The Chanticleer

Jacksonville, AL

JSU's Student-Published Newspaper Since 1934

January 16, 2020

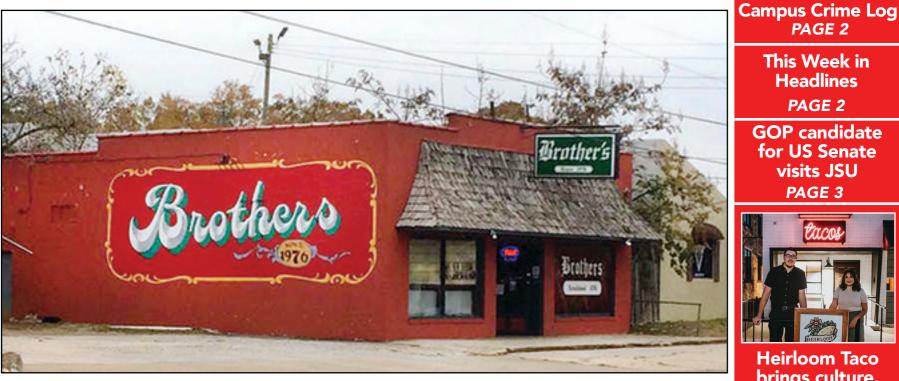
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BYE, BYE, BROTHER'S Campus Events



Heirloom Taco brings culture,

tasty food to

Jacksonville

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Chicken Scratch, Weather and more

PAGE 4

Photo courtesy of WBRC.

Brother's Bar (pictured above) recently had its business license revoked by the City of Jacksonville. This move comes a little over a month after a shooting outside the establishment that injured three men. The council voted unanimously to revoke the license.

LOCAL

Jacksonville City Council votes to revoke Brother's Bar's business license

Kaitlin Fleming

Editor in Chief After several owner changes and 44 years of business in Jacksonville, Brother's Bar closed its doors for good Wednesday, following a revocation of its business license.

The Jacksonville City Council unanimously voted to revoke the business license held by Shedrick Ridley on Monday, January 13.

The reason? A shooting outside the bar in the early hours of December 7, which left three men injured.

The shooting was a result of a dispute between a group from Talladega and a group from Bessemer, according to Jacksonville Police Chief Marcus Wood. About 200 people were at the bar for a concert.

Following the shooting, the city council held a public discussion at its meeting in December, where Ridley, the owner of Brother's Bar, spoke before the council and asked for another chance. He said he had already beefed up security and would be installing more cameras.

The council moved the topic to the January meeting, and after a 50-minute closed-door executive session at the conclusion of the regular meeting.

LOCAL

Once executive session ended, the vote to revoke the license was added to the agenda. The revocation vote passed unanimously, without much public discussion.

The council originally granted the business license in July of 2019, allowing Ridley to reopen the bar. Brother's Bar has a history of being in and out of business and between owners since its opening in 1976.



JSU art department presents artwork of Joey Slaughter PAGE 5



after five year

break PAGE 6

Wesley

Foundation

throws Gatsby-

CAMPUS Swatts crowned Miss .

for the second time

Miranda Prescott

Staff Correspondent

Jacksonville State University crowned its 38th Miss Jacksonville State University on Friday, January 10, 2020. Camden Swatts, crowned Miss Jacksonville State University in 2017, was crowned Miss Jacksonville State University again, on January 10.

Miss Jacksonville State University serves as one of the many preliminary competitions to Miss Alabama. Swatts will represent the university at the state level of this competition in early June. There, she will have the opportunity to compete for more scholarships and to move on to Miss America.

Miss America is a scholarship competition that focuses on women making "a difference in their communities, states and beyond," according to the Miss America website. Throughout its history, Miss America has generated over \$45 million dollars worth of scholarships for its contestants, making it "one of the nation's largest providers of scholarship assistance to young women." Jacksonville State University has held its preliminary competition for Miss America since 1983.

The theme for the 38th Miss JSU competition was "Women of the Crown," which was in homage to the past titleholders from Jacksonville State University. In the history of the competition, the university has had "seven Miss Alabamas, one first runner up to Miss America, and one Miss America," according to an Instagram post made by the university.

ing student from Beauregard, Ala. She placed in the top 15 at Miss Alabama while representing the university that year. Swatts was also crowned Miss Opelika-Auburn Area in 2018 and placed fourth runner-up in Miss Alabama.

Swatts was also the winner of the talent scholarship for the competition. Swatts performed a jazz dance number to "Ain't Too Proud to Beg" by the Temptations. The scholarship awarded was in the amount of \$250 dollars for the fall semester.

Contestants were judged on a variety of categories, each counting a certain percentage towards their overall score. 15 percent was awarded for On-Stage Interview, 20 percent for Evening Wear and Social Impact, 25 percent for Private Interview and 40 percent for Talent.

Every contestant of the Miss Jacksonville State University competition serves on a personal platform, often called a social impact initiative, that allows them to give back to their communities.

While Miss America's national philanthropy is the Children's Miracle Network, contestants often choose platforms outside of this mission to give to as well. For Swatts, her social impact initiative is "Care for Cadets," which Swatts stated would allow her to "express gratitude for the cadets of the West Point Academy and those currently serving in the military." As a whole, the Miss America Organization has donated over 500.000volunteer hours through their titleholders and contestants.



Photo courtesy of Hope Wingard

The community of Saks received some of the worst damage in Calhoun County during a severe weather event on Saturday, Jan. 11. Pictured above, several trees rest in the backyard of Hope Wingard in Saks.

