Jacksonville, AL

**NEWS** 

JSU's Student-Published Newspaper Since 1934

## January 30, 2020

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announces

departure from

Jacksonville

# **Retired basketball legend Kobe Bryant** among nine killed in helicopter crash

### **Josie Howell** Sports Editor

Former Los Angeles Lakers shooting guard Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old daughter Giana Bryant died in a helicopter crash on Sunday, January 26 in Calabasas, Calif.

Along with Kobe Bryant and his daughter, John Altobelli, Keri Altobelli, Alyssa Altobelli, Christina Mauser, Sarah Chester, Payton Chester and Pilot Ara Zobayan were on board the aircraft. Among the nine passengers there were no survivors.

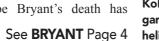
Kobe Bryant and the other passengers were traveling to Mamba Sports Academy in Thousand Oaks, California for a basketball event where his daughter and her team mate Alyssa, who was also on board, were scheduled to play.

Despite the heavy fog at the time, Kobe Bryant's helicopter was given special clearance to fly. While many are pointing at the heavy fog to blame for the tragedy, there is still an on-going investigation to look for other roles that may have played a part in the accident.

According to Jennifer Homendy, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Zobayan was climbing to avoid a cloud layer, but when air traffic control asked him what he planned to do, there was no response.

The helicopter circled Glendale for 14 minutes after takeoff and then proceeded to climb into the clouds before taking a sharp turn and ultimately hitting the ground. The NTSB also emphasized that even though there was no black box present, having one is not a requirement.

Kobe Bryant's death has





The Chanticleer

Photo courtesy of CNN

Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gianna at a Los Angeles Lakers game against the Atlanta Hawks in 2019. Both were killed in a helicopter crash in Calabasas, Calif. on Jan. 26.



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cans and a time for recognizing the central role of blacks in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. presi-

Black History Month is an annual cel- dent has officially designated the month of United States. ebration of achievements by African Ameri- February as Black History Month. Other That September, the Harvard-trained countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.

Photo courtesy of studybreaks.com

#### **Origins of Black History Month**

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by black Americans and

See Black History Month Page 5

**Billie Eilish sweeps Grammy Awards** PAGE 5

Is the new thriller 'Underwater' worth the hype? PAGE 6

## Mendes releases new action-packed movie PAGE 6

## JSU track and field places seventh PAGE 7



Men's basketball defeats Morehead State PAGE 7

> A letter to Mamba PAGE 8

Gamecocks split weekend home games PAGE 8



#### For the record: stand our story by

### **Kaitlin Fleming**

Editor in Chief

This past week, The Chanticleer published a story about a student reporting on social media that there were three white dots on her vehicle's windshield and that she believed it was a ploy used in human trafficking.

Since then, many of our readers have been asking why the story ran if we are unable to make a concrete connection between the three white dots on a windshield and human trafficking.

Here is the timeline of events from the moment we were made aware of the post on social media, to the posting of our story on the incident:

Upon receiving the information from the original post, Scott Young, news editor and reporter for The Chanticleer reached out to the Chief of University Police by email.

Chief Schaffer responded to the email and made it clear that UPD had been made aware of the claims and were investigating the situation. He also stated that he spoke with East Metro Area Crime Center and no information was available about three white dots in a pyramid being related to human trafficking.

I then researched other claims of this nature and found similar claims made in 2017 and 2018 from different states across the U.S. I could not find any solid evidence that white marks of any kind on a car's wind-

shield was related to human trafficking.

Young then reached out to the student who reported the incident on social media. He and Patricia Wisenbaker had a conversation over Facebook Messenger and she explained the incident to him from her point of view

Based on the circulation of Wisenbaker's original Facebook post, I deemed it necessary to run a story about the incident. I felt that it would be neglectful of the paper to have information about this situation and for us to not report it.

In the age of social media, things get shared on Facebook and Twitter simply based on keywords, fear and curiosity. After our investigation into the matter, I felt it was our duty to inform students, faculty and the surrounding community of the facts of this incident instead of letting them get their information solely from a social media post.

So, we ran the story.

Throughout the story, The Chanticleer made clear that this was a 'possible' ploy and the Chief of the University Police was quoted in the story having said, "We were unable to find any report or information linking dots in a triangle to trafficking in the area."

We have simply reported on the fact that the student reported the incident and that the UPD is looking into the matter.

While UPD has not confirmed that this is a tactic used by human traffickers, they

stressed to Young the importance of remaining vigilant and reporting any suspicious activity to UPD immediately.

Our original headline raised many questions, however. There were people who assumed that UPD claimed the incident was related to human trafficking and we have changed the headline to be more clear and we did so within a few hours of the story being online.

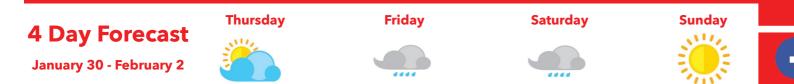
While we strive to always be factual and accurate, sometimes words translate differently than intended. We never meant to confuse or scare anybody.

The story gained a lot of attention based on the content it surrounded - human trafficking - and I believe that the story was shared without being fully read. If the story was read in its entirety, I find it hard to believe that there would be any questions in regards to the validity of the story, sources or claims.

