



## CAMPUS

# Symposium highlights student projects

**Daniel Mayes**  
Editor-in-Chief

Jacksonville State University held their annual student symposium last week, with over 60 students making presentations of various academic projects.

Students could present on posters, papers, demonstrations and artwork that they created for their classes at JSU.

Katie Peyton, a senior English major, presented her project on the significance of oak trees in the bible. Peyton says she enjoyed her project because it allowed her to look at the bible with a literary perspective in mind.

"I grew up studying the Bible in a religious context, and I still study the Bible for religious regions," Peyton said. "However, being forced to notice literary devices and recurring themes and character development and plot devices while reading really challenged me."

Awards were given out



JSU Student Symposium/Facebook

JSU Students pose after winning awards at the annual student symposium.

on Friday for several different categories, with a graduate and undergraduate division for each.

Peyton was awarded Best Undergraduate Paper for her presentation, titled "Studying the 'Oak' Testament."

Below is a listing of all students who took home awards for their presentations:

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### Awards for Best of School

**Best Award - School of Science (Undergraduate)** - James King and Madeline Miles: "The Jacksonville Tornado; a Scientific Retrospective" (paper, advised by Dr. Ross Martin)

**Best Award - School of Science (Graduate)** - Vanessa Chappell: "Eukaryotic Conservation of Interactions Between Histone Proteins and Mitochondria" (paper, advised by Dr. Roger Sauterer)

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## on CAMPUS

**International House Presentation: Germany Thursday, February 21, 11:00 a.m. International House**

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

**SGA Blood Drive Thursday-Friday, February 21-22, 10:00-4:00**

Give blood and save lives! This Thursday and Friday from 10 am - 4 pm the SGA has teamed up with LifeSouth for a blood drive. It will be in the TMB Auditorium and every donor gets FREE snacks and a t-shirt. So grab your friends and help us, help save lives around our community!

## COMMUNITY

# Hollywood stars set to film in Calhoun County

**Byron Khalil**  
ABC 33/40

Some of Hollywood's biggest stars are coming to Calhoun County as production on a new film is set to begin in a few weeks.

With a film crew in town, local businesses are confident they will benefit.

Downtown Anniston and Jacksonville will be the backdrop for a new film, "The Devil All the Time."

According to the Internet Movie Database, the film is in the horror genre. Some of the movie stars include Robert Pattinson, Sebastian Stan and Tom Holland.

"We've been waiting a long time for a big project like this," Pete Conroy, Director of Longleaf Studios said.

Longleaf Studios is set up in Jacksonville. Conroy says filming should begin in a few weeks.

"They've already been in town doing some sprucing up of buildings where they'll be shooting," Conroy said.

Conroy says Birmingham, Mobile, and Huntsville are popular locations in the state for filmmakers.

Some want to see Calhoun County added to the list.



Geoff Robins / AFP/Getty Images

Sebastian Stan is one of many actors set to film in Jacksonville and Anniston.

"More and more productions are starting to discover that Alabama is indeed a terrific state," Conroy explained.

Supporters say local businesses benefit from having a film crew in the area.

"These people are going to stay somewhere. They're gonna eat and they're gonna have to buy supplies to build their sets and prepare for the shoot," Conroy said. "Even though it might take place in a matter of weeks like a blink of an eye, the goal would be to line up for another production, and another one after that."

Anniston's Mayor Jack Draper

agrees.

"To me, this is a great place for films to be shot and we want to do anything that we can and quite frankly to incentivize that as well," Draper said.

In Alabama, production crews can receive a rebate for money spent on their film. It has to be spent in the state.

The project has to cost at least half a million dollars.

Supporters say they're working on providing equipment rentals for these production crews.

They say they also want to provide a more organized workforce for future productions.





## CAMPUS

### University to host Arbor Day celebration

Arbor Day will hold special meaning at JSU this year, as the university reflects on the 2018 tornado that destroyed hundreds of trees on campus and in the surrounding area. The annual Arbor Day Ceremony will take place at the International House on Feb. 21 at 3:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The ceremony will include remarks by President John Beehler, Mayor Johnny Smith and Dean Tim Lindblom. Dr. Jimmy Triplett, a biology professor, will play the fiddle and Christian



Dunn, a graphic design professor, will display artwork. The program will conclude with JSU and city representatives applying one last scoop of soil to complete the

planting of a magnolia tree.

On Feb. 22, the Jacksonville and JSU Tree Commission will host a free tree giveaway on the city square, 2:30-5:30 p.m.

JSU News

## COMMUNITY

### Rain pounds area, with more on the way

**Amalia Kortright**

*Anniston Star*

Rain pelted Calhoun County on Tuesday, as the first day of a prolonged soaking led forecasters to issue a flood watch and felled two trees, in one case cutting electric power to hundreds.

The National Weather Service placed Calhoun County under a flood watch Tuesday morning. The watch went into effect at noon on Tuesday and is expected to last until 6 a.m. Friday.

