

Fall 11-8-2013

The Daily Gamecock, Friday, November 8, 2013

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media, "The Daily Gamecock, Friday, November 8, 2013" (2013). *November*. 6.

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IN BRIEF

Homeless inmate commits crime to return to jail

Officer avoids sentence after staged shooting

Possibly pregnant shark recorded off Carolina coast

After being released from the Aiken County jail Wednesday, 37-year-old Eroll Davis threw a rock through the door of a business across the street and waited for police to arrest him, the Aiken Standard reported.

Davis was charged with malicious injury to property. He has been placed back in the detention center.

After throwing the rock into the A-1 Bonding & Enterprises Inc. building, Davis walked inside, grabbed a chair and took it outside to wait to be arrested.

According to Megan Doolittle, an employee at the business, Davis told police upon arrival, “I’m homeless, and I needed somewhere to go.”

— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

A former North Charleston police officer avoided jail time after a staged shooting last year, The Post and Courier reported.

Following the July 4, 2012, shooting, 48-year-old Sgt. Eddie Bullard was charged with misconduct in office and faced up to a year of jail time.

However, the Ninth Circuit Solicitor’s Office dropped the charge in August after Bullard pleaded guilty to a charge of reporting false information to police and paid a \$159 fine, according to court records.

Neither the State Law Enforcement Division nor North Charleston police wanted to see Bullard land in jail, so they decided the fine was a reasonable consequence, Assistant Solicitor Meg Sprinkle said.

“Neither NCPD nor SLED simply accepted Mr. Bullard’s version of what happened at face value,” Sprinkle said, according to the newspaper. “They realized very early on that his story did not add up, and they doggedly pursued and revealed its flaws.”

— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

Mary Lee, the great white shark, was recorded swimming approximately 25 miles east of Hunting Island near Beaufort, according to The Post and Courier.

This past Wednesday, Mary Lee was making her way up the Coosaw River delta in St. Helena Sound.

Ever since September of last year, when she was tagged off the coast of Cape Cod, Mass., Mary Lee has been making her way up and down the East Coast, swimming her way down to Bermuda and back up.

Some researchers have speculated that Mary Lee may be pregnant, as the two-ton shark continues to peruse the coastline and thousands follow her progress online.

— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

LIBRARY • Continued from 1

bar and that gang activity was happening inside.

Anne Kershner said that the sheriff’s department never informed them that gang members were frequenting the bar and that had they known, she and her husband would have no way to identify them.

“It’s almost as if they were setting us up for failure,” she said.

She said that they never had any problems with authorities when they first opened, when she said the clientele was mostly white. She said that once the mainly attracted black customers, other bar owners and local authorities began to see the establishment in a different light.

She said that if The Library is shut down, Five Points’ struggle with loitering would worsen.

But how the Kershners are viewed by fellow business owners is not their biggest concern,

they said. Justin Kershner said they have gone from being recognized by students and teachers at their children’s school to being known as the bar owners who harbor gang members.

“We live week to week, sometimes day to day. I’m not asking for anyone to feel sorry for us,” Anne Kershner said. “I just want to debunk this incorrect image that I think a lot of people have.”

The Kershners said they would be open to working with authorities to help keep the bar open. If there are gang members at the bar, they said, police should come get them, rather than shut it down and push gang activity into the streets.

“Closing us is not the solution,” Anne Kershner said. “It is the beginning of the end of Five Points.”

DG



Adam Levine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

CollegeHumor comedians Jake and Amir started off Thursday’s show with their insult comedy.

HUMOR • Continued from 1

friendship never seems to be in danger of falling apart. They’re not serious about anything long enough to fight too much, Hurwitz.

Thursday’s show had no boundaries,

covering everything from rap battles to ex-girlfriends.

“Nothing is off limits,” Blumenfeld said. “Nothing is too taboo for us.”

