



## Election 2018



MANDEL NGAN/AFP/Getty Images



Photo Courtesy of NASA HQ

### Democrats regain House, Republicans maintain Senate

**Scott Young**  
Staff Reporter

The Democrats have regained the House of Representatives for the first time since the beginning of Barack Obama's presidency in 2008. With many races at the moment still uncalled as of Wednesday morning, it's projected that Democrats will gain a net of around 34 seats.

Through a House majority, Democrats now have the ability to probe deeper into the President's finances, the allegation of collusion with Russia, and consider the possibility of impeachment.

During a victory speech, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi said that she would restore "checks and balances" to the government, as supporters chanted

"Speaker! Speaker!" in the crowd.

"Thanks to you we owned the ground," said Pelosi. "Thanks to you, tomorrow will be a new day in America. Remember this feeling—know the power to win."

Republicans held onto their majority in the Senate, flipping a few states along the way. Indiana, Missouri, see **ELECTIONS** page 2

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### on CAMPUS

**International House Presentation: Mexico Thursday, November 8, 11:00 a.m. International House**

Come learn more about Mexico from one of our JSU students!

**Freshman Forum's Light Up A Life 5K Saturday, November 10, 9 a.m. Dillon Field**

Freshman Forum's Light Up a Life 5K is a color run for students, family, friends, and the community hosted on Dillon Field. Come out and support Freshman Forum's philanthropy of Suicide Prevention and Awareness. There will be snacks, music, games, and information on Suicide Prevention and Awareness.

### CAMPUS

## JSU holds grand opening for renovated Food Court

**Quadarius Whitson**  
Staff Reporter

On Friday November 2, the TMB Food Court held its Grand Opening for the new renovations completed over the summer.

The inside of the TMB opened two days before classes started, but the damage to the roof of the TMB caused by the F3 tornado on March 19 delayed their opening event.

The renovations to the TMB included a new layout for Freshens Food Studio and Chick-fil-A, a brand-new retail location in Mein Bowl and a redesign of both the indoor and outdoor seating area, the latter of which was just completed.

"Today was a great day and we had a great turnout," said Tyler Brown, Marketing Coordinator for Sodexo.

There was a flurry of samples coming from all of the restaurants held in the food court as well as a Spin the Wheel game.

Freshens provided free smoothie samples, Chick-fil-



Photo Courtesy of JSU Drama

**President Beehler prepares to cut the ribbon signifying the grand opening of the renovated TMB Food Court on Friday.**

A provided a variety of free chicken samples and Mein Bowl provided free sushi samples. The restaurants also provided the prizes for the Spin the Wheel game which included selfie sticks, phone wallets, balloons, and more.

JSU students weren't the only people to show up to the event. Faculty, staff, community members, and even President Beehler made an appearance.

At around 11 a.m., Beehler made the opening of the TMB

Food Court official by cutting the ceremonial red ribbon.

According to Brown, there will be vending machines coming soon to campus that will accept flex dollars, allowing JSU students to use their meal plans to purchase products.

"We're working on some vending machines that will accept student ID money," said Brown. "We kind of have a sample of that going on at Sparkman, but hopefully we'll have those up and going in the Spring."



**ELECTIONS from Page 1**

and North Dakota, represented by Joe Donnelly, Claire McCaskill, and Heidi Heitkamp, respectively, all voted in the Republican candidate Tuesday night. The common denominator of these three candidates were their decisions to vote against Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court, a factor that may have contributed to their loss. President Trump claimed victory in these states by double digits in the 2016 election.

In a late night tweet, Trump sought to celebrate a Republican victory of picking up seats in the Senate by quoting writer Ben Stein, who said "There's only been 5 times in the last 105 years that an incumbent President has won seats in the Senate in the off year election. Mr. Trump has magic about him. This guy has magic coming out of his ears. He is an astonishing vote getter &

campaigner."

Exit polls by CNN released prior to election results delivered a rejection of President Trump's performance in office. The poll indicated that 56 percent of voters in this midterm believe that the country is on the wrong track, and 41 percent believe it's on the right track.

Republicans swept the state of Alabama Tuesday.

Many believe that the polarizing amendments to the Alabama Constitution placed on the ballot stoked conservative turnout, prompting a statewide rejection of left-leaning policies and candidates. The two—which passed easily—being an amendment to authorize the display of the Ten Commandments on state property and one to "recognize and support the sanctity of unborn life and the rights of unborn children."