Meteorologist Gerald Satterwhite said flooding is possible in the Anniston area. Between Sunday and Tuesday afternoon, 1.8 inches of rain had fallen at the weather service's station at the Anniston airport, according to data reported online.

An Alabama Power spokeswoman said that 209 customers lost power Tuesday morning after a tree fell on power lines along Choccolocco Road near Ronnaki Road.

The spokeswoman, Jacki-Lyn Lowry, said the tree fell as the result of the weather. She said the company restored power to the area at around 1 p.m.

Calhoun County Emergency Management Agency director Michael Barton

said another fallen tree was reported on Gilbert Ferry Road near Peeks Hill Road at around 3 p.m.

Barton said the fallen tree had partially blocked Gilbert Ferry Road, but was cleared by 4:45 p.m.

EMA officer Myles Chamblee said trees can be susceptible to falling when the soil they're rooted in is saturated with rainfall.

According to Satterwhite, it is expected to rain on and off over the next few days, especially Wednesday. Between 3 and 3.5 inches of rain is anticipated throughout the week.

Satterwhite said low-lying areas, areas with poor drainage and urbanized areas that have lots of concrete are especially at risk for flooding.

Satterwhite urged locals to stay off flooded roads.

"One of the top fatalities from flooding is people driving in flooded areas," Satterwhite said.

Satterwhite also encouraged those who live in areas prone to flooding to watch the water levels in nearby ponds, lakes or streams.

"If there's a flash flood warning, get to a place with higher ground," Satterwhite said.

## SYMPOSIUM from Page 1

**Best Award - School of Arts and Humanities (Undergraduate)** - Rebekah Britton: "What A Wonderful Memory" (paper, advised by Dr. Sarah Cusimano Miles)

### Category Awards

**Best Paper (Undergraduate)** - Katie Peyton: "Studying the "Oak" Testament" (advised by Jennifer Foster)

**Best Paper (Graduate)** - Derek Peacock: "Vascular Flora of the Hinds Road Outcrop Forever Wild Tract, Etoway County, Alabama" (advised by Dr. Jimmy Triplett)

**Best Poster (Undergraduate)** - (tie) Robi Ledbetter, Brianna Mercier, Blake Cook, Daisha Wilks, Jay Hagan: "The effects of Urban Heat Islands on Faxonious erichsonianus aggression in local lotic systems" (advised by Dr. Sarah Wofford)

**Best Poster (Undergraduate)** - (tie) Georgia Chamblee: "L-dopa Docking in Aromatic L-amino Acid Decarboxylase Enzyme and Amino Acid Interactions" (advised by Dr. Donna Perygin)

**Best Poster (Graduate)** - (tie) Annie Slayton: "Helminth Infection Dynamics in Pomacea maculata (Ampullariidae), Giant Apple Snails, in Threemile Creek in Mobile, AL" (advised by Dr. Lori Tolley-Jordan)

**Best Poster (Graduate)** - (tie) Sarah Lagon: "A Synthesis: Measurements Commonly Utilized to Determine Effects of Urban Runoff on Water Quality in Freshwater Systems Across the Continental USA" (advised by Dr. Jimmy Triplett)

**Best Demonstration** - George Beason: "Cluster Analysis Software for Genealogical Data" (advised by Dr. Benjie Blair and Dr. Monica Trifas)

**Best Cover Design** - Christian Everhart: winning cover selected for printed Symposium program

Houston Cole Library Award for Research Excellence - Cecelia Davis: "A Review of Nonpoint Source Pollution Models for Managing Agricultural Watersheds" (poster, advised by Dr. Lori Tolley-Jordan)

**Award for Best of Showcase** - Rayne Ragains: "The presence of Legionella in potting soil" (paper, advised by Richard Watkins)

## CAMPUS

### Involvement night helps freshmen stay active on campus

**Quadarius Whitson**

*Staff Reporter*

On Monday, Freshman Forum held an involvement night specifically for the freshman class in the TMB Auditorium. This involvement night consisted of a leadership panel which had 9 different representatives from a multitude of different organizations.

Some of the organizations that were represented that night included Lambda Sigma Honor Society, JSU's Ambassador Program, Student Government Association, Gamecock Orientation, and even the National Panhellenic Council.

In order to gain some insight from these campus leaders, freshman were allowed to ask as many questions as they liked for about an hour.

"How do you balance your relationships while being involved?"

"What was your favorite event that you were able to attend at JSU?"

"If you could go back in time to your freshman year and give yourself advice, what would it be?"

"How do you set yourself apart during interviews?"

These were just some of the many questions that were asked during this event.

With all these campus leaders in one vicinity, many questions were asked in the hopes of improving their leadership skills, time management, and prioritization.

There were even some questions that were just asked just out of curiosity such as:

"What is your favorite food?"

"What is your favorite song?"

"If you could be a Vine, what would it be and why?"

