

Taylor Mitchell/The Chanticleer

Randy Owen salutes the crowd during the Alabama & Friends Benefit Concert for JSU.

## 'Our' Home's in Alabama Benefit concert raises over \$1 million for JSU

**Daniel Mayes**  
Editor-in-Chief

Wednesday's Alabama & Friends Disaster Relief Benefit Concert for JSU raised over \$1.2 million dollars for the tornado relief of Jacksonville State University.

Thousands of country music fans and members of the JSU community braved a dreary, wet afternoon to contribute to the cause and listen to some of their favorite bands. Due to ticket sales and a "sizable" donation from band Lynyrd Skynyrd, JSU President Dr.

John Beehler was presented with a check for \$1,280,000 at the end of the event by members of Alabama Randy Owen, Jeff Cook and Teddy Gentry.

According to Owen, a JSU alumnus and member of the Board of Trustees, the Country Music Hall of Famers began planning the concert as soon as they heard about the tornadoes that ravaged Jacksonville on March 19.

"This is an idea we started the day after the tornado," Owen said. "The devastation here the day or two after this happened is beyond anything that you can talk about, unless you

saw the film of it, unless you were here personally."

Owen says the group was galvanized into action because of their connections to JSU.

"The University is a special place for me, and a special place for Jeff and Teddy," Owen said. "This is my university, and it's very much a part of me. It's a very emotional thing for me."

For Jacksonville native and former JSU quarterback Riley Green, the devastation was personal as well.

see **CONCERT** page 2

## Alabama & Friends put on a show in Jacksonville

**Taylor Mitchell**  
A&E Editor

After 6 months of hurt and healing, destruction and rebuilding, sorrow and joy; Jacksonville State University took a special step in its recovery. Wednesday night, the JSU community gathered together to raise money for the universities recovery from the March tornado.

Randy Owen, lead guitarist of Alabama as well as a JSU alumnus and trustee, decided after the tornado that he wanted to do something to help the community. He decided on organizing a concert to raise funds for the university. The concert ended up being a resounding success.

The event was attended by several country music artists, many

of which are originally from the state of Alabama. Along with Randy Owen, Teddy Gentry, and Jeff Cook of Alabama; the concert also featured:

- Charlie Daniels
- Shenandoah
- Jason Isbell and the 400 unit
- Home Free
- The Sweet Tea Trio
- John Berry
- Drake White
- Gordon Mote
- Jamey Johnson
- Riley Green

Also featured was comedian Darren Knight, known for his Southern Momma social media videos. The concert was hosted by Storme Warren of SiriusXM's The Highway.

While most of the acts were announced beforehand, some were



Matt Reynolds/JSU

Randy Owen salutes the crowd during the Alabama & Friends Benefit Concert for JSU.

left as surprises for the audience. These included Drake White, Home Free, and The Sweet Tea Trio. Together with the other bands they put on quite the show.

Many of the acts were also from the state of Alabama. It seemed in many ways a concert that was

meant to give back to their collective home. Of special note are Randy Owen and Riley Green who are both JSU alumni. That seemed to be the theme of the night: to give back and remember what home is all about, coming together and having a good time.

### in ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



See the sights from the Alabama & Friends Benefit Concert **Pages 4-5**

### in NEWS



Jo Jo's creates Cajun connection in Jacksonville **Page 2**

### in SPORTS



Gamecocks defeat Austin Peay on Homecoming **Page 7**



# News

## CONCERT from Page 1

“I was in Nashville the night that it happened,” explained Green. “I saw the footage on TV, but I pulled into town the next morning, and it hit me that it didn’t do it justice. Jacksonville will never look the same.”

Green, a budding country music artist, organized a benefit concert of his own in March, but was happy to join in again to help his home.

“If I can come play a guitar and help in any way shape or form heal the damage from this storm, that’s pretty easy on me.”

Owen says the concert is just the beginning for the recovery of Jacksonville.

