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The Daily Gamecock, MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2007

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The Daily Gamecock

dailygamecock.com

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2007

VOL. 101, NO. 66 • SINCE 1908

HEAVY SNOW CAUSES DEATHS

Storm drops up to two feet, results in multiple fatalities across country

Nafeesa Syeed
The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Highways were still slippery in parts of the Midwest on Sunday as utility crews restored power knocked out by a snow and ice storm blamed for at least eight traffic deaths.

A few light flurries lingered over Nebraska, Iowa and southeastern Minnesota as the core of the storm slid through the Northeast.

Less than 3 inches of snow had fallen by midday in New Jersey, with little more than a dusting in other areas, but the National Weather Service said a foot of snow was possible in the mountains of northern New England, with up to 20 inches in northern Maine.

With snowfall that light in New Jersey, and a changeover to rain expected later Sunday in places, the New Jersey Turnpike Authority salted its roads Sunday and didn't bother to plow.

"It's not a bad way to start the season," said Joe Orlando, a spokesman for the authority. "Compared to what's happening in the Midwest, we've kind of got it easy right now."

Airlines at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport worked to move travelers stranded when hundreds of flights were canceled during the storm Saturday. Flights were also canceled Saturday at airports in Des Moines and Milwaukee as blowing snow reduced visibility.

Des Moines International Airport was closed for several hours after an airliner slid off a taxiway. None of the 44 passengers was injured. A regional jet slid off pavement when it turned onto a taxiway after landing at Dane County Regional Airport in Madison, Wis., but no injuries were reported among the 25 passengers.

The weather service had posted winter storm and ice warnings Saturday across parts of Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, the eastern Dakotas, Illinois and northern Michigan. Nearly 8 inches of snow fell at Duluth, Minn., and Fargo, N.D. got more than 7.

Driving was still hazardous Sunday in much of Michigan as snow and ice coated roads, but planes were landing and taking off from Detroit Metropolitan Airport without delay Sunday, said spokesman Mike Conway.

Utility companies in Illinois said the lights were back on for most people who lost electricity when ice weighed down power lines. About 14,000 customers were still waiting for service

Author shares passion, stories

Woodson encourages potential writers to practice often

Travis Frayard
STAFF WRITER

Author Jacqueline Woodson visited USC Friday for a public reception and book signing in her honor. The reception honored Woodson's outstanding work as an author and allowed her a chance to address South Carolina students and interested public.

Woodson is an author of over 40 books for various audiences. She has written colorful children's books, as well as more mature-themed

books aimed at an adult audience.

Woodson's writing's mainly depicts African American heritage from before the Civil War, all the way up to present day.

Woodson said she loves writing and telling stories.

"I wanted to be able to pass on all of my stories and all of my family's stories to my daughter," Woodson said.

Woodson said that she has always had a passion for writing. In college, even though the focus of Woodson's degree was not on writing, she said she was always writing.

"I would just encourage you to write all the time, and don't stop," Woodson said when asked to give advice to South Carolina students

who are considering becoming authors.

"The most important thing to do is to write all the time, and to love writing and to read novels, good novels," Woodson said. "Seeing how other people write gives you ideas for how to write yourself."

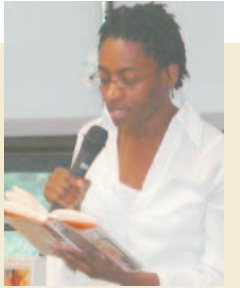
Woodson now lives in New York, but she spent some years going up in Greenville and said she does enjoy South Carolina.

"I think that Woodson is a great author," said first-year business marketing student, Anne Marie Hurley. "I think her books are fantastic and the stories really hold your attention."

Woodson's visit was co-sponsored by University Libraries, the Thomas Cooper Library and the

“My favorite thing about writing is that you are paid to lie.”

Author
Jacqueline Woodson



South Carolina Center for Children's Books and Literacy. Their goal was to honor an accomplished writer, spark interest in reading within the University and community, and to spark interest in black heritage.

Woodson's most recent novel, "Feathers," was released in March and was set in 1971. The book details how Frannie, a student in an

all-black sixth-grade class, handles the addition of a white student at a time when the country was grappling with war in Vietnam and racial identity and tension at home.

"My favorite thing about writing," Woodson said, "is that you are paid to lie!"

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gum.sc.edu

Michigan, Florida lose political power

Early primaries cost states their spots in national convention

Stephen Ohlemacher
The Associated Press

VIENNA, Va.—Democratic leaders voted Saturday to strip Michigan of all its delegates to the national convention next year as punishment for scheduling an early presidential primary in violation of party rules.

In spite of the vote, some party leaders and officials said they believed the delegates would eventually be seated at the convention.

Michigan, with 156 delegates, has scheduled a Jan. 15 primary. Democratic Party rules prohibit states other than Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina from holding nominating contests before Feb. 5. Florida was hit with a similar penalty in August for scheduling a Jan. 29 primary.

Michigan officials anticipated the action by the Democratic National Committee's rules panel. But Michigan Democratic Chairman Mark Brewer said before the vote that he didn't think the delegates would be lost for good. He expects

the nominee will insist the state's delegates be seated at the convention.

With the DNC's work Saturday, the primary calendar appears to be set. The panel approved some final shifting of early contests, approving the Iowa caucuses on Jan. 3, the New Hampshire primary on Jan. 8 and the South Carolina primary on Jan. 26. The Nevada caucuses had already been approved for Jan. 19. The panel also gave final approval for Massachusetts to move its primary from March 4 to Feb. 5.

Saturday's vote further diminishes the significance of Michigan's Democratic primary. All the major Democratic candidates have already agreed not to campaign in either Michigan or Florida because the states violated party rules. And in Michigan, most of the major candidates won't even be on the ballot.

Democratic candidates John Edwards, Barack Obama, Bill Richardson and Joe Biden have withdrawn their names from the ballot to satisfy Iowa and New Hampshire, which were unhappy Michigan was challenging their leadoff status on the primary calendar.

That leaves Hillary Rodham Clinton, Dennis



J. Scott Applewhite / The Associated Press

Debbie Dingell presents her case for moving up the Michigan's Democratic primary.

Kucinich, Chris Dodd, Mike Gravel and "uncommitted," as the choices on the Democratic ballot in Michigan.

The DNC rules panel voted by voice vote, with only a few dissents.

Michigan officials defended their early primary, saying it helps provide geographic, racial and economic diversity early in the primary calendar. They also complained that other states that were allowed to hold early votes were receiving preferential treatment.

"I think it is unconscionable

that we continue to grant special treatment to some states in this process," Brewer told the DNC rules panel.