DG

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ARTISTS • Continued from 1



"My work is based on female empowerment based on the heroic gesture of the 1950s, having a monotonous small mark seem big, bright and colorful. I think overall, people are enticed by the colors in general, but I like telling the story. I think a lot of people are like, 'Oh, it's about carvings or color,' but I think of it as pathways and more of like a spiritual awakening for me."

Gwyn Marie Penvoka-Jones, artist at Tapp's Art Center

"I feel like the story is a story that will move a lot of people, and the story of different family relations, the story of taking care of someone that's dying — lots of us have been through this."

Ed Madden, associate professor of English



Brian Almond / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Local artists showcased their work last night at First Thursday on Main Street.



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Bar’s shutdown sets troubling precedent

ISSUE
The Library faces a shutdown for back taxes.

OUR STANCE
Police should use the legal options they have.

In a rather bizarre news conference held yesterday, Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott accused one particular club — The Library — of being the epicenter of Five Points’ gang problems.

Suggesting that a single establishment propagates the entirety of Five Points’ gang activity seems outlandish to us.

For starters, The Library is owned by a family more ordinary than you might expect. Of course, there may be something Sheriff Lott and his team knows that we don’t, perhaps a gang connection in the management below the owners, but even that seems like a stretch. The Library, like most every other bar, enforces a dress code — a practice suggested by shooting victim Martha Childress’ family themselves. One can assume that the dress code weeds out gang members, but what do gang members even look like anyway? The Library’s management doesn’t seem to know either, despite inquiring with the police multiple times for help in suppressing any suspicious activity. By the sounds of that, we want more

transparency regarding Lott’s information before a family’s livelihood is compromised by an erroneous witch-hunt ignited by Lott’s response when asked what needs to be done about the situation: that The Library needs to close.

Pathos aside, how do we know Sheriff Lott and his team aren’t mixing up correlation and causation, a mistake that can be all too easy to make when dissecting the Five Points nightlife. Sure, The Library may let in people of suspicious character, but what bar doesn’t? It’s no secret that Five Points is surrounded by some dangerous

“It sure seems like The Library is getting the Al Capone treatment. However, the bar isn’t a notorious, high-profile gangster linked to countless charges of bootlegging, smuggling, prostitution and the infamous Saint Valentines Day Massacre. Lott’s choice of words and the timing of the tax bill had us fooled, though.”

neighborhoods, so traffic from them is practically inevitable, at least for now. Furthermore, since The Library is located in the middle of Five Points, the bar may just be a victim of poor circumstances.

It’s also worth pondering whether The Library’s closure would ultimately hinder gang activity much. Who is to say the gangs won’t find another establishment to frequent? To reiterate, the extremity of Lott’s words suggest that there may be a link we’re unaware of, but until then, we don’t want the Five Points community damaged even more, especially by the police of all people. We aren’t the professional crime fighters here, and we know that. Five Points has presented a Gordian knot that will take time to resolve, that much is clear, but we can’t let the police’s handling of the conflict create more victims than there already are. While there may be more layers to this recent revelation than meet the eye, until the police level with us regarding their knowledge, we’re not sure we can take their findings in good faith when a family’s livelihood is at stake.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tobacco ban enforced as obvious USC power play

As USC comes closer to the day it will be declared a tobacco-free campus, all tobacco product users — not just smokers — are facing a countdown.

The new policy forbids all tobacco product use on campus, eliminating currently offered concessions to smokers, such as ashtrays and designated smoking areas. It is not limited to smoke-producing products either. Smokeless tobacco and the increasingly popular electronic cigarettes are also on the chopping block.

Originally, it appeared that USC was solely concerned with secondhand smoke harming nonsmokers, smoke being a legitimate problem on a densely populated campus like USC’s. However, the university’s inclusion of smokeless tobacco and total elimination of concessions to smokers shows USC wants but one thing: power. It wants power over students’ lives; it wants power over student health. All the university truly wants is control.

“The intent of this policy is to create an environment that is conducive to quitting tobacco, promoting the prevention of tobacco use and preventing the risks associated with exposure to secondhand smoke,” says Section I of the policy.