Storms cause power outages in **Calhoun County**

Ashleigh Crouch

Staff Correspondent

On Saturday, January 11, the decade's first real bout of severe weather swept the Calhoun County area off of its feet.

Wind gusts reportedly reached more than 60 mph, causing lengthy power outages and flooding in some areas.

Several people were without power for several hours and even days in some areas, and there were dozens of downed trees on and around campus.

The community of Saks received some of the worst damage in Calhoun County and emergency responders dealt with a number of reported incidents of trees and power lines that were knocked down by storms. One woman in Saks became trapped in her home after a tree fell on her home.

inspired welcome back party PAGE 6 Hot Take: 'Nothing is given' in NFL

Playoffs PAGE 7



Webb named preseason All-American PAGE 7

JSU defeats MSU in weekend matchup PAGE 8

Gamecocks fall in back-to-back home games PAGE 8



Swatts is a second-semester nurs-

See SWATTS Page 2

4 Day Forecast

January 16 - January 19





Saturday

See STORMS Page 2



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STORMS from Page 1

The western and north-eastern parts of the state suffered significantly greater losses due to the severe weather outbreak.

In addition to damage from winds and power outages, Tyrone Spain, 51, Albert Barnett, 85 and his wife, Susan Barnett, 75 were killed when a tornado touched down in Pickens County. The National Weather Service confirmed that the storm was an EF-2 tornado and that winds reached 132 miles per hour.

An estimated 7,500 Calhoun County residents and 90,000 people statewide spent time without power due to Saturday's storms according to the social media accounts of Alabama Power.

"Our crews have completed restoration work following severe storms that swept through the state this weekend," tweeted Alabama Power on Tuesday afternoon.

The Jacksonville State University internet system was also affected by the storm, and a reboot of the core router took place on Sunday, January 12 at 5 p.m. to fix issues caused by the storm.

MISS JSU from Page 1

First runner up to Swatts was Briana Caudle, a psychology and criminal justice double major from Huntsville. Her platform was "The Stage is Not the Limit," where she hopes to allow those with special needs to "grow their confidence." For placing as first runner up, Caudle will receive a \$1,300 tuition scholarship for the upcoming fall semester.

During the competition, it was announced that a new scholarship would be awarded to the contestants during the 2021 Miss Jacksonville State University. This scholarship was created by the 2019 title holder, Darby Angel, and her family. When reflecting on her title, Angel said that "representing the university in the role is a step above any other title."

Miss Jacksonville State University also has a Rising Star that serves alongside the winner of the competition. These are young girls from the ages of 7 to 11 who the titleholder will mentor throughout their year. Over the last year, the Rising Star was Lillian Ada Alexander, a 4th grade student at Pleasant Valley Elementary School.

For more information on the Miss America Organization, please visit their website at missamerica.org. Tickets for Miss Alabama will go on sale in March. To purchase tickets to Miss Alabama and support Swatts at the competition, please visit missalabama.com.

This Week in Headlines

Saks residents believe tornado passed by – While the National Weather Service did not formally designate any tornadoes in Calhoun County on Saturday, residents in Saks reported seeing a funnel cloud which knocked down trees and power lines. Tommy Love, who lives on West 49th St. in Saks, was outside cleaning up debris in front of his home after the storm had moved on. (Courtesy of The Anniston Star)

Pelosi names 7 House Democrats who will present case against Trump at Senate trial – Speaker Nancy Pelosi on Wednesday announced the seven House Democrats who will act as the "managers" in the Senate impeachment trial of President Donald Trump. The managers are: Reps. Adam Schiff of California, who will be the lead manager; Jerry Nadler of New York' Hakeem Jeffries of New York; Jason Crow of Colorado; Zoe Lofgren of California; Val Demings of Florida; and Sylvia Garcia of Texas. (Courtesy of NBC News)

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Russian government resigns as Putin plans future – Russia's government has resigned, hours after President Vladimir Putin proposed sweeping constitutional changes that could prolong his stay in power. PM Dmitry Medvedev said the president's proposals would significantly change Russia's balance of power. Mr. Puting asked Mr. Medvedev to become deputy head of the National Security Council, which is chaired by Mr. Putin. The unexpected announcement comes four years before Mr. Putin's fourth term of office is due to end. (Courtesy of BBC News)

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

January 16, 2020 - International House Presentation Guatemala, 11 a.m.

January 23, 2020 - International House Presentation Vietnam, 11 a.m.

- January 24, 2020 Grand Opening and Open House for Respiratory Therapy, 2 p.m., Second floor of JSU RMC
- January 30, 2020 International House Presentation South Africa, 11 a.m.
 - February 5, 2020 Safe Zone Ally Lunch, 12 p.m., Houston Cole Library

February 6, 2020 - International House Presentation Honduras, 11 a.m.

February 7, 2020 - Accepted Student Day, 8:30 a.m., Leone Cole Auditorium

February 7, 2020 - Military Students in College Training, 1 p.m., Self Hall

February 7, 2020 - Free Practice LSAT, 1:30 p.m., Martin Hall

February 10, 2020 - Safe Zone Part 1 Training, 1 p.m., Self Hall

February 13, 2020 - International House Presentation India, 11 a.m.