Alexis Herman, co-chair of the DNC rules panel, said party leaders worked for two years to create a primary calendar that respected the historic roles of Iowa and New Hampshire, while adding geographic and racial diversity by allowing Nevada and South Carolina to vote early.

Other panel members sympathized with Michigan, but they said they must enforce the rules.

"While we may not like the rules, if we don't respect the rules, then we are going to have chaos," said committee member Yvonne Gates of Nevada.

Both political parties have been struggling to control their chaotic calendars.

The Republicans have stripped half the delegates from New Hampshire, Florida, South Carolina, Michigan and Wyoming for scheduling early primaries and caucuses. Republican rules don't allow any states to hold nominating contests

PRIMARY • 2

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS



Meg Gaillard / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Gamecocks will be staying home over the holidays after being shut out of the post-season bowl bids.

Obama teams up with Oprah for rally

Senator Barack Obama, with media mogul Oprah Winfrey, will come to Columbia for a free public rally.

The rally will be at the Colonial Center on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 12:30 p.m.

Tickets are limited due to seating. The event is first come, first serve.

Sign-up for tickets is available at Obama's Web site barackobama.com, though online tickets are temporarily unavailable.

Tickets can be picked up at the campaign's Columbia office at 1025 Calhoun St. The office is open



Barack Obama



Oprah Winfrey

Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday 2:30 - 5 p.m.

Bags and backpacks are not allowed at the event.

- Compiled by Liz Segrist

Crime Report

MONDAY, OCT. 15
Grand larceny, 9:45 a.m.
 Williams-Brice Stadium, 1000 George Rodgers Blvd. Someone took a gold chain and coin between 9:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on either Oct. 15 or Oct. 17.
Estimated value: \$5,000
Reporting officer: J. Dupree

THURSDAY, NOV. 29
Larceny of purse, 9:30 a.m.
 Blatt PE Center, 1328 Wheat St. Someone took a tan Coach purse containing a wallet,

a cell phone, a set of keys, a debit card and a South Carolina driver's license.
Estimated value: \$157
Reporting officer: J. Dupree

Defrauding keeper of restaurant, 9:45 p.m.
 Chick-Fil-A, 1400 Greene St.

Brett Grugan took \$3 worth of food. The victim said they wished to press charges.
Estimated value: \$3
Reporting officer: D. Adams

— Compiled by Katie Jones

City: trade guns for gifts

San Francisco offers exchange for money, no questions asked

Wolf Stone
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A man carrying a semiautomatic handgun approached a group of San Francisco police officers Saturday afternoon and, with a smile, handed over the pistol in exchange for \$150 in gift cards.

"I used to fire it at bottles or do some plinking in the woods," said the gun's owner, 48-year-old Bruce Bourne. "But I have a 6-year-old daughter now and my wife was uncomfortable with it being in the house."

For a few hours on a sunny yet brisk Saturday, San Francisco police officers accepted 100 guns from about 80 people in the city's second "Gifts for Guns" event. The first event in July brought in 117 handguns and 2 shotguns.

The idea is to make the streets seem a little safer when the city's murder rate has risen in recent years — San Francisco has had at least 89 homicides so far this year.

Among the 100 guns collected Saturday were 4 assault rifles and two sawed-off shotguns, said Mikail Ali, director of the



Noah Berger / The Associated Press

Mikail Ali holds an AK-47 knock-off collected during the "Gifts for Guns" event.

mayor's office of criminal justice.

As Ali discussed the city's efforts to curb violence another man walked up with a large, black gun case. He took out a black assault rifle with a folding stock and pistol grip and turned it in.

"Twenty years ago you could buy a gun like that legally in California. Some were registered properly, some weren't," Ali said.

California law makes owning an assault weapon illegal, but Gifts for Guns allows people to turn in their firearms without showing identification, and

officials promise not to ask any questions about the guns' origins.

Once in police custody the guns are checked with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to see if they were stolen. Ali said 99 percent of the guns recovered are destroyed and, if the guns were stolen, they are returned to their owners, if possible.

Participants received \$100 gift cards for turning in rifles or shotguns, \$150 cards for revolvers or semiautomatic pistols and \$200 cards for assault-type weapons like AK-47s.

But not everyone

participating in the gun program Saturday believed it was helpful.

Peter Buxtun, a 70-year-old gun advocate, turned in two pistols Saturday that he said were worthless. He collected \$300 in gift cards.

"You can buy junk guns for \$10 and then use the gift cards to buy new guns," he said. "I saw a half-dozen uniformed SF police officers taken off the street to sit for hours in a City Hall photo-op, instead of patrolling certain drug-ridden and gang-infested neighborhoods."

PRIMARY ● Continued from 1

before Feb. 5.

The Republicans, however, haven't set any restrictions on campaigning in states that violate party rules. That has some Democrats concerned that they could lose votes in Florida, the fourth largest state, and Michigan, the eighth.

Former DNC Chairman Don Fowler, a member of the rules panel, said stripping the delegates from Michigan and Florida — and prohibiting candidates from campaigning there during the primaries — will hurt party-building efforts in those states.

Fowler also said that stripping the delegates was unnecessary, since many party insiders believe that the eventual nominee will have them restored at the convention.

"No one at this table believes that the delegates from Florida and Michigan will be absent

from the convention," Fowler told the rules panel.

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., said in a statement: "The threat not to seat the delegates of Michigan and Florida at the Democratic convention is a hollow threat. They will be seated, and when they are, it will be plain for all to see that the privileged position that New Hampshire and Iowa have extracted through threats and pledges from candidates is on its last legs."

Under convention rules, a credentials committee controlled by the presidential candidate with the most delegates will verify the legitimacy of delegates.

With Florida and Michigan stripped of delegates, Democratic candidates will now need support from at least 2,026 delegates to secure the nomination.

The panel gave Michigan officials 30 days to change their minds.

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- #4 TURKEY TOM**
Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)
- #5 VITO**
The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)
- #6 VEGETARIAN**
Layers of provolone cheese separated by real avocado spread, alfalfa sprouts, sliced cucumber, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. (Truly a gourmet sub not for vegetarians only... peace dude!)

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- #10 HUNTER'S CLUB**
A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
- #11 COUNTRY CLUB**
Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)
- #12 BEACH CLUB**
Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)
- #13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB**
Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)
- #14 BOOTLEGGERS CLUB**
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Kelly Humphrey / The Associated Press

Five-year old Jacob Christenson gets a face full of snow as he tries to throw the snow over his shoulder in Minnesota.