It is never our intention to scare or confuse our readers. We simply report information we receive in the most accurate and factual way we can, and sometimes, we miss the mark. In this case, we did not miss the mark. We, especially Scott Young, wrote an incredibly well researched and well sourced article

I do recognize that the original headline which read "UPD warns students to be aware of possible human trafficking ploy"

See FOR THE RECORD Page 4





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# **UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS**

- January 30, 2020 International House Presentation South Africa, 11 a.m.
- February 3, 2020 SGA Senate Meeting, 6 p.m., TMB Auditorium
- February 5, 2020 Safe Zone Ally Lunch, 12 p.m., Houston Cole Library

February 5, 2020 - Town Hall with JSU administrators, 6 p.m., TMB Auditorium

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 28, 2020, Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Campus Inn

January 22, 2020, Possession of Marijuana, The Pointe

January 18, 2020, Possession of Marijuana and Drug Paraphernalia, Curtiss Hall

January 17, 2020, Possession of Marijuana, Daughette Hall

January 16, 2020, Assault, Meehan Hall

January 16, 2020, Possession of Marijuana and Drug Paraphernalia, Dixon Hall

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

December 24, 2019, Violation of Student Code of Conduct, Penn House

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

# This Week in Headlines

8 dead in Scottsboro, Alabama boat blaze - Recovery and cleanup at Jackson County Park continues Tuesday as officials work to determine the cause behind a horrific fire that killed eight people and destroyed at least 35 boats at a Scottsboro marina. Scottsboro Fire Chief Gene Necklaus said it couild take several days to confirm the identities of the victims of the blaze, which broke out around 12:40 a.m. Monday morning at the marina's B-Dock.

Bernie Sanders is the Iowa favorite one week before the caucuses – A new New York Times/Siena College poll of likely lowa caucusgoers finds Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders with a clear lead at 25%, former South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg at 18%, former Vice President Joe Biden at 17%, Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren at 15% and Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar at 8%. (Courtesy of CNN)

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Coronavirus risk in U.S. 'remains low' even as federal officials take steps to protect public - The United States must remain on alert as the new coronavirus spreads globally, public health officials said Tuesday, though the risk of its spreading in the country still remains low. "This is a very fast moving, stantly changing situation," Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said during a news conference. "But at this point, Americans should not worry for their own safety." Dozens of people have been tested for the coronavirus in the U.S., but only five cases have been confirmed so far. (Courtesty of NBC News)





Daniel Mayes/The Chanticleer

Kolectic Treasures Antique Market has operated on the Jacksonville square since September 5,

### McConnell says GOP doesn't have votes yet to block impeachment witnesses, as Bolton book disrupts trial script

- The White House's plans for a speedy impeachment trial were thrown into doubt Tuesday with Senate Republicans floating competing proposals on how to deal with new explosive revelations from ex-national security adviser John Bolton -- and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell telling Republicans he doesn't yet have enough votes to block the calling of impeachment witnesses. (Courtesy of Fox News)

Taco Bell creates buffalo sauce for new Nacho Fries menu item - Taco Bell recently eliminated several menu items to declutter its menu. But one menu item the chain can't sweep under the rug is Nacho Fires. The popular limited time offer returns Jan. 30 for the fifth time since its debute two years ago. For this tour of duty, Taco Bell is extending the Nacho Fries line by adding a second dish: Buffalo Chicken Nacho Fries. The plated dish, priced at \$2.99, features a layer of fries - double the amount served in a regular "cup" of Nacho Fries. The seasoned spuds are topped with shredded chicken, pico de gallo, sour cream, shredded cheese, nacho cheese sauce and buffalo sauce – a Taco Bell first.

# **Kolectic Treasures announces** Jacksonville location will merge into Anniston location

### Scott Young News Editor

Jason Kellner, one of the owners of Kolectic Treasures, announced on Sunday that their Jacksonville location will be closing its doors on February 1 and merging into the Anniston location.

'We are not closing," said Keller, "[We are] relocating to accommodate the needs of our vendors and customers."

Kellner said that the decision was not because the store "did bad" in Jacksonville, but because they want to combine Kolectic Treasures into have a lot to offer, a lot to look one store and provide bigger booths.

"This is a great opportunity for Kolectic and all our amazing vendors and customers," he said. "Please know the huge expansion we are doing and remodeling will amaze you."

Kellner said he urges the community of Jacksonville to visit their Anniston location.

"We want our Jacksonville community to know that it has been a pleasure and an honor to have our business on the square for 17 months," he said. "We

at and buy, booths to rent and friends to be made."

All items at the Jacksonville location must be picked up by February 1 or they will be relocated to the Anniston location.

Kolectic Treasures allows vendors, or anyone with something unique to sell, to rent one of a few booths in the store to put their items on the market.

Kolectic Treasures in Anniston is located at 4406 B Mc-Clellan Boulevard and is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## THE CHANTICLEER NEWSPAPER

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.

> **Editor in Chief** Kaitlin Fleming

**News Editor** Scott Young

**Arts & Entertainment Editor** Breanna Hill

> **Sports Editor** Josie Howell

Adviser Mike Stedham Volume: LXXXVI Issue: 04 Date: January 30, 2020



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# **LAMPUS** JSU Greek life sets records Organizations double volunteer hours, charitable fundraising

## Bonae Barrs

Correspondent

Fraternities and sororities at Jacksonville State University collectively volunteered 25,983 hours in the community and raised \$191,144 for charitable organizations in 2019, an 86% increase in both categories compared to 2018.

The Dean of Students office denoted 2019 as "the most philanthropic year in JSU history" for fraternities and sororities.

"I think this accomplishment reflects the values of fraternities and sororities," said Joshua Robinson, the assistant dean of students for fraternity and sorority life. "I am proud of our fraternities and sororities for increasing their service hours and philanthropic dollars by 86% in 2019."

The chapter that raised the highest amount of money is Zeta Tau Alpha, totaling \$51,055 in 2019. Alpha Omicron Pi accumulated the most service hours, earning a total of 17,472 hours.

"As the leader of a serviceoriented organization, it is Alpha Omicron Pi's top priority to volunteer and serve the community," said Cassidy Russell, the president of Alpha Omicron Pi.

Russell said that her organization hosts events throughout the year to help the community.