February 20, 2020 - 'We Believe in Dinosaurs', 6 p.m., Longleaf Studiosx

February 22, 2020 - Canyon Jazz & Dinner, 6 p.m., Little River Canyon Center

CAMPUS CRIME LOG

January 12, 2020, Arrest - Possession of Marijuana, Sparkman Hall

January 12, 2020, Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor, Meehan Hall

January 12, 2020, Domestic Violence, College Apartments

January 8, 2020, Assault, Meehan Hall

January 8, 2020, Possession of Marijuana, Sparkman Hall

January 7, 2020, Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Sparkman Hall

December 29, 2019, Information Report, JSU at McClellan

December 26, 2019, Information Report, Pannell Apartments

2

New Iran plane crash video shows 2 missiles hit Ukrainian jet – New video footage from a security camera surface on Tuesday that shows two Iranian missiles being fired at a Ukranian passenger plane, resulting in an explosion that killed all 176 passengers on board. The news comes after Iran claimed to have accidentally shot down the airliner minutes after it took off from Tehran International Airport on Wednesday. The New York Times verified the authenticity of the camera footage, which shows the destruction of Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752. (Courtesy of Fox News)

Democrats play it safe in last debate before lowa caucuses – They fought hard to get on stage at the last debate before the first presidential nominating contest, their last chance to stand out before lowa caucus-goers weigh in on Feb. 3. But none of the six Democrats had a big breakthrough – or terrible fall – at Tuesday night's debate, as contenders displayed wide agreement on policy goals and sparred lightly over how far to go and how to pay for it. Universal health care? Check; they all want it – but Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts want to create "Medicare for All," while the other candidates – former Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, former South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg and businessman Tom Steyer – want to expand Obamacare and allow people to keep their private insurance if they like. (Courtesy of U.S. News) December 24, 2019, Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Penn House

December 23, 2019, Information Report, The Pointe

December 20, 2019, Information Report, Sparkman Hall

December 17, 2019, Information Report, Bibb Graves

December 13, 2019, Criminal Mischief, Campus Inn

December 11, 2019, Possession of Marijuana and Drug Paraphernalia, The Pointe

December 11, 2019, Information Report, JSU RMC

December 9, 2019, Theft of Property, Meehan Hall

December 9, 2019, Theft of Property, Curtiss Hall

December 8, 2019, Information Report, Dixon Hall

December 7, 2019, Information Report, Off Campus

Have an emergency? Dial (256) 782-5050 or 911



JSU's student operated newspaper since 1934

The staff at *The Chanticleer* reserves the right to edit and change any submissions for any reason. We are not responsible for the opinions inside the paper; we simply print the opinions of others. Opinion pieces will be clearly labeled as opinion and news will be labeled as news.

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact us by email at chantynewstips@gmail.com or by phone at 256-782-5701. You may also contact our adviser Mr. Mike Stedham by email at mstedham@jsu.edu or by phone at 256-782-5713.

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NEWS



Courtesy of NBC News

Tommy Tuberville, pictured above, is a former head coach for the Auburn Tigers football team. He is running for the U.S. Senate as a Republican in an effort to unseat incumbent Democratic Senator Doug Jones.

GOP candidate for US Senate visits JSU

Eric Taunton

Correspondent

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The Jacksonville State University College Republicans hosted former Auburn football head coach and Republican Senate candidate Tommy Tuberville at a regular meeting of their chapter on Wednesday, January 8.

"I thought I was gonna go finish and go hunting and play golf, but we're in trouble," said Tuberville. "The country is in trouble,"

Tuberville is one of several Republican Senate candidates that have spoken at events hosted by JSU College Republicans including John Merrill, Bradley Byrne and Arnold Mooney. "We are a huge campaigning backbone for candidates," said Hannah Phillips, the president of JSU College Republicans. about the candidates' attitudes on issues such as policy.

"The United States of America was built on three things: God, family and education. We've tried to ruin all three of them. This country was built on Christian values, moral values but they said 'we don't want it in the schools because of church vs state' so they kicked it out. And what'd we do? We added metal detectors in the schools. That's what we got from kicking God out of the schools. We've lost our total sense of humanity," said Tuberville.

Tuberville said that he's not only running to better the state but also because of his father, a military veteran who died on active duty at 53 years-old during a training exercise. He said that running for Senate is his way of giving back to both the state and the country. giving back."

One way he aims to help is by bettering Alabama's education system. According to Tuberville, states should have more control over their academic curriculum.

"The Department of Education makes the rules for 50 states but every state is different. We're not a cookie cutter country," said Tuberville. "We need to take that Department of Education, move it out and give every state back some power. Every state should have their own department of education and make their own rules."

Tuberville said that he's the best man for the job because he's not a politician, and that he is a politician's "worst nightmare." Education] have ruined us because we've changed what we teach in high schools. We don't teach U.S. history very often, it's usually an elective. There's no state history and no government. Nobody knows about the constitution anymore, it's not taught. Why is that? Because they don't want it taught. The people in Washington D.C. do not believe in the Constitution.," said Tuberville.

Tuberville also shared his support for Donald Trump, calling him a leader and "godsend" to the country.

"I believe in Donald Trump. I believe God sent Donald Trump because if we had not gotten him elected, I don't know how this country would look even after 3 year of continuing in the direction that we were going," said Tuberville. as a free lunch. I keep hearing about this free hospitalization, free school. Folks, let me tell you something; you do that and sooner or later you're going to be paying two or three other people's student loans off later in life. Ain't nothing free, you're going to get what you put into it."

Tuberville also commented on the American-Iran conflict saying, "We've been fighting over there for 2,000 years, we're not going to solve the problem. What we need to do is keep them from coming after us and our allies, we've got to keep them balanced."

