extracurricular activities which is why all of them should be supported in every way possible.

Next time you’re at a football game instead of going to the bathroom during halftime stay and watch the halftime show. I can promise you the band worked incredibly hard to not only memorize the music that they play, but also to memorize all the steps and positions that they make out on the field in front of you—and watching it really does mean the world to them. Go to an art gallery every now and then, look at the art and think about how important it is, It’s important enough that someone took the time to create one of their beautiful ideas and share it with the world. Appreciate the arts.

Good luck to everybody on finals and happy holidays!
The last day of rehearsals ended with everyone crying because the story has moments where it’s a little too close to home. The story does end with an uplifting message to balance out emotions. There are only two opportunities for this production to be seen and they are November 29th and 30th which is this Thurs- day and Friday at the Stone Center. It is ten dollars if you are a student and free if you are in a theater class at Jacksonville State.

### Pokemon Goes to a new home

**Sean Collier**  
A&E Writer

It is not secret that *Pokemon* has been a phenomenon for about as long as it was originated. It means instead of a popularity for years and most likely will for many more. The community does tend to have a large following for the games and other things but it has still en- dured. Thanks to the release and popular- ity of *Pokemon GO*, people who had never played or gotten into *Pokemon* previous- ly, started playing. With this increase of inter- est, and the popularity of *Pokemon GO*, it was only a matter of time until the *Pok- emon Company* made a game that would for all the fans including the newer ones. That is where *Pokemon Let’s Go* comes in.

*Pokemon Let’s Go*, on the surface, is a remake of the original *Pokemon Yellow*. In- cluding the original generation of *Pokemon* in the Kanto region. However, this game is so much more than that. For starters, the game was released with two versions: *Pokemon Let’s Go* and *Pokemon Let’s Go Eevee*. Each version has their re- spective “buddy” *pokemon*. They function similarly, but they also do so much more. For instance, in previous games the player had to teach HM moves (fly, cut, surf, etc.) to progress through the game, at certain points. This means instead of a *pokemon* having useful moves for combat, they’d have that move there. This created the whole notion of the certain *pokemon* only being used as utility. With *Pokemon Let’s Go*, that isn’t the case. Instead, your buddy learns them as “secret techniques”. They are added to a separate menu so they do not function as combat moves. The bud- dy *pokemon* also has the chance to learn moves exclusive to them. At various poke- mon centers around the map, a ring is added to your buddy to teach them a new move. These moves are added to a separate menu so they can be used in combat. This definitely targets the *Pokemon GO* fans to get them interested, but it also fixes the idea of hurting poke- mon to have them as your own. This isn’t the only tie to *Pokemon GO*, the game also replaces the *pokemon safari* with the *Pokemon GO* park. If you link your switch with your *Pokemon GO* account you can transfer the first generation *pokemon* you caught to *Pokemon Let’s Go*. They will ap- pear in the park, their stats will be adjusted to fit the game based on their original stats, and you’ll have to catch them to add them to your party. This also includes all of the Alolan variants of first generation poke- mon. This feature will not only pique the interest of *Pokemon GO* players, but it will also get people to continue or start playing *Pokemon GO*.

The story of *Pokemon Let’s Go* is a true remake of *Pokemon Yellow*, but with some additions. Instead of Red and Blue being the new trainers, they are renowned. Char- acters that are used in the original *anime* show more similarities to their personality in the show. Jessie and James look like the anime characters and even speak that way. Brock even talks about getting turned down by beautiful women. This brings a feeling of nostalgia to longtime fans of the show. As far as the game goes, it is about as much as you should expect from a *Pokemon* game. It isn’t super difficult and it makes it easy for a newer player to get started. The combat functions the same as the old games, just with some more polish. The graphics are beautiful on top of all the new features and additions, but it is still a *pokemon* game at its core. *Pokemon Let’s Go* is the perfect game for fans, old or new. So let’s go catch ‘em all.
FROM THE EDITORS DESK

Red Dead Redemption has more to say than you think

Taylor Mitchell
A&E Editor

So I had an interesting experience the other day. I have been playing Red Dead Redemption 2 (also known as Rootin Tootin Red Dead Redemption 2) over the Thanksgiving break and I have gotten to the third chapter of the game where the Van Der Linde gang is forced to move to the southern state of Lemoyne (fictionalized Louisiana) in order to escape the authorities. The gang doesn’t have a very kind view of southerners, not surprising considering the game takes place in 1899. True to life many people still blamed the south for the Civil War at the time, and Dutch van der Linde holds a very personal grudge due to his father’s death in the war. They have a point, as over the course of my travels in Lemoyne I have stopped a few attempted hate crimes, and discovered a gang of idiots that think the Civil War never really ended. Yet these hateful idiots that shot at my good buddy Lenny, while deserving of the justice that I wrought upon them, weren’t really anything I didn’t expect to find in this game, but something else I found certainly was.