In the race for Alabama Governor, incumbent Kay Ivey (R) handily defeated Tuscaloosa mayor Walt Maddox (D) with 59.6 percent of the vote to Maddox's 40.4 percent. Congressman Mike Rogers (R) was re-elected to serve Alabama's third district with a margin of 63.9 percent to Mallory Hagan (D) with 36.1 percent. Additionally, State Senator Del Marsh (R) and State Rep. K. L. Brown (R), who represent the Jacksonville area, defeated their Democratic challengers Jim Williams and Pamela Howard.

"Words cannot express my sincere appreciation. Although we did not win the race, it's important that we continue to keep the faith. And even at this moment, it's important that we continue to believe in Alabama," said Democratic nominee for Governor Walt Maddox in his concession speech.

**CAMPUS**

## Student finds her calling by organizing charity concert

Nigerian student Tofunmi Olayinka radiates the kind of joy one only finds when their passion meets their purpose. Having considered various career paths, she has now found her life's calling: establishing the nonprofit Concert for Charity.

Upon graduating from high school in Nigeria in 2010, Olayinka studied at Oswestry School in the UK for two years, where she enjoyed singing in school concerts and competitions. She returned home to Nigeria in 2012 when her family told her they could not afford to send her to college and advised her to "learn to do hair."

She discovered the Baales of Mercy orphanage near her cosmetology school and began volunteering there. She said, "One day when I was walking home from spending time with the kids it suddenly hit me, 'I love music and I love kids - why don't I do something with music for kids?'"

In 2012, she organized a benefit concert for Baales of Mercy featuring performances by herself, her siblings and local school children. The following year, in 2013, she moved to the Gambia to study medicine. While there, she also organized a charity concert supporting a local orphanage. She moved to the US in 2014 and enrolled at JSU in 2015.

"I wanted to come to the US, and the person my mom knows in the US is her brother in Tennessee - he was familiar with JSU," Olayinka explained.

The integrated studies major lived in the International House for two years, where she met her best friend who now lives in South Korea. She has also been a member of the JSU Gospel Choir, Active Minds, and the International Student Organization (ISO). Her younger sister, Ooreoluwa Olayinka, is also a JSU student and is secretary of ISO.

Olayinka presented Concert for Charity in Jacksonville in 2015 and 2017, partnering with different charities that benefit women and children. She will be graduating this spring and moving back to the Gambia, where she plans to establish Concert for Charity as a nonprofit. "My big dream is for the concert to be on every continent," she said.

Olayinka's last Concert for Charity in Jacksonville will be held on Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m., at First Baptist Church of Jacksonville. There will be performances and presentations by Olayinka, Engage Worship, and Carson Bruce Worship. Refreshments will be served. The family-friendly event is free and open to the public, but guests are asked to bring empty gift bags to donate to Hope Women's Services.

*JSU News*

**CAMPUS**

## Criminal Justice Fraternity brings home wins from regional competition

**Lauren Moore**  
Staff Reporter

Jacksonville State University's professional Criminal Justice fraternity, Lambda Alpha Epsilon, recently competed in the fraternity's Region 5 competition held in Richmond, Kentucky, on October 25th-27th.

Though there were around 85 competitors, JSU's chapter of Lambda Alpha Epsilon won across the board.

"We competed in academic testing as well as in firearms, physical agility, and crime scene processing, and we won a total of 10 awards across all the categories," said Kortni LaRue, president of Jacksonville State's chapter of the fraternity.

"Honestly, we didn't have any expectations going into competition," said LaRue. "Every year of competition is so different based on what university is hosting."

This year's Region



*Photo Courtesy of JSUNews*

**JSU's criminal justice professional fraternity, the Alpha Sigma Omega chapter of Lambda Alpha Epsilon, won 10 awards at the organization's regional conference held on the campus of Eastern Kentucky University on Oct. 25-27.**

5 conference, which hosts universities from states around the southeast, was hosted by Eastern Kentucky University's chapter of the fraternity.

LaRue says success in the competition has raised awareness and pride of Lambda Alpha Epsilon around campus.

"Everyone was extremely excited with the outcome and I think bringing home so many awards really energized

our chapter and boosted everyone's pride in being in LAE."

The Fraternity, which is open to students majoring or minoring in Criminal Justice, states on its page on the JSU website that "The goal of the organization is to represent JSU and the Criminal Justice department in regional and national competitions as well as help the community."

When asked if the fra-

ternity would advance any further, the chapter president talked about a National competition, and said "while we would really love to attend Nationals in the spring, I'm not sure if we will be able to make that happen."