“There is so much more to be done, and we’re just getting started. I hope we continue the awareness of what we are trying to do. This concert is a way to say thank you, and bring the spirits up at this university and this community.”

When asked what JSU students could take away from a group of alumni organizing such an event, Owen had one message:

“This is what you do, you go out and give back.”



## CAMPUS

### JSU Biology Awarded NSF Grant to Reform Science Education

Dr. Lori Hensley, head of JSU’s biology department, along with friend and colleague Dr. Nathan Reyna, associate professor of biology at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas, were recently awarded a \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to create the Cell Biology Education Consortium (CBEC).

The CBEC will build and support a network of faculty and students to provide resources and training that will make it possible for smaller, primarily undergraduate institutions and community colleges to create customized, cell culture research projects.

“This will help in places where faculty time and resources are especially limited,” Hensley said. “What we’re really hoping for is a network with lots of available resources and available funding for faculty wanting to establish this same type of cell culture research in their own labs.”

That includes JSU, which has never had its own cell culture lab. That will soon change, in part, thanks to this grant.

“It’s going to be a tremendous opportunity for our faculty and students,” Hensley said. “They’ll get a chance to create resources for this grant as well.”

Traditionally, students are given lab manuals, told to follow the directions to an expected outcome, potentially learning little in the process. One of the newest teaching methods is the use of course-based undergraduate research experiences (CUREs), which is the approach the CBEC will incorporate.

“CUREs are transforming the way science is taught,” Hens-

ley said. “We want to replace all of our course-based labs with those that provide authentic research experiences.”

The basis for the CBEC relies on the development Cell Blocks – essentially blocks of resources from across the country - that consist of written and videotaped instructions as well as classroom strategies and assessments. Cell Blocks will be developed by faculty and their students at small schools, making it easier for them to be adapted by similar schools.

The basic components of the Cell Blocks will be consistent. They can be mixed and matched to answer specific questions or centered around grand challenge topics such as the regulation of cell proliferation, the control of cellular differentiation, cell migration, and the cellular pathways and proteins that mediate these processes.

Hensley and Reyna have created a website, [www.cellbioed.com](http://www.cellbioed.com), where faculty and students can submit research questions and then be guided to the right resources.

“And if they ask a question for which there isn’t a Cell Block,” Hensley said, “they can apply for funding through our grant that would then give them the money to create those missing blocks.”

The implementation of multiple Cell Blocks in the classroom can lead to extensive research projects that could provide the foundation for independent student research projects.

“This grant sets up both JSU and OBU as leaders in science education reform,” Hensley said.

*JSU News*



*Jo Jo's Po' Boy Shack*

Jo Jo's Po'Boy Shack brings Cajun flavor to Jacksonville

## COMMUNITY

### Jo Jo's creates Cajun connection in Jacksonville

**Quadarius Whitson**  
Staff Writer

Jacksonville residents no longer have to go on a road trip to find authentic Cajun flavors. Recently opened Jo Jo's Po'Boy Shack is located on 1725 Broadwell Mill Road, which is a near 5-minute drive from JSU's campus. Owners, Shane Weaver and Dianna Weaver recently opened this Cajun inspired restaurant looking to bring something “different” to the Jacksonville area.

“You can't really get any good Cajun food around here in Calhoun County,” Mrs. Weaver said.

According to the owners, a lot of inspiration for the restaurant came from their late miniature pinscher dog, Jo Jo. “He's in everything we do around here. We came up with the name Jo Jo's Po'Boy Shack because it kind of just flowed together, especially being here in the South.”

Despite the name, this shack has a lot more to offer than just Po'boys. They have nearly 50 menu items ranging from Crawfish Etouffee, Seafood Gumbo, and more. Amazingly, the owners plan on expanding their menu even further in the

near future.

“We're trying to add to our menu. We wanted to start out with a basic menu that offered a good variety of sizes and flavors. As we grow and become more in depth in what we are doing, we'll start adding to the menu here and there.”

When asked about how business was going, the owners replied with “steady”.