SNOW ● Continued from 1

Sunday, down from nearly 140,000 that were blacked out Sunday, utilities said.

Before the storm hit the Midwest, it dumped up to 2 feet of snow in the mountains of western Colorado.

One member of the Purdue University ice hockey team was killed Saturday when a

team van overturned on a slippery highway about 20 miles southwest of West Lafayette, Ind. school officials said. Seven others were injured.

Elsewhere, the weather was blamed for three deaths in separate accidents in Wisconsin, and one each in North Dakota, Illinois, Michigan and Colorado.

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IN OUR OPINION

Spurrer speaks truth: keep faith Carolina

It's over folks.

The South Carolina Gamecocks failed to get a bowl invite for the first time under Steve Spurrier's guiding visor, leaving many fans and players sorely disappointed during this much-hyped season.

All of our glimmers of hope throughout the season have turned to dust. There will be no fairy godmother to take us to the ball. The pumpkin will still be a pumpkin even if you blink really hard. And we will sweep away

And we must always remember that our coach is the only Head Ball Coach.

the ashes of a storied season when anything could have happened – and did.

But over the phone last night, Spurrier told Gamecocks everywhere one thing they probably didn't want to hear: keep the faith.

And in Spurrier we trust. We must remember Eric Norwood's Cinderella game against Kentucky. We must remember what it feels like to be No. 6. And we must always remember that our coach is the Head Ball Coach.

Now is not the time to turn our backs on our football team. They give blood, sweat and tears every Saturday during a few months of the year. And that's only what we see on TV. There are the Blake Mitchell's and Stephen Garcia's that sometimes embarrass us off the field. But there are many more Kenny McKinley's and Jasper Brinkley's who hustle every day.

Yes, we should have dominated Vanderbilt. Yes, we could have won the SEC East. And yes, it stings to lose to Clemson when there's a field goal attempt and no Jad Dean in sight.

But we are the Fighting Gamecocks. Don't forget it.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

Voice your opinion on message boards at www.dailygamecock.com or send letters to the editor at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

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PLEADING THE FIRST

Christmas' purpose lost in festivities

Day's meaning rooted solely in religious aspects, not simple celebrations

Christmas is not a pile of gifts with glittering bows. Christmas is not a children's pageant. Christmas is not joy, peace, charity or even family togetherness. These are all lovely side effects, but if we get too preoccupied with them, we risk missing the point entirely.

Christmas is the celebration of a child's entry into our world. Let's review the facts.

He was the son of a carpenter and a virgin teenager. His parents were turned away from all the hotels in his father's hometown. He was born in a backwoods shack and had no cradle but a feeding trough.

And he was the Son of God in the flesh.

Most of us have seen nativity scenes—neat sets of pewter figurines with picturesque backdrops. They tend to omit some details, though. Anybody who has witnessed childbirth can attest to the fact that it is not a serene, tidy process. If this child was in fact born at night, then it was no "Silent Night."



PAUL BOWERS
First-year print journalism student

Picture this: Mary screamed. Joseph did the manly thing and let her squeeze his hand until his knuckles cracked. And assuming he was a healthy child, Jesus' first noise was a gasping, wailing cry.

And let's not forget their surroundings. These people were staying where animals slept. The hay was stiff and scratchy; wind blew through the chinks; the livestock were no doubt perturbed at their unexpected guests.

And what of the stench? Jesus was born in the midst of grunting, flea-ridden, spitting, snorting creatures. They did not smell like gingerbread.

And if we are to believe the popular legend of a winter birth, then this child did not have a pleasant first glimpse of the planet. The trees were dead, the landscape was bare and the frigid air made his cheeks burn and his nose drip.

There is no doubt in my mind that, contrary

to the lyrics of "Away in a Manger," baby Jesus cried. How could he not? He couldn't have had a colder reception. And yet this was all too appropriate an entrance.

I cannot say whether he knew it at the time, but this baby was born into a darkened, brutish world. Like all of us, he was bewildered by life from the very start.

However, while he was fully human, he also hailed from the throne room of Heaven. And he chose to descend into the world he had witnessed from the dawn of creation, full of sobbing mothers, hateful kings and unwavering cynics.

One of the first Christmas presents must have disturbed Jesus's parents: myrrh, a perfume used for embalment. The man who gave it must have known that this was a child born to die.

This December, decorate your tree. Hug your parents. If you can, build a snowman.

But in the midst of all our holiday comforts, let's not forget the child at the root of it all. Christmas is our chance to give that child a warmer welcome.

Taken means single in dating world

Relationship rules taking turn for worse, feelings of all not being considered

Since when did "in a relationship" become an open invitation for a swap of phone numbers, a goodnight kiss or a sleepover?

I was always brought up under the delusion that as far as availability is concerned, there are only two categories concerned: single or taken. And if you are dating someone, you are supposed to be faithful to them. If you stray away, you are a cheater.

Seems simple enough right?

Apparently I had no idea what was really going on in the scene of single and available people – either that or I have been a little on the naive side when it comes to people keeping their pants on when they are talking to a boy or girl they are not dating.

What first led me to this newfound confusion? Sadly, as always, it goes back to Facebook. There are numbers of profiles that claim the "single" title even though they are, in reality, "in a relationship." This is how we all came to



AMANDA DAVIS
Second-year English student

our favorite "Facebook official" phrase that we use to determine the legitimacy of anything and everything in our lives. But my problem falls with those who leave their taken status off of Facebook for the sole purpose of making cheating just a little bit easier. Imagine trying to pick up someone downtown and claiming to be single when a simple click away will tell them the truth.

As far as reality is concerned, it looks as if the dating world needs to go back to the drawing board and re-learn all the dating basics. A boy with a girlfriend should not hit on another girl. A girl with a boyfriend should not accept another boy's phone number.

That said, no singles out there should fool around with someone they know is in a relationship. It's not just a matter of playing by the rules, it's a matter of respect.

It shouldn't take a ring on someone's finger to keep you from straying, nor should it be the only thing that will keep you from making your move on that cute guy whose girlfriend just left the room.

We've all been there before, and if you haven't there's a good chance you will be in the future (at least by the way things seem to be going today). Now don't get me wrong, there are plenty of guys I've been interested in, only to find out they are taken – but that's the sign to move on.

There's nothing like finding out that somebody you care about, trust and worse, love, has cheated on you. I've seen people go through it. I've seen people ruin relationships because they just don't know how to trust after being cheated on. It's just not right.

Knowing how you would feel in that position should keep you from messing with someone's feelings.

It's simple: don't do unto others what you would not want done unto you.

