It’s something they have, not something that defines them'

Culminated our present unscientific discoveries that the history of autism and luncheon by overviewing of Education, began the instructor for JSU’s School of Education to discuss about the men disorder. Conceptions about the men disorder, began the “least understood men disorder”. In the 1960’s, there was a period of time where Dr. Bruno Bettelheim (a child psychologist) claimed that autism was caused by mothers, and he called them “refrigerator mothers”, said Dr. Wheat. “The premise for that was that mothers who didn’t bond with their infant child and were detached caused the autism. Thankfully, we now know that mothers do not cause autism.”

Wheat goes on to show figures from the Centers for Disease Control which show that the rate in which autism is prevalent in children has grown. In 2000, 1 in 150 children were found to have autism, compared to the year 2014, where it has grown to 1 in 59. Wheat presented a definition of autism, per Autism Speaks, as “A broad range of conditions characterized by social challenges, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication, as well as unique strengths and differences. We know that there is not one autism, but many times caused by a combination of factors raising a finally total

Music, give-aways, and food! Sponsored by Housing and Residence Life. Come learn more about Cambodia and food! Spon-...
Smoke named to Jacksonville State Board of Trustees

Keeley Tibbitts
Staff Reporter

Tony Smoke has been confirmed by the Alabama Senate for the position in the Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees. Smoke was appointed by Governor Kay Ivey. Smoke has 30 years of experience with Alabama Power Company and serves as the vice president of its Eastern Division.

“Jacksonville State University is a vital resource to both the quality of life and educational opportunities of the people of East Alabama and beyond,” said Smoke. “I am honored to have been appointed to serve a university full of tradition, diversity and a rich history. I look forward to being a part of the Gamecock family.”

Smoke is taking the seat that was formally Ronnie Smith’s.

Smith announced his resignation in February after serving as a JSU trustee since 2004. Smith, who originally planned to step down in 2018, stayed on after last year’s tornadoes.

“After the March 19 tornado, I knew it wasn’t the right time,” Smith says. Smith led the board through rough times of change, but he is now stepping down, giving his seat to Smoke. JSU president John M. Beehler thanked Ronnie Smith for the years of “exemplary leadership and service on the JSU Board of Trustees.”

Smoke earned his Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from Auburn University in 1984, and he earned a Doctorate from the Birmingham School of Law in 1997. He serves on multiple boards such as the YMCA of Greater Birmingham, March of Dimes, American Red Cross, and Alabama Symphony.

He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and is a former board member of the Birmingham Autism Center.

“Jacksonville State University is a vital resource to both the quality of life and educational opportunities of the people of East Alabama and beyond” says Smoke. He will attend his first meeting on April 16.
Taylor Mitchell
A&E Editor

Every year, I write an editorial for Autism Awareness
month to attempt to help people understand Autism and
Autistics just little bit better. I am a high functioning
autistic myself and try to use that as a way to help with
what I can. Fair warning: this is a rough one and I am still
not entirely sure I should be writing it. This article will in-
clude a discussion of my experiences as an autistic child, and
admittedly there is a bit of trauma and pain wrapped
up in that. Yet I feel I should write it.

First, let’s start with some-
thing that illustrates how
growing up can be a little bit
different. On March 31, 2016
the British National Autis-
tic Society released a video
titled “Can you make it to the
end?” on its YouTube chan-
nel. The video simulates what
a trip to a shopping mall can
be like for a child with au-
tism. The young boy in the
video quickly begins to expe-
perience sensory overload from
the many different sights and
sounds in the mall, and de-
spite his mother’s attempts to
calm him, he begins to have
a fit due to the flood of in-
formation. The last bit of the
video features derisive looks
from many onlookers before
family members; but not ev-
eryone is this way. The video
showed me what that is like
and admittedly there is a bit
of trauma and pain wrapped
up in that. Yet I feel I should
write it.