“A personal connection is what it takes to stay here for a long time. To be personal with the people that come in here and to cater to every need that they have when they come in here is everything.”

Mr. and Mrs. Weaver relate a lot of their success to the family-oriented base of Jo Jo's.

“They'll just start coming in here and rearranging furniture to make it like home and that's what we want it to feel like,” Mrs. Weaver said.

Although normal business hours are usually Tuesday through Saturday, with times varying, for the month of October, the owners decided to do something special for the public. They will be opening on Sundays from 11am-3pm to feature Fresh Farm Raised Catfish and any of their signature Po'Boys.

# Register to Vote in the TMB!

The Calhoun County Board of Registrars will be accepting applications for voter registration on October 17 in the TMB Lobby from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.!

- Citizen of the U.S.
- Resident of Calhoun County AL
- Must not have been convicted of a disqualifying felony, or must have had your civil rights restored
- Must be at least 18 years old on or before election day

For more information or to register online, go to [alabamavotes.org](http://alabamavotes.org)



# Viewpoints

## UN Day Tea Shows Cultural Wealth of Dance

**Ooreolowa Olayinka**  
Staff Writer

On Sunday the 30th of September, I went to the International House's annual UN Day Tea. Every year, hordes of people- Americans, internationals and alumni of the International House gather together to watch this multicultural display. I went with the intention to write an article on the event. However, I had no idea what I was going to write about. That is, until I saw the Chinese traditional dance performed by Yimei Dong and Meg Borths. That's when I knew exactly what I would focus on- dance.

Dance is an important aspect of culture. Dance has often been referred to as a "universal language." In a way, dance draws people together. Ms. Chandni Khadka, the Director of the International House Programs said it best when she said, "To me, what we do at the International House is very different from any other multicultural display. Here, natives are teaching their dance and culture to non-natives who are willing to participate. So, it is not just watching, it is learning and doing."

The Chinese traditional dance was the first dance presented. I was captivated from the first movement. The dancers were both wearing red dresses, with long flowing sleeves. In fact, the whole dance reminded me of a field of sunflowers swaying in the wind. It was natural and graceful. It sparked so much curiosity in me that at the end of the event, I went to interview Yimei Dong. Dong explained to me that the song was called "Falling Flower." She translated the lyrics for me- "Girls are like flowers, cherish your girl when she ex-

presses her best to you else she withers like a flower." Antonella Trabanino, who performed the El Salvador folk dance along with Maria Teresa Aguilar, also explained how her dance sparked an interest in her culture. She expressed, "People have been coming up to me telling me how they liked the dance, and asking me questions about the music, my traditional attire and so on! I was so happy to show my traditional dance which is very folkloric, colorful and lively."

Dance brings a wave of emotions. Martha Graham, a contemporary dancer, once said "Dance is the hidden language of the soul." This is apparent from the second dance, the African dance. When I spoke to a couple of dancers, it was obvious that sharing their dance gave them a sense of pride. Chioma Ugochukwu said that when she was teaching the dance to the members of the International House, it made her "happy that they were so willing to participate." Precious Mmegwa expressed a feeling of being transported back home. "A lot of times, being so far away from home, I feel so alone but while I was dancing, in that moment, I felt like I was back home." She also expressed a feeling of unity saying, "There were many disagreements during the practices, but while dancing, I felt like everybody was one."

There was a particular International House alumnus who caught my attention. Suman Silwal, a Nepali, lived in the International House from 1989 to 1992. One could see the positive energy exuding from his being. He was the physical representation of how dance cuts across borders and socio-economic differences. He would start clapping to cheer on

the dancers, encouraging the audience to clap too. Everyone, regardless of race, class, age or gender would join in, clapping. He was obviously proud of the dancers, especially those that participated in the Nepalese dance. He told me he was elated by the Nepali representation in this year's show. He expressed his love for dance saying, "When I lived in the House, I was dancing all the time. My dance partners were from Denmark and Brazil. Where we came from didn't matter, we danced as one." He is now married to a Guatemalan and has a daughter. He referred to how he has passed the tradition of dancing to his bi-cultural daughter saying, "I dance with my daughter all the time at home. In fact, the song the students performed to is one of our favorites. Immediately she heard the song, she ran to me yelling, 'Daddy, Daddy, our song!'"