The Republican primary for the Alabama Senate race will take place on March 3, 2020. Other Republican candidates for the race include Stanley Adair, Bradley Byrne, Arnold Mooney, Roy Moore, Ruth Page Nelson and Jeff Sessions. The general election for the Senate will take place on November 3, 2020.

Phillips said that they do not endorse one particular candidate, but aim to inform people "I never served in the military," said Tuberville. "My dad and my brother did so this is my One of Tuberville's main concerns is Alabama's education system. He's a self-proclaimed education expert, citing his 40 years of coaching for high schools and colleges.

"[The U.S. Department of

He went on to discuss free healthcare and student loan forgiveness and why he opposes it. "There's no such thing

Heirloom Taco brings culture, tasty food to Jacksonville

Scott Young

News Editor

Aurelia Gowen was born in Tejulpico, Mexico and learned everything she knows about Mexican cuisine from her parents.

Now, Aurelia Gowen and her husband, Shane Gowen, own Heirloom Taco, a niche taco restaurant on Jacksonville Public Square that serves authentic Mexican cuisine.

Aurelia and Shane Gowen are from Austin, Tx. and have lived in the Jacksonville area for several years. Their reason for opening the restaurant was because they both felt that something was missing in the community.

"It just felt like this would be the perfect place to start something like this," said Aurelia Gowen. "It just filled a ditch in the community."

Shane Gowen started out working at Roma's Pizza and Steakhouse in Jacksonville and has worked at Hubbard's Off Main in Oxford. He now works as a sous chef at Garfrerik's Cafe and Catering in Oxford.

"My parents back in Austin have a food truck," said Aurelia Gowen. "They do Mexican food, so I've been around it my whole life. I would wake up at six in the morning and help her make tortillas."

Aurelia Gowen said that many of the recipes that the restaurant uses are from her mother and that many of them are "hybrids".

"My dad was really big into cooking," she said. "It's what my family bonds over as most Mexican families do. Food and life bring us to-

gether."

Heirloom Taco features a variety of tacos including carne asada, pollo verde, brisket barbacoa and side items such as elotes (street corn), duros and fried avocado.

"We started off with a fairly large menu," she said. "We learned the first day that we were a little too adventurous with it, so we cut down to the basics."

On December 17, the day of the restaurant's grand opening, Heirloom Taco announced that they were sold out and that they didn't anticipate such a high turnout.

"I feel like it was really helpful with introducing the community to the different things we have to offer," she said. "As we get our staff trained, we'll slowly expand the menu."

The owners have expressed gratitude to the Jacksonville community for being supportive of the new restaurant since it opened.

"We love food and that's how we show our love," said Aurelia Gowen.

Stan Gowen, another one of the owners, gave more insight into the restaurant's second day, which he characterized as "crazy".

"We had a lot of to go orders and people waiting two or two and a half hours. Aurelia was very upset. She wanted to give everybody their money back and a gift certificate. She announced it to all the people who waited two hours and nobody came up."

Stan Gowen said that one woman walked to the cashier after the announcement and said,



Courtesy of Heirloom Taco

Shane Gowen, pictured left, and his wife, Aurelia Gowen, pictured left, recently opened a taco restaurant in Jacksonville called Heirloom Taco. The restaurant is located in the Jacksonville Public Square where a fire station once was.

"I just wanna wait for my food."

"That to me was the most generous outpouring of community support we have ever had and that touches me. We get tons of compliments and everyone seems to be very happy we're here."

Heirloom Taco is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and are closed on Sunday.



Chicken Scratch

Weekly Crossword Puzzle

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Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

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JOKES

Did you hear about the two peanuts walking through town?

One was a salted!

What is it called when a snowman has a temper tantrum?

A meltdown!

What did one blade of grass say to another about the lack of rain?

I guess we'll just have to make dew.

A set of golf clubs walks into a bar. "What'll you have"?

"Nothing for me, I'm the driver."

What do you call it when two rock guitars accidentally crash into each other?

A Fender bender.

Why did the teddy bear say no to dessert?

Because she was stuffed.

Did you hear about the two psychiatrists who passed each other on a walk?

One said to the other, "You're fine, How am I?"

SIGHT SEEING

We had a few photos we really loved this week that were related to a story we ran. Photos courtesy of HEIRLOOM TACO.

Let's TACO bout it...



Weekly Word Search Puzzle

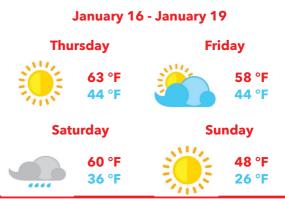
Harry Potter

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CHECK US OUT @ JSUCHANTICLEER

VOLDEMORT HERMIONE LOCKHART DRACO MALFOY FANG MRS. NORRIS HAGRID HUFFLEPUFF SLYTHERYN MCGONNAGAL DEMENTOR LUCIUS MALFOY SNAPE MUGGLE RAVENCLAW

4 Day Forecast



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Arts & Entertainment

CAMPUS

JSU art department presents artwork of Joey Slaughter

Eric Taunton

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Correspondent

The JSU Art Department hosted the work of artist Joey Slaughter and his exhibit Don't Yuck My Yum at Hammond Hall on Jan. 14. Don't Yuck My Yum, a phrase from a podcast that he doesn't remember the name of, encourages people to show respect towards others and their differences.

"It basically means if you don't like what I like then don't hate on it," Slaughter said. "But for me, it's a respect thing. We should just respect other people's differences."