Overall, the TMB was filled with lots of laughter, curiosity, and fun. This event allowed freshmen to network with their peers as well gain valuable information about leaders in campus and the organizations that they represent. According to Makayla Pugh, this event was extremely beneficial to her.

"Yes, it gave good insight about all the different organizations at JSU," Pugh said.

One Freshman Forum member took it even further and stated how it benefited her.

"The most beneficial part about this involvement night is all the different perspectives from all these young leaders that were highly motivated and really gave me a fresh perspective on the up and coming school year," Natalie Walls said.



# Viewpoints



(AP Photo/ Evan Vucci)

## Trump's 'national emergency' is artificial and ignores the facts

**Scott Young**  
Staff Writer

Last Friday, President Trump declared a national emergency to unilaterally grant himself \$8 billion to build a wall at the Southern border. The declaration opens up the possibility for future presidents to make more political declarations and abuse the powers granted to them.

The National Emergencies Act was passed in 1976 to allow the President to declare a national emergency in times of crisis and to allocate funds from other sectors of government. The Act is traditionally used for actual crises such as the September 11 attacks or sanctions against countries that pose a security risk to our country.

If Trump's border wall is such a national emergency, why did he wait two years after his presidency began to start searching for border wall funds? Why wasn't this a priority from day one? That's because it's not an emergency. Only in Trump's alternate universe is it an emergency.

You're probably asking me now: "But

Scott, immigrants are POURING into this country at an alarming rate and bringing drugs into the United States. Why isn't that a national emergency?"

Fair question. Let's take a look at the facts:

1) Illegal border crossings are at an all time low. According to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the number of illegal border apprehensions have been on a downward trend for the past 19 years and has reached a whopping 46-year low. A 'national emergency' should indicate some sort of crisis that is out of control and getting worse, but the statistics from Trump's own CBP show that it's actually been improving for some time.

2) Most drugs come through ports of entry. The Drug Enforcement Agency's 2018 Drug Threat Assessment found that the primary mode of entry for drug trafficking takes place at LEGAL ports of entry, not the large swaths of land that the proposed border wall would cover. If we want to tackle the issue of drug trafficking, then we need to invest in more drug detection technology at our ports of entry and tough-

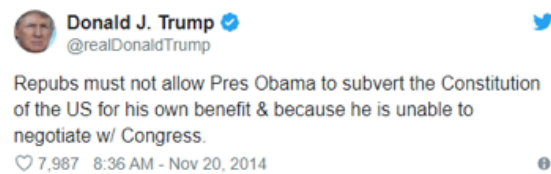
en up searches, not build a wall.

3) Donald Trump himself said he didn't need to declare an emergency. During Trump's declaration statement, he said, "I could do the wall over a longer period of time. I didn't need to do this." This completely tears apart his entire argument that this is a national emergency. A real national emergency carries with it a sense of urgency and immediate danger, and in Trump's own words, this declaration didn't have to happen.

4) There are more effective ways to secure the border. There's a reason that border apprehensions are so low. It's because the border is already well defended. In 2013, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act was signed into law which doubled the amount of fencing, increased the number of border agents, created an employment verification system, and funded more surveillance technology at the border. We are living in the 21st century and I think Trump has missed that memo. There are more technological and modern solutions to the problems we face that we should take advantage of to secure the border.

This national emergency declaration proves that Donald Trump and many in his party are hypocrites. If you remember during Barack Obama's presidency, the Republicans went after Obama feverishly for what they described as 'presidential overreach' when Obama granted legal status to millions of illegal immigrants.