It is a shame that I could not interview all the dancers as I enjoyed all the dances. There was the German dance performed by Ida Sunnaborg and Nicolaus Grunhag, the Puerto Rican salsa by Angal Warren and Michael Cannady, the K pop dance led by Jiameng "Jenny" Li and Yimei Dong and the Crew dance led by Josemanuel Mendez and Cheyenne Wolfe. There were also non-dance performances like the Japanese sword display, the silent play and a beautiful poem delivered by Flor Gordillo. Tofunmi Olayinka performed a very beautiful Yoruba medley and Savannah Ervin gave a speech on the UN. In conclusion, dance really is a very rich aspect of culture and I was glad that I experienced this cultural exchange at the International House's annual UN Day Tea.

## How to Improve your study habits

**Breanna Hill**  
News Editor

Students of all ages have, at one time, been subject to procrastinating when it comes to studying or doing homework assignments—this often leads to all-nighters, consumption of energy drinks and coffee, and the process of cramming as much information into our brains as possible. Definitely not a good idea.

There are ways to improve study habits, which include, and aren't limited to, bettering your process of note taking, managing your time better and improving your memory.

When it comes to note taking many students forget to jot down small, yet key, details that end up showing up on the exam later on. It is also suggested to write down all of the information given to you by your teacher or instructor, no matter how sloppy and messy your notes can get. Then when you have some free time later, rewrite your notes neatly on a new piece of paper, not only are the notes neat but also you're also going over the information unknowingly as you rewrite them down. Another tip is to compare your notes with your

classmates in case you may have missed anything or vice versa.

Everybody struggles with time management, and it can be one of the most frustrating pieces of the puzzle when it comes to your studying process. The first thing that will help organize your time a bit better is to invest in some sort of planner, or calendar. With a planner or calendar students are able write down upcoming assignments, tests, and projects; check it every day. Marking off completed assignments may even cause you to release a sigh of relief.

Improving your memory may seem like an impossible task, but by following key steps the goal is easy to achieve. Face it, most of the information from certain classes are difficult for students to process, and understand. An easier way to remember this information is to summarize it in your own words, that way you're able to comprehend it a bit easier. Organizing the information into separate categories is also a great way to simplify it in your stored memory. For example, group all of the vocabulary terms together or all of the discussion questions together.

Combining all of the study tips will lead you to having an easier time with even the toughest of classes. Try them out and make sure to give yourself a break when it's well deserved.



Photo Credit: TheSuperGeneration

### 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](mailto:chantynewstips@gmail.com)

Guest columns are subject to editing for grammar and space.

# Alabama & Friends:



Taylor Mitchell/The Chanticleer

Artists pose for pictures at the press conference before the concert Wednesday.



Sydney Sorrells/The Chanticleer



Josh Gilbert/The Chanticleer

Charlie Daniels prepares to perform onstage with Alabama

John Berry performs



Taylor Mitchell/The Chanticleer

Storme Warren shares the stage with Cocky!

# Legends in Jacksonville



Sydney Sorrells/The Chanticleer



Josh Gilbert/The Chanticleer

Gordon Mote performs

Jason Isbell and the 400 unit takes the stage



Sydney Sorrells/The Chanticleer

The Sweet Tea Trio Sing the National Anthem



Sydney Sorrells and Josh Gilbert/The Chanticleer



ABOVE: Home Free performs "Elvira" by the Oak Ridge Boys .  
RIGHT: Jamey Johnson, a former Marching Southerner, performed on Burgess-Snow once again.



# Study Break

## Word Scramble! Sports Edition:



VLLYBLALO

SFBLATOL

NISNTE

CALORESS

KRTCA

XGNOBI

FSBLLATO

KSBLLATEAB

OFTOBLLA

TINCAGSYMS



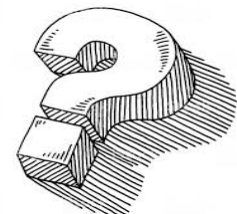
## A Few Sick Punz...

