Students raise concerns at town hall

Ashleigh Crouch
News Correspondent

On Wednesday, October 30, the Jacksonville State University Student Government Association hosted a town hall on the fifth floor of Meehan Hall to discuss the proposed dining hall, $275 commuter fee and other campus-related issues.

The event consisted of a panel including SGA President Ulises Hererra, SGA Vice President of Student Activities Desmond Thomas, acting President Don Killingsworth, Vice President for Finance and Administration James Brigham, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Christie Shelton, Vice President for Student Affairs Tim King and Dean of Students Terry Casey. The event was moderated by SGA Vice President of Student Senate Jened Sharp.

Several students appeared before the panel to ask questions and voice their concerns for the panel to respond to. Justin Jones, a junior and an SGA Student Senator, began by asking about communication between university leadership and students.

“Why did students find out about [the proposed dining hall] after the fact?” asked Jones. Killingsworth conceded that the university was at fault for not properly relaying that information.

“Going forward [the university] will have better procedures in place to not let that happen again,” said Killingsworth.

Jenerated Borden, a sophomore at JSU, raised a concern about the proposed dining facility and $275 commuter fee. Borden said he likes the way the model of the proposed dining hall looks, but that he “feel[s] like we could use that for general funding or parking.”

“I can already hardly afford to attend college and I’m just blessed that I even have the opportunity to attend this college, because I love it,” said Borden. Brigham responded by stating that the $275 mandatory commuter meal plan was proposed by Sodexo and not finalized by the university.

“What was reported in the paper and what you heard that was approved at the Board of Trustees meeting was simply a proposal from Sodexo,” said Brigham. “The issue is that I think, we’re at the town hall ahead of our curve because we haven’t even sat down and started the negotiation process yet. If you read in the paper that the $275 is a mandatory meal plan, then that’s incorrect.”

Though the agreement has not been finalized by the board, the Management Committee and the university Cabinet, prior to negotiation of the contract, recommended Sodexo’s ‘Option 4’ proposal to be adopted, an option that includes the mandatory commuter meal plan.

Students also brought up buildings on campus that are currently in need of repairs or reconstruction, including Merrill Hall and Wallace Hall. The panel of JSU officials stated repeatedly that the proposed new dining hall would not affect any other issues regarding building repairs on campus.

“Merrill is on the schedule to be rebuilt … and as we move forward there are going to be other changes made,” said Brigham. Brigham also emphasized the possible benefits of a new dining facility, including a possible convenience store and meeting spaces for on-campus organizations in the proposed facility.

see TOWN HALL page 3

WLJS to host Q&A with acting president
Anastasia Barker
News Correspondent

WLJS is hosting a live interview with acting Jacksonville State University President Don Killingsworth, JSU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Christie Shelton and Vice President for Student Affairs Tim King on November 12 at 1:30 p.m.

The interview was announced on the WLJS Facebook page last week. WLJS has asked students to suggest questions on the Facebook post, stating that a few might be asked on-air.

“WLJS and The Chanticleer have always been the voice for students at Jacksonville State,” said Adjunct Communication Professor and former WLJS Program Director Billy Ramsey. “We felt that the town hall meeting was a bit vague, therefore we wanted to bring the administrators into the studio for a one on one, question and answer session, to hopefully get more questions answered.”

see WLJS page 2

Gamecups put up over 100 points

The Gamecups fall to UT-Martin

JSU suffers heartbreak by SEMO

Men’s basketball falls short

Top Netflix crime docs to binge

‘The Nightingale’ needs to be in your book list

National Novel Writing Month

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Student Op-Ed: “JSU officials misunderstand what is genuinely valuable…”

Netfix releases new movie in movie

‘The Nightingale’ needs to be in your book list

Student Op-Ed: “JSU officials misunderstand what is genuinely valuable…”

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JSU protest generates low turnout

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Scott Young/The Chanticleer

Josh Jones, a junior and an SGA Student Senator, addresses the panel of university officials at the town hall in the fifth floor of Meehan Hall on Wednesday, October 30.
JSU looks to start Athletic Training Masters Program

Kaitlin Fleming
Editor in Chief

After 14 years of athletic training at Southside High School, Chris Clark recently retired, leaving the full-time professor of Kinesiology at Jacksonville State University in July of 2019.