Slaughter's art has a psychedelic feel to it, using distorted faces to illustrate what is going on in someone's mind when they're communicating. "Everything I do is based on communicating with other people," said Slaughter. "So, for instance, if you were to say something to me, what does that look like?"

He draws inspiration from the world around him including the conversations he's had and songs that he's listened to, though one of his biggest inspirations for his art is his experiences with racial disparity.

Slaughter grew up in a town with a big racial divide that he wasn't aware of until he got older. "I grew up as a privileged kid, I didn't realize other people weren't."

He said that he was inspired to educate others about racial privilege by his black friends. "I think a lot of white people go to their black friends and say 'I'm really not like that' or 'I'm really openminded' but they're not as open-minded as they think," said Slaughter.

"It's calling attention to those disparities and also trying to understand why that happened and who I am now," said Slaughter.

Slaughter's The Punch Factor Series, for example, is a collection of 18 paintings based on what Trevor Noah, talk-show host and comedian, said in his podcast.

"In one of his episodes he said, 'we need to go back to the punch factor,'" said Slaughter. On social media, a lot of people go back and forth on a screen. Some people need to be punched in the face."

Slaughter said that the punch factor

is when people argue and debate in real life instead of behind a screen. "If I said something that offended you, you'd have the opportunity to say 'what'd you say?' and I had the chance to either run or stay and say 'I said...' and then you'd deal with it."

The art department also featured the work of guest artist Jaime Aelavanthara – a fine arts photographer that uses cyanotype in her pieces, a process typically used when making blueprints. Common themes in Aelavanthara's work are the human experience and humanity's connection with nature.

The works of Slaughter and Aelavanthara will be on display in Hammond Hall and the Roundhouse from Jan. 14 – February 4.

WHERE THE
BOODS BLOSS Jaime Aelavanthara Eric Taunton/The Chanticleer









Arts & Entertainment

CAMPUS

Wesley Foundation throws Gatsby-inspired welcome back party

Anna Marker

Correspondent

The Wesley Foundation celebrated the new decade with a Gatsby themed celebration on Tuesday, January 14. The 2020 Gatsby Party was the first official Wesley Night of the decade.

The Wesley Foundation's director, Jay Robinson, encourages students involved at Wesley to work together to plan events for all JSU students and the 2020 event was no exception.

Jordan Prather, Alex Templin, Anna Marker, Erika Sperl, Samantha Hastings, Reilly Thompson and Lizzie Joines planned and helped set up the event.

The purpose of this event was to not only give a fun jump start to the semester, but to welcome new students to the organization. The event gave newcomers the opportunity to meet and interact with new students in a relaxed atmosphere.

Several students dressed in iconic 1920s fashion and danced throughout the night. One student even dressed in an inflatable T-Rex costume to celebrate the "ROARing twenties" as she called it.

Regular Wesley participants thought the event was a great first Wesley Night for the new semester.

Kevin Geeter, a JSU music education major, is the current longest active member of the organization.

"The theming and decorations were great," said Geeter. "Everyone that came was very nice, and the music was a great choice. The new people that came seemed to enjoy it and got along with everyone well. Overall a party well done".

Students new to Wesley, such as AJ Reed, enjoyed the festivities.

"Very cool atmosphere," said Reed. "Everybody was super including even though I'm not a regular member of Wesley. I will definitely be back [to Wesley], and everyone should try it out sometime."

The Wesley building was set up with a small dance floor and a balloon arch photo area. To properly celebrate the last decade, the playlist consisted of pop and alternative hits from the 2010s, and 20s themed covers of current music.

The event's theme was complete with a "Sweeteasy" table with sweet snacks for the hungry guests, and different nonalcoholic "mocktails" for students to try. The "mocktail" choices were The Blue Jay, lovingly named after Jay Gatsby and Wesley director Jay Robinson, Cherry Limeade and Poor Man's Champagne.

it was not very hard at all.

From left to right, Eric Cline, Alex Templin and Noah Davis attend the Wesley Foundation Gatsby-themed party.

"We have a great team here at Wesley who works well together in coming up and planning different events," said Prather.

JSU's Wesley Foundation holds regu-

and hosts other special events throughout the semester in their building located next to the Rec Center. More information on the Wesley Foundation can be found at www. jsuwesley.org or via their Instagram @wes-

Anna Marker/The Chanticleer



As far as difficulty for planning the event, Wesley student Jordan Prather says lar Wesley nights on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. ley.jsu Jordan Prather and Anna Marker

taught party-goers how to properly do "the

Charleston" and students had a chance to

take Instagram-worthy pictures at the pho-

tobooth.

MUSIC

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Photo courtesy of Time24 News

Photo courtesy of uDiscoverMusic

Selena releases new album 'Rare' after five year break

Breanna Hill

A&E Editor

After a five year hiatus from music, pop star Selena Gomez released her latest album 'Rare' on January 10. This highly anticipated album has thirteen songs including her latest single that has caused much speculation, 'Lose you to love me' all thanks to her history with Justin Bieber. The official music video for 'Lose you to love me' dropped about two months ago and has over 216 million views.

Artists typically aren't too keen on taking such long breaks between albums and touring, but Selena managed to use this time to focus on her mental, physical and emotional health. Gomez released her last album, 'Revival' in 2015, when she was twenty-two years old. Here she is, now age twenty-seven, falling back in love with music and releasing an album that represents her individuality and her present self.

