Some make trek, others deterred from DNC

Threat of rain derails College Democrats’ trip to Charlotte
Amanda Cowpe

Skies were clear in Charlotte, N.C., early Thursday morning, but the threat of rain still put a different spin on Barack Obama’s nomination acceptance speech to be moved from the open-air, 75,000-seat Bank of America Stadium.

Instead, he spoke in the 15,000-seat Time Warner Cable Arena, leaving room for only delegates in the much smaller venue.

Among the would-be attendees shut out from the convention was a group of 10 USC students who had planned on attending the event with the College Democrats.

“We planned the trip as soon as we got word that the campaign was going to try to get college college绝不参加 tickets,” said Morgan Lowder, a third-year political science student and the president of College Democrats at USC. “We worked hard to get students signed up, and we got over 50.”

When news broke Tuesday that the venue for Obama’s speech would be changed and that only delegates would be allowed in the arena, Lowder and many other USC students who had planned on hearing the speech were upset.

“It was disappointing, but I’m still fired up,” said Mary-Elizabeth Phillips, a first-year anthropology student who planned on attending the convention.

With such short notice, there was little time to adjust plans.

“This was a surprise,” Lowder said. “At this time, we didn’t know what we were going to do.”

Some make trek, others deterred from DNC

By Capt. Eric Grabski, a spokesman for USC’s Division of Law Enforcement and Safety.

A full incident report of Law Enforcement and Safety.

Police are looking for two men they say robbed a USC student early Thursday morning.

The student was walking near the Pickens Street Bridge around 3 a.m. Thursday when two men punched him in the face and took him to his car, according to the Carolina Alert.

Police haven’t located the suspects — or seen them on campus. As a result, officers are asking people to be aware of their surroundings. Residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity.

Police say the victim was a student in his mid-20s, according to a Carolina Alert sent to students via email and text message.

The alert said that the student was in his early-20s and that a strong-arm robbery occurred near the Pickens Street Bridge early Thursday morning.

Police are looking for two men they say thought may be connected with a strong-arm robbery that occurred near the Pickens Street Bridge early Thursday morning.

Police are looking for two men they say robbed a USC student near Pickens bridge.

Students and others who were turned away from President Barack Obama’s Thursday night speech in Charlotte, N.C., gathered at the Columbia Convention Center instead.

Police identity, arrest suspect in August indecent exposure

Cops: Man took pictures of women, masturbated near Patterson Hall

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Maj. Gen. Lawrence Wells: ‘It’s about what you do for others’

Matthew DeMarco
STAFF WRITER FOR DAILY GAMECOCK

Maj. Gen. Lawrence Wells wasn’t always particularly fond of flying.

Now one of the highest-ranking officials in the U.S. Air Force, Wells began in a training plane, the T-37, and his instructor sat right next to the pilot — and constantly yelled about every mistake he made.

Speaking to a group of about 50 Air Force ROTC cadets, Wells discussed his background, his experiences in the military and his advice on how to become a better leader.

He began with his family. Both of his parents were in the military, and that influenced him to enter the Air Force Academy.

He graduated in 1978 and said that while he was there, he “spent four years being a mediocre to poor cadet.”

When Wells graduated, he “didn’t understand leadership,” he said, but all that began to change when he went to flight school after graduation. It was there that he began enjoying flying.

The T-37 was replaced by the T-38 as the standard training plane. In that plane, the training instructor was seated in a separate cockpit, behind the pilot.

“I had never been alone and in charge of myself,” Wells said. That feeling, he said, “gave me a joy.” That’s when Wells finally found his calling.

Shortly after that first flight in the T-38, he rose up the ranks. He was soon offered the opportunity to become one of the first six Air Force pilots to fly an F-16.

“If I had been a better cadet, I wouldn’t have been flying the F-16,” Wells said. As he rose through the ranks he soon became a squadron commander.

“I learned as commander to take care of everybody … (and to) work as a unit,” he said.

From there, he began flying U-2 reconnaissance planes at 80,000 feet, wearing $250,000 suits as he did so, he said.

“You fly so high you can see the curvature of the earth,” Wells said. But after a few years, Wells began driving the piloted Global Hawk; his last deployment was flying a refueling plane in the Middle East.

“On assignments like that, it’s all about teamwork,” he said.

Good leaders, Wells said, are people who motivate, develop, recognize and inspire the people around them.

“It’s not about you,” he said. “It’s about what you do for others.”

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EXPOSURE • Continued from A1

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The ideal candidate will have an opportunity to gain real experience in a fast-paced and driven environment.
While working at the convention has its professional advantages, it has civic benefits also.