Clark is just in time to watch the program, joining the ranks with the likes of Sanford, Troy and West Alabama universities when it completes final approval for its new Masters in Athletic Training program. According to Clark, who was formerly employed by Northeast Alabama Community College, the process to get the program off the ground has been time consuming but extremely enjoyable.

Clark, who has been taking the lead on this project along with JSU Athletics Department Head Dr. Gina Mabrey and Provost Christie Shelton, stated that this program would be similar to other professional programs the university currently offers. The new program will be specifically geared toward athletic training officials.” Clark.” It will be a very fun and professionally based clinical program. The 59-hour master’s program was approved by the school’s Board of Trustees in early 2018 and approved by the Alabama Board of- 

ural Education on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (CACSC). In according to Clark, the program will utilize current faculty and staff, in a clinical Education Coordinator, to teach the newly created schedule of classes. “The most challenging part has been the quality program,” said Clark. “Start- manship 1, which has been a scrum. Interestingly, the JSU athletic training programs at other institutions exist at the bachelor’s level in athletic training. We’re beginning from the graduate level up. It’s very exciting to design the program the way we want it. It’s a great experience for all of us.”

Although JSU does not currently offer a bachelor’s level athletic training, the Department of Exercise Science and Well being does offer several classes relating to athletic training, exercise, science and physician assistant. Once approved, most of the new classes will be held in the recently renovated Stephenson Hall, which is where the student body gym was located. The Recreation and Fitness Center was built during the time of Dr. Beehler’s termination, said Clark. “We’re hoping for a summer in 2020 or the sum- mer of 2021.”

“The attitude cultivated by JSU officials is one of glamorizing students to take a stand against JSU officials is one of glamorizing students to take a stand against JSU. Regardless of the board’s true intentions, it is my hope that the coming protest will cause those in power at JSU to publicly protest JSU’s ex- penditures by marching across campus on Friday, November 1.

JSU officials misunderstand what is genuinely valuable...

James Waller

As knowledge of Jacksonville State University’s contract and its $9.1 million expenditure for athletic facilities has become public, I have noticed a worrying trend in the attitude cultivated at JSU’s officials. As of this fall semester, JSU’s undergraduate student enrollment is only at 984, which est it’s been since 2012, and JSU officials are motivated to appeal to this expanding stu- dents must offer more experience and opportuni ties to fulfill our needs and goals. According to The Chanticleer’s Student Op-Ed, “JSU officials are motivated to appeal to this expanding student body by creating an envi- ronment in which the students feel content. But, I believe JSU student body for this reason, no matter if it’s genuinely valuable to a colle- giate.”

JSU is attempting some rapid expansion. Before Presi- dent Beehler’s termination, students saw JSU erect an impressive new recreational facility, complete with gymnasium, pool, exercise equipment, video-gaming station and an in-building cafe. Following this achievement, JSU’s Board of Trustees now wants to sign a contract with Sodexo’s food service, which entails building a new, $26 million dining hall and many necessary meal plans for com- muters.

This is just awaiting final approval. Although JSU does not currently have a master’s program in athletic training, the school’s Board of Trustees on Oc- tober 22 following the acting president by the Board of Trustees on October 22 following the retirement of Dr. Rebecca Turner and Reece Willingham served as dean of the School of Health Profes- sions and Wellness. King has over 15 years of experience in higher educa- tion, primarily in academic and stu- dents. Prior to JSU, King was at the University of Alabama, University of Ala- bama at Birmingham, University of Al aska and University of Dayton.

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CAMPUS
JSU protest generates low turnout

On Friday, November 1, a group of about 15 students protested outside the Board of Trustees meeting to bring awareness to the condition of existing campus buildings and programs projects that are going on. After rallying at Mason Hall at 12:30 p.m. shortly after stu-

dents walked back to the Theron Montgomery Building. Protest’ group, only about 30 people came out, but I’m so thankful that more people didn’t show up and don’t want to show up to make the change happen,” said Tibbitts.

During the protest on the lawn of the Theron Montgomery Building, students chanted “degrees, no fees,” as they protested to bring awareness with the state of the food in the cafeteria. Tibbitts disagreed that Jack Hopper lacks space and cited his concern with the state of the food in the cafeteria.