The truth is, it’s not. It
wasn’t willful bad behavior
but rather an uncontrollable
reaction. That being said, it
is rarely perceived that way.
I want to say now that I have
had very helpful, understand-
ing, and supportive teachers,
therapist, case workers, and
family members; but not ev-
eryone is this way. The video
I have been discussing shows
derisive looks from several
mall patrons, several judge-
ments made in moments of
not understanding. I have ex-
perienced those looks and ad-
mittedly a bit worse. More than once I had a fit
like in the video during school.

The lack of understanding
from my peers caused me to
be labeled as either a bad kid,
crazy, or just a joke. This
wasn’t just kids either, many
teachers just looked on me as
a bad kid who threw a fit for
attention. That’s the differ-
ence, however, I was never
doing it on purpose. It was
something that was happen-
ing to me... Something scary
that was hard to stop. I was
laughed at, I was left alone. It
got to the point some people
told me I should be institu-
tionalized, that the only place
for me was a mental hospital.

Even at home, sometimes it
was hard on my family to deal
with me when I lost control.
It was hard on them and hard
on me. I have been talking to
several people in the lead up
to writing this, just to get my
thoughts together, and when
people ask me about this part
of my life I can never get away
from the fact that I felt ashamed of it.

The thing is, I naturally
want control, and it is dif-
cult to forgive not having it.
I think that for any readers on
the spectrum that is what I am
writing to tell you: sometimes there are
even things about your own
body and mind you can’t
control. Learn to cope with
it, catch your breath and find
your center, but never, and I
mean never, hate yourself for
it. You aren’t crazy and you
aren’t naughty, you are just
autistic. You are different, but
you have never been less.
For any readers not on the
spectrum, I want to challenge
you to remember that. Never
assume a child is a bad kid just
because they sometimes lose
control when overwhelmed.

Never be those people who
look disparagingly or just
watch and laugh. I had many
people who supported me
through the years; honestly if
it wasn’t for my grandmother,
professor, and editors being
very supportive I am not sure
I could be writing this. Be like
those people. The worst thing
a child can feel, autistic or
not, is alone.
The JSU Drama department presented their One Act Festival and Student Showcase on April 4th and 5th. The showcase included eight ten-minute scenes, each directed and performed by JSU students.

The showcase opened with Nothing Serious by Rich Orloff. This scene featured Haley Baker and Jake Lewis, which directed by Ansley Gayton. Baker is a senior majoring in Psychology and is scheduled to graduate in May. Lewis is a freshman majoring in English. Nothing Serious was a funny scene about two people getting married, or “making the biggest mistake of [their] lives…together.”

The next act was a complete change of pace. Lawrence Mason, a junior Theatre Performance major from Dallas, TX, presented his take on William Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar. Anita Coris, a senior Theatre Performance major, shined as Brutus, while Brooke Elam, also a senior drama major, wowed the audience as Cassius.

Following Julius Caesar was Almost, Almost, directed by senior Mason Ward, and Eric Wilkerson were featured performers. Doss is majoring in English and Drama, directed a scene in which the audience as Cassius. Following Almost, Almost was Almost, Almost, written by John Cariani and directed by Lawrence Mason. Cheney is a superior majoring in Theatre Performance. Cheney is a senior majoring in Theatre Performance. Vaughn is a sophomore majoring in English and Drama, directed a scene in which Vaughn is a sophomore majoring in Elementary Education.

Lawley is a sophomore. Doss is majoring in English, starring Kenli Doss and Mason Ward, both sophomores. Doss is majoring in English, while Ward is a Theatre Production major. After a brief intermission, the Student Showcase continued with Nina in the Morning by Christopher Durang, also directed by Sam Eddy. The humorous excerpts featured Allison Lawley, Dominique Cheney, Jaden Vaughn, and Laurence Mason. Lawley is a third-year student majoring in Business, Cheney is a senior majoring in Theatre Performance. Vaughn is a sophomore majoring in Elementary Education. Doss is a sophomore. Doss is majoring in English and Drama, directed a scene. Proceed as a work of art, featuring the art of the John Cariani’s No Entry, by Hypothetical Theatre Group, directed by Lawrence Mason. Featured performers included Kevin Jannot, Sean Golson, Jake Lewis, and Chloe Barnes. The short play was hilariously creative, and featured Barnes as a Zombie who desperately wants to be seen as a human and allowed to cross the Canadian border.