“I really just enjoying seeing a lot of South Carolina representatives show up,” Hamer said, adding that she has an interest in reporting on politics and local news. “We’re with some of the most powerful . . . politicians in the country, right here in Charlotte.”

And, Bierbauer added, working at the convention carries a certain civic significance for the students.

“It’s important because it’s part of the larger picture of civic and political engagement,” Bierbauer said. “For too many voters who go to the polls are only semi-informed . . . It’s easy to be disdainful of the political process. If you start to grasp how that unfolds and penetrates . . . it makes you a better . . . citizen.”

But being immersed in the process has meant a lot of work, too, and while Hamer had a demanding schedule in the process, she said the convention experience has affirmed her confidence in her skills and her professional future.

“It wasn’t an option to not make [an assignment] happen. Failure is not an option — not for AP, not for the Democratic National Convention, no way. Challenge accepted,” Hamer said. “I can do this. I can work and drive a living . . . doing things I’m actually passionate about and going to school for.”

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THE GAMECOCK 2012 FALL SECTION

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Uninvited males run memorable occasion

More than 1,000 of them decked to the Horseshoe on Bid Day, an event that is supposed to be a one-time thing but is often turned into a gardening season for local females who don’t want to wait around to see what they can catch. The men ran away.

Omnious, rude and often repellent, these males, who act more like thugs and bullies, line up on the Horseshoe lawn and watch the phalanx of girls run to their find their new “boyfriends” group of boisterous males. The uninvited males run a memorable occasion for those who are not part of the recruiting game of boorish men who savor the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but also the embarrassment of getting up from their tumble but 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“Lawless” walks a certain line between independent art house cinema and action thriller that past films like “Drive” (2011) have taken. This type of direction makes it difficult to determine what kind of audience the movie is for, but “Lawless” does present something for fans of both genres.

In the technological categories, it delivers the art house, and the thrills mostly come from its bloody violence. The movie is based on Matt Bondurant’s 2008 novel “The Wettest County in the World,” which gives the movie a folk myth. In the Prohibition era, we follow Bondurant brothers Forrest (Tom Hardy), Jack (Shia LaBeouf) and Howard (Jason Clarke), who use their bar as a front for a liquor bootlegging business. It’s pretty successful with the locals and even the police, who look the other way because they know better than to mess with the older Bondurants.

Young Jack, however, is a different story. He wants to do more than drive around helping with deliveries, but he can’t even bring himself to pull the trigger when necessary. This brings a “coming of age” element to the story as Jack learns from his brothers that the path to being a man depends less on his actions than he anticipated.

The law eventually catches up with these boys when the feds call special deputy Charley Rakes (Guy Pearce) to handle the boys’ illicit activities. He establishes a fee for those who wish to continue bootlegging, and for those who don’t pay, it often comes down to barbaric tactics. Once the actual rivalry between Rakes and the Bondurant brothers comes into play, the tension starts rising to an unbearable level driven by violent shootouts and bloody beatdowns. The only characters completely underwritten are the female ones. Jessica Chastain plays Maggie Beauford, a dancer from Chicago who leaves to escape the dangerous life she led. This really isn’t explored, and her character doesn’t see any development, making her merely a simple love interest for Forrest. It’s a sweet romance, though. Mia Wasikowska is in the same position as Bertha Minnix, the preacher’s daughter Jack has his eyes on. The romantic attraction between her and Jack hardly does anything for the story in terms of a romantic tension.

So yes, “Lawless” does endeavor and mostly fail with the story, but where the movie really succeeds is with its incredible cast and technicalities. As the youngest of the brothers, LaBeouf finally steps out of the shadow that was the creatively bankrupt “Transformers” series. But when he’s placed in scenes with the film’s real treasures Hardy and Pearce, he’s overmatched and delivers the voice-over narration dully. But Hardy owns the movie in every scene he’s in, giving Forrest a convincing hillbilly swagger. As the wondrously creepy Rakes, Pearce skillfully amplifies the menace in his character without going becoming cartoonish.

From the technical category, “Lawless” is stunningly photographed with the cinematography and set detail successfully drawing us 80 years into the past. Though every plot point is predictable three scenes in advance, “Lawless” still delivers with the violence, some surprising hilarity and some very noteworthy performances.

— Compiled by Grace Shepard

Columbia hosts Beethoven sonatas

Violinist Acron Berofsky and pianist Phillip Bush will be performing Ludwig van Beethoven’s complete sonatas for violin and piano over the course of a three-day concert series this weekend at the Columbia Museum of Art. The concerts begin tonight and continue through Sunday. All three concerts start at 7 p.m. with doors opening at 6 p.m.