“November 2, 2019, Information Report, JSU Campus

Noted by a Minor, Off Campus

October 31, 2019, Domestic Violence, Logan Hall

October 31, 2019, Theft of Property, JSU Campus

October 31, 2019, Duty Upon Striking an Unattended Vehicle, Curtiss Hall Parking Lot

October 30, 2019, Intimidation, Pannell Hall

October 30, 2019, Information Report, Salls Hall

October 30, 2019, Information Report, SBIC Parking Lot

October 29, 2019, Information Report, Quad

October 29, 2019, Domestic Violence, Meehan Hall

October 29, 2019, Unlawful Breaking and Entering a Vehicle, Paul Carpenter Village

October 29, 2019, Information Report, JSU RCMP

October 28, 2019, Auto Theft, Jones Hall Building

October 29, 2019, Information Report, Quad

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SGA nominates Lambda Alpha Epsilon for Organization of the Year

Madison Bailey
News Correspondent
The Jacksonville State University Student Senate voted unanimously to pass a resolution to nominate the Alpha Sigma Omega chapter of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon Fraternity for the Organization of the Year award on Monday, November 4. The president of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon Fraternity at JSU, Ashley Patrick, attended the Senate meeting and provided a student body report on the many accomplishments of the criminal justice professional fraternity.

Patrick stated that a good reason to nominate the Alpha Sigma Omega chapter of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon Fraternity for Organization of the Year was the results of Region Five of the American Criminal Justice Association 2019 Regional Competition, which was hosted in October of this year at Florida State University.

“We competed against six other chapters of the criminal justice association in physical agility [tests], written testing, firearms training and a crime scene exercise,” said Patrick.

There were ten members of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon chapter at JSU that attended the regional competition.

“One of the ten people that went, we came back with 18 medals,” said Patrick. “We had eight first place medals, two second place medals, eight third place medals.”

“We had eight first place medals, including ten members of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, which is our honor society,” said Patrick.

Patrick stated that there were questions or opposition from the Senate in regards to the nomination of the organization. The Senate voted unanimously to pass the resolution to nominate the Alpha Sigma Omega chapter of the Lambda Alpha Epsilon Fraternity for the Organization of the Year award as well as to recognize the achievements and outstanding representation of JSU through the criminal justice fraternity.

Other business:
The SGA Senate voted unanimously to pass a bill to appoint President Ulises Herrera’s nomination of Kendal Garrett to the President Cabinet as a representative of the Unit of Graduate Studies. Student Judiciary Advocate Emily Barfield spoke in the newly elected member of the President Cabinet, Kendal Garrett.

Office reports:
Kathleen Siebert, the SGA vice president of public relations, stated that there are many upcoming events and opportunities around campus such as the voter registration drive from 11:00-2:00 on Tuesday, November 12. There will be flyers posted on social media to remind students about the voter registration drive.

Will Bowen, the SGA vice president of organizational affairs, said that the Organizational Council had just finished meeting and that they went over things like event planning and work presence.

SGA Vice President of Student Activities Desmond Thomas was absent to the Senate meeting. SGA President Ulises Herrera announced that he would be happy to answer any questions pertaining to the recent town hall held in Meehan Hall on Wednesday, October 30.

“We are hoping to keep on doing town halls like that in the future – if not once a month because of people’s schedules – definitely at least two or three days after Board of Trustees [meetings],” said Herrera.

Herrera commended the Senate for making a genuine effort to make a difference by writing bills and resolutions.

“Continue to be dedicated,” Herrera said. “I thank you for your service, and I thank you for what you do and working alongside Jerod to make the Senate better.”

Herrera also discussed the upcoming career fair that will be held in the rec center from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 7. If a student is viewed as a potentially good candidate by an employer, the student will be asked to come back that same afternoon between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. for a interview with the employer.

Herrera stated that he will be working this week to finalize and publicize the SGA Chaplain applications and concluded his report by saying, “If you need anything from me, or if I can help you in any way, fire away. Let’s always be nice, be kind, and respect one another.”

“I want to echo the report from President Herrera about the career fair,” said Jerod Sharp, the SGA Vice President of Student Senate. He stated that he had a list of employers that will be at the career fair on Thursday. The list includes major employers are looking for and even require.

Sharp urged everyone to post the flyers about the career fair and concluded his report by saying, “It would be very beneficial for you to go, as you can find the rest of your career right here on this piece of paper.”