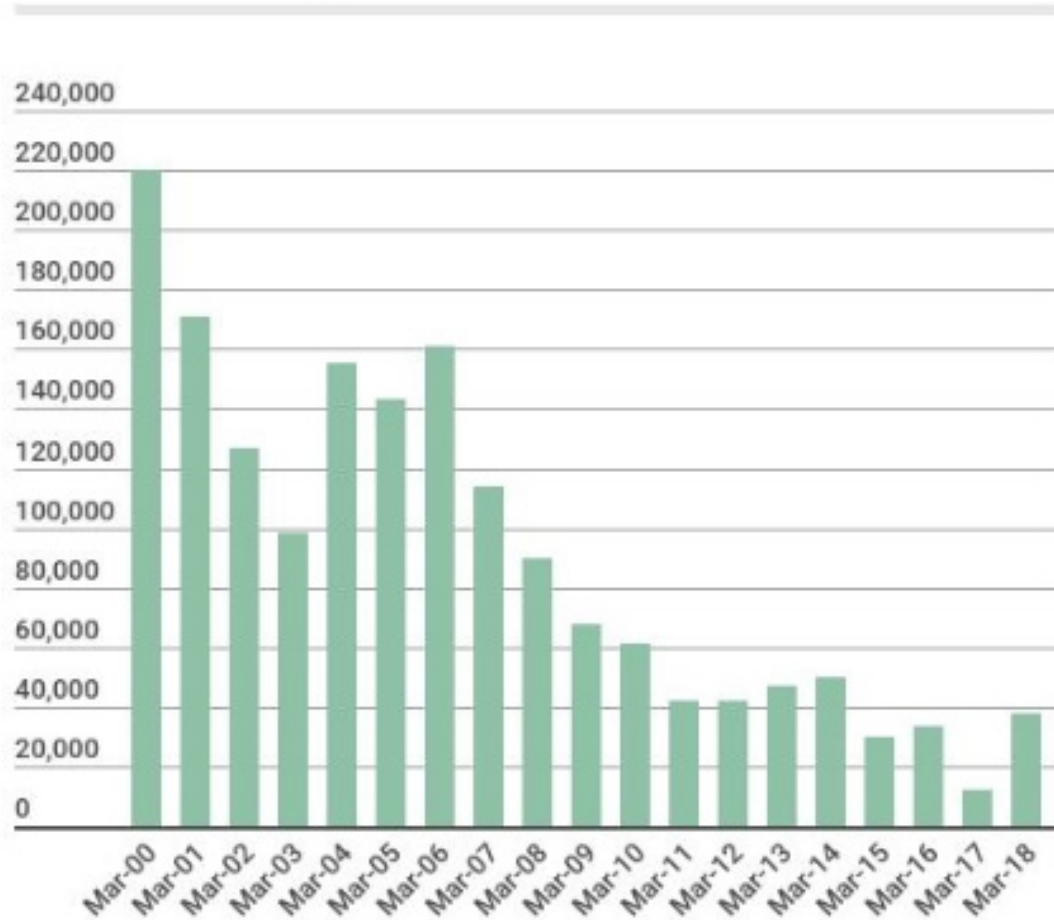
Even Trump criticized Obama for taking unilateral action. This tweet from 2014 hasn't aged very well:



The 'national emergency' is just another example of Trump's inability to connect with reality and comprehend fact-based evidence. Trump has normalized circus politics and spewing false information, so it's more important now than ever to never take political issues at face value and if you feel strongly about a political issue, do your civic duty by making sure to do the research to back it up.

### Total Southwest Border Apprehensions

monthly total for March for 2000 to 2018



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection





## FILM REVIEW

# Roma is a story of life

**Devin Carter**

A&E Writer

When the Academy Awards inch closer and closer every year, I always try to watch the films that are nominated for Best Picture, just so I can go in feeling like I am supporting the right movie in its chance at Oscar glory. Some years, I go in passionately supporting a particular movie, and on others I go in with general neutrality. Admittedly, I have more fun if I can support a particular film against another favorite, but it seems like most years I do not have that one movie that I back.

Earlier this week, I opened my Netflix app and watched *Roma*, the film that is being hailed as director Alfonso Cuarón's greatest achievement, and looks to be going into Sunday's Oscars as the Best Picture frontrunner along with nine other nominations. I was hoping that I would finally be able to watch a film by the great Mexican director that I could say that I loved. I have always appreciated his directorial capabilities; I think anyone with eyes who watches either *Children of Men* or *Gravity* can see that this man is a great director. And yet I have never been able to get involved in his films in the same way I have in films by other great directors. In other words, he is a director whose films I have respected more than loved. And yet *Roma* is being hailed as such a personal story, and an example of a director at the height of his craft. Hopefully, I thought, this would be the Cuarón epiphany I needed.

And with those thoughts I watched *Roma*, and was instantly mesmerized by Cuarón's directing and the fascinating cinematography. And, for me, it is the strongest thing about this movie. Cuarón allows for the camera to be largely stationary, and to occasionally glide through the locations, which helps us to take in the mood and atmosphere in the setting. This style, combined with the beautiful black-and-white film that the movie utilizes, creates a sort of dream-like atmosphere, and I found myself mesmerized at the beautiful imagery that Cuarón manages to create. I would not be surprised to see him win Oscars for both directing as well as cinematography, and if so then it will have been well deserved. I'm not even sure if such a double feat has been accomplished before.

The film itself tells the story of Cleo, a young maid whose life is thrown into chaos alongside the lives of her employers and, seemingly, all of Mexico, where the film takes place. The entire film is filled with moments of nerve-wrecking uncertainty for our characters, especially Cleo, and this is played out in several memorable ways: there is a scene that involves parking a car that had me on the edge of my seat and also laughing out loud, a party that is randomly interrupted by a fire, and, probably the movie's most bizarre scene, in which a large group of men practice martial arts in an open environment. It is this



Netflix

last scene I mentioned that perhaps best sums up the sort of movie *Roma* is. It is ridiculous, and had me laughing. And yet the events leading up to it are tense, and the buildup caused me to have an uneasy feeling, since I know that more sorrow for Cleo is likely to come once the men's training ends.