The Beethoven program is the result of a prolonged collaboration between Bush and Berofsky. Last year, they premiered the complete series at New York City’s Merkin Hall to much acclaim. Now, as part of the Columbia Museum of Art’s Baker and Baker series, Bush, also a USC faculty member, and Berofsky bring their talent to Columbia. Tickets are dramatically discounted for students. $10 for a three-night pass and $5 for a single night.

— Compiled by Grace Shepard

“Cold, cold water bring me round; Now my feet won’t touch the ground.” – Coldplay
He’s worked his way through the industry with an impressive and aged discography, beginning with 1981’s “Contender” and ending with 2012’s “The Stone.” His songs have filtered through the music world, picking up covers from greats like Emmylou Harris and Johnny Cash.

David Olney, a vetted folk artist, is returning to Columbia for his first South Carolina show in five years. The singer/songwriter will perform with an acoustic and electric guitarist tonight at Conundrum Music Hall. Olney and multi-instrumentalist Sergio Webb combined forces in 2007 and put on a show that meshes classic vaudevillian comedy acts with music and lyrical acrobatics. The duo thrives on touring, taking as much time as possible to perform in small-scale music venues and festivals in both the U.S. and Europe.

“South Carolina is a really interesting place to me, and we’re really excited to come play here for you guys,” Olney said.

For Olney, one of the most intriguing aspects of the music business is having the luxury to travel and explore new locations and cultures. “People save up for a long time in order to afford a trip to Europe, and for me to be able to go there and get paid for it ... that’s pretty awesome,” Olney said.

But of all the places he’s played — from the deep South to the stretches of Europe — what’s his favorite? He has a newfound love for Amsterdam, where his daughter is currently living. “The people there are great — really supportive,” Olney said.


One of his most memorable songs, “Tannen,” tells the tragic story of the sadken ship — from the perspective of an iceberg. “There have been a lot of songs written about the Titanic disaster, but as far as I know, this is the only one from the iceberg’s point of view,” Olney said.

The singer is often spotted with a fedora — Olney said not to hold his lack of a cowboy hat against him — and witty charm. And between his acclaimed tunes and crowd-pleasing persona, the show will make good use of any audience.

Columbia folk artist Todd Mathis will open tonight’s show. Tickets are $10 at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the show starts at 8 p.m.
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“Hail to our colors of Garnet and Black,
In Carolina pride have we.”

- The South Carolina Fight Song

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**Friday, September 7, 2012**

Volleyball vs. Clemson — 7 p.m.

**Saturday, September 8, 2012**

Volleyball vs. East Carolina University — 12:30 p.m.

Football vs. East Carolina University — 7 p.m.

Wrestling vs. Midlands — 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, September 9, 2012**

Women’s Soccer vs. East Carolina — 2 p.m.
decision all the way until pain, though he will take the ECU if his shoulder is in. 

said Shaw will not play against Saturday, coach Steve Spurrier

ECU comes to Columbia on Shaw's familiar opponent of over Vanderbilt. But as that secured a 17-13 victory in the fourth-quarter scoring drive right shoulder to lead the Gamecocks to a 17-0 lead before senior Stephen Garcia spearheaded a Gamecock comeback. Garcia was dismissed from the team after USC's loss to Auburn, opening the door for Shaw once again.

In the first game of 2012, it was Shaw who willed USC to its first victory, overcoming a “deep bone bruise” in the right shoulder to lead the Gamecocks to a 17-13 victory over Vanderbilt. But as Shaw’s familiar opponent of ECU comes to Columbia on Saturday, coach Steve Spurrier said Shaw will not play against ECU if his shoulder is in pain, though he will take the decision all the way until game time.

The wait this week has brought back shades of the uncertainty of last year, even though the characters have changed. The Gamecocks plan to start sophomore Dylan Thompson as quarterback if Shaw is unable to play. Just like last year, the mantra from the team this week has been to prepare to win no matter who the signal-caller is.

“We’re a team, and we are confident in whoever goes back there,” said senior center T.J. Johnson. “We believe in whoever goes back there,” said senior center T.J. Johnson. “We believe in [Andrew] Clifford. We believe in Seth [Strickland]. We believe in Dylan (Thompson), we believe in [Jeff] Jeffery, who moved into third all-time in receiving yards for South Carolina with his 92 yards that day. East Carolina’s defense has been reshuffled after it lost three key players from its secondary.

“I think we played pretty well last year,” said co-offensive coordinator Shawn Elliott. “We can play a lot better. It’s going to be a whole different game. We’ve showed that we can come back. We’ve got a big win.”