Ansley Winter/Alpha Omicron Pi

From left to right, Caylin Moore, Taylor Snider, Madison Shearer and Riley Sitton, all sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi, participate in their annual 'Gamecocks Give Back-Pack' event.

Last year, the organization hosted its second annual Mardi Gras for a Cure, an event to highlight the Mardi Gras celebration and raised almost 13,000 for arthritis research.

The organization had its biggest turn out yet and hosted a parade in celebration for the community to participate in.

"We host events throughout the year to help the community the best we can," said Cassidy Russell. Alpha Omicron Pi also hosts an annual charity event known as "Give Back-Pack", which Russell said is to ensure that "no child in our county will go back to school without the supplies they need to be successful."

For the event, Alpha Omicron Pi sets up a drop off station at the public square in Jacksonville, where the supplies are gathered, packed into backpacks and sent to the surrounding schools, where they are gifted to students. Russell said that over 250 backpacks were donated to the community last year.

"All of our members take pride in serving the community and participating in service projects all year long," she said. "We are thrilled that we have volunteered the most service hours on campus ... our greatest purpose is to love and serve others."

Harlin Hodges, the president of Zeta Tau Alpha said that she is thankful to be a sister of Zeta Tau Alpha for many reasons, one being their philanthropy.

"We take pride in supporting Breast Cancer Education and Awareness and those who are impacted by this disease," said Hodges. "Each sister works diligently to raise money for this cause through t-shirt sales, donation efforts and ad sponsorships."

Zeta Tau Alpha hosts two main philanthropy events, a Think Pink game in the fall and Big Man on Campus in the spring.

At the Think Pink game, sisters hand out pink ribbons, pink shakers and early breast cancer detection pamphlets. Zeta also sells pink bows that they hang around Jacksonville during the month of October to help support their philanthropy.

Big Man on Campus, a male talent show, is held each spring semester. Many students enjoy coming to support the men participating in the event. Prior to the event, sisters sell t-shirts and accept donations for the cause.

"Our chapter hosts smaller philanthropic events throughout the semester like spirit nights at local restaurants, as well as supporting other organizations and their philanthropic platforms," said Hodges. "I am so proud to be a part of an organization that has such a meaningful impact."

# **NEWS** Trustees vote to move nursing program to Jacksonville RMC complex

## Scott Young

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News Editor

The Board of Trustees voted on Tuesday, January 28 to officially move Jacksonville State University's School of Health Professions and Wellness to the old Jacksonville RMC complex. During the meeting, the trustees approved the purchase of the Brookstone Medical Building for \$2.6 million, a building adjacent to the RMC complex that the university currently leases. The two facilities will be known as the university "south campus". "The faculty offices are already there. RT [respiratory therapy] is already there," said Christie Shelton, the provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. "This is the final move to get everything in one location that will consist of the nursing classes." Shelton said that Tracey Matthews, the new dean of the School of Health Professions and Wellness, will lead the team to renovate the space and move classrooms to the complex. Originally, the university planned to rebuild the nursing program in the same place as Wallace Hall after the demolition of Wallace Hall. "As we were trying to plan the new building, we never were able, within a reasonable budget, to get all nursing and other needs in a building here on campus," Shelton explained.

lace Hall, estimated at costing \$23 million, per Randall Jones, the chairman of the Board of Trustees. Jones said that the university will save approximately \$15 mil-





Miranda Prescott/The Chanticleer

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Dr. Ed Goodwin, the JSU respiratory therapy program director cuts the ribbon for the respiratory.

The nursing program's move to the RMC complex replaces the project to rebuild Wallion by not rebuilding Wallace Hall.

"This is a great idea," said Jones. "We toured this [RMC facility] yesterday. This is something that this entire university and community should be celebrating."

The Board of Trustees Building and Finance Committee reported that the RMC complex has completed roof replacement for the lower level of the facility and that the second wing of the second floor is under construction for additional faculty and staff offices.

"We are halfway there," said Betsy Gulledge, the associate dean of the School of Health and Wellness, regarding the nursing program's move to RMC.

Gulledge said that lecture halls still need to be moved from the library, the skills lab needs to be expanded and the simulation center moved from Brookstone to the complex.

Renovations and the transfer of students to the complex could take up to two years, according to Don Killingsworth, the acting president of JSU.

"The vision right now is, where the Brookstone building is and the RMC hospital is, there's a space and we can put large 120-seat classrooms right in the middle, connect both build-

#### Matt Reynolds/JSU

The Brookstone Medical Center, pictured, is being purchased by the university for \$2.6 million as a part of the process to move the nursing program to the Jacksonville RMC complex.

ings together and make it seamless where you can go from one building to the other," said Killingsworth.

Killingsworth said later in an interview with The Chanticleer that the demolition of Wallace Hall is "pending".

"We are awaiting a word from FEMA and state insurance on what to do with Wallace," said Killingsworth. "There's still a chance that we could move back into Wallace with some kind of renovation and there's still a chance it could be torn down. We understand how it looks but we're not at the point where we can do anything yet."

Originally, the university planned to hold a demolition ceremony for Wallace Hall in October of last year, but the event was cancelled.

In an interview with The Chanticleer in November of last year, Killingsworth said that his administration is considering using the land where Wallace Hall sits for additional parking.

Wallace Hall was damaged beyond repair by an EF-3 tornado that devastated the campus of Jacksonville State University on March 19, 2018. Since then, nursing classes have been spread across several buildings across campus, including the library.

The university acquired the Regional Medical Center in the summer of 2018 from RMC Jacksonville Medical Center after it shut down. Assets of the facility were passed to the university for their use.

#### **Other business**

The trustees adopted a resolution to named former trustee Ronnie Smith as a trustee emeritus.