Upcoming Campus Events:

- **November 7**
  - Career Fair and Interview Day, 9 a.m., Leonne Cole Auditorium
  - International House Presentation: Jordan, 11 a.m.
  - Gamecock UPO Meet and Greet, 11 a.m., Chick Hall
  - Ireland Study Abroad May 2021 Interest Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Martin Hall
  - LGBTQ Safe Zone Part 2 Training, 9:30 a.m., Saff Hall
  - Jazz Club Night, 7:30 p.m., 5th floor of Meehan Hall

- **November 11**
  - 2019 Veterans Day Celebration, 12:00 p.m., Leonne Cole Auditorium
  - JSU Center for Autism Studies, 5 p.m., Houston library
  - Riley Green & Friends “Coming Home” Concert, 7 p.m., Baseball Field

- **November 19**
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center
  - LGBTQ Safe Zone Part 2 Training, 9:30 a.m., Saff Hall

- **November 21**
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 2:30 p.m., Stone Center

- **November 28**
  - Capturing Pablo, 1 p.m., Leonne Cole Auditorium, Steve Murphy and Javier are comp- ting to JSU to tell their story of how they caught Pablo Escobar.
  - SGA Senate Meeting, 7:30 p.m., THBH Auditorium
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center

- **December 2**
  - View Day, 9 a.m., Leone Cole Auditorium
  - “Whistle I Breathe, I Hope”, 6 p.m., Longleaf Student Center
  - Third screening in JSU’s documentary series
  - JSU vs. Eastern Kentucy Tailgate, 10 p.m., Dixie Field

- **December 5**
  - Homecoming, 7 p.m., Pete Mathews Coliseum
  - “Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Leone Cole Auditorium

- **December 6**
  - Riley Green & Friends “Coming Home” Concert, 7 p.m., Baseball Field
  - International House Presentation: Jordan, 11 a.m.

- **December 7**
  - WKU Tailgate, 10 a.m., Dixie Field
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center

- **December 9**
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 2:30 p.m., Stone Center

- **December 14**
  - JSU Center for Autism Studies, 5 p.m., Houston library
  - Riley Green & Friends “Coming Home” Concert, 7 p.m., Baseball Field

- **December 15**
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center
  - LGBTQ Safe Zone Part 2 Training, 9:30 a.m., Saff Hall

- **December 16**
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 2:30 p.m., Stone Center

- **December 17**
  - Capturing Pablo, 1 p.m., Leonne Cole Auditorium, Steve Murphy and Javier are comp- ting to JSU to tell their story of how they caught Pablo Escobar.
  - SGA Senate Meeting, 7:30 p.m., THBH Auditorium
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Stone Center

- **December 21**
  - View Day, 9 a.m., Leone Cole Auditorium
  - “Whistle I Breathe, I Hope”, 6 p.m., Longleaf Student Center
  - Third screening in JSU’s documentary series
  - JSU vs. Eastern Kentucy Tailgate, 10 p.m., Dixie Field

- **December 23**
  - WKU Tailgate, 10 a.m., Dixie Field
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Leone Cole Auditorium
  - International House Presentation: Jordan, 11 a.m.

- **December 28**
  - WKU Tailgate, 10 a.m., Dixie Field
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Leone Cole Auditorium
  - International House Presentation: Jordan, 11 a.m.

- **December 29**
  - WKU Tailgate, 10 a.m., Dixie Field
  - Production of “The Imaginary Invalid”, 7:30 p.m., Leone Cole Auditorium
  - International House Presentation: Jordan, 11 a.m.
Best-selling author Kristin Hannah published ‘The Nightingale’ back in 2015 and won over the hearts of millions with her capability of making a story come to life throughout the pages. The demand for more audiences has managed to encourage the making of a major motion picture based off of this wonderfully creative novel.

The book starts off with a bit of background information about how the two sisters came to be at the beginning. When they were younger the sisters lost their mother and their father was never the same after it, so he decided to send them off to live in an orphanage. It wasn’t long before the older sister abandoned her younger sister Isabelle, believing that it would be better that way. Isabelle was already abandoned by her father, and her sister leaving soon after wasn’t something she understood. The relationship between the two sisters was never really the same after that decision made by the bigger sister Vianne.