Hosting the game gives the Gamecocks an additional reason to be optimistic. The Gamecocks look to be back on track. Hopefully we’ll get our offense a little on track. Hopefully we can pitch it around better than we have, but the object is to win the game.

A year changes a lot, but not everything. No matter who takes the field, the Gamecocks will take the field Saturday confident that they will leave with their second win.

“This year we just have to be ready, going full speed, having fun and just enjoying the home atmosphere,” Wilson said. “We take this game really seriously. This is the most important game of our lives. It is the next game. It is the year No. 2. We are coming up. We just got to do what we got to do to get the W. The fun is in the winning. We just got to go out there and give it our best.”

USC vs. ECU 

Saturday, September 8, 2012 at Williams-Brice Stadium

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USC vs. ECU

Shaw to face familiar foe in East Carolina

Paulo Bontoceni

Friday, September 7, 2012
Rush attack still priority

OFFENSE

Spurrier not concerned with Shaw’s aggressive style

Isabelle Khatchetian

In a matter of four days, South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier had changed his tune. After the offense tallied just 67 passing yards in the season opener against Vanderbilt, Spurrier was glum when discussing his offense during a Sunday teleconference.

“Sometimes we had time to throw and we took off running,” Spurrier said. “Sometimes we didn’t have time to throw and they took off running. We only threw 14 passes and we must have called 10, but nothing much good was happening when we called a pass.”

But when it was time for Tuesday’s press conference, Spurrier said running the ball with quarterback Connor Shaw and fullback Marcus Lattimore last Thursday for more of the game was the product of the formula to win against the Commodores. Though Shaw’s legs are a strength, his arm has been questionable, especially with an ankle that should have kept him out of Saturday’s starting lineup.

Spurrier said on his call-in show Thursday night that Shaw’s status is still up in the air and will be a game-time decision.

“As a coach I don’t think you ever put a player on the field that is in pain and is going to get hurt,” Spurrier said. “Last week he said, ‘I can play, I can go in there.’ Doctor says he can go play, and of course every time he fell on his back or on his shoulder — whether he got up in a little pain there, and you know, I don’t think anyone wants to see that.”

Because Shaw relies on his running ability so much, he can be an injury risk. When a quarterback moves out of the pocket, there are fewer restrictions on how he can hit, but Spurrier said he encourages Shaw not to do it. Shaw also didn’t think he was hurt in a dirty play in which Shaw was injured against the Commodores. Shaw had 92 rushing yards at Vanderbilt.

Some people think you ought to slide fast first, but he did that against Nebraska and the guy speared him, he hit him in the head, Spurrier said. “I think the way he is running and going down in the way you’re supposed to do it, you can all get up and get down. They generally don’t put you on the ground. That could be a penalty. The other night, the guy’s knee, just as he was coming in on a sort of a dive and he sort of kneed him. It just happened. When it happened, I thought, ‘How in the world did he get hurt on that play?’ There was no sneak or anything, but it just sort of happened.”

If Shaw is unable to play, Dylan Thompson is the first backup, though seniors Seth Strickland and Kenny Miles will also see more snaps in the passing game. Spurrier said Thompson is the backup quarterback against Utah.

“An offensive line, we’re just going to block for whoever’s back there and try to give them as much time to come to the passes,” offensive lineman Goby Gibson said. “Connor Speegle really hard in the Vanderbilt game — he battled. He took the ball and ran and took some damage, but no matter who’s back there, we’re going to do our best for them.”

The message for East Carolina is likely the same, as the run has been the main priority with or without Shaw. If Shaw is sidelined, Lattimore and Kenny Miles will take on the Commodores. It’s simply too much of a risk to have Shaw battle his throwing arm. Spurrier said he’s not worried about teams focusing on the run. If nothing’s broken, there’s nothing to fix.

“When we went 1-2 and [Shaw] won, as a quarterback, six or seven of those games he didn’t throw for a ton of yards, hardly any at all,” Spurrier said. “So, whether or not we’re going to start doing that, we’re going to do what he does, and he runs extremely well. He’s a good runner with the ball. That’s a big part of our offense.”

Spurrier says left tackle Shell could move to right

Kyle Heck

The day before the Gamecocks make their 2012 home debut, there is still no definite answer to whether junior quarterback Connor Shaw will play against East Carolina. Shaw suffered a severe home bruise during last Thursday’s game at Vanderbilt.

Steve Spurrier told listeners on his weekly call-in show Thursday night basically the same thing he has said the past couple of days.

“He threw the ball around a little bit Thursday,” Spurrier said. “We’ll see how he feels tomorrow. We were a lot better offensively today, so he is still a little itzy. He thinks he can play, but if he’s in pain we are not going to play him. Our trainers keep checking that there is no way he can hurt the home bruise anymore and that he has a good chance of playing, so we’re going to keep going and we’ll go a decision on Shaw’s availability at around 11:30 a.m. Saturday during the Gamecock’s final pregame workout.”