JSU students present their research to the trustees on the use cannabidiol (CBD) oil to treat melanoma.

Approved \$4 million project to construct a new welcome center and alumni offices, which the university envisions to house admissions, alumni offices and visitor center staff. The university will receive \$1 million each from insurance and the JSU Foundation Bell Tower Fund to pay for the project and will finance the rest with a 10-year term loan from Regions.

program's newly renovated wing.

# JSU unveils renovated respiratory wing at RMC Jacksonville

### Miranda Prescott Correspondent

Jacksonville State University unveiled its new respiratory wing on Friday, January 24. The wing, which will house the JSU respiratory therapy program, is located on the second floor of the Regional Medical Center in Jacksonville.

The university hosted an open house event for students, professors and community members that afternoon to celebrate the renovated wing.

"The wing of the former hospital has been completely renovated and updated for students and faculty of Alabama's only baccalaureate respiratory therapy program," the university said in a statement on Facebook.

JSU started the respiratory therapy program with their first classes in 2017. The idea for the program came in the summer of 2014 from Dr. Ed Goodwin, who is in charge of the JSU respiratory therapy program.

"I was the director of a hospital, and we recently lost a program that we hired from," said Goodwin. "I introduced the program to Jacksonville State so we could continue the hiring process.'

The new wing will be open exclusively to those involved with the respiratory therapy program. Lindsay Albani, a respiratory therapy student, said that they have been using the new facility since October 2019.

"By having this space, students can be better prepared to use the equipment that they will be using in the future." said Goodwin.

The new facility features interactive classrooms and multiple study rooms for its students.

"It's very resourceful," said Lindsay Albani, a student in the program. "Just having our own space allows us to grow."

The university acquired the Regional Medical Center in the summer of 2018 from RMC Jacksonville Medical Center after the hospital shut down. Assets of the facility were passed to the university for their use.

Since the March 2018 tornados, the Regional Medical Center has housed both nursing and music students for classes and professor offices. Music students will continue to use the facility for classes until renovations for Mason Hall are completed.

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## Weekly Crossword Puzzle

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## Weekly Sudoku Puzzle

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# FOR THE RECORD - from Page 1

wasn't the best choice of headline, but it does not change the validity of the story. Our new headline, which reads "UPD warns students to be vigilant after student reports possible human trafficking ploy" reflects the story's message better and is accurate.

I, as Editor in Chief of the newspaper, stand behind this story, News Editor Scott Young, and this newspaper 100 percent and I do not regret that we printed the story.

We will continue printing factual stories for the remainder of my term as EIC. In case anyone is wondering, we keep meticulous records of all interviews, communications, etc. with our sources and can easily point to each quoted statement and background information given.

Further questions or concerns can be directed to chantynews-tips@gmail.com.

# **BRYANT - from Page 1**

hit hard for many of his die-hard fans. While he is known for having been the youngest player in NBA history after being drafted by the NBA straight out of high school in 1996, he also held many other titles by the end of his memorable basketball career in April of 2016.

These titles include fourth-leading scorer in NBA history with 33,643 points, five-time NBA champion, twice named NBA finals MVP, 18-time All-Star, 11-time All-NBA first team, nine-time NBA All-Defensive first team and two-time Olympic gold medalist.

Along with Gianna, Kobe Bryant also had three other daughters with his wife Vanessa Bryant: 17-year-old Natalia, threeyear-old Bianka and his new born seven-month-old Capri. Following his death, he will be inducted into the 2020 Hall of Fame without the requirement of a vote.

# QUOTES

"If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear."

-George Orwell

"Censorship is to art as lynching is to justice."

-Henry Louis Gates Jr

"If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."

## Weekly Word Search Puzzle

Sc	ho	ol	L	if	e								
В	L	Α	С	K	В	0	Α	R	D	Ε	S	Κ	Ν
R	С	R	Т	Ε	K	Ε	Ρ	R	R	Т	D	Ε	U
N	S	S	Ε	S	G	L	U	Ε	S	Т	Ι	С	Κ
Ε	S	N	H	S	0	Α	Ε	T	0	A	G	R	R
Α	С	Α	0	Α	A	K	K	Т	Ε	K	J	Α	0
С	Ι	Η	L	Т	R	R	N	Ι	Ε	Ρ	H	Y	Т
S	S	K	L	0	Ε	Ρ	Ε	L	Α	Ε	0	0	Α
R	S	I	S	Ρ	Α	В	Ε	G	Ρ	N	Μ	N	L
Ε	0	K	K	Y	S	Ι	0	N	Μ	S	Ε	S	U
K	R	Α	0	0	L	Α	Α	0	Ε	S	W	Α	С
R	S	С	0	Μ	Ρ	A	S	S	K	R	0	A	L
A	Α	Ε	В	N	A	0	S	Α	S	K	R	Κ	Α
Μ	В	K	С	Α	Ρ	K	С	Α	В	Ε	K	Ρ	С
Ε	Α	0	L	R	S	J	0	U	R	N	Α	L	S

SHARPENER HOMEWORK JOURNAL ERASER BLACKBOARD NOTEBOOK BACKPACK CRAYONS SCISSORS GLUE STICK MARKERS BOOKS CALCULATOR COMPASS PENS

GLITTER

"Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties."

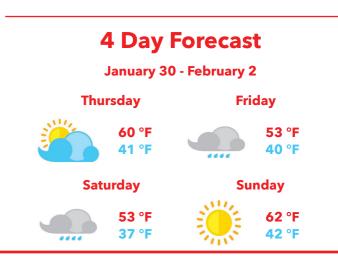
-John Milton

"Restriction of free thought and free speech is the most dangerous of all subversions. It is the one un-American act that could most easily defeat us."