It is not always a downer, however. There are joyous moments, especially when Cleo is interacting with the four children she cares for, or when she and another maid, Adela, have witty exchanges. Some movies simply have sad stories to tell, and they are perfectly fine in doing so. *Roma* does not take that route, but instead shows life with all of its ups and downs.

But the chaos is still what sticks out the most. Perhaps the two most memorable scenes in the movie show us death; one stemming from violent, political circumstances, and the other simply a natural occurrence. We do not get to decide what sort of things life throws our way, but it is instead up to us to make the most of it. This lesson, I think, is what is at the heart of *Roma*.

One of the film's final scenes is when all of the building emotions come to a head, and a character makes a confession that makes *Roma* feel reminiscent of Yasujiro Ozu's masterpiece, *Tokyo*

Story, and this helped add yet another layer of depth to this film. A sign of a great film is when you can have a completely different outlook based on one scene, and this proved to me that *Roma* is, indeed, a great film. It is one thing to throw in a cheap twist, and another entirely to reveal hidden secrets about a movie's characters that you may or may not have been able to see before. Bad films are movies about stereotypes. Great films are movies about human beings, with all of their complexities.

Overall, I would not be surprised if *Roma* wins Best Picture. It is a very good movie, and may be deserving of the title. With that being said, I do not think it is one of the best films I have ever seen. Its major themes are prevalent early on, and it slows just a bit in places. And while it does an excellent job in presenting the struggles of the characters, it doesn't really bring anything new to the table. But the filmmaking was top-notch, the performances were great, and I think it is set up to have a big night at the Oscars. This still was not exactly my "Cuarón epiphany," but it did help to further cement him in my mind as one of the greatest filmmakers working today. If you have a Netflix account, and do not mind reading subtitles, then I highly recommend giving *Roma* a shot.





Marvel Studios

Thanos throws a moon in *Avengers: Infinity War*

## FILM FEATURE

# Why are superhero movies so popular?

**James King**  
A&E Writer

A question that I often hear is why are there so many superhero movies? The obvious answer is that they make money and there is some truth to that. Of the top 10 highest grossing films of all time in the world, 4 of them are Marvel superhero movies. All of them making around the billion dollar mark in the worldwide box office. The return on investment into the movies can be staggering as well. Disney pumped over \$320 million into just the filming of *Avengers: Infinity War* and the movie by itself made over \$2 billion. Superhero movies are also helping to keep the American cinema afloat and are the genre most Americans are showing up for.

According to Joanna Piacenza of a Morning Consult, a data collection agency that surveys interpret the data for *The New York Times* and *Bloomberg*, 41 percent of Americans enjoy superhero films and want to see more of them. The biggest demographic of this group is millennials which make up 54 percent of the audience. This isn't to say that millennials aren't interested in non-superhero movies, many are interested in smaller more off-beat movies like *Shape of Water* from last year. The audience for these movies generally is starting to change as well. In the past, the majority of moviegoers for these films has been overwhelmingly white, but the Hispanic demographic and the female demographic for these films is now a larger part of the audience.

There are many reasons that people have made these epics, but most of what it comes down to are people's reaction to the adversity in their lives. The biggest of which is that superhero movies are a reaction to 9/11 tragedy. Now, it would be disingenuous to say that they had no popular superhero movies before 9/11, both *X-men* and *Blade* and many other big name heroes had their time to shine before, but the big part of the boom happened after the tragedy, when the towers had fallen. The American moviemaking machine went from making 3-5 movies and shows a year about costumed super people to upwards of 20 if you count ev-

ery piece of media that is even vaguely associated with superheroes. Superhero movies have used imagery to evoke patriotic values like the 2002 *Spiderman* film with its abundance of American flags and a scene near the end when a New Yorker shouts "you mess with one of us, you mess with all of us". There have also been other movies that have come out a lot more recent that evoke imagery of the time like in 2016 with Marvel Studios' *Captain America: Civil War* when General Ross shows the Avengers the extent of the destruction they have caused in all their previous fights up to that point. Buildings falling, people stumbling away from the destruction, and the sight of people getting hurt from falling debris are all similar to videos like the real-life tragedy of 9/11. Superheroes are a way to frame all this destruction in a way that removes them from the real world gravitas and reframes it as something that can be overcome given the right knowledge or strength.

Though physical tragedies are not the only things that have brought a wave of superhero movies to the box office, they can also be economic. For instance, superhero comic books were extremely popular during the great depression. In 2008, the year after the recession hit, *Iron Man* and *The Dark Knight* were some of the biggest movies of the year. The comic writer Mark Millar once said that "Good economic times usually signal the death of superheroes, and bad economic times see a surge in their popularity". It not crazy to think people want a relatively cheap way to escape their very real-world problems.

The special effects of these movies can also be a factor in their popularity. CGI effects are becoming harder and harder to distinguish from reality. For instance, Robert Downey Jr. hasn't worn a full Iron Man suit in any of the movies, in the first movie he wore a suit from the waist up to make it more realistic. Now they have Robert Downey Jr. wear Iron Man vests to help the CGI artists make the scene look more realistic. In many cases, the CGI is started on before even starts shooting. That's to say nothing of the ageing effects in the *Ant-man*, *Cap-*

*tain America*, and *Avengers* movies that can add or subtract whole decades to a person's appearance.