Spurrier also said he was surprised to find out that East Carolina has won the last three meetings with the Gamecocks in Columbia and remembers saying, “Dude, how did that happen?”

“They were pretty good, and we weren’t very good last year just I guess,” Spurrier added. “The conversation over Gamecocks, N.C., is that they are coming here to beat us. This is not just a fug college team against a smaller college. We need our fans revved up, and we need to play well.”

Shell to right tackle? Redshirt freshman tackle Brandon Shell had been playing the left tackle position the entire spring and summer and played some of the game against Vanderbilt on the left side. But after leaving late in the first half, Shell has reportedly been practicing at the right tackle position some this week.

“I think he likes it over there better,” Spurrier said. “He told me he felt a little more comfortable over there. I think he played a little better in school, and for whatever reason, we started him at left tackle here. Really, there is no difference, and we’re just trying to get our best players in there.”

Spurrier grateful for win at Vanderbilt

Spurrier expressed concern about how his team often fail to put anyone away, referencing the Vandy game where the Gamecocks got out to a 10-0 lead only to let the Commodores get back in it.

“There was about 10 plays in that game that could have made us a leader, and they all went our way; we were very fortunate to win the game,” Spurrier said. “We didn’t play very well.”

Spurrier wants more life from team

The Gamecocks’ eighth-year coach has downplayed his players for not showing enough emotion Thursday night against Vanderbilt. Spurrier said they were “surprisingly calm” on his bench players, threatening to bench them if that attitude didn’t improve.

“I think they didn’t do enough of life on the sideline,” Spurrier said. “The bench guys shouldn’t have been one of our fans that came to the game. We should have their attitude and that was disappointing. Gamecocks are going to play, they need to be up there cheering for their teammates. If they do better that the goals we’re not going to suit up a lot more. It’s important that your bench is alive and cheering for the guys out there.”

Shaw a game-time decision for home opener

USC coach Steve Spurrier said the formula for winning at Vanderbilt last Thursday night was running the ball.

USC coach Steve Spurrier said on his call-in show the Gamecocks were fortunate to beat Vanderbilt last Thursday night.
Student ticketing runs into glitches

USC’s new student ticketing system, hosted by Ticketmaster, has already run into problems.

The Student Ticketing Exchange, which allows students who were not awarded season tickets in a lottery this summer to claim tickets on a first-come, first-served basis, was not accessible to students until Thursday evening due to a technical problem.

The Athletics Ticketing office learned of the problem, which was keeping students from canceling and claiming tickets, earlier this week, according to Anna Edwards, director of student services.

In the intervening days, Ticketmaster and the ticketing office developed an alternative portal that will let students claim available tickets, according to Edwards.

But the system wouldn’t allow students to cancel their tickets, so students who hadn’t confirmed their tickets saw them removed from their accounts at 5 p.m. Thursday afternoon, the original deadline to do so. That removal didn’t carry any penalties for the students, Edwards said.

A release detailing the problem and the new system was also sent at 5 p.m.

But the removal didn’t apply to the more than 10,000 season ticket holders who had claimed their tickets by the Thursday deadline, according to Edwards.

Questions about the timing of that email, how many students’ tickets were removed and whether USC will return to the original Ticketmaster system were not answered by press time Thursday night.

The removal didn’t apply to the more than 10,000 season ticket holders who had claimed their tickets by the Thursday deadline, according to Edwards.

If students don’t claim their tickets, they’ll lose their season passes.

“We’re asking that they send us an email so that we can make sure those students aren’t penalized,” Edwards wrote in an email response.

Students with issues can email sastutix@mailbox.sc.edu or visit the box office at the Colonial Life Arena, which will extend its hours today from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Comments on this story? Visit dailygamecock.com/sports

Technical problem prevents students from being able to cancel tickets for ECU

Amanda Coyne & Thad Moore

NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM
N.C., the defense still allowed ECU Pirates 56-37 last year in Charlotte, in their 35-13 season-opening win for 242 yards and two touchdowns this season after quarterback Rio touchdowns. Brown knows his unit to throw for 260 yards and four quarterback Dominique Davis game. They are off to a similar start attempts and 286 passing yards a comes to town Saturday. Last season, get a tough test when East Carolina with the rest of the secondary — will

Although USC defeated the Pirates last year in Charlotte, N.C., the defense still allowed ECU quarterback Dominique Davis to throw for 260 yards and four touchdowns. Brown knows his unit to throw for at least 300 yards a game. They are off to a similar start this season. Assistant coach back in 2011.