-William O. Douglas

"Most people do not really want others to have freedom of speech, they just want others to be given the freedom to say want they want to hear."

-Mokokoma Mokhonoana



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## ENTERTAINMENT



Photo courtesy of ODU News

# **Billie Eilish sweeps the Grammy Awards**

## Breanna Hill

A&E Editor

The 62 Grammy Awards took place at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, Calif. on January 26. This year the host of the Grammys was famous R&B singer Alicia Keys, who has won fifteen Grammys to date. Despite the immense excitement radiating from the popular artists that showed up for the awards, there was a constant reminder of the death of NBA legend Kobe Bryant, along with his daughter and the other passengers aboard the private helicopter. Though the hearts were heavy with the unsettling news, several artists chose to remember Kobe and give him a shout out.

The well-known award show kicked off with a stellar performance by the artist who reminds her listeners to love themselves no matter what--Lizzo. Like most of the performances that took place on the grand Staples stage, Lizzo did a mashup of her popular hits 'Truth Hurts' and 'I'm crying cause I love you'. This performance was quite phenomenal, complete with an orchestra, ballerinas and Lizzo's own killer flute abilities.

Among the newer artists, older and beloved artists and songwriters showed up to join in on the outpouring of love for music. Boys to Men joined host Alicia Keys to take part in a heartfelt song 'It's so hard to say goodbye' for Kobe. The song represented saying a goodbye for now to the legend that Kobe was. Boys to Men weren't the only artists from the golden days to make an appearance. Aerosmith and Run-D.M.C joined forces once again to perform a Rock n' Roll favorite, 'Walk this Way' by Aerosmith.

A theme of tributes was evident throughout the night. Not only was Kobe honored various times throughout the show, but timeless artists such as Prince and Nipsy Hussle. Usher put on an incredible performance honoring the late Prince, mashing up two of his popular hits, 'When doves cry' and 'Kiss'. John Legend was joined by DJ Khalid, Meek Mill, YGB, Roddy Ricch and Kirk Franklin to honor Nipsy Hussle.

There were several other performances by artists



Rachel Luna/FilmMagic

throughout the night including Demi Lovato, Camila Cabello, Tanya Tucker, Billie Eilish, and Tyler the Creator. Nearly all of the performances had a heartfelt message woven beautifully behind the lyrics.

Billie Eilish had quite the attention on her the entire night for several reasons. She just turned eighteen not too long ago, but she is the youngest artist to be nominated for a Grammy at the age of seventeen. She was nominated for six awards, and walked away being the winner of five of those awards.Billie's winning streak started in the pre-broadcast ceremony where she picked up the award for Best Pop Vocal Album with her album 'When we all fall asleep, where do we go?'. She is the second artist (after Christopher Cross back in 1981) to win all four major Grammy awards in one award ceremony. These four major awards are Record of the Year, Song of the Year, Album of the Year, and Best New Artist.

The 2020 Grammys managed to pack in meaningful speeches ranging from missing loved ones that have passed, to killer performances, to the deserving recipients of those awards. The night was eventful for all those who attended, and it will be remembered.

To see a complete list of the awards, award nominees and the award winners go to: https://www.npr.org/2020/01/26/799752326/2020-grammy-awards-the-full-list-of-winners

# **Black History Month - from Page 1**

other peoples of African descent.

Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

Did you know? The NAACP was founded on February 12, 1909, the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

In the decades that followed, mayors of cities across the country began issuing yearly proclamations recognizing Negro History Week. By the late 1960s, thanks in part to the civil rights movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Negro History Week had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses.

President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

#### Black History Month 2020 Theme

Since 1976, every American president has designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme.

The Black History Month 2020 theme, "African Americans and the Vote," is in honor of the centennial anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment (1920) granting women's suffrage and the sesquicentennial of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) giving black men the right to vote.

In the Radical Reconstruction period that followed the Civil War, newly freed black men made great political gains, winning office in Southern state legislatures and even Congress. The Southern backlash was swift and marked by the passage of "black codes" designed to intimidate black voters, prompting a call for formal, national legislation on the right to vote.

The women's rights movement grew out of the abolitionist movement, with activists like Frederick Douglas working alongside Elizabeth Cady Stanton to secure the right to vote for all. That goal was reached with the passage of the nineteenth amendment in 1920.

Article courtesy of History.com Editors.

# Famous Firsts by African Americans

#### Sciene and Medicine:

• First patent holder: Thomas L. Jennings, 1821, for a dry-cleaning process. Sarah E. Goode, 1885, became the first African-American woman to receive a patent, for a bed that folded up into a cabinet.

• M.D. degree: James McCune Smith, 1837, University of Glasgow; Rebecca Lee Crumpler became the first black woman to receive an M.D. degree. She graduated from the New England Female Medical College in 1864.

• Inventor of the blood bank: Dr.

Charles Drew, 1940.

• Heart surgery pioneer: Daniel Hale Williams, 1893.

• First astronaut: Robert H. Lawrence, Jr., 1967, was the first black astronaut, but he died in a plane crash during a training flight and never made it into space. Guion Bluford, 1983, became the first black astronaut to travel in space; Mae Jemison, 1992, became the first black female astronaut. Frederick D. Gregory, 1998, was the first African-American shuttle commander.



Photo courtesy of Pintrest

Pictured above, a collage of famous African Americans. Pictured below, a photo taken at the march in Selma, Ala. The Selma to Montgomery marches were three protest marches, held in 1965, along the highway from Selma to the state capital of Montgomery. The marches were organized by nonviolent activists.