Either way, JSU is proud to have a chapter of Lambda Alpha Epsilon represent the university, and cannot wait to see what LAE will do next.

**CAMPUS**

## Transition University honored for community impact

JSU's Transition University program has been recognized with a 2018 Collaboration Award from the Talladega Area Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities for its work with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind and the Talladega School System. The program is now under consideration for the statewide award.

Transition University is a School of Education community engagement project designed to cultivate relationships between high school students with intellectual and severe disabilities and JSU special education collaborative teacher candi-

dates. Currently, Transition University serves more than 100 regional high school students with intellectual disabilities and their teachers.

Program participants meet on the JSU campus during the fall and spring semesters. Typical activities include a focus on social skills, navigating campus transportation, lunch in the Jack Hopper Dining Hall, tours of JSU departments and trips to local businesses. While the students are participating in activities with JSU special education teacher candidates, their teachers participate in professional development sessions.

*JSU News*



# Viewpoints

## The opioid crisis continues

**Breanna Hill**  
News Editor

There has long been an issue with opioid abuse, but during the year of 2016 the rate of opioid overdoses began to skyrocket. In 2016 it was reported that approximately 59,000 people in the U.S. died from drug overdose, and that prescribed drugs is one of the main causes of deaths.

What even are opioids, though? Opioids are drugs formulated specifically to help relax your body and reduce the feeling of pain. They usually contain morphine, hydrocodone, or oxycodone to help with chronic pain. Opioids get in your system and bind to receptors in the brain and partly in the spinal cord, and manage to disrupt pain signals.

The opioid epidemic has blown up so quickly and so forcefully that states are beginning to receive waivers to allow Medicaid to pay for treatment for those suffering from opioid addiction. So far, seven states have received these waivers, and have begun to contribute to the process of lessening the number of opioid abuse.

The chilling and haunting statistics show that roughly 21-29 percent of patients that are prescribed opioids for chronic pain end up misusing them, and that 4-6 percent end up transitioning to heroin.

The citizens of the U.S. have been in a frenzy, trying to figure out how to stop the situation from growing even more out of control than it already is, and most of the citizens have turned to the Department of Health and Human Services. The DHHS responded, noting that they have five main focus points:

1. Improving access to treatment and recovery services.
2. Promoting use of overdose-reversing drugs.
3. Strengthening our understanding of the crisis.
4. Providing support.
5. Advancing better practices.

The DHHS can only do so much, though.

We have to band together to help our loved ones, neighbors, colleagues, peers, and anybody else who may be suffering from opioid abuse. The amount of overdoses that loom throughout the U.S. is unimaginable. If you happen to know of anybody suffering from this tragic epidemic help them out. There are tons of rehabilitation centers around the United States, each willing to help out. Take a stand and help fight against opioid abuse.

*Photo Credit: pharmaceutical-journal.com*



## Changing your major: Being unsure is okay

**Breanna Hill**  
News Editor

When a young adult transitions into college it can be a bit worrisome when trying to decide on a major. Going into college with an undecided major is always an option, but the educators many of us dealt with during our high school careers made it seem like being undecided was a choice we would end up regretting. What those educators failed to mention, or rather decided not to mention, is that 75 percent of college students end up changing their majors during some point in their college career.

Changing your major is a big decision and can alter your whole pathway, so being sure about the change is always smart. There are several things to consider when it comes to making such a big deci-

sion. When the thought of changing your major comes to mind, it's best to think about it and get some insight to see if it's really the best option for you. A good tip to always keep in mind is to do a bit of research—whether it be about the other career paths you're interested in or about a broad department on campus. Along with researching the major departments and possible majors, a good idea is to get in contact with the head of the department you're thinking about transitioning to—they're always willing to sit down, talk to you and give you a bit of insight on the inner workings of the department as a whole.

Make sure before you change your major that you have all the information about the process as you can, and that you think it's the best decision for you, because in the end going into school undecided about your major is okay. Changing your major is okay. Being unsure is okay.

# CHANGING YOUR MAJOR



*Photo Credit: Ballbearingsmag.com*



# Arts & Entertainment

## CAMPUS

# JSU student honored for role in *She Kills Monsters*

**Sydney Spencer**  
A&E Reporter

It has been a week since the final show of *She Kills Monsters*, and one of Jacksonville State University's students has been nominated for her role to compete in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Her name is Chloe Barnes and she is a junior Drama major with a concentration in performance.