Once they then started her life, married and had a daughter. Everything was perfect until her husband, Antoine, was drafted into the war, leaving her to tend to her daughter and keep up with the house all by herself. Isabelle is drafted into the military as well, and ends up meeting a boy named Gaëtan. Once they finally arrive, after several hardships, Gaëtan decides to go to Carriveau with him to fight against the German. Isabelle is found by her sister and her sister leaving soon after wasn’t something she understood. The relationship between the two sisters was never really the same after that decision made by the bigger sister Vianne.

Once they come to her, Gaëtan decides to go to Carriveau with him to fight against the German. Isabelle is found by her sister and her sister leaving soon after wasn’t something she understood. The relationship between the two sisters was never really the same after that decision made by the bigger sister Vianne.

The book goes so much more in depth and is truly one of the most incredible books I’ve ever had the pleasure of reading. It caused me to experience so many different kinds of emotions and come to appreci- ate each and every character, no matter how big or small of a part they played in the plot. I encourage every history buff, or romantic mind to read this book.

November is a beautiful time for me personally. A week leads to break from school happens in November, and I will not find anyone complaining about that, especially after the high tension that comes to fruition during finals week that comes shortly after. I also celebrate my birthday, and it usually leads in all through the month in one large celebratory occasion. I love everything about November, really I do. The colder weather, the winding down of the semester that comes after the mass panic from mid-terms, basically everything related to the month, I am down for.

However, there is one portion of the month that I absolutely dread. I cannot stand to think about it, but it lingers over me every year. It is one fact that exists in the month that causes problems for anyone who loves creative writing and just writing in general. It is sandwiched between the Halloween prompts and the holiday prompts like a twelfth of the usual time span for an entire novel. It is a challenge to take shape. It is complete and everything that takes this long in a twelfth of the usual time span for an entire novel to take shape.

It is the writing prompt accounts on social media can talk about these days. It is sandwiched between the Halloween prompts and the holiday prompts like a twelfth of the usual time span for an entire novel. It is a challenge to take shape. It is complete and everything that takes this long in a twelfth of the usual time span for an entire novel to take shape.

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For those who do not know, National Novel Writing Month, which is shortened by most people with the acronym NaNoW- riMo, is the month where writers are en- couraged to write a whole novel in a month that lasts for 30 days or less. A typical novel takes, at a minimum, a year to write, edit, and revise before it is ever published. The challenge is to complete everything that takes this long in a twelfth of the usual time span for an entire novel to take shape.

A typical novel is anywhere from 50,000 to 250,000 words. If you were to set a word count everyday for the month, it would be approximately 1,700 to 8,400 words a day. That is equivalent to a five to 15 page research paper. As a college stu- dent, are they really promoting that idea to me?

I can barely write my papers by the deadline, much less a whole novel. The whole concept is absolutely ridiculous.
Netflix releases new movie ‘Holiday in the Wild’

Alyxiss Jones
A&E Correspondent

Out with the horror of October and in with the romance of November. The beginning of November marks the official start of what college students like to call, “cuffing season.”

What would be a better way of celebrating the cold weather than sitting in your room binge watching a holiday romance movie? One film that viewers should watch this season is the Netflix original “Holiday in the Wild.”

Directed by Emie Barbarash, the movie was set to be released the 1st of November 2019. “Holiday in the Wild” relates to most Hallmark style films. It’s upbeat, and always leaves the heart in a positive way.

In the beginning of the movie, the main character “Kate” faces many challenges. Her son is leaving for college, she’s trying to find success in her career, and her husband is filing for divorce after several years of marriage. Everyone in her life is moving on from her being the actual killer. The series not only shares parts of the tapes, it goes through the entire horrific life of Bundy and talks of the kill- ings he committed.

Abducted in Plain Sight— This documentary detailing an abduction of a little girl in the ear- ly 1970’s is truly mind boggling and utterly frustrating to viewers. Throughout the series while the story of how the abduction came about, the family of the little girl named Jan shares the sides of the story, and how they played a major part in it. Jan was abducted by a family friend, a sec- ond dad to her and her siblings. The family didn’t alert authorities right away when Jan went missing because they knew she was with them. Let her stay with him for a couple of days before calling the cops. What sane par- ents would do that? Something even crazier happened during this challenging time of the fam- ily’s life is that the parents of the abducted girl, both parents, had affairs with the child’s abductor. In order to fully grasp the chaotic concept of this documentary you simply have to watch it.