Photo courtesy of LBJ.com



## **REVIEW**

# Is the new thriller starring Kristen Stewart 'Underwater' worth the hype?

## Breanna Hill

A&E Editor "Underwater"

"Underwater" is a new action-thriller that stars some of Hollywood's most elite actors and actresses such as Kristen Stewart, T.J. Miller, Jessica Henwick, Vincent Cassel and others. The release date for 'Underwater' was January 10.

The plot follows Norah (Kristen Stewart) and other aquatic researchers and their brush with death as an earthquake severely damages their underwater base in which they are living and working from. The captain of the mission played by Vincent Cassel comes up with a plan to walk from their main working facility to one of their smaller ones over a mile away in order to use pods to get back to civilization above the water's surface. The only issue with this plan is that they have to walk on the ocean's floor, in complete darkness, which has never been done before except to work on the pipes.

Not even five minutes into the movie the action begins, which I find a bit rushed but seemingly necessary to fit in all of what happens throughout the plot. Due to the action starting so soon there's very little, if any, character development and hardly and background or backstory to explain to viewers exactly what happened and how it happened.

Along the tough journey of trying to survive, some members of the group were unable to make it due to complications with the heavy duty suits, whether it was because of a malfunction that wasn't detected early on before they left the main facility, or because of the brutal conditions that came along with travelling on the ocean floor.

Travelling through the dark at the ocean's bottom wasn't the only thing that rendered their trip to one of their smaller facilities, there were various ocean oddities that they encountered along the way, some of which were unknown species. These unknown species continue to wreak havoc on the troops, eventually killing off two of the original six. In the end, after being separated and losing another from the group, three of the six make it to the smaller facility.

While losing oxygen with each passing second, the only male left alive is barely conscious and being drug by two female protagonists. They almost make it inside the facility before they're stopped in their tracks by an unbelievably huge sea creature, two or three times the size of their facility. After they gain their composure again, the three make their way into the facility and make the short, yet dangerous trek to the pods that can send them to the ocean's surface.

Norah, who is the engineer of the bunch realizes that there are only two working pods, and only one person is able to fit per pod. She forces her friends into the pods and sends them up, knowing that she won't be able to join them as the list of survivors

Wanting to go out on her own terms and wanting to do anything she can to stop the sea creature from chasing the pods, she causes the facility to self destruct, which in turn causes the sea creature to forget completely about the pods and try and escape to safety.

Action-thrillers are hardly my favorite, to be quite honest they're pretty low on the list. This is definitely a good action-thriller movie, if you're into that sort of thing. There's no sort of build-up, and most certainly no character development. They launch fully into action within minutes of it starting and it doesn't stop until the very last few minutes. I would rate it a 5/10 at best.

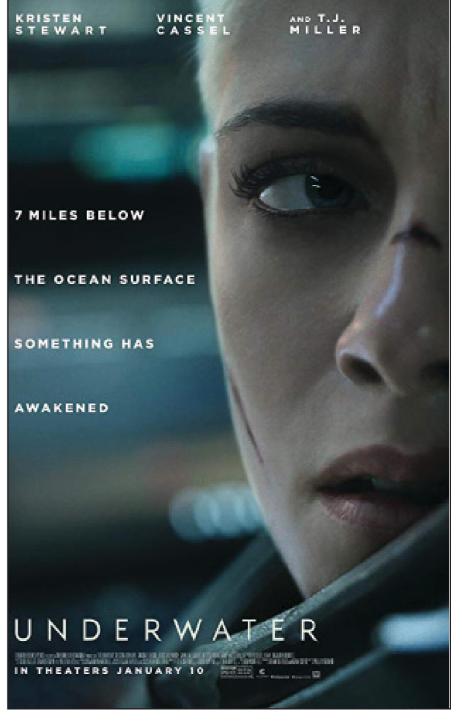


Photo courtesy of IMDB.com

# Mendes releases new action-packed war movie

### **Devin Carter**

### Correspondent

Sam Mendes' "1917" (2019) is one of the best films to be released in the last several years and should stand among the finest war movies ever made. Telling the story of two British soldiers who set out on a mission to warn a battalion of soldiers that they are marching into a trap set by the Germans, this movie takes viewers on a gripping, stimulating ride.

Taking a page from the film "Birdman" (2014), "1917" is shot to make it seem as if the camera never cuts, and we therefore get to experience all of the events of the story as if it is happening in a continuous, fluid motion. This is incredibly effective, allowing viewers to become more caught up in the drama and intensity of the story as it unfolds.

And this is unquestionably one of the most intense films this reviewer has ever seen, and its various twists and turns give it a feeling similar to that of a roller coaster in regard to the feelings it manages to bring out. More so than perhaps any other film released in the past several years, "1917" is a movie that demands to be seen in a nice movie theater, so that all of the action and suspense, in conjunction with the film's one-shot style, can be felt in the most impactful way.

The greatest war movies are those that show the horrors of war. They are, ironically, usually the ones that do the best job of presenting an anti-war message to their audience. "1917" does a better job of showing the sheer brutality of war than any other film I have seen. Life comes cheap in this movie, and despite the attachments that are made for various characters, the blunt reality that death that accompanies every war is never far from our minds as we bear witness to the horrors these young men are forced to endure. And the fact that Mendes manages to display these terrifying scenes throughout the movie and yet never have his film feel over-the-top is a remarkable achievement.

If there is any criticism to be given, it would be that the film lacks a particularly compelling story, and never tries to analyze the war and its impact on the minds of the characters who are fighting in it. But that is not to say that it is entirely ineffective in this regard. The sheer level of tension that is felt throughout the movie more than supplements the absence of any descriptions of mental impacts brought by the war, and there are various interactions that at the very least hint at some of the trauma that the fighting has left ingrained within our protagonists. And the numerous scenes of soldiers facing possible death head-on is more than powerful enough for viewers to take away the film's simple message: That war is hell, and that it takes a major toll on those who are forced to fight in it.