Season cheer diminished by holiday word battles

'Happy Holidays' meant to be respectful towards others, not demeaning

With the advent of tacky Christmas decorations in department stores (and on your neighbor's lawn), the season has officially begun – and, no doubt, so will debate over the various holiday greetings in our lexicon.

"Happy Holidays" and "Merry Christmas" are in the ring yet again.

Mary I've just been blissfully ignorant of this conflict until

recently, but it seems like it gets uglier with each passing season. A year or two ago, The State's entire Opinion section was dedicated only to discussion of the proper sentiment, and all around me, people seemed to be spitting their phrase of choice with a underlying venom.

There's even a Christian Web site that boldly proclaims that every time you say "Happy Holidays," an elf dies – though I can't quite recall where elves are mentioned in the Bible.

So, my question is simply: What's the big deal?

Let's start with "Happy Holidays." Some religious folks out there feel like it undermines the real purpose of Christmas, and thus secularizes something sacred to them. Despite that, I'm willing to bet that Happy Holidays (as well as its cousin "Season's Greetings") is not an evil plot to antagonize the faithful and eradicate Christmas as we know it, but rather exists in polite observance to the other celebrations at this time of year.

Christmas isn't the only event going on in December, and I guess with the Christian majority in this country, people start to forget about celebrations like Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and even Ramadan (depending on the year, as it varies).

They're absolutely right in that Christmas shouldn't be ignored, but are the other holidays any less deserving of recognition just because they're in the minority?

By the same token, however, no one should be forced to be politically correct, and this is where "Merry Christmas" comes in. If you're in a prominent public position, then yeah, it might be in your best interests to avoid stepping on any toes or be seen as pandering.

But ideally, everyone should be free to use whichever greeting suits them best. No one's trying to convert with "Merry Christmas," and no one's trying to demonize with "Happy Holidays."

But what I think we all need to remember is that there isn't anyone out there demanding that we use a particular phrase and subscribe to the views attached. We're all perfectly free to celebrate the 25th however we please, unlike in 18th century Boston when Christmas was actually banned for over two decades.



KIMI TIMMERS
Third-year print journalism student

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Cheap Holiday Gift Alternatives

Get creative, don't break bank with cookies, photo collages

Lauren Smith
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

This adds a personal touch and lets you make specialized shapes for special people.

Or make sugar cookies and decorate them to say "Happy Holidays" or any alternate saying.

If baking isn't your thing, and you're basically banned from anything involving an oven, hit up the local grocery stores. Their holiday cookies in the bakery section are cheap and festive; you could even spring for a decorative tin to disguise them in.

Magazine Subscriptions

As long as you stay away from a daily or weekly magazine, buying a subscription is fairly inexpensive. Plus, it's showing that you pay attention to what someone is interested in and proving that you noticed.

Try a Web site like magsdirect.com, they don't charge shipping or sales tax and provide you the lowest prices allowed by the publishers.

Decorative Drink Glasses

Try finding some cheap (plastic is always a good choice) drink glasses that come in packs. Paint your gift recipient's name on the glass, or even a saying or catch phrase you both use.

Shot glasses are also a good idea, for they can be cheap and there's less to decorate.

Your glass can be holiday-inspired or not; maybe you're going on a vacation soon, or graduated in the same year. The possibilities are endless.

No-Sew Blankets

For those of us that can't even sew a button, a fleece blanket is a perfect idea. All it takes is two pieces of fleece and some scissors.

Lay the two pieces of fleece with the wrong sides facing each other, and cut out the corners in an "L" shape. Then cut the edges into small strips, which will allow you to tie the two pieces together.

Do this around the entire blanket and you're done.

If you have some extra cash to spend, look into getting it monogrammed, or sew a patch

on it to give it a little flare.

Use the person's favorite colors, or colors that would coordinate in their room.

Photo Collage

Gather some photos of your family and friends throughout the years, and put them together on a piece of paper. Maybe include all the pictures you took on a class trip, during a night out or on a family vacation.

If it's for your significant other, make one of goofy photos of the two of you having a good time. To take the gift to a higher level, try matting the pictures and buying a cheap frame to put them in.

Maybe include journal boxes in which you write about the events you both experienced. Perhaps you have mementos from where you were when they were taken, like tickets from the movie or a box of matches from the restaurant.

If you have some money to spend, print the pictures out at a convenience store so the pictures are a bit thicker and glossier.

Add a disposable camera to hint that you want to take more in the future, or maybe they'll even make you one in return.

Comments on this story?

E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

If there's one thing any college student should master, it's getting through the holidays on a budget.

New friends, old friends, relatives, significant others and family all mean one thing around this time of year: lots of gifts to buy and not a lot of money to buy them with.

If you're stressing, relax. Don't become a scrooge because your wallet ends up being emptier than a glass of spiked eggnog. Try some of these alternate gift ideas or build on them to create one of your own.

Homemade Cookies

It's hard to go wrong with food.

If you're a baker at heart, try whipping up some gingerbread cookies, and cutting them out by hand instead of using cookie cutters.

TUNE IN, CHECK OUT SCI-FI HITS

From 'Muppets' to Marty McFly, enthusiasts can find TV favorite

Mary Pina
STAFF WRITER

Ever just need a fantasy fix? Is sci-fi your thing? Hopefully this TV guide will help you plan out a science-fiction filled week.

Monday has a lot of science-fiction choices. My personal favorite is to watch the "X-Files" from 2 to 6 a.m. on TNT. I know most students are in bed for Tuesday classes, but if you have late classes, stay up and get an "X-Files" fix.

If late night isn't your thing, you can watch Sci-Fi during the day on Monday and catch "Outer Limits" from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Two episodes that really stand out are "Fear Itself" and "Mary 25." "Fear Itself" is about Bernard Selden, who has been haunted by fear for as long as he can remember. Experiments are done on his brain to find out why. "Mary 25" is about what happens when you try to make robots too human.

Tuesday's Sci-Fi pick is "Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi" on HBO West at 3 p.m. For some, "Star Wars" is the end-all and be-all of science-fiction movies. Take a trip back for this classic science fiction movie. The original movies play a really big part in movie history, so if you don't like them for their content, like them for their originality and innovation.

Go ghostly for Wednesday's pick. "Ghost Hunters" season three bonus episodes come on Sci-Fi at 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. The episodes are "Ghostly Houseguest" and "Salem Witch." If you're not familiar with the show, "Ghost Hunters" is just what it sounds like. The group calls themselves TAPS and they go to supposedly haunted places and gather evidence. It's a really interesting show with really neat gadgets.