No longer is the argument about the harms students and visitors inflict upon one another with unhealthy habits. The university now plans to enforce every person’s individual health choices, regardless of effect on others. This is quite ironic when one thinks of the meager healthy offerings from the campus Carolina Dining program. It has arbitrarily assigned a health standard with which it expects all to comply, theoretically to enact “a cultural change within the university campus.” If you want to use tobacco products in your car, USC will be there. If you want to use smokeless tobacco on university property, USC will be there to control what you do with your body. If the university can control your right to be healthy — or unhealthy — then what are the limits?

In truth, there are no limits. Focusing on protection for nonsmokers, the university has intentionally skirted the issue of smokeless tobacco users. In heralding a “healthy environment,” USC has executed a political sleight of hand. Thus, the oppression has gone with little recognition. Nonsmokers will blindly support the policy, because it grants them a measure of protection, ignoring the restrictions and violations of individual freedom it presents for smokeless tobacco users, who do not pose an environmental hazard.

As long as USC can keep all eyes pointed toward cigarette smokers, its policy will go virtually unchallenged. Maintaining the argument that it is protecting its students, USC can continue unopposed in satisfying its lust for power.

— Adam Beaty, Third-year English student

NFL locker room culture needs change

Avoiding violence no knock on masculinity

The biggest story in the sports world this week has been the sad saga of Miami Dolphins offensive tackle Jonathan Martin. Martin has left the team to address his own mental and emotional health, but the circumstances leading up to this are not completely clear.

We know that Martin was harassed by former teammate Richie Incognito, who has been released from the Dolphins amid the scandal. The contents of text messages sent to Martin by Incognito have been released and were clearly over the line.

However, the more troubling aspect of this story has been the response to Martin’s, not Incognito’s, actions. Several high profile players, team officials and commentators have suggested that Martin was weak for blowing the whistle and have contended that Martin should have fought back physically against Incognito. Moreover, it has been reported that Dolphins general manager Jeff Ireland, when confronted by Martin’s agent about abuse, suggested that Martin “punch” Incognito.

The notion that physical violence

would have been a better solution feeds into the troubling macho culture that surrounds our sports and sets a terrible example for the millions of young men who idolize NFL players.

There should be no shame in avoiding a physical confrontation. While that type of behavior might be common in NFL locker rooms, it is unacceptable at almost any other workplace. As a matter of fact, at any job I’ve ever had, that would be grounds for immediate termination and might constitute an assault charge. Even given Incognito’s provocation, Martin was not required to attack him in response. There are many ways to confront workplace harassment, which is what this case seems to be.

Tons of young men idolize football players and dream of one day playing on an NFL team. Is this how we should teach them to solve their problems? Confronting a bully with physical force can solve the problem, but it can also

escalate a situation and cause even further harm. This doesn’t mean that you should just let someone take advantage of you, but there are other successful and effective ways to counteract a bully that don’t involve physical violence.

Growing up, I knew so many young men who did not know how to properly express their feelings, so their first instinct was to use their fists. And that has cost some of them their lives. It is important to make sure that young men know that fighting is not the only option and it is very rarely an appropriate response, especially in civil society.

Our society often imposes heteronormative views of masculinity as aggression and violence, especially in sports. These attitudes likely contribute to higher rates of violence off the field, because men are primed to resort to violence to confront a problem instead of using more constructive means. Those who have criticized Martin’s actions need to remove themselves from the locker room mindset.

Avoiding violence does not make you any less of a man. As a matter of fact, constructive problem-solving skills are infinitely more valuable, and that is what we should be teaching our children.



Steven Moore
Fourth-year political science student

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock’s Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community. All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on dailygamecock.com.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via email to editor@dailygamecock.com. Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length and include the author’s name, year in school and

area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author’s name and position.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

About The Daily Gamecock

The Daily Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of The Daily Gamecock. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper’s parent organization. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.

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CORRECTIONS

If you find an error in today’s edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. Email editor@dailygamecock.com and we will print the correction in our next issue.