After recovering from the adrenaline rush that this movie managed to fill me with, I found myself appreciative of those who have fought in armed conflicts before, as well as those who will fight in future engagements. Movies have previously made me examine the subject of war based on the toll it takes on the minds of those who are involved, but never before has a movie made me feel so strongly for the lives lost, as well as for those who lose loved ones. There are multiple scenes that deal with loss, and each one is like a gut punch from the screen. This thrill ride of a movie is an unforgettable, rewarding experience, but it is also a very moving depiction of some of the most difficult human trials. Films like "1917" are why I love the movies, and every movie fan should see it while it is still in theaters.

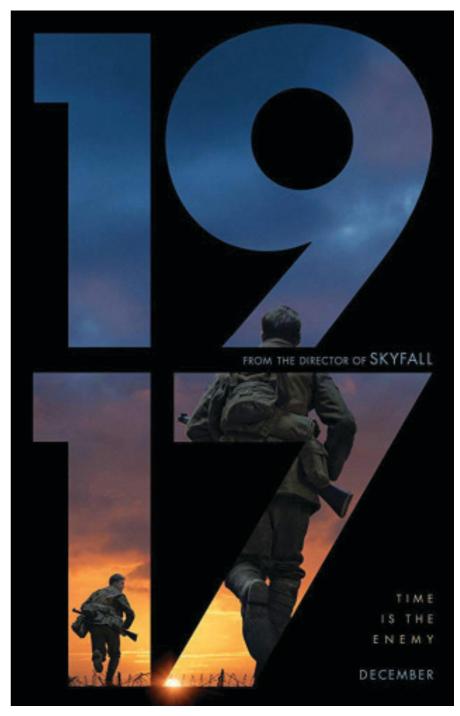


Photo courtesy of IMDB.com





## **TRACK AND FIELD**



Courtesy of JSUgamecocksports.com

Kirsen Gardner prepares to throw a weighted ball in the shot-put event at Marshall University's Thundering Herd Invitation where the Gamecocks placed seventh overall.

# Gamecock track and field places seventh

### Sadie Appleton

### Correspondent

Jacksonville State University's track and field team hit the road this past weekend to compete in Marshall University's Thundering Herd Invitational in Huntington, West Virginia, the team's first real competition on the road this season.

The Gamecocks cemented themselves in the top ten teams of the tournament, coming home with a seventhplace finish in their first team-scored indoor event of the year by edging out Morehead State, Wright State and Winthrop. Ohio Valley Conference companion, Austin Peay, took home the top spot of the tournament, followed by host Marshall University. ments of competition. The first day of the event saw personal bests set between the triple jump and weight throw from four Gamecocks. Freshman Kha'Myah Townsend place fifth in the triple jump with a distance of 11.16 meters. Her performance currently stands as the seventh-best distance in the conference for this season.

In the shot-put event, sophomore Adrian Rock led the team with a distance of 15.93 meter to place third for the event. She was followed by freshmen London Shaw with 13.16 meters and Kirsen Gardner with 12.08, placGamecocks had memorable performances in the field. Redshirt sophomore Casey Phelan etched in her thirdstraight top five finish going over 3.57 meters in the pole vault. Meanwhile, senior Madison Rollins slotted herself in to the seventh-place position in the high jump, clearing the bar at 1.56 meters.

Sophomore Ashton Coats had a top-ten performance in the lanes with a sixth-place time of 9.14 seconds in the finals of the 60-meter hurdles. Coats represented JSU as one of the five of eight spots in the final race that were held by host team Marshall University. Additionally, the time set a new personal best for Roswell, Georgia native and currently is in the top ten for the OVC. Junior Tylynn Register just nearly missed qualifying for the finals, clocking in 9.30 second performance in the prelims.

South Africa native and sophomore Leandra Custodio lead the Jax State squad in the 400-meter race, finishing in 16thwith a time of 1:00.11. Two other Gamecocks placed in the top 20 with Register coming in 18thand sophomore Uriah James following in 20th. Senior Emily Sorrell placed just outside the top ten in the 800, posting a time of 2:25.03, just ahead of freshman Elizabeth Wetmore at 2:27.05. Wetmore would also place 15thin the mile run.

Jacksonville State will have a

A plethora of personal bests helped pushed Jax State up in the final place-

# **MEN'S BASKETBALL**

ing seventh and 13th, all of which recorded personal marks for the trio. Both Rock and Shaw returned the next day to participate in the shot-put event to place back-to-back in fifth and sixth place.

Later in the competition, two

week off before hitting the road again to Columbia, South Carolina to compete in the South Carolina Invitational that will take place at SEC the University of South Carolina. This event will take place on Friday, February 7 and Saturday, February 8.

# Men's basketball defeats Morehead State

## **Stephen Duke**

### Correspondent

The Jacksonville State men's basketball team walked away with a huge win over Morehead State Saturday, January 25 with a final score of 72-51. The Gamecocks immediately walked into the matchup hoping to rebound from a tough loss of 81-77 to Eastern Kentucky earlier in the week.

In Saturday's game, the Gamecocks took control early on and was able to keep the lead for the entirety of the matchup. Immediately taking the tip off, the Gamecocks raced out to a 12-1 scoring run, with the one point coming off a Morehead State foul shot. The Eagles then went on a 6-0 scoring run, cutting Jax State's lead to 12-7.

After the Eagles' 6-0 run, De'Torrion Ware hit three shots outside of the perimeter, accounting for nine of his 14 points for the game. The Gamecocks went into the half with a 43-22 lead with Morehead State's Ta'lon Cooper already in foul trouble with two fouls early on in the game.