Rockstar really surprised me with a character named Jeremiah Compson. The player meets Compson near the train station in Rhodes, I personally was on the way to a pay a bounty, while he is sleeping on a bench while fall down drunk. Compson is an old man who spins a story of losing his job and subsequently his property to the bank without the ability to retrieve a few important mementos from his home before foreclosure. The game’s protagonist Arthur Morgan, and myself do not feel that matter, take pity on the poor old drunk and offer to go to the house and retrieve the items namely: His grandfather’s pocket watch and pistol, and a ledger.

As I explored the house I found several notes that indicated Compson had worked for a local plantation and had been laid off sometime previously, and had even been told by his son that he would prefer if he had pitied and helped a monster made me almost physically sick.

When the player returns to Compson, Arthur berates the man for his former profession and throws his things in a fire, something I fully supported. This sends Compson into a rant about how he is supposed to be a “gentleman” who simply took pride in his work and that the situation is unfair. Eventually, all Compson can do is cry on the ground.

I wanted to highlight this mission because I didn’t expect this from my western game about being an outlaw. It’s a side of the reconstruction era that is hard to talk about, you see men like Compson did lose their jobs, they did end up sleeping on benches. That doesn’t make them less of monsters, but it is something that is interesting to see depicted at all.

The thing that struck me was it was men like Compson, “Gentlemen” who took pride in their work, that created many of the systems that have plagued race relations in the south for over a century at this point. There is a concept that has existed since the Civil War known as The Lost Cause of the Confederacy. The Lost Cause and those who support it seek to minimize the role slavery had in the outbreak of the Civil War, and to then emphasize the harm done to the South following the war as a consequence of Northern Aggression. If you have ever taken Dr. Paul Beley’s History classes you probably heard about this idea before and even if you haven’t you’ve likely run into this line of thinking before. Let’s face it, as a southern white male I have had this narrative repeated to me more times than I care to admit and seeing it addressed in a video game by someone who clearly believes it is something that I find fascinating. It’s important to acknowledge this kind of thinking in a historical context by understanding that people had a reason for the line of thought even if it is harmful and wrong. I believe that is the root of the depiction in the game. It acknowledges the thinking while clearly depicting why it is wrong. That is more than I had expected from Rockstar.

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Trivia Answers: November 15th Edition!

1. In Aladdin, what is the name of Jasmine’s pet tiger?
Answer: Rajah

2. The handsome prince in Snow White and the Seven Dwarves is probably the most mysterious out of all the Disney princes. What is his name?
Answer: Prince Florian

3. What is Simba’s mother’s name in The Lion King?
Answer: Sarabi

4. In Monsters Inc what is Boo’s real name?
Answer: Mary

Harry Potter Trivia:

1. In the Harry Potter series, what is the name of Harry’s pet owl?
A. Hedwig
B. Braum
C. Hester

2. Which book was famously rejected by 12 publishers before finally being accepted by Bloomsbury?
A. Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
B. Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
C. Harry Potter and The Philosopher’s Stone

3. Who directed the movie “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban”?
A. Chris Columbus
B. Alfonso Cuarón
C. David Yates

4. In what year was the first Harry Potter movie released?
A. 1999
B. 2000
C. 2001

Riddle of the week...

An absentminded philosopher forgot to wind up the only clock in his house. He had no radio, television, telephone, internet, or any other means of ascertaining the time. He therefore decided to travel by foot to his friend’s house, a few miles down a straight desert road. He stayed there for the night and when he came back home the following morning, he was able to set his clock to the correct time. Assuming the philosopher always walks at the same speed, how did he know the exact time upon his return? Note: this is not a trick question. The Philosopher did not bring anything to his friend’s house, nor did he bring anything back with him on his trip home.
BILL BURGESS

To be inducted into Alabama Sports Hall of Fame

December 29, 2018

By: Ginger Hill

BIRMINGHAM — Former Jacksonville State head football coach Bill Burgess has been selected to be inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame as part of its Class of 2019, the Hall of Fame announced Thursday. Burgess will be joined by Tennessee State head coach Eddie Robinson, Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher, and become the newest members of the prestigious Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

The inductees were selected by ballot through a statewide selection committee. The 51st Induction Banquet and Ceremony will be held May 7 in Birmingham, at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, at 12:30 p.m.

Burgess, who led JSU to an overall record of 69-22-4 in 22 seasons as head coach of the Ospreys, was selected for his contributions to the university’s football program.

The honor adds to Burgess’ list of Hall of Fame accomplishments. He was inducted into the Jacksonville State University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003 and then into the NCAA Division II Football Hall of Fame in 2011. JSU also honored the former coach prior to the 2018 season when the University added his name to the football facility, which is now known as Burgess-Snow Field at JSU Stadium.