The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival is a national theatre program involving twenty thousand students from colleges and universities nationwide annually. For fifty years and counting, the Kennedy Center has been profound for making the quality of college theater performances astounding and enhancing every actor's skill set and ability to the best they can.

Chloe began acting her junior year of high school.

When asked why she started acting, Barnes says, "I had always been into the arts such as band and dance, so I knew I wanted to be involved in art classes when theatre classes were introduced to my school."

For the production of *She Kills Monsters*, Barnes feels it went really well.

"The director, cast, crew, designers, and everyone involved worked extremely hard to make this show happen and I am so proud of what we were able to accomplish," Barnes said.

Going into the show of *She Kills Monsters*, Barnes just wanted to put on the best performance she could and ended up exceeding expectations. Her nomination for the festival has brought light to her true talent.

When asked what this nomination means to her she says, "I am very honored by this nomination. I went into the production not only hoping people would love it,



Courtesy of JSU Drama

Left to right: Chloe Barnes as Tilly Evans poses with Allison Lawley as Agnes Evans in a promotional photo for *She Kills Monsters*.

but that everyone would be touched by the story and truly get something out of it. The fact I received a nomination for my role is just the cherry on top."

The message of the play is surrounded by female empowerment and equality. Barnes plays the younger sister of Agnes Evans, Tilly, who passes away in a car accident. She fights alongside her sister in a D&D (Dungeons and Dragons) game she created before she passes away. This is

how she and her sister are able to create a bond and get to know each other better after not being close while she was alive. As the game goes on she ends up revealing a personal lifestyle her sister knew nothing about, which makes her sister feel guilty for not being someone she could lean on when she needed to talk.

Barnes is looking forward to taking on more roles as she knows acting is something she would like to pursue as a career.

## GAME REVIEW

# XCOM 2: satisfaction in complexity

**Taylor Mitchell**  
A&E Editor

I have had some unique experiences with this one, I have to admit. *XCOM 2* came out in 2016 and I, being a huge fan of *XCOM: Enemy Unknown* before it, absolutely jumped on it. It had promised more difficulty and interesting mechanics that I was super hyped for, and I would like to say it fully delivered on that promise. Sadly this promise is what lead to this review being 2 years after the games release. I had started writing for *The Chanticleer* by the time the game came out, but could never finish the dang thing. I actually lost two or three higher difficulty campaigns right after release. While i liked the game, I admittedly got frustrated and gave up on it for a while, only playing a little here and there. That is until about a week ago, when I decided I was finally going to slay this beast, and I did. With that, let's get on with it.

The story of *XCOM 2* is actually rather interesting as it deals with a scenario players likely dealt with in *Enemy Unknown*: defeat. *XCOM 2* takes place in a world where the player failed and so did XCOM. Due to this, it is the aliens' world

now and XCOM is forced into the shadows. Players have to decide how best to propagate this guerilla war.

Players do this by managing two layers of gameplay similar to *Enemy Unknown*. The game is separated into the tactical and strategic layers. The tactical layer is the meat and potatoes portion of the game, with the player taking control of specific squads of soldiers. This layer features the incredibly diverse and creative enemies. From snake people that grab you with their tongues to giant killer death robots, you're likely to find them here. The difficulty in this layer comes from preparedness and risk management which players have to balance. The second layer is about collecting resources and building up your base while also dealing with the aliens game ending plan. Players must spend time dealing with this plan, called the Avatar Project, as ignoring it will cause a game over. In fact, this is what caused mine. It adds an interesting challenge to the game as sometimes players may not be on their best legs but must still have to react to a breakthrough.

All of the moving parts in each layer and the interplay between the two are where most of the difficulty really comes

in. There is so much interplay in it that it gives the game this very rewarding complexity. When you find a balance it just feels good because you are making all the pieces fit in a workable way. That's where most of the fun comes from in this one, finding a groove and bringing a plan to fruition just feels great. The game is just super rewarding when you start to do great and punishing when you're not doing as good.

Also of note is just the wonderful customization options you have for your squaddies. This is a game where you can literally make your friends and send them to fight aliens, and that's just plain awesome. Granted, watching them die horribly is less awesome, but still cool. During my final play through, I literally texted my friends how their characters were doing on any given mission. This added much more fun for me and much more confusion for my friends which is always great.

All in all, I kinda love this game. It has caused me no end of frustration, but most of that was based on my own skill level, not the game. So I say pick it up if you're wanting a challenge, but be prepared. Failure is totally an option.