Mason Ward, who acted in two different one acts, felt honored to be a part of the student showcase. “Being in the student showcase was one of my highlights in my college experience so far. Getting the chance to work so closely with some of my fellow theater students to prepare such powerful scenes was such a memorable experience,” says Ward.

“The two scenes I acted in were both rather dark and handled such sensitive subjects that it was a true honor to learn these characters and try to portray them so honestly,” he adds. “Without the guidance of my two student directors Benjamin Marazzi and Rebecca Weaver I believe the scenes we performed would not have been as powerful as they ended up being.”

The JSU Student Showcase was well-received by the audience. With the talent showcased here at JSU, it’s no surprise that the actors, directors, and staff received astanding ovation.
Iron Man is still the best Marvel movie

Devin Carter
A&E Writer

We are just over two weeks from Avengers: Endgame being released, and Marvel once again taking the country (and, dare I say, the world). I know it has not been released yet, but here is a spoiler: It’s going to be a pretty darn good movie.

I can say that because Marvel has won. Through the usage of some voodoo magic, they have managed to crack the movie-making code. They can roll movies out as if they were made on an assembly line, take home enormous amounts of revenue from the box office, and somehow keep their content high-quality and astonishingly consistent. I will be the first to admit that I think it’s all a bit much-and, to be honest, I grew sort of tired of the Marvel hype years ago. But the reality of the situation is that these movies seem here to stay. Marvel has been pumping out movies for a decade now, and mere fads do not last that long. Marvel, and to an even greater extent, Disney, holds the entire box office in the palm of its hand.

But there used to be a time when that was not the case. The numerous details involved in the production of their first film, Iron Man, are too often overlooked and under-appreciated. And it’s hard to blame us—after all, that was ten years and what, like, 25 movies ago? But let’s mention just a couple of the risks that Marvel took in making their first film. For starters, they decided to launch their studio with Iron Man who, while popular, was nowhere near the popularity of their bigger characters. In addition to this, they casted Robert Downey Jr. as the lead role. It’s hard to look back on Downey Jr.’s career and life back before Iron Man, because so much has changed since then, but casting Downey was actually a big risk on Marvel’s part. He was undoubtedly talented, and had a decent track record of films, but he also had a lengthy drug history that made him a major liability. If he went on yet another downward spiral, all of Marvel’s plans could be shattered.

But, obviously, this did not happen. And Downey deserves praise for sincerely transforming his life for the better. Oddly enough, and not coincidentally, his life followed a similar path that his Tony Stark character seemed to, especially in his first film. I give Marvel huge credit for taking that risk, being, in my opinion, overly-safe and formulaic in numerous instances. But Iron Man is a different beast than the works of other studios. It’s critical it’s creative, engaging, gripping, and easily Marvel’s greatest film to date.

Whereas many Marvel movies nowadays feature largely static characters, where events may change relationships, but the characters themselves remain the same at the end of the day, the central theme in Iron Man involves change to the most positive degree, and how one can achieve it. The hero, Tony Stark has led a life of vice, and his company, largely unbeknownst to him, has been indirectly responsible for numerous acts of atrocity. When he has a near-death experience, and goes through traumatic events, Stark decides to use his natural gifts to make the world a better place. And it isn’t just a blinding sense of moral goodness-Stark wants to change the world so that he has a chance at changing himself.

That sort of depth simply does not exist within most Marvel films today, and it is hard for it to when characters can appear in up to two or three… or four movies in a single year. But even looking beyond Marvel Studios, it is hard to find a comic book movie before Iron Man that has its sophistication. Sure, you have Nolan’s Batman films, and I’d even give Tim Burton’s Batman movie the same classification. But beyond those there are very few movies that are as expertly crafted in regards to how it treated it characters. And yes, I just used the plural word. Because Iron Man’s supporting cast is great as well. I don’t need to spend time describing them, because you probably know them all quite well. And, in my opinion, they come together to create the greatest overall supporting cast of any film in the Marvel franchise. But, to be fair, they had better material to work with than most others.