Morehead State's coach lit a fire under his players in the locker room during halftime, as they roared to a 6-0 start in the second half. However, this run was ended when Kayne Henry made a layup, bringing the score to 45-28 with the Gamecocks still well in the lead.

Later in the second half, Henry scored back-to-back dunks on his way to his third double-double in four games. Derrick Cook added a three-point shot that accounted for his only points of the game.

The Gamecocks' lead grew to as much as 24 with just under two minutes to play. Late in the game, Morehead State's Jordan Walker fouled out, the only player for either team to do so. Once the game came to a close, the Gamecocks walked away with the win, moving them to 9-12 (4-4 OVC).

Henry led the team with 23 points, followed by 14 from Ware and 11 from Derek St. Hilaire. Elias Harden, Ty Hudson, Jacara Cross, Derrick Cook and Marek Welsch also contributed to the other 24 points for the Gamecocks.

"Coach has been hard on me. He has been telling me I need to work hard and push myself out there," said Henry. "[Being a Leader] is an important role, one I'm not used to. I'm still getting used to the responsibility of trying to help my teammates."

Henry also emphasized that Coach Ray Harper has been conveying to the team the importance of coming into the game with energy, especially after coming off the road tour through Illinois with the games against Eastern Illinois and SIUE.

"We were tougher. We paid attention to detail today. I thought we had gotten away from that, and it cost us in some close games," said head coach Ray Harper. "I thought [Henry's] energy level out there was off the charts."

Harper also emphasized that he does



Courtesy of JSU

# Guard Mark Welsch on February 25, in Saturday's game against Morehead State that resulted in a win for the Gamecocks

not believe that Henry is close to his ceiling yet, and that is why the coaching staff is hard on him; they want to make sure that they receive maximum effort from him. Ray believes the sky's the limit for the young junior.

The Gamecocks return to action at

home this Thursday, January 30, in a matchup against the Tennessee State Tigers at 7:30 p.m.. The Gamecocks then play Belmont, a top-four team in the OVC, on Saturday February 1 at 4 p.m. Fans can check out both games in person at Pete Mathews Coliseum or on ESPN+.





## TRIBUTE



Courtesy of cnn.com

Bryant eyes the basket during the 1997 NBA Slam Dunk contest in Cleveland. Bryant was the youngest player to win the contest.

# A letter to Mamba from a lifelong fan

### **Garrett Sanders**

#### Correspondent

As I sit here thinking of what I would say to you, there is nothing that comes to mind; nothing, but also everything. The memories and life lessons that you have given me flood in like water from a broken dam and my fingers are just a small funnel, unable to redirect them. You don't know me, yet it feels like I have lost a brother, father or friend. All I know is that it isn't right.

You spent 20 years as a Laker. It pains me, as someone who has followed you very closely, to know you didn't get to spend that much time as a father. As I grew up, so did your girls. I watched hundreds of your games over the years and while the outcome of the games may have been in question, what took place right after never was. Your girls were always there in the tunnel waiting for you. Even when the nasty divorce process was going on, they were still there waiting. Lakers nation got to watch Natalia and Gianna grow up, and in a sense that made us all feel like a part of your family. It was a family that you gladly shared with your fans and invited us into. As a kid with a troubled relationship with my father, this was what I admired most about you. It's crazy to think about how you were only 17 when you were drafted. That seemed so old to me at the time, but looking back now, I don't know how

you handled it. I was 2-years-old when you went pro. Shaq had just come to town, Nick Van Exel was the next big thing for the Lakers and I had no idea who any of these people were because I had just started watching basketball.

I'm not even sure what drew me to the Lakers, but I latched on and never let go. Lakers games became a retreat from my miserable reality. I didn't have any meaningful relationships to speak of when I was a kid, so I formed them with you guys, you just didn't know it.

You and Shaq became my biggest role models. Shaq showed me how to relax and have fun while you showed me what real work ethic was. You showed me what real drive and determination looked like and what it meant to never grow complacent. That dedication is what made you rise above guys like Nick Van Exel and to the level of guys like

On-court heroics aside, we also loved you equally as a person. Whether you were kicking soccer balls with fans, making cheesy commercials or jumping over speeding sports cars (I still say the video is real) you always let the tough side of Kobe go when you needed to.

It's hard to say that I relate to a millionaire greatest-of-all-time athlete, but I do. I believe you did this on purpose. You made yourself accessible for millions of kids all over the world and you did your best to set an example that we could all follow.

There will be naysayers who try to find a way to tarnish your legacy, but I speak for generations of children when I say we will not let that happen. You may have been a God on the court, but we realize you are still human.

Thank you for allowing us to see both sides of you. We mourn as a family along with Vanessa, Natalia, your two young baby girls, and your teammates. Our hearts are broken not only for you, but your little Gigi who went with you. The only consolation we have is that she is with her loving father right now. I really just wanted to take a minute to thank you, but I suppose this letter is pointless, you'll never get to read it. I wonder, should I ball up this paper and throw it in the trash can while saying 'Kobe'? Actually, I think I'll take a page from your book: a mic drop preceded by the words: Mamba out.

#### Michael Jordan.

I'll never forget that tear you went on, averaging 33 points per game, while wearing a mask due to a broken nose. Or that time that you injured your right shoulder but checked yourself back into the game and played left-handed.

I would be remiss not to mention your part in "The Redeem Team." Thank you for dominating the 2008 Olympics and getting a gold medal for the USA. Add five NBA championships and countless NBA records; forget Michael Jordan and Space Jam, they should have made a movie about you.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Gamecocks split weekend home games

## **Kyle Davie**

### 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 midway 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, while Ware scored 13 and Cook 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+.



Courtesy of JSU

Mckenna Lawrence shoots a three-point shot in a game against Murray State the Gamecocks played earlier in the season that resulted in a 68-51 win