Courtesy of Blizzard Entertainment

## GAMING NEWS

# Annual Blizzcon was a success, barring one stumble

Sean Collier

A&E Reporter

On November 2 to November 3, Blizzard Entertainment had their annual Blizzcon at the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, California. This convention has become one of the most anticipated events for fans of Blizzard and their games. Every year, this is where they announce big reveals and what is coming to the games people know and love. This year, There was some pretty exciting news along with what could be one of the worst moments in Blizzcon's history.

First, I would like to talk about the opening ceremony. When the opening ceremony began, there was a touching montage of huge and iconic moments from the various games Blizzard has created. When the reveals started, they began with a new hero for *Heroes of the Storm*. Orpheus, daughter of the Raven Lord, is the new character whose home is the nexus itself. Which is a big deal, considering all of the other playable heroes are from the other various Blizzard games. They also showed some other content that would be added to the game, such as new skins and a new announcer.

Next, they talked about the upcoming content in *World of Warcraft*, under the title "Tides of Vengeance". It will be set when the faction war between the Horde and Alliance come to a head. Also, more *World of Warcraft Classic* was announced. Classic will be released in the summer of 2019 and it will be playable for anyone with a *World of Warcraft* subscription. The *World of Warcraft* segment ended with a brand new cinematic, "Lost Honor". The cinematic gives some more important story details for "Battle for Azeroth".

For the game *Overwatch*, they showed a brand new animated short called "Reunion". It follows the character Jesse McCree while he runs into a former a former associate. This as-



Courtesy of Blizzard Entertainment

**Overwatch's newest hero, the outlaw Ashe, along with her robotic enforcer Bob.**

sociate just so happens to be *Overwatch's* newest playable hero, Ashe. The short also teases another character who may become a playable hero in the future. Anyways, Blizzard also revealed Ashe's abilities and her unique ultimate which summons her partner, Bob. This is not only the first ultimate that spawns an NPC, but he also functions as a hero. (He can count towards competing objectives, can be healed etc.)

One of the biggest reveals of Blizzcon this year is definitely *Warcraft 3: Reforged*. They announced it by showing a complete recreation of the original *Warcraft 3* opening cinematic. The game is a complete remaster of the original game and will include both *Warcraft 3: Reign of Chaos* and the expansion: *The Frozen Throne*. *Warcraft 3: Reforged* will be released next year, but no solid release date was set.

For the game *Hearthstone*, a new expansion was revealed called "Rastakhan's Rumble" themed around the Zandalari trolls from *World of Warcraft: Battle for Azeroth*. Some of the new mechanics, cards, and characters used in the new expansion were also shown.

Then to finish things off, *Diablo: Immortal* was announced. It is a mobile game that takes place between *Diablo 2* and *Diablo 3*. The reveal of *Diablo: Immortal* has had one of the most negative reactions that Blizzard has ever received. For fans of *Diablo*, I believe what they were wanting was at least a hint of the existence of the next installment in the series. Which would make it understandable for why people were so upset when they found out that they not only weren't getting any information on that, but given the reveal of a mobile game. Most of the mobile reveals that Blizzard has shown have had negative reactions. Most of the playerbase for Blizzard are PC gamers. People were even reluctant when *Diablo: 3* was revealed to be on consoles. So the fact that this had a negative reaction was not a surprise. However, it has been worse than anyone could have imagined. I personally believe the main problem is the way it was presented and the reactions afterwards. However, I do believe that this Blizzcon was overwhelmingly good and exciting, despite this hiccup.



# Study Break

## Trivia Answers: November 1st Edition!

1. What record-setting fee was Peter Jackson allegedly paid to direct 2005's "King Kong"?

Answer: 20 million

2. How many official movies are there in the "Star Wars" franchise?

Answer: 6

3. Which blockbuster film is set in Pandora?

Answer: Avatar

4. "Nothing on earth could come between them" was the tagline of which film?

Answer: Titanic

5. What was the name of the Keanu Reeves's character in "The Matrix Reloaded"?

Answer: Neo



## Superhero Trivia:

1. What is another name for Superman?

- A. The Red Redeemer
- B. The Masked Avenger
- C. The Caped Crusader
- D. The Man of Steel

2. Besides Alan Scott and Hal Jordan, The Green Lantern has also used this name as a secret identity?

- A. Barry Allen
- B. Kyle Rayner
- C. John Dickering
- D. Britt Reid

3. In the movie Anchorman, Ron Burgundy says that what superhero was denied a bank loan?

- A. The Phantom
- B. The Flash
- C. The Punisher
- D. The Human Torch

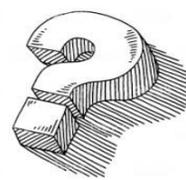
4. This superhero's supertools included bullet-proof bracelets and a magic lasso. Who is she?