Why do math teachers make good dances? Because they have algorithm.

What do you call a goat that's lazy? Billy Idle...

A scarecrow says, "This job isn't for everyone, but hay, it's in my jeans."

## Riddle me this...



What two words have thousands of letters in them?

At night they come without being fetched. By day they are lost without being stolen. What are they?

What is the best month for a parade?



## Did YOU know?

Banks have therapists known as 'wealth psychologist' who help ultra-rich clients, who are unable to mentally cope with their immense wealth.

James Blunt recorded his first album while living with Carrie Fisher. 'Goodbye My Lover' was recorded in her bathroom.

Some cat breeds (called 'puppy cats') are bred specifically to exhibit dog-like behavior.

In the year 2016 it was recorded that the site MySpace was still getting 50 million visitors a month.

# Sports

## 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.

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

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

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

Nov. 3  
\*UT Martin  
1 p.m.

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

Nov. 17  
at Kennesaw State (Sun-Trust Park)  
TBA

\*-OVC Game  
All times Central

## JSU FOOTBALL

# Gamecocks pull out victory over the Governors on Homecoming



Sydney Sorrells / Chanticleer Sports Photographer

JSU quarterback Zion Webb looks to pass Saturday during game.

**Baylee Morris**  
Sports Editor

With the question of how the Gamecocks will do playing back to back games I think we all go our answer.

Homecoming 2018 against the Austin Peay Governors was a hard fought and hard-won game. With the Gamecocks pulling out a 48-32 victory

over the Govs.

The 1st quarter started off rocky with the

Gamecocks going up 9-0 on JSU, but in the second quarter the Gamecocks would quickly score making it 12 to 14 at halftime.

The game would remain tight until the Gamecocks broke away in the fourth quarter. The Gamecocks only suffered 24 yards of penalties compared to a

few weeks previous.

The Governors and the Gamecocks gave a great performance and the Gamecocks capped off a great homecoming with a great victory.

Now sitting at 2-0 in the conference the Gamecocks will leave Burgess-Snow and head out to Richmond, KY where they will square off with the Eastern Kentucky Colonels.

The question of how the Gamecocks will do after two back to back bye weeks is over and now all eyes are on the Gamecocks to see if they can keep their perfect 34 OVC win streak. In the coming weeks the Gamecocks will look to extend their win streak.

The Gamecocks will be back in action on Burgess-Snow Field on October 13 when they battle the East-

## JSU SOFTBALL

# Softball to host Tera Ross Memorial Tournament Oct. 6

The Jacksonville State softball team will host the 12th annual Tera Ross Memorial Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 6, at Choccolocco Park in Oxford, Ala.

The Gamecocks will play four games in the one-day tournament, taking on Marion Military at 9 a.m., Southern Union at 10:45 a.m., Southern Wesleyan at 12:30 p.m. and Calhoun Community College at 2:15 p.m.

All 11 of JSU's games will be played on Field 1. Admission to the tournament is \$5 for the entire day.

The tournament is named in the memory of former Jacksonville State pitcher Tera Ross, a three-time letterwinner that was killed in an automobile accident just before her senior season.

As a junior in 2003, Ross led the team with a 1.17 earned run average, still the third-lowest in school history.

She ranks in the top five in Jacksonville State's career record books in four categories: strikeouts, innings, wins and games started.

The Gamecocks are set to play at 9 and 10:45 A.M., and then at 12:30, and 2:15 P.M.