The culture also has an effect on what people want to watch, in that many of the people that watched and read superhero media when they were kids are now growing up are old enough to spend their money on these franchises. The 60's had the popular *Batman* TV show and the beginnings of the silver age of comics where superheroes became much more relatable and more realistic thanks to writers like Stan Lee. For instance, an early *Fantastic Four* comic had them battling debt on top of supervillains. The 70's through the 80's also had small booms of superhero popularity like TV shows like *Wonder Woman* and the *Incredible Hulk*. With the early 90's came the comic speculator boom, where many comics were selling for millions of dollars, and people believed that the #1 comics and variant covers would be worth something later. This was spurred on by the popularity of the 1989 *Batman* movie.

Lastly, One of the most simple and primal reasons that people love superheroes and Superhero movies is that they simply have the good guys winning over the bad guys. People see the world as full of corrupt people and evil institutions and they want someone to stop them. Superman was created as a way for his Jewish creators to fight back against the ills of the world like racists and thieves. Superheroes are today typically shown fighting terrorists and evil government systems. Without looking the morals of it, people love these big superhero moments like when Deadpool jumps down from a bridge to kill henchmen to the song *Angel of the Morning*, or when Wonder Woman crosses no man's land with nothing but a sword and shield, and when the camera pans around the united Avengers as they stare off into the distance at the next threat. After all of that is said and done is it no wonder why superheroes have captured the public imagination.



# Study Break

## Trivia Answers: Feb. 14th Edition!

1. In our solar system, which planet has the shortest day?

Answer: Jupiter

2. In our solar system which two planets are known as ice giants?

Answer: Uranus and Neptune

3. The Great Red Spot is a gigantic storm located on which planet in our solar system?

Answer: Jupiter



## World Trivia!

1. What are the two South American countries that belong to OPEC?

- A. Brazil and Colombia
- B. Argentina and Peru
- C. Venezuela and Ecuador

2. The island of Saipan is a commonwealth of which country?

- A. The United States
- B. France
- C. Germany

3. What is the tallest building in the world?

- A. Shanghai Tower
- B. The Burj Khalifa
- C. Kingdom Clock Tower

## Riddle me this...



Five pirates are parting ways after finding a treasure of 100 pieces of gold. The pirates decide to split it based on a vote. Each pirate, from oldest to youngest, gets to propose a plan on how to split the gold.

If at least 50 percent of the other remaining pirates agree on the plan, that is how they will split the gold. If less than 50 percent of the pirates agree, the pirate who came up with the plan will be thrown overboard. Each pirate is smart, greedy, and wants to throw as many others overboard as possible without reducing the amount of gold they get.

What plan can the first (oldest) pirate propose to live and get as much gold as possible?



## Very Punny...

1. What do you call a goat that acts immaturely?

A silly billy.

2. Why did the mathematician work from home?

Because he could only function in his domain.

3. What did the alien say to the pitcher of water?

Take me to your liter.

4. How did Darth Vader know what Luke was getting him for his birthday?

He could sense his presence.

5. Why don't vampires go to barbecues?

They don't like steak.



**JSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

## Hawks beats the buzzer and Tennessee State

**Daniel Mayes,**  
Editor-in-Chief

JACKSONVILLE — Rarely does a basketball game give you one buzzer-beater, but the Jacksonville State women used two of them to win 76-73 over Tennessee State in overtime Saturday.

After Destiney Elliott hit a layup with just 0.3 on the clock in regulation to take the game to overtime, Taylor Hawks pulled up from about 35 feet to drill a game winner as the buzzer sounded in the extra period.

“It’s a big-time shot,” JSU coach Rick Pietri of Hawks’ buzzer-beater. “They pressed us with 5.9 to go, and it forced us to make a long-range heave, and it was just a big-time shot. When you’re trying to get wins this late in the season, you need players to make big plays for you.”

Hawks, who missed two free throws at the end of regulation that would have tied it, took advantage of Elliott’s late-game heroics to get a chance at redemption. This time she cashed in.

“Missing both of those was big, because if she had made even one, it changes everything,” Pietri said. “She’ll sleep a whole lot easier tonight finishing with that memory instead of the other memory.”

Hawks’ impact wasn’t just felt at the buzzer. The sophomore point guard scored 10 of her 20 total points in the overtime period. Bookending the period with a three to start off JSU’s scoring.

The game-winning shot might be the turning point for a Gamecock season on the brink.

Jacksonville State came into the game at ninth in the standings in a conference



JSU Sportswire

that only takes eight teams to its post-season tournament. The Gamecocks are now tied with SIUE and Murray State for the seventh spot, with a game against SIUE still on the schedule for JSU.