- A. Wonder Woman
- B. Super Girl
- C. Catwoman
- D. Elastigirl

5. This superhero's alter ego's name was Lamont Cranston, his show started on radio and eventually branched into comics and other media, and a well-known catch phrase from the show was, "Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?" Who is he?

- A. Diamond Don
- B. The Thing
- C. The Shadow
- D. The Devastator

## Riddle of the week...



A man placed a \$100 dollar bill on his desk and left for work. When he returned back the money was gone. He has three suspects: the cook, the maid and the electrician. The cook said he put the bill under a book on his desk to keep it safe. The man checked and it is no longer there. The maid said she moved the bill to the inside of the book between page 1 and 2 while she was cleaning. Again, the man checked the book and there was nothing between page 1 and 2. The electrician said he saw the bill sticking out of the book and he moved it between page 2 and 3 to keep it safe. Who stole the money?



# Sports

## JSU VOLLEYBALL

# Jax State travels to Tennessee Tech for pivotal midweek match

JACKSONVILLE – With conference tournament implications on the line, the Jacksonville State volleyball team makes its final road trip of the regular-season to Cookeville, Tenn., to face Tennessee Tech on Wednesday night.

The Gamecocks (15-13, 7-7 Ohio Valley Conference) currently sit sixth in the league standings, while the Golden Eagles (11-17, 5-9 OVC) are in the midst of a four-way tie for the eighth and final spot in next week's tournament. TTU improved its chances last weekend with a pair of wins over Tennessee State and Belmont, but will need more this weekend if they are going to extend the season.

The conference chaos features 11 of the 12 teams still alive to make the tournament field entering the final week of action.

JSU posted a 3-1 win over Tech back on Oct. 2 inside Kenamer Hall for its fifth-straight win over TTU. A win on Wednesday would secure the third consecutive season-sweep of JSU's travel partners from Cookeville.

At 7-7 in OVC play, JSU sits just a game behind both SIU-Edwardsville



JSU Sportswire

and Southeast Missouri. Any season-ending tie with SIUE would give the tie-breaker nod to JSU after the Gamecocks' Oct. 13 victory. JSU also controls its fate against SEMO, who it will host for Saturday's Senior Day in the season finale.

A success so far this season for Jax State has been the balanced attack of its offense. Sophomore setter Lexie Libs ranks ninth in the nation with 1,145 assists and has helped six different Gamecocks reach triple-digit kills. Four Gamecocks have surpassed 200 kills led by freshman Lena Kindermann. Junior Kaylee Frear

has tallied 261 on a team-best .300 hitting percentage, but the Colorado Springs, Colo., native has had just as large of an impact on defense leading JSU with 97 blocks.

Behind Frear, senior Mackenzie Rombach has 75 blocks in her final campaign bringing her career tally to 465 and just 24 away from the school's Division I mark. However, the Ottawa, Ill., product is quickly closing in on another career milestone, now just 15 kills shy of 1,000.

The Gamecocks' defense has been the foundation of its efficient offense. Led

by Kaylie Milton's 264 and Dani Steele's 234 digs, JSU rolls out seven players with 100 or more digs. Libs and Steele are coming off career-high 28 dig performances. The offense has offense seen recent breakouts with Sadie Anderson and Shayla Schmidt collecting new career-highs in kills last weekend.

Wednesday's match will take place at the Eblen Center on the campus of Tennessee Tech at 7 p.m. Live stats and video stream will be available at JSUGamecockSports.com.

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.  
**WIN**

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

Nov. 17  
at Kennesaw State (SunTrust Park)  
TBA

\*-OVC Game  
All times Central

## JSU SOCCER

# Petersen, Paulson named to All-OVC teams

MARTIN, Tenn. – Jacksonville State senior Claire Petersen and freshman Maisie Paulson have received conference honors, the Ohio Valley Conference announced on Thursday night at the 2018 OVC Soccer Championship banquet prior to the semifinal round of the championship.