The Disappearance of Mad- eline McCann— There are cur- rently eight episodes on Netflix, making up season one. Madeline disappeared when she was three years old at the time. She disapp- eared while she was on vacation with her family in Portugal in 2007. The series focuses on trying to figure out who abducted Mad- eline. Even the parents are ques- tioned due to their lack of paren- tal watch during the time she was taken from their apartment while on holiday. Watching the series causes you to question every one involved in Madeline’s life, and, unfortunately, her remains have not been found and nobody has any idea of what happened to her as of today.

Abducted in Plain Sight— This 2018 documentary series focuses on an incredibly diabolical woman who pulled off one of the biggest bank heists in history. During the be- ginning of the four part series you see the murder of Brian Wells lit- erally happen. A bomb is strapped to him and he blows up, and the mastermind behind this entire plan plays the victim throughout the series, blaming her designs on close friends and relatives. The series will keep you guessing, and wondering how someone could do this to another human being and how she pulled this off for so long before getting caught.

These true crime documenta- ries are captivating from start to end. I love crime shows and mys- te ries and learning about how se- rious killers have been caught, and what mistakes they made in order to get caught.

I encourage everybody to watch at least one of these docu- mentaries even if it’s not some- thing they typically watch. It doesn’t take much to get hooked on documentaries, especially if they are crime documentaries. Check them out.
JSU suffers heartbreak against SEMO
Sadie Appleton
Sports Correspondent
This past Saturday, the Jacksonville State volley- ball team traveled to Cape Girardeau, Mis- souri in hopes of beating Southeastern Missouri State University for the top spot in the OVC. Leading up to the match, both the Gamecocks, and the Redhawks were both tied for this spot and this showdown would serve as a tie-breaker for the two. Unfortunately, JSU State came up short following a nail-biting four-set battle that ended with Southeast Missouri capturing the victory in a 3-1 decision.

In last year’s season, JSU secured the fourth seed in the OVC tournament after sweeping SEMO in the regular season finale. JSU then went on to earn their first postseason win in nine years. This season, the Gamecocks are eyeing a regular season title with only a few matches remaining. Despite taking an early lead in the first set, the Redhawks were able to fight back and tie the scores to one apiece. Eventually, the Redhawks broke through JSU’s defense with a 25-19 decision, leading the match at 2-1.

Trading blows, the score eventually ran up to 18-18. JSU’s gap began to slim as SEMO began to take the lead, again, JSU lost behind 24-13. A late rally of six points would help with damage control for the Gamecocks but the Redhawks sealed the set with a 25-20 decision, leading the match at 2-1.

The fourth and final set saw JSU take off with a 9-5 lead. JSU’s gap began to slim as SEMO would respond by putting down back-to-back aces to bring the score to 12-10. Southeast Mis- souri would go on to even the score at 14-14 fol- lowing another service ace and a few errors by the Gamecocks.

Trading blows, the score eventually ran up to 21-21. JSU’s gap began to slim as SEMO would respond by putting down back-to-back aces to bring the score to 21-22. Southeast Mis- souri would go on to even the score at 22-22 following another service ace but the Gamecocks were able to tie the game back up at 22-22. The final set was in a dead heat with both teams only able to put four points on the board. Eventually, SEMO was able to take down the Gamecocks and earn their first win of the season.

JSU went on to earn their first win of the season, but the Gamecocks fell to SEMO on Saturday, Nov. 9 to play Tennessee Tech. Kick-off will end at 1:30 p.m. Fans can tune in to the game on ESPN plus, or they can listen to the game on the JSU Radio Network.
Women's Basketball

Gamecocks put up over 100 points

Josie Howell  
Sports Editor

On Wednesday Oct. 30 in their exhibition game against Berry College, the Jacksonville State University Women’s basketball team dominated on the court putting an impressive triple digit, 104-37. The Gamecocks well outshot, out rebounded and overall outplayed the Vikings throughout the entirety of the match-up.

Graduate senior Destiny Elliott led her team with a total of 25 points for the Gamecocks. Following Elliott in points is junior, Kianna Johnson who contributed 15 and junior Taylor Hawkins with 14. Jessie Day also hit double digits scoring nine points for her team. As a team overall, Jax State had 17 players put points on the board in this pre-season contest.