JSU Sportwire



JSU Sportwire

	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5
9 a.m.	Jax State vs. Marion Military	UAB vs. Gulf Coast CC	LB Wallace vs. Beville State	West Ga. vs. Wallace-Hanceville	
10:45 a.m.	Jax State vs. Southern Union	Wallace-Hanceville vs. Gulf Coast CC	Wallace-Dothan vs. UAB	Snead State vs. West Ga.	LB Wallace vs. Calhoun CC
12:30 a.m.	Jax State vs. So. Wesleyan	Gulf Coast CC vs. Southern Union	So. Wesleyan vs. Calhoun CC	West Ga. vs. Wallace-Dothan	
2:15 p.m.	Jax State vs. Calhoun CC	Wallace-Dothan vs. Southern Union	UAB vs. Snead State	Marion Military vs. LB Wallace	Wallace-Hanceville vs. So. Wesleyan
4 p.m.		Snead State vs. Calhoun CC	Gulf Coast CC vs. Beville State	Marion Military vs. So. Wesleyan	



# Sports



Josh Gilbert / ChanticleerSports Photographer

JSU splits with Mississippi State in exhibition matchup

## JSU BASEBALL

# Gamecocks split exhibition doubleheader with Mississippi State

JACKSONVILLE – Newly-dedicated Rudy Abbott Field at Jim Case Stadium was on full display Sunday afternoon as the Gamecocks played host to Mississippi State for two five-inning exhibition games.

An estimated 1,500 fans entered through the left field gate as they made their way up onto the concourse from the parking lot at Pete Mathews Coliseum to watch Jacksonville State take on the 2018 Men's College World Series contenders.

"Today was a beautiful day for our program and for our school," head coach Jim Case said. "For this many people to come out for an exhibition game, and really to fill the stands early, brought an excitement with it. It showed what it can and will be like here."

The Gamecocks and Bulldogs squared off for 10

innings, playing two back-to-back, five-inning exhibitions on the new AstroTurf field. Mississippi State took the first matchup 3-0, while an exciting bottom of the fifth saw the Gamecocks rally for an 8-7 victory.

Mississippi State started freshman TJ Ginn on the hill for game one. The former first-round draft pick dealt four innings of scoreless baseball, allowing just one hit to the Gamecocks, and senior righthander Jared Liebelt worked around an HBP to earn the save. Junior Devin Brown had JSU's lone hit – a single to left in the third.

Despite being shut out in the first game, Jacksonville State wasted little time getting on the board to begin the second. Sophomore Cole Fredrick singled in a run in the bottom of the first inning to give JSU an early 1-0 advantage.

Following a two-run sec-

ond for MSU, outfielder Nash Adams tied the game at 2-2 with an RBI single in the second. The score remained knotted at four until freshman Isaiah Magwood bounced a 2-RBI ground rule double over the fence in left to push the JSU advantage to two. A wild pitch from Mississippi State's Denver McQuary in the same inning made it a 5-4 ballgame at the end of four.

Jacksonville State fell into a bind in the top of the fifth when the Bulldogs struck for five runs in the fifth, taking a 7-5 lead in the final frame, but patience at the plate and timely hitting saw the Gamecocks through in the end. Evan Veal hustled out a dribbler to short to lead off the inning, and Carson Crowe and Andrew Nasmith each worked walks.

With the bases loaded and no outs, freshman Brook Brannon laced a single to left to plate two

runs. With the score tied, 7-7, Bulldogs' head coach Chris Lemonis went to the bullpen and brought in lefthander Josh Hatcher following a third fifth-inning walk that loaded the bases yet again. Facing his first batter, Hatcher let loose a wild pitch that allowed JSU pinch runner Matthew Kisor to score the game-winning run from third.

"Today's goal was to go out, compete and have fun," Case said. "We're thankful that a team like Mississippi State came over here and helped us open our new stadium. They didn't have to do this; anyone will go play at Mississippi State. For Coach Lemonis to agree to come here says a lot about him and his character."

Jacksonville State opens the 2019 slate Feb. 15 at home with a three-game series against North Alabama.