Burgess joined JSU in 1988 and led the Gamecocks to an over .500 record of 56-8-1 in 1992. He capped with the 1992 NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year.

He coached the Gamecocks from 1988 through the 1996 season, posting a career record of 84-49-4, which are the second-most wins in school history. JSU won the Gulf South Conference in 1989 and 1994 with a perfect 8-0 record and finished NCAA Runners-up. Jackson State then fin-

ished 6-0 in 1991 and 5-1-1 in 1996, which was back-to-back GCC titles.

Burgess returns to Jacksonville State

On the heels of 2018-19 season, Burgess is back on the JSU coaching staff with the Gamecocks in the Cancun Challenge. Burgess is in his second season as an assistant at Jacksonville State, after spending the previous three seasons as the head coach at Jacksonville State.

Burgess directed Jacksonville State to a 7-1-1 record in 2019 and led the Gamecocks to the Cancun Challenge title. Burgess also led the Gamecocks to five Gulf South Conference titles, winning the National championship in 1990.

Burgess is the son of JSU Athletics Director of Student-Athlete Development (Athletic Director de facto) and 1975 JSU graduate, Analine Reddick Whitehill. Burgess is an Antonio Langham, Steve Gonzalez, Bud Moore, Mel Davenport, Luis Bermejo, and was a three-time All-Gulf South Conference selection.

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Johnson’s 27 helps lift JSU over Falcons

JSU WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

CENTRE — Freshman Yamia Johnson exploded for 27 points and the Jacksonville State women’s basketball team cruised past a solid Division II opponent in Montevallo on Tuesday night at the Cherokee Arena.

Playing its first home game of the regular season — albeit off campus — the Gamecocks cashed in on its highest scoring output of the year in an 84-52 victory over the Marauders (3-3). JSU shot 40 percent from the floor, drawing 11 three-pointers for the fifth-most in a game in the past three seasons.

Johnson, a 5-foot-11 guard from Lexington, S.C., carried the load in the second half, where the triples going 6-of-10 from the arc. Redshirt freshman Dondrea Allen went 4-of-10 from deep to finish with 18 points.

Overall, the Gamecocks finished in double figures as sophomore Taylor Harvis had 13 points to go along with season-best seven as- sists, while senior Rayven Pearson went for 10 points, 10 boards, two blocks and a steal. Johnson’s breakout night blighted her previous career high of six points that came in JSU’s last outing against Washington State.

She finished a dominant 10-of-16 shooting, becoming the first Gamecock with more than 20 points in a season.

Cooper continued to re- write the school record for most touchdown passes in a season with 30 in 12 games.

Jaelen Greene became the first Gamecock run- ner this season to rush for more than 100 yards with a game-high 114 yards on 11 carries.

The Buccaneers fought back again and closed the gap to 34-27 by marching 75 yards in just over 7 minutes following Bridg- es’ pick-six.

The first Gamecock run, the second a drive that resulted in a field goal, closed out the first half.

Johnson was churning toward the east end zone with eight apiece.

For the second consecu- tive quarter JSU scored in the first two quarters, outgaining the Gamecocks 19-10.

The Buccaneers fought back again and closed the gap to 34-27 by marching 75 yards in just over 7 minutes following Bridg- es’ pick-six.

They fought and battled. They were able to take ad- vantage back to JSU for the night. Elliott followed with three-straight treys to make it quickly a 15-8 margin.

The Gamecocks won the battle in the post with a 33- 25 advantage in the first half as well. JSU controlled the paint, and turned several- al long defensive rebounds into offensive runouts lead- ing to a 19-0 difference in fast break points.

Overall, the Gamecocks extended its lead to as many as 37 in the final peri- od.

The Gamecocks have scored 27 points with a lead of 33-25 in the first half.

JSU BASEBALL

JSU fills needs with 2019 recruiting class

JACKSONVILLE State baseball and head coach Jim Case announced on Wednesday a group of four signees that will fill the needs for the 2020 baseball season.

Case, along with assis- tant coaches Evan Bush and Mike Morphew, bolstered the future roster by adding high school signees.

The JSU staff was forced to focus on in-state talent as all four newcomers are from the state of Alabama.

Austin Downey (Eclectic, Ala.), Colton Lewis (Vestavia Hills, Ala.), Cam- den Lovrich (Pike Road, Ala.) and Austin Young (Southside, Ala.) all re- turned official paperwork back to JSU during the NCAA signing period that began on Wednesday.

“We did not have a large class, and that’s nothing that we signed the right guys and we feel very strongly that we did,” said head coach Jim Case. “We didn’t think that the fact that they are all from the state of Alabama and very close to Jacksonville- ville. All of the guys are great students with great character and are great fits for the program.”