Thursday's Sci-Fi pick isn't traditional science-fiction, but it's cute. "Muppets from Outer Space" starts at 2:45 p.m. on HBO Family. This cute Muppet movie is about Gonzo finding himself. Gonzo is unsure as to what kind of animal he is. The only way to find out, of course, is to go to outer space.

Friday's pick is one of my favorite new shows. "The Dresden Files" is a Sci-Fi original series based on the books of the same name. This show is part "Law and Order," part magic and occult. This show is great. Catch "Hair of the Dog" on Friday at 7 p.m. on the Sci-Fi channel. "Hair of the



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Dog" is about these ritualistic murders that resemble werewolf killings. Harry Dresden, a wizard, works with a detective to solve this mystery.

On Saturday, the end-all and be-all of science-fiction TV comes on channel My63. At 3 p.m., catch the original "Star Trek." This cheesy science-fiction classic is truly my beginning of sci-fi TV. The episode is "The Return of the Archons." Lieutenants Sulu and O'Neil are sent to the surface of the planet Beta III to learn what became of the Archon, which disappeared there 100 years earlier. But it's never that easy on "Star Trek."

On Sunday watch another classic. "Back to the Future" is showing on HBO West at 3:30 p.m. Watch Marty McFly wander through the past, mess with his parents' relationship and almost not be born.

Comments on this story?

E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu



Monday- "X-Files" TNT, 2-6 a.m.

Tuesday- "Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi" HBO West, 3 p.m.

Wednesday- "Ghost Hunters" Sci-Fi Channel, 9 p.m.

Thursday- "Muppets from Outer Space" HBO Family, 2:45 p.m.

Friday- "The Dresden Files" Sci-Fi Channel, 7 p.m.

Saturday- The original "Star Trek" Channel My63, 3 p.m.

Sunday- "Back to the Future" HBO West, 3:30 p.m.

Which Wich? goes wild with custom 'wiches,' dessert menu

Sandwich joint puts twist on typical lunch fare, offers extensive variety

Which Wich?

★★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

Mark Killian
FOOD REVIEWER

Have you ever tried a turkey, ham, grape jelly and powdered sugar sandwich? What about a salmon melt? These are just two of the unique sandwich options you will find at the newest delicatessen craze, Which Wich?

Located in the constantly evolving Village at Sandhills' shopping emporium, Which Wich? provides diners with something most sandwiches shops fail to offer: variety. Once you enter the restaurant you are greeted by a gigantic wall displaying over 50 varieties of sandwiches, but the selection process does not end there.

Unlike most restaurants in the quick service industry, you do not recite your order to an underpaid cashier. Instead, you fill out a brown, custom printed sandwich bag with a red Sharpie marker just like you would a Scantron. The bags are stored in silver containers numbered from one to ten depending on which sandwich category you desire. One equals turkey, two equals ham and pork, three equals beef and so on and so forth.

Selecting your bag only begins the process. From there it is on you, the

customer, to decide the base sandwich, bread type, cheeses, mustards, mayos, spreads, sauces, onions, veggies, oils, spices and extras that will combine to create your perfect sandwich. Sound like a lot to take in? It is, but thankfully the staff at Which Wich? is eager to guide overwhelmed onlookers through their inaugural dining experience.

This unique selection process is not limited to your sandwich. Adjacent to the brown bags are two smaller containers labeled



"cookies" and "shakes," which contain postcard sized sheets of paper listing the limited customization options for these traditional after-sandwich desserts.

With the cookies, you simply decide which type and how many you wish to order. On the milkshake card you select your flavor, size and additives before handing over your entire order to the cashier.

Once the cashier has deciphered your bubbles and calculated your total, he or she attaches your order to a metal clip and slings it down a wire towards the chefs. After the grueling decision process, you anxiously await the call of your name from one of the sandwich manufacturers.

What if they fail to get

your order right? Not a problem thanks to creator Jeff Sinelli's "superior sandwich" concept, which guarantees your sandwich will meet your specifications. If it fails to do so you will either be reimbursed or your sandwich will be remade right before your very eyes.

Are you still a little uncertain about the "build-your-own-sandwich" concept? Take a look at the wall of praise, where previous customers have decorated and hung their brown bags with positive depictions of sandwich-induced satisfaction.

With the colossal customization options Which Wich? offers, you would expect an equally sizeable price tag. On the contrary, the standard sandwich only costs \$4.75. The price only increases if you wish to add extra meat, avocado, pickle spears, bacon, or cheese, which only costs a miniscule \$.75 per addition.

Although the Village at Sandhills' location is currently the only Which Wich? in the state, it is not likely to stay that way for long. This revolutionary sandwich concept has attracted the eye of numerous media outlets and entrepreneurs all over the country.

It will only be a matter of time before Subway, Quiznos and Blimpie have to make room at the top of the sandwich chain totem pole.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

on the Menu

Thank You Turkey Sandwich- A turkey sandwich with stuffing and cranberry sauce

Elvis Wich- Peanut butter, honey and bananas

BLT- The classic sandwich with bacon, lettuce and tomato

Salmon Melt- Salmon with melted cheese

PIC OF THE DAY



Andrew Mendoza / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

First-year students Hayden Aaron and Matt Bolick add the finishing touches to their Christmas tree in their Preston dorm room.

the scene at USC

Knives Exchanging Hands



TODAY
KNIVES EXCHANGING HANDS, REMOVE THE VEIL, FROM GRAVES OF VALOR, DIEMONA, AND SINCE FORGOTTEN

6:30 p.m.

\$10

New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

LUST, CAUTION

6 p.m., 9 p.m.

\$5

Nickelodeon Theater, 937 Main St.

EURO MOTORCYCLE CLUB

8 p.m.

The Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

BROTHAS AND SISTAS EMPOWERMENT GROUP

4 p.m.

Russell House 348

HOROSCOPES BY PAUL BOWERS

Aries Ron Paul will visit you in a dream and bestow you with powers of federal non-intrusion.
Taurus Wisdom comes at a great price. Consider layaway options.
Gemini Why, thank you, Gemini. You smell like paprika as well.
Cancer The criminal masterminds behind eBay will obtain your credit card number and subscribe you to embarrassing science fiction fan magazines.
Leo You will make a dreidel out of clay.
Virgo A general sense of well-being will pervade your day. It may have something to do with the inordinate number of awesome occurrences going on.
Libra Somebody once told you the world was gonna roll you, Libra, because you're not the sharpest tool in the shed. Don't fret, though; she looked kind of dumb. She had her finger and thumb in an L on her forehead.
Scorpio Make your voice heard. Buy a megaphone, and use it at all times.
Sagittarius Today is the third anniversary of the ratification of the South Middleburg High School Beta Club Constitution. Sounds like reason enough for a party.
Capricorn Try as you might, you will be unable to extricate the word "corn" from your astrological symbol.
Aquarius Omg u need 2 stop txt mssging so much lol.
Pisces You will fall into a magical rabbit hole and find... rabbits. And rabbit poop.

Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock



Welcome to Falling Rock National Park ♦ By Josh Shalek



Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

12/3/07

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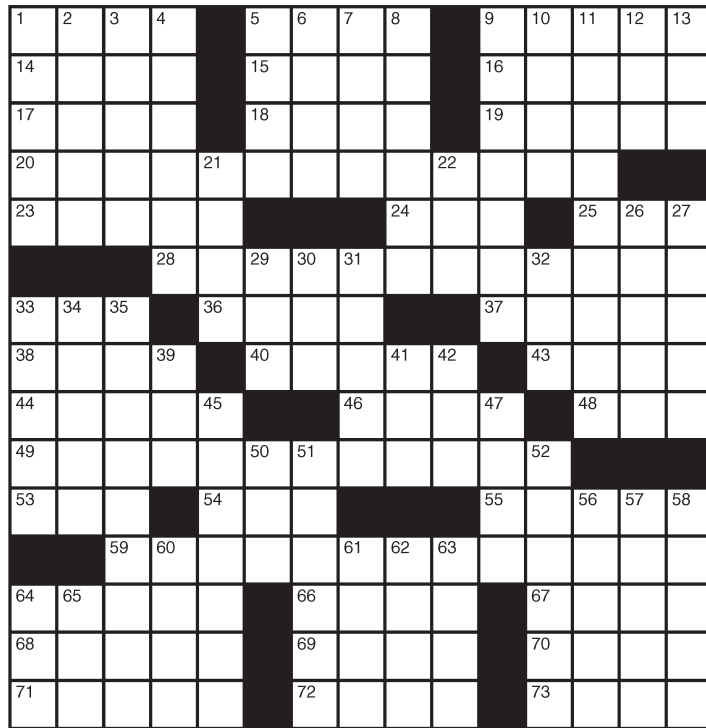
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ACROSS

- 1 Go over 21
- 5 Makes a choice
- 9 Roswell, NM neighbor
- 14 __ Spumante
- 15 Strike through
- 16 leper by another name
- 17 Indian bread
- 18 Kitchen add-on
- 19 Convenes
- 20 Specialized property protection
- 23 Carnival oddity
- 24 Self-esteem
- 25 Ms. Caldwell
- 28 Oxygen carrier
- 33 NCAA grouping
- 36 Farm plot
- 37 Disturbing cries
- 38 Worn out
- 40 Riyadh men
- 43 One of the Pleiades
- 44 Japanese dish
- 46 Phony
- 48 Absolutely!
- 49 Annual football event
- 53 Half of MCII
- 54 Test for coll. seniors
- 55 Coll. snap course
- 59 Woodworkers' milieu
- 64 Magna __
- 66 Young kangaroo
- 67 Greek letters
- 68 Muscat man
- 69 Culture base
- 70 "Clair de __"
- 71 Watch secretly
- 72 Oxen hitch
- 73 Theme of this puzzle



Solutions from 11/30/07

B	E	F	O	G	P	L	A	N	F	U	J	I			
A	R	O	A	R	H	A	R	E	L	A	L				
B	L	U	T	O	O	I	L	S	R	E	N	O			
Y	E	R	D	E	N	N	I	S	G	R	E	E	N		
			S	O	I	R	E	E	S	R	A	S	T	A	
C	O	C	O	N	U	T	S	C	A	R					
O	M	O	O	D	A	B	A	Z	O	R	E	S			
M	A	R	B	I	G	T	I	M	E	I	R	A			
P	R	E	C	U	T	U	M	P	O	V	I	D			
			A	R	E	A	P	I	O	N	E	E	R		
C	H	O	N	G	S	C	A	N	N	E	R				
D	E	P	T	H	C	H	A	R	G	E	B	O	X		
R	A	T	E	A	L	I	T	I	S	A	A	K			
O	V	E	R	R	E	N	E	D	E	N	T	E			
M	E	D	S	D	Y	E	D	A	N	K	H	S			

- 34 Rude person Cassidy
- 35 Particle from space 57 Robin of baseball
- 39 Quaker pronoun 58 Vaulted recesses
- 41 Grocery sack 60 Sci. fig.
- 42 Reggae cousin 61 Astronaut's negative
- 45 Fix indelibly 62 Ship wood
- 47 Retired prof 63 Bronte heroine
- 50 French artist 64 Romaine
- 51 MTV host 65 Electric meas.
- 52 Section of a Calif. city
- 56 Actor/singer

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myStudentBody® Alcohol tackles the most relevant consequences related to alcohol.
What is myStudentBody.com Alcohol? It is an online resource to educate students about alcohol consumption among their peers, while serving the needs of campus professionals who are dedicated to reducing risks associated with high-risk drinking, alcohol abuse, and addiction.
 Department of Student Life

Sudoku By The Mephram Group

12/3/07

	5		2		1			8				
			5		4		7					
		6										
6	7											5
2		5			3			1				6
1										9		7
								2				
		4	8		3							
	1		4		5					7		