I find this album to be a clear look into Selena's life as it is now. She comes off as vulnerable, and aware that loving yourself is the most important thing in order to have a good life, which is a very positive message to send to her listeners. The pop artist shared that this album is one of her greatest because "I just found my group, and I think I'm getting better and better, but I only know that that means it's because of the people I'm surrounded by, that inspire me, and challenge me,".

The album is tremendous. There are so many parts in each and every song that shows off Selena's amazing ability to relate her life to lyrics, and even more importantly, help others relate to those lyrics.

I'm more drawn to songs that I'm able to relate to because it makes me feel as if I'm not alone in certain situations. This album is yet another indication that loving yourself is a challenging task to everyone at some point in their lives, and I'm here for it.

These beautifully produced songs share stories of heartbreak, self-love and genuine happiness. The lyrics are relatable and incredibly written, which is even better when added to the foot-tapping rhythms in the background. The album reminds me a bit of the old Selena, but it also shows me and other listeners how she has taken this time to reinvent herself in order to make her music even more stellar than it was previously.

Selena recently did an interview with Apple Music about 'Rare' and mentioned that another thing that sets this album apart from her previous albums is that she was able to have more control when it came to decision making and what producers she was able to work with. Clearly this is the album that she feels represents herself the most that she has released thus far.

I recommend giving all of the songs on the album a listen. They are well produced, and well written by Selena and her team. I have found myself loving the amount of time and effort that they put into not only the album itself, but the advertising of the album and the music videos as well. Selena is back in the game and she is starting off 2020 with a bang.





OPINION



Courtesy of JSU

Alex Webb playing catcher in a Jacksonville State matchup against Auburn University at Jim Case Stadium on April 2019.

Webb named preseason All-American

Kyle Davie

Correspondent

The hype has already begun for the Jacksonville State Gamecocks 2020 baseball season as their senior catcher, Alex Webb, was named to the Collegiate Baseball Preseason All-American team by Diamond Sports. Although the season has yet to start the accolades are already pouring in.

Webb has been making a name for himself over the past year and the awards have become the new normal thanks to his stellar play. Last season, Webb's first season with the Gamecocks, Webb was named to the Ohio Valley Conference First Team as well as named the most valuable player in the OVC Tournament.

lebb was consistently dominant all season long w

into first place in the conference and a 22-9 conference record. Then, his heroics over the course of three games in the conference tournament helped the Gamecocks win their fifth OVC Tournament Championship. Webb batted .429 with 5 RBIs in route to MVP honors.

Awards like this are nothing new for Webb, he has been bringing them home since high school and seems to embrace the opportunity to lead his team to victory. While in high school at Columbia Central, Webb was ranked the top catcher in all of Tennessee by Perfect Game USA. He claimed all-district honors three consecutive years, all-state honors in back-toback years, and topped it all off with a team leading 13 home runs and a District MVP award his senior year.

shirt, Webb started 14 games and played in 31 games for Alabama in 2017. Even with lesser play time Webb took advantage of his opportunities and batted .328 during his time with the Crimson Tide.

Following that season, in his lone season away from Division I baseball, Webb was terrific at Chipola Junior College in Mariana, Florida. Webb was responsible for 27 runs scored, 46 hits, and 36 RBIs, with a .272 batting average and even shined on defense, catching nine base stealers. That production led to a national title for the Indians of CJC and a return to D1 baseball for Webb.

Coming off a season in which JSU won their first ever Division I Regional game the expectations and hopes are high for the Gamecocks and star players like Webb. Next month, February 14 at Rudy Abbott Field at Jim Case Stadium, will start the journey to what is hopefully another award filled, history making season as the Gamecocks will host the University of Missouri.

and was a major factor in the Gamecocks sweep of the OVC regular season title. His team-leading batting average of .346 helped power the Gamecocks

The praise and glory did not come without patience and hard work as Webb played sparingly, yet still produced, his redshirt freshman year at the University of Alabama. After sitting out 2016 as a red-

HOT TAKE

'Nothing is given' during the NFL playoffs from a team that no one gave a chance to win that very The Houston Texans and Kansas City Chiefs were

Garrett Sanders

Correspondent

With it being mid-January, it is that time of the year that football is coming close to an end. Even though it is near the end, this is where the most drama happens. You have the College Football National Championship, exciting bowl game matchups, and of course, the NFL Playoffs.

The NFL Playoffs is something that stands out to football fans everywhere. There are 12 teams competing for an opportunity to hoist the Lombardi Trophy in a span of a month, but there can only be one winner. Four more teams remain after Sunday's divisional round, but the way that these four teams got to this point is truly remarkable.

The opening game of the divisional round featured two very stellar squads. First, there are the sixth seed Minnesota Vikings who clawed their way to win in the "Big Easy" against the heavily favored New Orleans Saints.

Minnesota had a reputation for not being able to win the big games when it mattered most. Standing in the Vikings way, however, was the Goliath of the NFC, the San Francisco 49ers.

San Francisco had been a team that had dominated everybody they played this season. This Saturday against the Vikings, it was everything that everybody had expected.

The 49ers were able to consistently move the football down the field by playing a balanced offensive attack. The 49ers defense complimented their offense by being able to stall the Vikings offensive attack. But a lot of what the 49ers were able to do was not talent alone.

Instead, it was the lackluster of the plain vanilla play calling of the Vikings offense. Every time the Vikings were on the offense, it was the same exact story that caused them to go three and out. The creativity just was not there, and as a result, even the less experienced players of the 49ers could pinpoint what was coming.