Petersen earned Second Team All-OVC honors while Paulson was selected to the All-Newcomer Team. It marks the fourth time in six seasons under head coach Neil Macdonald that a Gamecock has earned postseason league achievements. JSU has also been represented on the conferences All-Newcomer Team six out of the last seven seasons.

With her inclusion on the All-OVC Second Team, Petersen becomes the third Gamecock to named All-OVC multiple times throughout



Josh Gilbert/Chanticleer Sports Photographer

Claire Peterson and Maisie Paulson were named All-OVC.

their tenure at JSU. The Hermon, Maine native was tabbed to the All-OVC Second Team as a freshman in 2015 along with being listed on the All-Newcomer Team. She joins former Gamecock standouts Chelsea Pelletier (2008, 2011) and Jackie Rush (2013, 2014) as two-time All-OVC honorees in a career. As a senior, Petersen played in all 18 matches and finished with three goals, including one shy of a hat trick on the opening weekend

of the season against Jackson State. She added her third goal of the season on the road at Mercer. Petersen also turned in an assist in the season opener against Louisiana Monroe. She logged over 1,719 minutes on the pitch in 2018 and tallied 22 shots.

Petersen has been a mainstay for the Gamecocks from the moment she joined the JSU program and has served as team captain as a junior and senior. She has seen action in 74 matches

and has started in 68 contests, including 63 consecutive starts dating back to her freshman season. Petersen moved in to the top-five on the school's all-time minutes-played list with over 6,000 minutes-played. Petersen has produced 10 career goals.

"Over her four years at JSU, Claire (Petersen) has proven herself to be one of the best midfielders in the league. She is really deserving of this honor," said head coach Neil Macdon-

ald.

Paulson played in 17 of the 18 matches as a first-year player and inserted in to the lineup for the 10 OVC outings. As a defender, she accumulated over 1,200 minutes along with registering three shots.

"Maisie (Paulson) had an incredible freshman year. She has the potential to become one of the best fullbacks in the conference," added Macdonald.

UTM's Amy McGovern was named the OVC Offensive Player of the Year, while her teammate Kaci Mitchell claimed the OVC Defensive Player of the Year. Abby Jones of Murray State was tabbed the OVC Freshman of the Year. UTM's Phil McNamara was honored by his peers with the OVC Cpatch of the Year award.

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**JSU BASKETBALL**

# Gamecocks come into season with high expectations all around

**Daniel Mayes**  
Editor-in-Chief

The Jacksonville State University Basketball squads roll toward the start of the season under what may be the highest collective expectations in the programs' Division I histories.

After both the Men's and Women's teams equaled or surpassed the Division I wins record, with 23 and 19 victories respectively, in a stellar 2017-2018 campaign in Jacksonville, there's no wondering why optimism abounds around Gamecock Basketball.

Both programs were chosen by the Ohio Valley Conference Coaches as third in the conference, with Ray Harper and the JSU Men coming just behind perennial OVC powers Belmont and Murray State, while Rick Pietri's Gamecock Women program trails Belmont and UT Martin.

Harper's squad faces a fair bit of roster turnover after last season's record-setting campaign.

Senior leaders and cornerstones of the Harper-led renaissance of Gamecock basketball Malcolm Drumwright and Norbertas Giga have graduated and moved on to professional careers overseas in Georgia and Lithuania respectively. Also gone are fellow senior and Jacksonville native Des Curry and underclassmen Tyrik Edwards, Cam Martin, Ashton Spears, Deon Wright and Mohamed Abuarisha.

The Gamecocks still return a strong core, bringing back pre-season All-OVC big men Jason Burnell and Christian Cunningham as well as Jamall Gregory, Marlon Hunter, Maurice Dunlap and Jacara Cross.

Newcomers Detrick Mostella and Ty Hudson, who were on the Gamecock roster last year but sat out because of NCAA transfer rules, along with transfers Derek St. Hilaire, De'Torrion Ware and Jacob Hyde and Freshmen Maros Zeliznak and Cam Jones will be



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tasked with filling the holes left by Drumwright and Giga.

Mostella, who is a native of Decatur, Alabama, starred at Tennessee for three seasons prior to arriving in Jacksonville. Hudson played for two years at Clemson.

Pietri's team returns more of last year's team than Harper, but loses the senior trio of Tyler 'Cocoa' Phelion, Tasha Magruder and Gretchen Morrison, who made up the core of the stingy defensive squad the Gamecocks put out last year.

The Gamecocks also miss Leah Strain, Morgan Towells, Ki-Ki Patterson and Jordan Norris.