**What to know**

—Elliott, like Hawks, made her impact on the game well before her late heroics. The senior scored just three points in the first half, but came alive for eight points in the third quarter to save a struggling Gamecock offense. Elliott finished with 17 points and tied with Rayven Pearson with five rebounds to lead JSU.

—With the win, the Gamecocks secured their fifth straight victory over Tennessee State. They defeated the Tigers 62-52 on the road earlier this season. The last time TSU beat Pietri’s JSU squad was Jan. 21, 2017, when the Gamecocks fell 64-51 on the road.

—Taylor Roberts had a big night for Tennessee State, keeping pressure on JSU as they made their comeback. Roberts hit five of her six shots in the

first half on her way to a game-high 27 points, including the free throws that tied the game before Hawks’ game-winner.

**Who said**

—Pietri on the win: “At this stage of the season, every game you play is enormous. Winning a game like that is huge in terms of catching up to the teams that are ahead of us. You can’t catch them if you don’t win.”

—Pietri on the Hawks shot: “The thing about that kind of a play, is you don’t forget that for the rest of your life. That’s a memory that we’ll have forever. I’m glad for us we got to experience the positive end of that.”

**Next up**

—The Gamecocks continue a three-game home stand Thursday at 5:15 p.m., as Jacksonville State will play Morehead State. JSU will conclude its home schedule for 2018-19 next Saturday when the Gamecocks host Eastern Kentucky on Senior Day.

**JSU BASEBALL**

## Baseball breaks in new stadium with wins



JSU Sportswire

**JP Wood**  
Staff Sports Reporter

Gamecock baseball opened the Jim Case Stadium era with a 2-1 series win over in-state rivals North Alabama this weekend.

A crowd of 1,112 people witnessed an offensive rout in Jax State’s first on-campus baseball game in almost three years. Garrett Farmer picked up the Win in a 14-1 rout of the Lions in game one. Of the Gamecocks 14 hits, 9 were for extra bases.

Preseason All-American senior catcher Nic Gaddis collected two two-run hom-

ers, in the first and fourth respectively. Redshirt junior Garret Farmer held the Lions to just one run over five innings of work with 6 strikeouts, and relievers Austin Brewster and Alex London combined for five strikeouts and just one hit for the rest of the game.

In Game one of a Saturday double-header, JSU rallied back from a 9-5 deficit in the eighth inning, and a one run deficit in the ninth to defeat the Lions on a walk off home run by Andrew Naismith in front of a crowd of 800. True freshman Isaiah Magwood struggled in his debut, giv-

ing up 3 runs on 4 hits with 5 walks in just 1 and a third innings of work. Jackson Tavel was credited with the win.

Sophomore Cole Frederick of Tuscaloosa came through with a 3 RBI triple in the 8th to tie it. Alex Webb would tie the game again in the ninth before the walk off by Naismith.

In the final game of the series, UNA jumped out to an early two run lead, and that proved to be all they would need as they earned their first ever Division I baseball win in a 2-1 game. JSU struggled to take advantage of opportunities

with 11 stranded baserunners, including two situations with the bases loaded. Redshirt freshman Trey Fortner went five innings, giving up both UNA runs and taking the loss. Alex Webb, who went 5-for-9 over the weekend, drove in the lone RBI.

JSU will close out the month on an in-state road trip, including trips to Tuscaloosa, UAB and Troy. The Gamecocks will return to Rudy Abbott Field at Jim Case Stadium on March 1st for a three-game series against Florida International.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Men’s Basketball**

at Morehead St.  
2/21

vs EKU  
2/23  
SENIOR NIGHT

**Women’s Basketball**

at Morehead St.

2/21

vs EKU  
2/23  
SENIOR DAY

**Baseball**

@ Jacksonville University  
2/22

**Men’s Tennis**

vs UNA  
2/27

**Beach Volleyball**

vs UAB  
2/22

vs UL Monroe  
2/22

**Rifle**

**NCAA Nat. Championships**

3/8 & 3/9

**Softball**

@ Georgia Tech  
2/20

vs Southern Miss  
2/23 & 2/24

**Women’s Indoor Track**

OVC Indoor Championship  
2/20





# Sports

## JSU MEN'S BASKETBALL

# 'Focused' Gamecocks blow out TSU



**Daniel Mayes**  
Editor-in-Chief

JACKSONVILLE — Because of a crowded top of the OVC, every game carries major seeding implications for the Jacksonville State men's basketball team these days.

And the Gamecocks played like they had that in mind Saturday night in an 84-65 win over Tennessee State.

Against a Tigers team from the bottom half of the standings, JSU came out with a smothering intensity on both ends of the floor, sprinting out to a double-digit lead before Tennessee State reached double-digits themselves.

"The past two weeks, after the UT Martin loss, we've had a different focus in practice and in warmups. Our focus has been better," senior forward Jason Burnell said.

"The three games we've lost have been due to lack of focus and we didn't get off to a great start, but lately we've been playing good defensively early and getting back to our identity."