Defensively, the Gamecocks also saw Elliott pull down seven rebounds, JuToreyia Willis with six, and Day and Chloe Long each with five. Jacksonville State’s defense was also able to score 54 points against the Vikings off of turnovers alone.

In the first quarter of the game, the Gamecocks took the lead right away without losing it at any point in the game. The Vikings were able to keep up for the first quarter only being behind six points by the end of it. But by the end of the 2nd quarter, the Gamecocks were already ahead by thirty points going into half-time. Throughout the game, the Gamecocks consistently increased their lead, eventually beating the Vikings in a 67-point lead.

The Gamecocks were able to score around 40 percent at both the three-point line and in the free-throw line. Meanwhile, Jacksonville State’s defense kept the Vikings field goal shooting percentage to 25 percent and their three-point average to 33 percent.

“(The game) was very exciting. Last year, we struggled scoring but we have placed a huge emphasis on scoring this year. We knew it would put us in better positions to win if we could simply score better,” said Elliott. “I think that [the win] spoke to our character and discipline. We trust each other a lot more and we all want the same thing, which is to win, regardless of what it takes.”

Elliott previously played for Samford University and later came to play for the Gamecocks in the 2018-2019 season. In last year’s season, Elliott started all 30 games, the team with 327 points and recorded a team-best 41 three-pointers. Fans are excited to see what Elliott will continue to do on the basketball court.

“Personally, I think there is always room for improvement, for myself and as a team. There was a lot of good in the game but there were also some breakdowns, [but] we went over it in the film and corrected it. I think if we continue with this mindset we will be fine,” said Elliott. “The atmosphere that JSU brings is a totally different vibe that’s satisfying. My teammates are more like my sisters and we have become my best friends. JSU is just a great place to be and playing basketball here just makes it even better.”

The Gamecocks will be playing Florida A&M on Saturday Nov. 9 at Pete Mathews Coliseum. Tip off will begin at 2 p.m. Fans can watch the game on ESPN plus or tune into the game at WJSU 91.9 FM.

Sports

Women's Basketball

Men's basketball falls short in season opener

Josie Howell  
Sports Editor

On Tuesday Nov. 5, the Gamecocks traveled to Dallas, Texas to face off against Southern Methodist University in their season opener, and while this was any one’s game, the Gamecocks fell behind and came up short at the end with a final score of 74-65.

While SMU outshot the Gamecocks in the field, Jax State’s 31 percent three-point average out beat SMU’s 23 percent. The Gamecocks also outshot the Mustangs at the foul line with a 75 percent shooting average compared to SMU’s 68 percent. SMU’s main downfall throughout this game was turnovers. SMU scored 28 points just off of turnovers alone. The Gamecocks saw this same issue in their exhibition game against Montevallo the week before.

In the first quarter, there was some back and forth between both teams at the beginning of the half, but the Mustangs found themselves in the lead for the majority of the time. SMU was eventually able to gain a 10-point lead by the end of the half.

In the second half, the Gamecocks found themselves behind by as much as 18 points with a score of 33-51 at the 12-minute mark. At this point, the Gamecocks stayed determined and narrowed SMU’s lead as much as they could until the clock ran out. With two last successful free throws by sophomore De’Toriion Ware, the game came to a close with the Mustangs up by nine points.

Despite the loss, the Gamecocks still had players that shined on the court. Senior Jarecuris and Ware both led the team with 13 points each. The Gamecocks also saw junior Kayne Henry score 10 points in his first game playing for Jacksonville State. Martin Robb, Derrick Cook, Marek Welsh and Ellis Harden also played their first game for the Gamecocks in this matchup. Cross and Henry both lead the team in rebounds with eight each.

JSU will not be playing any of their OVC rivals until January 2, when they will face-off against Morehead State. Until then, fans can look forward to the Gamecocks playing big teams such as Purdue and Tennessee State. The Gamecocks will be playing their first season home game Tuesday, Nov. 12 at the Pete Mathews Coliseum. Tip off will start at 7:30 p.m. Fans can stream the game on ESPN plus or listen to the game on 91.9 FM WJSU or 97.9 WVOK.