Legree knows tackling will be a high priority Saturday. The Gamecocks had just moments before the Commodores had just moments before

The Gamecocks look to contain pass-heavy ECU

The Gamecocks look to contain pass-heavy ECU

 Defense prepares for fast pace

Defensive players must be in the right place at the right time and use their quickness.

Legree and Hampton...
1. How different is the ECU offense this year without Dominique Davis?

Losing a quarterback like Dominique Davis, who holds quite a few school records, is never easy, but the ECU offense should look very similar. Rio Johnson spent two years learning behind Davis and has developed into a quarterback with similar qualities. He can make the necessary throws in the Pirates’ pass-happy offense and isn’t afraid to tuck his shoulder and run, either.

One difference this year could be the coaching staff’s decision to lean on the run game a bit more to help Johnson get comfortable. The Pirates used a stable of four running backs, totaling 148 yards on 33 carries, against (Appalachian) State last week.

2. Does last year’s early lead against the Gamecocks give the Pirates some confidence going into this season’s matchup?

ECU felt like they let a golden opportunity slip away last season after rushing out to a 24-14 lead at the half before falling 56-37 in Charlotte. The fact that ECU went up 17-0 to start the game definitely instills the confidence in the Pirates that they can keep up. But, aside from gaining confidence and experience, that game gave ECU something to prove. The players and fans remember watching the game slip away, and that alone should provide enough incentive to go out and play their best game.

3. Does the defense have an answer for the USC rushing attack?

ECU’s defense prides itself on being built through the middle. Highlighted by All-American linebacker Jeremy Grove, the Pirates’ front seven will need to be dominant.

Up front, the Pirates will be without starting nose tackle Michael Brooks, a preseason first team All-Conference USA selection. So the Pirate to watch on defense will be his replacement, Terrell Stanley. The key to the game for the defense won’t be to stop Marcus Lattimore; it will be to contain him. Vanderbilt’s defense provided a decent blueprint that ECU needs to follow. Lattimore will get his stats, but if the defense keeps it close, things could get interesting.

4. How closely has ECU been monitoring the health of quarterback Connor Shaw, and do the Pirates see this as an opportunity to pull the upset?

Pirate Nation has definitely been staying up to date on Connor Shaw’s health status. ECU will absolutely have a better chance at winning if Dylan Thompson is in the game for the Gamecocks.

ECU is the underdog, and the fans know that. The Pirates will have to play their best game, like I alluded to earlier, to win against a South Carolina team that is full of talent. But Pirate Nation loves playing the underdog and has had some recent success. So, even if Shaw plays, ECU fans and players alike will always feel like they can go out and pull off the upset against such a formidable opponent.

5. Prediction time — who ya got?

I couldn’t call myself a Pirate fan if I didn’t pick ECU in this game. So although I was born in Columbia, my mom graduated from USC and my grandma probably won’t speak to me for a week, I’m predicting ECU 31, USC 28.

**Behind Enemy Lines**

Five questions with East Carolinian

1. How different is the ECU offense this year without Dominique Davis?

2. Does last year’s early lead against the Gamecocks give the Pirates some confidence going into this season’s matchup?

3. Does the defense have an answer for the USC rushing attack?

4. How closely has ECU been monitoring the health of quarterback Connor Shaw, and do the Pirates see this as an opportunity to pull the upset?

5. Prediction time — who ya got?
Penn State looks to rebound at UVA

Miami (1-0) @ No. 21 Kansas State (1-0), noon, FX

These two teams must again after Kansas State's 28-24 win in Miami last season.

Both teams come into this year's game after breakout games by their tailbacks in their respective season openers. KSU junior tailback John Hubert rushed for 152 yards and a touchdown in the Wildcats' 51-9 win over Missouri State. For Miami, it was a freshman who burst onto the scene. Duke Johnson, a Miami native, had touchdowh runs of 56 and 54 yards and ruck up 135 yards on just seven carries in the Hurricanes' 41-32 win at Boston College. KSU got off to a slow start against FCS Richmond 43-19. UVA quarterback Michael Rocco threw for 311 yards and a touchdown against the Spiders. The Cavaliers racked up 545 yards of offense in their opening win. Miami has struggled on the road against ranked teams, losing 10 of its last 11 such games.