Jacksonville State (19-8, 11-3 OVC) is tied for third in the league standings with Austin Peay. Belmont and Murray State are tied for first as both have 12-2 OVC records.

Against Tennessee State, the Gamecocks got off to a great start and played good defensively as they raced to a 37-20 halftime lead, which was punctuated by a Jamall Gregory dunk off an alley-oop pass.

The Gamecocks kept cruising through the second half.

Burnell had a big night, even outscoring Tennessee State (8-18, 5-9) by himself 13-12 at one

point late in the first half. The senior leader for the Gamecocks finished with 30 points, tying his career-high mark set against Belmont in January.

### What to know

—After struggling to hit 3-pointers in recent games, the Gamecocks came alive from behind the arc Saturday night. JSU knocked down seven of their 17 shots from 3-point range to give its offense a boost.

—Gregory helped Burnell propel the Gamecocks' offense, scoring 13. Christian Cunningham finished with a near-double-double with seven points and nine rebounds.

—Stokely Chaffee Jr. led Tennessee State with 17 points, while Tripp Davis and Kamar McKnight both scored 12.

### Who said

—Harper on the win: "Our focus is the same as it always is. Just be fo-

cused and get better each day. I thought we did that all week as a team. We prepared the right way."

—Harper on Burnell: "He's really good when he's locked in and playing at that level like he has been the past couple games. We've got to continue to have guys like that step up."

—Burnell on his career-high tying performance: "I felt like I had the hot hand, and my teammates did a great job of getting me the ball and making shots to take the attention off of me."

### Next up

—The Gamecocks will play the second of three straight home games Thursday night as Jacksonville State hosts Morehead State. The Gamecocks will finish their home slate for the season the following Saturday against Eastern Kentucky.

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## JSU RIFLE

# JSU Earns OVC Team Sportsmanship Award For Rifle

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. — On Tuesday the Ohio Valley Conference announced that Jacksonville State University is the recipient of the 2018-19 Team Sportsmanship Award for rifle.

Voted on by the student-athletes and coaches of the respective sports, the team awards are bestowed upon the Conference squads deemed to have best exhibited the standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior as outlined by the OVC and NCAA. Included in the areas for evaluation are the conduct of student-athletes, coaches, staff and administrators and fans.

"Without sportsmanship there are truly no meaningful victories," said Beth DeBauche, OVC Commissioner. "The recipients of the OVC Team Sportsmanship awards should accept this award with great pride for their fellow competitors have made it clear their teams exemplify the best in intercollegiate athletics. In receiving this prestigious honor other competitors are saying these student-athletes compete with class, respect their opponents and value fair play. That is quite a compliment as those are all traits that will lead to true victories throughout the course of life."

The 2018-19 school year marks the 14th year the team sportsmanship honors have been awarded. This marks the fourth award for the JSU program (2006, 2007, 2009 being the others)

Implemented in August 2005, the team honors are the most recent addition to an awards program that recognizes and celebrates sportsmanship within the Conference. In 1998, the league established the Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award, presented annually to a male or female student-athlete of junior or senior status who best exemplifies the characteristics of the late Morehead State student-athlete, coach and administrator. Five years later, the Conference added the OVC Sportsmanship Award, presented annually to the member institution selected by its peers to have best exhibited the standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior as outlined by the OVC and NCAA.

In 1995, the Ohio Valley Conference implemented a first-of-its-kind "Sportsmanship Statement," a policy promoting principles of fair play, ethical conduct and respect for one's opponent. The statement answered the challenge of the NCAA Presidents Commission to improve sportsmanship in collegiate athletics and has become a model for others to follow across the nation.

JSU Sportswire

## JSU SOFTBALL

# Another strong weekend for the Gamecocks

**Baylee Morris**  
Sports Editor

For two weekends in a row the Jacksonville State University Gamecocks have come home victorious.

The first weekend at the Mercer Invitational, they came home with three wins and two losses. This past weekend, the Gamecocks traveled to Montgomery where they again returned home victorious with three wins and one loss under their belt.

This weekend was another great weekend for the Gamecocks. In their game on Friday, Anna Chislom's two-run homer put the Gamecocks on top of UNA in an extra-inning thriller. This also moved pitcher Faith



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Sims to three wins on the season.

Saturday the Gamecocks split in beating Alabama A&M and falling to Western Carolina. Then on Sunday Taylor Beshears went 2-3, with one of those being a single run home-run and the other hit a double that drove in three runs.

Sunday also lifted Faith Sims to four wins in the circle.

At this point in the season, the Gamecocks are 6-3 overall. This upcoming weekend they look to host a double header on Saturday followed by a single game on Sunday, all three against Southern Mississippi.

The Gamecocks are coming home for their first home series of the season. However, this home opener will be unconventional with University Field not being complete. The team will host their home games at Choccolocco Park in Oxford until the field is ready.