However, Pietri and company welcome Freshmen Jutoreyia Willis, Yamia Johnson, Regan Dargan and Karleigh Sledge, along with Holmes Community College Transfer Brittany Webster, into the fold.

JSU Women's Basketball opened their season with a 62-31 win over Florida A&M in Tuesday, while Harper and the new look Gamecocks travel to Samford Friday night to tipoff their campaign.

**JSU MEN'S GOLF**

# Gamecocks finish sixth at Kiawah Island

KIAWAH ISLAND, S.C. – The Jacksonville State men's golf team carded a final-round 290 on Tuesday to climb into a sixth-place finish at the East Bay Deli Classic at Kiawah Island.

The Gamecocks' 2-over final day capped a 54-hole score of 885 on the par-72, 6,911-yard Turtle Point Golf Course and helped them move up two spots on the final day of the 21-team tournament. No. 44 College of Charleston won the event with a 3-under 861, three shots better than second-place Memphis.

Sophomore Quim Vidal Mora led the way for the Gamecocks, tying for 11th in the 117-player field with a three-day score of 218. The native of Barcelona, Spain, set the tone for his week in the first round, when he carded a 4-under 68 that was just one off of his career low.

He answered a second-round 77 with a 73 in Tuesday's final round, one that saw him birdie four of his final seven holes. Vidal Mora moved two spots up the leaderboard on the final day.

JSU's two German players tied for the Gamecocks' low round of the day.

Senior Benedikt Thalmayr had one of JSU's best rounds on Tuesday, carding a 1-under 71 that put the finishing touches on his 219 and helped him move six spots into a tie for 16th. The Ouching, Germany, native had four birdies in his final round after shooting 72 to open play on Sunday and 76 in Monday's second round.

Konigswinter, Germany, native Max Basler also shot a final-round 71 on Tuesday, using six birdies to catapult 21 spots up the leaderboard into a tie for 45th. The sophomore's 226 in the three-day event started with a Sunday 76 and was followed by a Monday 79.

Sophomore Jesus Dario Montenegro and junior Patricio Freundt-Thurne tied for 51st in the field after each shooting 227 over the three rounds. Montenegro shot a final-round 75, while Freundt-Thurne wrapped up play with a 77 to put the finishing touches on his final round.

Memphis' Isaiah Jackson and College of Charleston's Christian Belker tied for medalist honors, each carding a 7-under 209 over the three-day event.

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**JSU FOOTBALL**

# Thrilling win lifts Gamecocks in both polls

JACKSONVILLE – Jacksonville State's heroic comeback to down UT Martin on Saturday lifted the Gamecocks on Monday, when the new polls were released.

After Zerrick Cooper's 43-yard touchdown pass to Jamari Hester with 29 seconds left gave the Gamecocks (7-2, 6-1 Ohio Valley Conference) a 21-14 win on Saturday, they rose two spots in the STATS FCS Top 25 and one in the AFCA Coaches Poll. After holding 10th in both last week, Jax State is now eighth in the STATS and ninth in the Coaches Polls.

JSU's second-straight week in the Top 10 marks the 67th time in the last 70 weeks that it has been in the top 10 of at least one of the two major FCS polls. The Gamecocks extend their streak of consecutive weeks in the Top 25 to 70 weeks in a row, the third-longest active streak in the nation right now behind North Dakota State (116) and South Dakota State (88).

The Gamecocks are one of two Ohio Valley Conference teams in the polls, with Southeast Missouri ranking 19th in the Coaches Poll and 21st in the STATS Poll.

Defending champion North Dakota State sits atop both polls, while Kennesaw State is second in both. Eastern Washington is third in the Coaches Poll ahead of Weber State, who is third in front



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ABOVE: JSU wide receiver Jamari Hester breaks away for the game-winning touchdown during Saturday's 21-14 win over UT Martin.

BELOW RIGHT: JSU Quarterback Zerrick Cooper takes a snap against UT Martin.

of EWU in the STATS Poll.

Saturday's win was JSU's 38th in its last 39 OVC games but came in an unusual fashion for the Gamecocks. It was the first time they've had to win a game in the final two minutes of regulation since the second game of the 2012 season.

The Gamecocks wrap up their conference schedule on Saturday at Tennessee State in Nashville and a win would give them at least a share of their fifth-straight OVC title. No team has ever won five consecutive OVC championships. The game will kick off at 2 p.m. at Hale Stadium on TSU's campus and will be televised on ESPN+.

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