I know that I have spent most of my time comparing Iron Man to other Marvel movies, but I think that is necessary in order to discuss it in a proper context. And I have left out discussions of specific scenes, or talks about the quality of the action and effects, because you probably already know all about that. But, if you were to go back and reread this movie, I think you may be very surprised at the power of the dramatic elements, especially when compared to other Marvel movies.

And no, I do not hate Marvel Studios, or their movies. But I am critical of most of them, especially post-Avengers, for being largely lacking in genuine drama and character arcs. I feel like I could skip six Thor movies and, other than new characters and events, feel like I haven’t missed anything. Thor would be the exact same person, with the exact same character traits, strengths, and weaknesses. I feel that way about almost every Marvel character. But that is just something you have to deal with if you make thirty movies with these people. But Iron Man is different. It is a genuinely deep, entertaining movie, and after all this time, it should still stand as the greatest achievement of Marvel Studios.

Marvel Studios
Car Trivia!

1. What luxury car company introduced the Boxster roadster in 1996?
2. Who patented the concept of a flat engine or “boxer” engine in 1896?
3. Established in the 1920s, what historic double-digit highway connected Chicago and Los Angeles?
4. What automobile manufacturer was first to implement the assembly line for the mass production of an entire automobile?
5. The vehicle manufacturer Volvo was founded in what country?
6. General Motors was founded in which city?
7. What do the letters “PT” stand for in the name of Chrysler’s family car, the PT Cruiser?

Life Hacks

Changing the text color of a speech every four lines will make it 10 times easier to keep your place while reading it.

Nail-polish remover can easily remove any scuffs or stains from your shoes and make them look good as new!

Coughing too much? Taking pineapple juice instead of cough syrup is 500% more effective in providing relief.

The best way to get rid of an accidental pen or ink stain on your clothes is to scrub some toothpaste into it and let it dry and then wash it.

Febreze is an odorless product that is effectively used to kill ants.

Don’t have time to iron a shirt? Hang it up in the bathroom as you shower and all the wrinkles will come out.

Very Punny...

Why did the balloon go near the needle? He wanted to be a pop star.

“Why is there music coming out of your printer?” - “That will be the paper jamming again!”

My first job was working in an orange juice factory, but I got canned: couldn’t concentrate.

A book just fell on my head. I’ve only got myself to blame.

Did YOU know?

8% of people have an extra rib

Birds need gravity to swallow

The 3 most common languages in the world are Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and English

Sponges hold more cold water than hot

Your tongue is the fastest healing part of your body

Riddle of the week...

There is an island with exactly 201 residents, 100 with blue eyes, 100 with brown eyes, and the island leader (who has green eyes). To leave the island, one must know their own eye color. There are no reflective surfaces on the island and no one can communicate with each other other than the leader to the residents. No one on the island knows how many of each eye color there is. Everyone on the island is a perfect logician, meaning that if there us a solution they’ll find it. Every morning the leader gathers all 200 residents to make an announcement, he says “at least 1 person on this island has blue eyes”.

How many people leave the island and in how many days after the announcement?
JSU BASEBALL

JSU upsets nationally ranked Auburn

If you saw the score heading into the fourth inning of this one, you likely wouldn’t have bothered to check again. Down 6-0 at nationally ranked Auburn early, the outlook on the rest of the game was bleak.

Don’t tell that to the JSU baseball team though. Having never counted themselves out, the Gamecocks rallied back in the top of the fourth to tie the game at 6, and later put the nail in Auburn’s coffin in the seventh, taking and then extending their lead to 11-6.

Andrew Naismith, a product of Auburn High School, made the most of his homecoming with a 3-RBI game and drew a bases loaded walk. Alex Webb, whose bat is on fire, made it 11 hits over 7 games with a two run double in the fourth. Nic Gaddis recorded the game tying RBI.