Overall, it was pure domination. The final score ended with the 49ers cruising to victory 27-10.

Later, Saturday night, NFL fans would be watching another dominating performance. This time, it was night. However, that team that dominated, just happened to be the same exact team that ended the Dynasty in the New England Patriots.

That team was none other than the Tennessee Titans. This was one of the hottest teams in the league heading into Saturday night. If anyone could crash the party of a team and end their season, this was a team that could do it.

Standing in the Titans way, however, was a team that no one wanted to mess with. This team had a very explosive offense that could exploit any defense. Not only that, this was a team that was known for having one of the most physical, hard hitting, defenses in all of football. This would be none other than the Baltimore Ravens.

On paper, everybody in the national media didn't give the Titans a chance, but to the Titans, they used that as fuel to the fire to give them that momentum and confidence to go out and dominate. That's exactly what was displayed Saturday night in Baltimore.

The Titans were able to move the football on the Ravens by pounding the rock and playing keep away from the Ravens explosive offense. The Titans running back, Derrick Henry, continued to play with tenacity and showed why he is an elite NFL player.

Henry had 195 rushing yards for the night, but the more impressive stat about this is that this was Henry's third consecutive game to have more than 180-yards rushing in a game. That's a stat that no running back ever in the 100-year history of the NFL has been able to accomplish.

The Titans were able to contain the Ravens explosive offense from scoring any points all game. The main factor of what killed the Ravens was not being able to convert on short yardage situations. The Titans stopped the Ravens twice on fourth and short in critical moments of the game. That would be the difference alone. The Titans ended up not only winning, they won big. 28-12.

After a whole night to soak in everything that happened Saturday, there were still two more games to be decided for Sunday. Both games were exciting but also dramatic as well.

The Houston Texans and Kansas City Chiefs were the first to square off. This game featured two teams that had the potential to make the game an exhilarating matchup. To say the least, it did not disappoint.

The Texans ended up taking a huge commanding lead early. But even with a dominating 24-0 lead in the middle of the second quarter, the NFL learned that no significant lead is ever safe. The Chiefs were able to storm back. What was a 24-0 Texans lead turned out to be a 28-24 lead for the Chiefs at halftime.

In the second half, the Chiefs did not slow down their offensive attack. Even with Houston's ability to move the ball down the field, they could not keep up the pace. Once down by 24 points, the Kansas City Chiefs ended up winning the game by 20 points by a final score of 51-31.

With everything that had happened during the weekend, there was still one more game to be played. This game featured two teams that have had a recent bitter rivalry between the two. To end the weekend with this game was perfect.

The Seattle Seahawks travelled to classic Lambeau Field to take on the historic Green Bay Packers. With the conditions being icy and cold, it all favored in the Packers direction. Nonetheless, the Seahawks did not give up without a fight to the very end

The Packers took a commanding 21-3 lead. But with what we learned from the Chiefs Texans game; no lead is ever safe. The Seahawks adjusted at halftime and things got interesting.

With two minutes left, the Packers had the ball. A first down would seal the deal. The Seahawks were able to hold the Packers to third down and long. But when it looked like Seattle would get the ball, Green Bay closed that opportunity. A miraculous throw from Aaron Rodgers to Jimmy Graham made the difference.

The Packers then went to kill the clock to end any hope for a Seahawks comeback. The final score would be 28-23.

While the weekend of the NFL Playoffs gave us a lot of exciting matchups on paper, it taught all football fans a lesson. No matter the circumstances, nothing is a given. And that is the beauty of the game.





WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Courtesy of JSU

Taylor Hawks shooting from the free throw line on Thursday, January 9, 2020 in a matchup against Murray State that resulted 68-51 win for the

JSU defeats MSU in weekend matchups

Sadie Appleton

Correspondent

The Jacksonville State University women's basketball team faced off against Murray State and Austin Peay last week at home in Pete Matthew's Coliseum, snatching a win from the Racers on Thursday, January 9, with a final score of 68-51 but facing a loss against the Lady Govs on Saturday, January 11, with a final score of 57-63.

Jax State began their Ohio Valley Conference home opener in Thursday's match up against Murray State. For the third straight season, they walked away from the conference home opener with a win – the longest streak since the Gamecocks joined the OVC in 2003. From the starting buzzer, JSU took control of the lead swiftly, thanks in part to a jump shot made by junior Kiana Johnson in the opening minute. Jax State maintained this lead for an impressive 36 minutes.

Down 13-15 after the first quarter, the conference's fourth ranked Murray State offense came back to grab its only lead of the game at 17-15. Jacksonville State responded quickly with a 12-0 scoring run that would put them back on top. JSU improved to 31-25 at halftime, continuing to 5-0 when leading at the break for the season. The Gamecocks lead steadily grew to 12 following free throws from redshirt-junior Jessie Day and continued to increase up to 14 after points from the wing by junior Jayla Walker. The Racers made an attempt to stave off a loss by cutting the Gamecocks lead to single digits, but a foul by MSU led to a Jax State conversion, sealing the win for the Gamecocks and improving their record to 6-8 overall and 2-1 for the OVC.

with Murray State after being held to a 34 percent shooting average while also keeping their opponent below the 55-point mark for the third time this season. Beyond the three-point line, the Racers were only 4 for 21.

Jacksonville State walked away with their ninth win out of the last ten at the Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Notable performances include redshirt-senior Chloe Long who completed her second career double-double with 13 points and 12 rebounds. Meanwhile, junior Taylor Hawks led the Gamecock offense with 21 points, and previously mentioned Jessie Day led defensively with a career-high of 10 boards.