North Carolina (1-0) @ Wake Forest (1-0), 3:30 p.m., ESPN

The Tarhebs open up their conference schedule after an impressive 62-0 defeat over Elon to start the 2012 season. The 62 points were the most scored by UNC in 17 years, and the record came on the debut of new coach Larry Fedora. The Tarhebs' new no-huddle spread attack rushed up 324 yards against the Phoenix while UNC's new 4-2-5 defense was able to hold Elon to 128 yards while forcing four turnovers. Wake Forest didn't look nearly as dominant as the Tarhebs in its season opener, just managing to get by Liberty 20-17. The Demon Deacons trailed late in the third quarter, 14-7, before safety A.J. Marshall returned an interception 19 yards for a touchdown. The Flames outgained Wake 365-299. However, the Demon Deacons will look to build on their win over Rice as Michael Campanaro's performance after the junior had 96 receiving yards and a touchdown against Elon. UNC defeated Wake 49-24 last season in Chapel Hill. Without the no-huddle offense the Demon Deacons will likely need more players to step up.

Wisconsin at Oregon State

This week will likely prove to be more of a test for the Cowboys than last Saturday, when they destroyed Savannah State 48-14. Every starter for Oklahoma State was pulled by the end of the first quarter, and the team racked up 682 yards of offense against Savannah State. Junior halfback Joseph Randle, who rushed for 1,278 yards and 24 touchdowns last season, ran for 107 yards and two touchdowns on just six carries in the 49-20 victory over a good Southern Miss team. However, the Cornhuskers may be without star halfback Rex Burkhead, who suffered an MCL sprain in the opener. This likely means more pressure on the dual-threat Martinez. Nebraska may be without star halfback John Hubert, who suffered an MCL sprain in the opener. This likely means more pressure on the dual-threat Martinez. Jim Mora got off to a great start in his UCLA coaching debut, beating Rice 49-24 on the 00. His key start. For Miami, their respective season openers. FSU quarterback Teddy Bridgewater threw 21-28 for 202 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for 68 yards and another score. Points may be easy to come by in this one, as the two teams combined for 1,278 yards in their respective season openers. Nebraska leads the all-time series 6-4 and defeated UCLA 14-11 in its last visit to Los Angeles.

Wisconsin survived a scare in its season opener and is hanging on to its No. 13 ranking after Northern Illinois 26-21 after leading 26-7 early in the fourth quarter. Danny O'Brien, a transfer from Maryland, threw for 293 yards and two touchdowns in his Badger debut. This is the second consecutive season that he has made a transfer start at quarterback. Last season it was Russell Wilson, now starting for the Nation. When he led the Bulldogs to their second Big Ten title in the last three years. Their 2012 opener against Nicholls State was canceled because NSU was unable to fly out of Louisiana due to Hurricane Isaac. There has been recent history between these two teams as Nick Saban's team defeated in Madison, Wis., the Badgers in a 34-17 rout in the NFL's Seattle Seahawks, who had transferred start at quarterback. Last season it was Russell Wilson, now starting for the Nation. When he led the Bulldogs to their second Big Ten title in the last three years. Their 2012 opener against Nicholls State was canceled because NSU was unable to fly out of Louisiana due to Hurricane Isaac. There has been recent history between these two teams as Nick Saban's team led the Boilermakers 28-7 in the Big Ten opener. The Boilermakers scored 28 points in the game, their most scored against an Ohio State team that still hasn't played a game this season. Their 2012 opener against Nicholls State was canceled because NSU was unable to fly out of Louisiana due to Hurricane Isaac. There has been recent history between these two teams as Nick Saban's team led the Boilermakers 28-7 in the Big Ten opener. The Boilermakers scored 28 points in the game, their most scored against an Ohio State team that still hasn't played a game this season. Their 2012 opener against Nicholls State was canceled because NSU was unable to fly out of Louisiana due to Hurricane Isaac. There has been recent history between these two teams as Nick Saban's team led the Boilermakers 28-7 in the Big Ten opener. The Boilermakers scored 28 points in the game, their most scored against an Ohio State team that still hasn't played a game this season.
Missouri starts SEC play by hosting Georgia

Paula Bertuch
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No. 6 Georgia @ Missouri, Saturday, Sept. 8, 7:45 p.m., ESPN2

Missouri plays its first conference game as a member of the SEC after crushing Southwestern Louisiana 52-10, putting up 207 offensive yards in the first quarter alone. But the Tigers’ defense will have its hands full containing the Bulldogs’ offense. Georgia won its season opener against Buffalo 42-21 after a breakout showing from freshman Todd Gurley, who rushed for 100 yards and also returned a kickoff 100 yards for a touchdown, alleviating any concern that the Bulldog running game would suffer without Isaiah Crowell.