Freshmen Isaiah Magwood and Michael Gilliland held the Tigers scoreless over the rest of the game, allowing just 5 hits and striking out 10. Magwood recorded K’s for 7 of the 13 batters he faced.

Thalmayr gets first win to lead JSU men at Bubba Barnett

JONESBORO, Ark. – Jackson-ville State senior Benedikt Thal- mayr claimed his first career win on Tuesday, when he earned co- medalist honors alongside one of the top 100 players in the nation.

Thalmayr fired a 3-under 69 on Tuesday to tie Arkansas State’s Zan Luka Stirn atop the individual leaderboard at the Bubba Barnett Intercollegiate. Stirn entered the event ranked No. 100 in the Golf-Stat rankings and tied JSU’s lone senior with a 54-hole score of 211, three shots better than third place.

Thalmayr, a native of Ouching, Germany, had four birdies and an eagle in Tuesday’s final round. He birdied three of his first four holes and then drove the green within 10 feet of the cup on the 360-yard, par-4 third hole. He made the putt to eagle and put himself in position for the win.

His final-round 69 continued a tournament for Thalmayr that saw him improve every round. He started the event with a 72 Monday morning and then turned in a 70 to finish the first day of the event.

Sophomore Quim Vidal Mora tied for 13th with a 2-over 218 that was capped by his 73 in Tuesday’s final round. The native of Barce- lona, Spain, birdied his first hole and made par on 16 of the last 17 holes on Tuesday.

Sophomore Jesus Dario Montenegro turned in a 74 on Tuesday, finishing off a 54-hole score of 225 that tied him for 26th. Fel- low sophomore Maximio Portais shot 74 on Tuesday, the finishing touches on a 229 that saw him climb 10 spots in the final round into a tie for 38th.

Sophomore Max Basler fin- ished tied for 58th after bouncing back from an opening round 86 on Monday morning. The Ko- nigswinter, Germany, native shot 6 Gamecocks walked in the go-ahead inning, with the go-ahead run being plated after Alex Strachan drew a bases loaded walk. Although they plated 5 runs in the inning, the Gamecocks only col- lected two hits.

Jax State how now won five of its last nine against the Plainsmen. Auburn will make a return trip to Jacksonville on Tuesday, April 23rd.

JSU will play an OVC series vs Belmont this weekend. First pitch Friday is scheduled for 6:00 p.m.
JSU SOFTBALL

The Chanticleer

Baylee Morris
Sports Editor

In an untraditional Tuesday game, the Gamecocks split with Tennessee Tech.

The Gamecocks headed up to Tennessee with a 24-10 record and an OVC record of 8-2 at the end of the double header. The Gamecocks split with Tech coming home with a 25-11 record and an OVC record of 9-3.

In their first outing of the day against Tech, Faith Sims pitched a two-hitter and received the win on the day as the Gamecocks went on to defeat Tech 7-0. This game was Sims seventh shutout and 15th complete game of the season. There is no doubt that Sims commands the circle while she is in, especially seeing as after escaping a first inning bases loaded jam, she only allowed two baserunners the remaining six innings of the ballgame.

Sims had help from her offense Tuesday with seven hitters delivering eight hits. Hayley Sims, Lex Hull, and Karsen Mosley delivered three doubles today. While the bats were hot today in game one for the Gamecocks, there were errors delivered on Tennessee Tech’s side that allowed two Gamecock baserunners to score.

The second outing of the day left the Gamecocks hitless. The Gamecocks fell to Tech 2-0 with Arden throwing a no-hitter. Arden went the complete game for Tech while on the other side Nicole Rodriguez would suffer a loss. While only two runs were scored in the game those two runs came off of two solo shots delivered by Sparks and Love-Baker for Tennessee Tech.

The Gamecocks looked to finish the week strong in their road trip back to Tennessee on Friday and Sunday. JSU Tech will face Belmont in a double header in Nashville. Then the Gamecocks will travel over to Tennessee State for another double header on Sunday where they wrap up their six-game road trip week.