Level **1** 2 3 4

How to Play
 Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

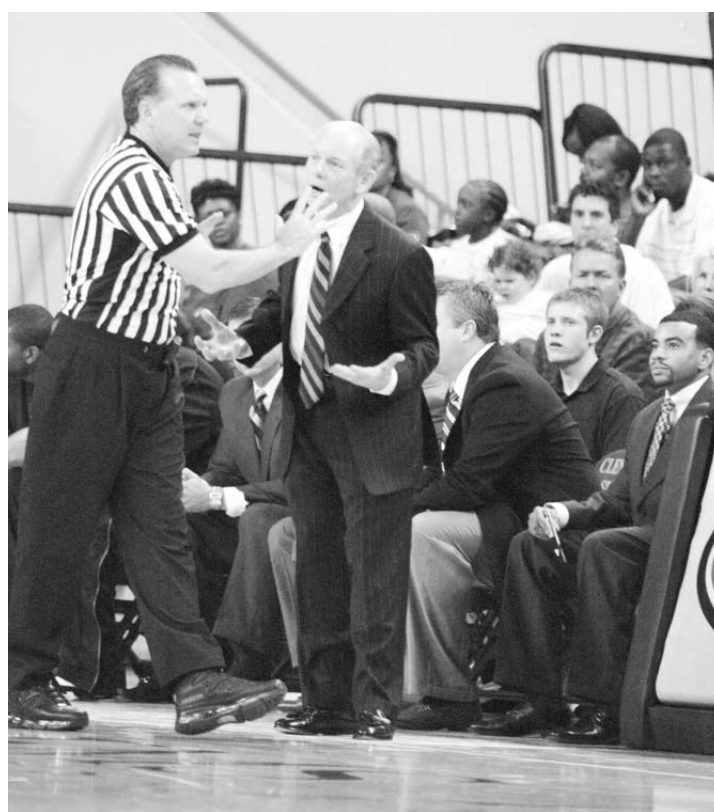
Solution for 11/30/07

7	8	6	5	2	4	1	9	3				
5	1	3	6	9	8	4	7	2				
9	2	4	7	3	1	5	8	6				
4	5	1	2	8	9	6	3	7				
3	6	8	4	7	5	2	1	9				
2	9	7	3	1	6	8	5	4				
8	4	5	9	6	7	3	2	1				
6	7	2	1	5	3	9	4	8				
1	3	9	8	4	2	7	6	5				



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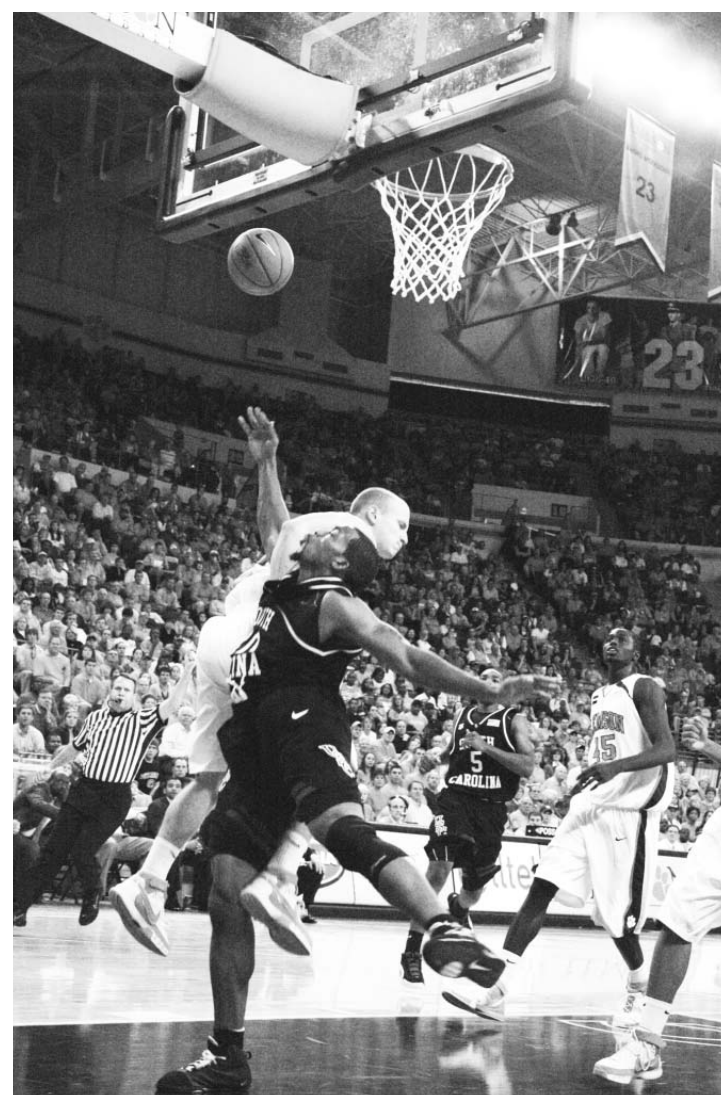
Devan Downey goes for a contested shot against Clemson.



Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Coach Dave Odom argues with a referee on Saturday.

SLOW START DOOMS USC



Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Zam Fredrick gets fouled by Clemson's Terrence Oglesby.

Gamecocks can't catch up to Tigers after falling into first half hole, drop to 4-4 on season

Alex Riley
SPORTS EDITOR

CLEMSON — If you're keeping score at home: Clemson 2, USC 0.

A week after the Clemson football team grabbed a last second win over the Carolina football team, the Tiger basketball team jumped out to an early lead and held on late for an 85-74 win over the Gamecocks.

"(Clemson) came out scorching," USC Coach Dave Odom said. "It kind of took the steam out of us early with the onslaught they threw at us."

Clemson (8-0) used a quick start from senior guard Cliff

Hammonds who hit back-to-back 3-pointers early to put the Tigers ahead 10-3 in the first 2 minutes. While the Gamecock offense struggled early, junior guard Zam Fredrick did his best to keep USC in the game as he scored 10 of the team's 16 points to start the game.

Carolina's first half struggles revolved around their inability to prevent Clemson from getting second chances. The Tigers finished the first half with 36 total rebounds to just 16 for USC. Of their 36 total boards, Clemson grabbed 12 offensive rebounds and scored 16 points off turnovers, leaving Carolina

(4-4) with a 43-26 deficit at the half.

"I thought we sped them up to the point where it affected their half court offense," said Clemson coach Oliver Purnell. "They were in chase mode after that."

However, if the first half of play was categorized as a disaster, then the second half was a revival for the Gamecocks.

After the teams traded baskets for the first 5 minutes of the second half, Carolina began to make a run at the Tigers, bringing the score within 10-13 points for much of the second half.

With 7:54 left in the second half, Odom and the

refereeing crew's back-and-forth conversation finally came to a boiling point as Odom was called for a technical foul. It was the second technical foul of the day for USC, as Dominique Archie received a tech for jawing with the referee in the first half.

"It's certainly frustrating when you're not playing well," Odom said. "I was told by one of the officials that I didn't understand the rules. Maybe I don't."

A Mike Holmes steal and outlet pass led to a Fredrick layup that would pull USC to within eight at 73-65.

But the Tigers had too much offense in the end as

K.C. Rivers threw down a slam dunk to put Clemson up 79-67 with just under 2 minutes remaining. Free throws would eventually ice the game for the Tigers who have now earned their fourth-straight victory in the series.

Fredrick, who had played against Clemson during his time at Georgia Tech, finished with a career-high 28 points on 12-of-20 shooting.

Teammate Devan Downey scored 15 of his 19 points in the second half while Brandis Raley-Ross's 11 second half points helped Carolina stay in it.

"I found my touch early

and tried to keep us in it," Fredrick said. "I just wanted to get a win for us."