Saturday, however, proved to be a rough day for the Gamecocks as they suffered a tough loss to visiting team Austin Peay. It was JSU's first loss in three games, resulting in APSU's first Ohio Valley Conference win of the season.

At tip-off, both teams traded points evenly for the first quarter, leaving off with a tie at 14-14. The Lady Govs rolled to a 22-16 lead early after putting up a couple threes. Austin Peay continued this trend, widening the gap to 31-24, their largest lead of the matchup.

A three from redshirt-junior McKenna Lawrence and a pair of free throws from junior Kiana Johnson helped the Gamecocks climb back to within two before half-time, leaving the score at 33-31.

Jax State thundered back after the half with quick

fortunately, a three-minute scoring drought would put the Gamecocks on their heels for the remainder of the game. Back-to-back field goals put Austin Peay up at the six-minute mark with 59-54. Three minutes faded away without scores from either team.

A layup from APSU maintained their lead while inbound passing error lead to another layup for Austin Peay, extending their lead. Missed shots from beyond the line for Jacksonville State and free throws for Austin Peay closed out the game at 63-57. The frustrating loss brings the Gamecocks' record to 6-9 overall and for the 2-2 OVC.

Jax State's offense was led by Kiana Johnson with 11 points on her birthday. Following Johnson were juniors Taylor Hawks and Jessie Day who each posted eight points. The Gamecocks utilized the entire roster for this matchup as all ten players contributed to the team's scoring effort. Redshirt-senior Chloe Long made a mark defensively by etching in a career-high 16 rebounds, reaching double-digits for her third straight game.

"We absolutely have to do a better job of guarding the ball across positions. We also have to make open shots. We had quite a few open opportunities that didn't go down for us," said head coach Rick Pietri. "I think our team competed at a high level for the most part. We did have some breakdowns that certainly cost us, particularly in a very close game," he continues, "Our team defense has improved drastically since the beginning of the season. Hopefully that continues." Jacksonville State continues their season on the road in Illinois this weekend in matchups against conference contenders Eastern Illinois on Thursday, January 16 at 5:15 p.m. and Southern Illinois-Edwardsville on Saturday, January 18 at 1 p.m. Both games can be streamed via ESPN+.

JSU's defense proved to be a staple in the matchup

scores from Day and sophomore Yamia Johnson, taking the lead away from the Lady Govs and forcing a timeout before a full minute had elapsed in the third quarter. JSU maintain their slim margin until late in the quarter when Destiny Elliott drained a three-point shot, extending the lead to five at 48-43.

Entering the final period, JSU led APSU at 50-47. Un-

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Gamecocks fall in back-to-back home games

Stephen Duke

Correspondent

After starting off OVC conference play with two impressive wins, the Men's basketball team suffered back-to-back defeats at home to Murray State with a final score of 68-72 and Austin Peay with a final score of 67-71. These matchups bring the Gamecocks overall record to 7-10 (2-2 OVC).

The first of these defeats came Thursday, Jan. 9, against Murray State. The Gamecocks led by as much as five points in this matchup, but the Racers went on a scoring run that the Gamecocks could not jump back form.

Despite the loss, Jacara Cross had yet another big game for the Gamecocks with 16 points. Meanwhile, Tevin Brown led in scoring with 24 points, and Elias Harden, De'Torrion Ware and Martin Roub each tallied eight points in the defeat.

The Gamecocks hoped to rebound Saturday against Austin Peay, but things would not go as planned despite great effort. The Gamecocks and the Governors tipped off after severe weather blew through the area, causing many to take shelter as a precautionary measure.

After the storms blew through, the Gamecocks got off to a fast start, took a commanding 16-0 lead through the first five minutes of play, the best start the Gamecocks have had all season. During this run, Martin Roub hit a couple of three-point shots to help lead the offense.

The Governors missed their first eight shooting attempts while the Gamecocks also out rebounded the Governors 12-1 during that stretch. Derrick Cook led the offense with nine points at the half, and despite an Austin Peay surge, the Gamecocks led by 10 at the half with a score of 36-26.

Austin Peay came out with a hot start in the second half, cutting the Gamecock lead to three. The Governors brought the score to within one on two separate occasions mid-way through the half, but the Gamecocks scored a combined twelve points to counter.

However, the Governors didn't go away without a fight. They claimed their first lead of the night by using a pair of free throws and a basket from their top scorer to take the lead, 65-63 with about a minute to go.

The Governors extended their lead when Terry Taylor and Jordyn Adams scored a combined four points from the free-throw line. A couple of free throws from De'Torrion Ware and a layup from Marek Welsch cut the difference to within two, at 69-67. With three seconds left to play in the game, however, two more foul shots from Adams sealed away the game, bringing the game to a close.

A total of 20 turnovers is what ultimately plagued the Gamecocks and led to their demise against Austin Peay. The 20 turnovers were the most since the Alabama A&M game on December 7.

Elias Harden led the team with 15 points scored, while Ware scored 13 and Cook



Courtesy of JSU

De'Torrion Ware on January 9, 2020 in a matchup against Murray State that resulted in a final score of 72-68 with the Gamecocks falling short of a win.

contributed 11 points.

The Gamecocks will travel the road this week. They play in Illinois for both games, playing Eastern Illinois at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 16 and SIUE Saturday, January 18 at 1 p.m. Both games can be streamed on ESPN+.