JSU Sportwire

## JSU VOLLEYBALL

# Gamecocks fall in OVC home opener to Tennessee State

JP Wood  
Sports Writer

The Jacksonville State University volleyball squad marched on through their OVC schedule, playing for the first time in a month within friendly confines. In their OVC home opener, the Gamecocks fell 3 sets to 1 against a Tennessee State squad who has yet to lose an OVC match. In just the second home loss on the season, JSU fell in heartbreakingly close sets, 23-25 in all three losses.

Mackenzie Rombach reached double-digit kills in the match, and reached 900 overall in her career. Lena Kindermann and Kaylee Frear also reached double-digit kills, to go along with Lexie Libs 45 assists. Sophomore Dani Steele's first start at libero resulted in a career high 15 digs, followed by Kalie Milton and Addie Halverson with 11 and 10, respectively.

Saturday night was an entirely different story. JSU jumped on winless Belmont to earn their first conference win in 2018, winning 3 sets to 1. Three Gamecocks, Lexie Libs, Addie Halverson and Kaylie Milton, earned double-doubles. Lena Kindermann led the way with kills with 16, and Dani Steele followed with 9.

Jacksonville State (9-9, 2-3OVC) will play on the road at Tennessee-Martin on Friday.

Josh Gilbert  
Sports Photographer

JSU fell to TSU in their OVC home opener.

## JSU SOCCER

# JSU suffers defeat from Murray State

Garrett Sanders  
Sports Writer

Up next for the Gamecocks after a day of rest would be against Murray State. This is a team that had dominated the OVC winning the conference the year before and dominated so far this season.

For the Gamecocks once again, they couldn't hold possession of the ball. Murray State had the ball in the Gamecock defensive side all game long. In the first half, Murray State had 12 shots compared to JSU's two shots. With the Racers shooting the ball in the Gamecock defensive side, a goal was bound to happen. In the 14th minute, Symone Cooper for the Racers found the back of the net. This made it 1-0.

Fortunately for JSU, this would be the only scored goal of the first half. Going into halftime being down 1-0, the Gamecocks were confident they could fight and scratch their way back. Despite having made halftime adjustments, it would not get any better for JSU.

Once again, the Racers were in the Gamecock defensive zone all second half. To make things worse, the Racers had even more shots than they did in the first half. Overall, the Gamecocks

had no answers to this Murray State attack.

In the 54th minute, Murray State's Miyah Watford was looking for a pass. Abby Jones for the Racers found her way open, and Watford passed the ball to her. Jones then took a chance and shot the ball. The ball was shot perfectly, and it found its way into the back of the net. This made it 2-0.

Murray State showed no mercy. In the 67th minute, the Racers had yet another opportunity to increase their lead. Abby Jones had the ball and passed it to Elizabeth Tilton. Tilton seized the opportunity and struck a beauty to the back of the net. This made it 3-0.

If you thought that Murray State would stop scoring and stall out, think again. The Racers were out to completely dominate the Gamecocks. The shots kept on coming, and in the 83rd minute, the Racers had another opportunity to score.

Miyah Watford had the ball in the Gamecocks defensive side and found an opportunity to score. Watford shot the ball and found her way into the back of the net. This made it 4-0. That would be the final score for this matchup.

Despite JSU getting entirely outplayed by both of these teams, there is hope,

Austin Peay and Murray State have more experience than the Gamecocks. Don't let these two games make you think this JSU team isn't excellent. This is a very young team with minimal experience. It takes time to build a strong foundation to have a successful team.

While the Gamecocks may be young and inexperienced, this is a team that has shown signs of great potential. The talent is there, and as time passes, you will see improvement. This team has fought all year long and will continue to do so. It is only a matter of time when this team will be competing for an OVC Championship.

This Friday and Sunday will be the next matchups for the Gamecocks. On Friday JSU will be hosting Belmont, and on Sunday JSU will be hosting Tennessee Martin. Both of these games will be in Jacksonville and admission is free.

Belmont will be an exciting matchup. This is a team that has a decent amount of good players and can produce a lot of offense. Tennessee Martin will be a very challenging matchup for the Gamecocks. This is a team that is in firm control of winning the OVC this year and has dominated in conference play. If you are looking for a fun day