The Gamecocks resurgence in the second half was due in large part to a strong showing on the glass. After just 16 boards in the first half, Carolina grabbed 20 rebounds in the second while holding Clemson to 16 boards total and just four offensive rebounds.

"We've got to play both halves," Fredrick said. "If we had played the first half like we played the second half, it might have been a different outcome."

*Comments on this story?
E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu*

Women's team victorious

Tolliver scores 18 as Carolina wins their second game in a row

Austin Collins
STAFF WRITER

Despite playing without guards Brionna Dickerson and Courtney Newton because of injury, the South Carolina women's basketball team pulled out a 72-60 win over UNC Wilmington (5-1) Saturday night at the Colonial Center.

Both had to watch from the sideline as Carolina (5-2) struggled for much of the game against the previously undefeated Seahawks.

A 9-0 spurt to start the game and a 14-2 run down the stretch proved to be the difference as the Gamecocks won their second in a row following a win over FIU.

USC coach Susan Walvius said she was happy with the win, but added that her team played poorly for the majority of the game.

"We did not play well," Walvius said. "Wilmington did a great job today. They came in confident. They came after us defensively and forced turnovers. Outside the first five minutes and the last five minutes, there is a lot of work to do."

Walvius moved true freshman Jordan Jones over from her wing position to point guard. Jones played almost the entire game, finishing with 13 points two assists and four turnovers.

"I had to step into the point guard role," Jones said. "They



Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Lakesha Tolliver set a school record for blocks vs. UNCW.

have been working with me in practice. The team is helping. We are all picking up the slack with the injuries."

South Carolina's post players were the ones picking up the slack Saturday night. 6-foot-3 senior forward Lakesha Tolliver finished with 18 points and six rebounds to go with a school-record seven blocks.

Her teammates in the frontcourt were strong as well. Junior forward Demetress Adams filled up the stat sheet with 11 points, 13 rebounds, five assists and three blocks while senior center Ilona

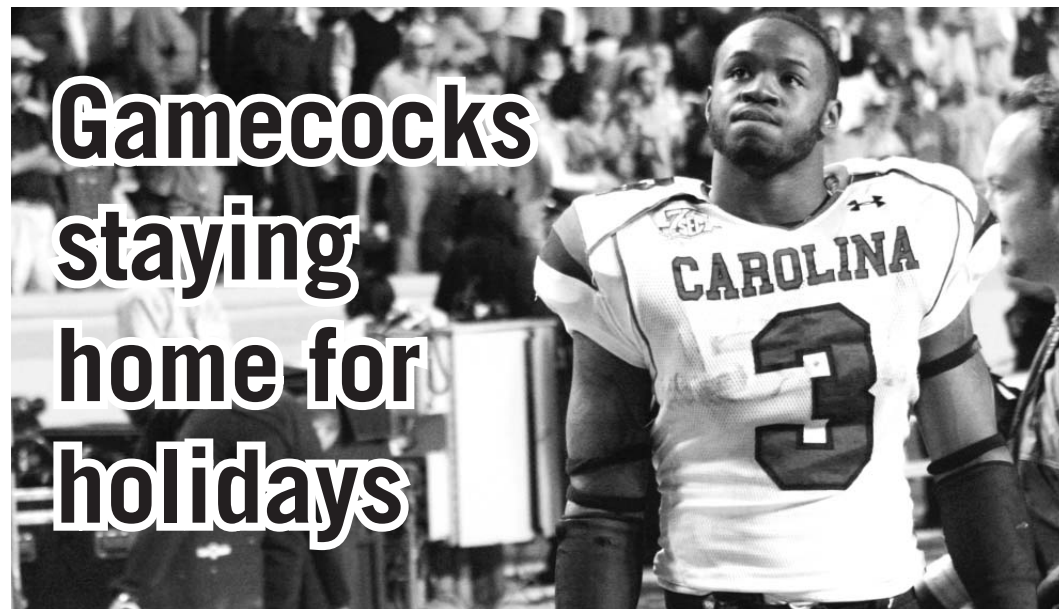
Burgrova chipped in another 10 points.

It was a back-and-forth contest for most of the night. There were seven ties and eight lead changes before the game turned in South Carolina's favor with four minutes remaining.

With the game knotted at 53, Jones drilled a 3-pointer that was the beginning of a 14-2 run. The spurt ended with the Gamecocks on top 67-55 with just 1:10 left in the second half.

*Comments on this story?
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Gamecocks staying home for holidays



Graeme Foust / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Senior Cory Boyd will not get to play in a bowl game to finish out his college career.

No last-minute travel arrangements for USC, as team fails to get bowl game invite

Alex Riley
SPORTS EDITOR

Unlike the last two years, the South Carolina football team will be spending the holiday season at home after not getting invited to play in a postseason bowl game for the first time under Coach Steve Spurrier.

"We're a little disappointed we didn't get a bowl game but we understand. We understand we have no one to blame but ourselves," Spurrier said. "We had five games to win number seven and we didn't get it done. We had our chances."

After a 6-1 start to the season, the Gamecocks concluded the year on a five-game losing streak to finish 6-6. Carolina was in contention to go to the Independence Bowl as two SEC teams qualified for spots in BCS games. The decision ultimately came down to the Gamecocks and the Alabama Crimson Tide.

"The Independence Bowl, I believe, felt that the closest school would bring a few more people or what have you," Spurrier said. "I guess that was the reason, you'd have to ask them why Alabama was picked."

Under Spurrier, Carolina had never finished with a record of .500 or below. The last time a Spurrier-coached team missed a postseason appearance was in 1988 when he was the head coach at Duke.

The Gamecocks started the season with upset wins over a pair of top 15 teams in Georgia and Kentucky while suffering a close loss at the hands of eventual SEC Champion LSU. After staving off North Carolina for a 21-15 win on Oct. 15, the Gamecocks failed to come up with another win.

Spurrier's first career loss to Vanderbilt (17-6) was the start of the Carolina decline as USC failed hold on in overtime for a comeback

win over Tennessee (24-21), were run over by Arkansas (48-36) and Florida (51-31) and lost on a last second field goal to arch-rival Clemson (23-21).

"We ended up 6-6. Even though we're disappointed we're not discouraged," Spurrier said.

While the fall has been hard for Gamecock fans to comprehend, Spurrier points to the fact that six freshman were named to the All-SEC Freshman team for their play this season, citing that as hope for the future.

"We feel like we're going to be a stronger team next year," Spurrier said.

Spurrier finished his teleconference by asking fans to "keep the faith" as they prepare for next season. USC graduates just 21 seniors, including starters Cory Boyd, Blake Mitchell and Casper Brinkley.

*Comments on this story?
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