Auburn @ Mississippi St., Saturday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m., ESPN

Mississippi State opened its season with a dominating 49-14 win over Jackson State, but it will face a greater challenge against the Tigers. Auburn put up a fight against Clemson last week but came up short in its 26-19 loss, despite 194 passing yards from Kiehl Frazier, the team’s new starting quarterback. Clemson’s Andre Ellington proved impossible for the defense to stop, rushing for more than 200 yards, but Auburn should have an easier time containing the Bulldogs’ running game.

Western Kentucky @ Alabama, Saturday, Sept. 8, 3:30 p.m., ESPN3

The most highly anticipated match of opening week turned into a rout when Alabama defeated No. 8 Michigan 41-14. The Crimson Tide will look to keep rolling against Western Kentucky before facing its first major test of the season against No. 10 Arkansas in Week 3. The Hilltoppers dominated Austin Peay 49-10 last week, missing three field goal attempts but winning on the strength of quarterback Jawon Jakes’ career-high 296 passing yards.

No. 23 Florida vs. Texas AM, Saturday, Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m., ESPN

Texas A&M’s Week 1 matchup with Louisiana Tech was suspended due to weather, so its first game will be against an SEC foe. The Gators beat Bowling Green last week, relying on a breakout showing from junior quarterback Tyler Bray passed for 114 yards to Jeff Driskel the starting quarterback after he and fellow sophomore Jacoby Brissett shared playing time in the opener. Driskel passed for 313 yards to Branden’s 111.

No. 4 Oklahoma vs. Louisiana Tech, Saturday, Sept. 8, 8 p.m., ESPN

Oklahoma won over N.C. State last weekend featuring impressive performances on both sides of the ball, as quarterback Landry Jones passed for 335 yards and the defense forced four turnovers. Wide receiver Cordarelle Patterson kick-started the Volunteers with two touchdowns in the first quarter. Tennessee will look for another commanding victory over Georgia State, which lost its season opener to S.C. State before taking on No. 21 Florida in Week 1.

Washington @ No. 3 LSU, Saturday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m., ESPN

LSU faced little opposition from North Texas during opening week, taking a 21-0 lead in the first half of the second quarter and never looking back. LSU’s defense was stingy, dominating the Volunteers 56-9, with defensive performances on both sides of the ball. The Rebels began this season with a seven-game losing streak from last year, but they stepped it up with a convincing 49-27 win over Central Arkansas last week. Quarterback Bo Wallace, a junior college transfer, collected 244 passing yards in his debut, leading Ole Miss to 17 unanswered points after it trailed 27-14 at halftime. UT EP lost its first game of the season to No. 4 Oklahoma, but the Miners didn’t go quietly. The two teams were tied at halftime before the Sooners pulled away behind quarterback Landry Jones.

Kent State @ No. 10 Arkansas in Week 1. The Razorbacks beat Towson 41-21 on the strength of a seven-game losing streak from last year, but they stepped it up with a convincing 49-27 win over Central Arkansas last week. Quarterback Bo Wallace, a junior college transfer, collected 244 passing yards in his debut, leading Ole Miss to 17 unanswered points after it trailed 27-14 at halftime. UT EP lost its first game of the season to No. 4 Oklahoma, but the Miners didn’t go quietly. The two teams were tied at halftime before the Sooners pulled away behind quarterback Landry Jones.

Vanderbilt vs. Northwestern, Saturday, Sept. 8, 8 p.m., Big Ten Network

Vanderbilt will look for its first win against Northwestern after the Commodores gave the Gamecocks a run for their money during opening week, suffering a narrow 23-21 loss. The Wildcats came out on the winning side of an even tighter game in Week 1, edging Syracuse 42-41 by scoring a touchdown with less than a minute to play. These two teams lost last in 2010, a game that Northwestern won 21-21. A close game may be in the making.

AROUND THE SEC

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Washington @ No. 3 LSU, Saturday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m., ESPN

LSU faced little opposition from North Texas during opening week, taking a 21-0 lead in the first half of the second quarter and never looking back on route to a 44-14 win. Kenny Hilliard and Alfred Blue each rushed for more than 100 yards, combining for more offensive yards than UNT as a team. The Huskies beat San Diego State last weekend featuring impressive performances on both sides of the ball, as junior quarterback Tyler Bray passed for 114 yards to Jeff Driskel the starting quarterback after he and fellow sophomore Jacoby Brissett shared playing time in the opener. Driskel passed for 313 yards to Branden’s 111.

No. 10 Arkansas vs. Louisiana-Monroe, Saturday, Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m., ESPN

Arkansas cruised to a 49-24 win last week after the Sooners pulled away behind quarterback Landry Jones.

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This week the Carolina Band celebrates the Olympic Spirit and recognizes the accomplishments of the many Olympic athletes past and present who represented the Garnet and Black.