Courtesy of MCT Campus

Amy Poehler and Owen Wilson provide the voices for two cartoon turkeys in the children’s film “Free Birds,” in which the birds travel in time to the first Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving film has little logic, laughs

Only children will gobble up animated movie about time-traveling turkeys

Johnathan Winchell
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

“Free Birds”
NOW IN THEATERS
★★★★☆

Director: Jimmy Hayward
Featuring the voices of: Owen Wilson, Woody Harrelson, Amy Poehler, George Takei, Keith David

At least one or two computer animated films come out a month

these days. Not all of them can be winners. “Free Birds” begins by introducing Reggie (Owen Wilson) as the one wise turkey on a farm full of ignorant birds who blindly follow the farmers even to the chopping block. The President of the United States (Jimmy Hayward), who has a voice that mimics Bill Clinton, comes to the farm to perform the annual pardoning of the turkey for Thanksgiving. His hyperactive young daughter insists that Reggie be picked, even though he is scrawny and not the most photogenic of the gang. The lucky turkey is taken to Camp David and treated like a guest; he lounges around watching television and ordering pizza. How a turkey can operate a remote control, comprehend what’s being said on the television, dial a phone and order pizza is never explained.

A majestic but feather-brained turkey named Jake (Woody Harrelson) crashes in on a Reggie’s relaxation and tells him that he is from the Turkeys Liberation Front. He insists that someone called The Great Turkey told him that they must travel back in time to the first Thanksgiving to alter the history of humans eating turkey on holidays. The U.S. government has, in fact, figured out time travel, and it just so happens they are attempting their first mission when the turkey team infiltrates the experiment. They end up swapping places with the human time-traveler tester, a man in an outfit that makes him look like a mix between an Olympic speed skater and Woody Allen as a sperm in “Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex * But Were Afraid to Ask.” The egg-shaped time machine pod, named S.T.E.V.E. (voiced by George

Takei), transports them to a few days before the first Thanksgiving. Again, no explanation is given as to why the pod can understand turkey gobbling or how the turkeys can understand the pod’s human voice. Before the turkeys travel back in time, it is established that humans cannot understand the turkeys. Reggie tries to explain to men in hazmat suits why they are down in the secret underground layer where the time machine is located, but the men only hear gobbling. When one is contemplating the consistency and logic of human/turkey communication, the film is not working. In any case, they travel back to a time when turkeys were intelligent, and the pilgrims were starving. The turkeys outsmart the hunters by leading them away from their

BIRDS • 6

Dressing up fun way to find personal style

Fashion blogger gives options fitting for comfy class days, business casual situations

Katie Cole
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

At 8 a.m., there is always the choice: dress up for class, or go with a T-shirt and shorts? Over- and underdressing have been constant questions in the fashion world. Is it more appropriate to show up in a ball gown or chic sweatpants and a baseball cap, a la Alexander Wang? Each has pros and cons. Overdressing will leave you looking stunning every day, but it creates the sometimes-daunting task of having to look in the closet and create something new. By underdressing, you’ll probably be more in tune with the rest of campus, but after seven straight days of Nike shorts and a T-shirt, it might get a little boring. The best solution might be to fall somewhere in the middle. This also has to do with knowing your style and what you like to wear. One might be a big J. Crew-meets-Audrey Hepburn fan, or maybe more of a 90’s punk influenced girl. Style preferences will determine outfit decisions, but there is always the fear of falling only on one side. Constantly underdressing will make it take years to figure out your style. But it’s hard to know the feeling of letting loose by always overdressing. Enjoy both sides of the spectrum, because college is the one time to embrace them both. Once the workforce comes calling, it will be a bit more difficult to show up in sweatpants and a T-shirt every day. Some great investment pieces for dressing up are a white button-down shirt, a pencil skirt, a truly good pair of black pumps and one skirt that makes you feel on top of the



Courtesy of polyvore.com

A no-fail option for dressing-up without taking it too far is a simple pencil skirt, pumps and button-down.

DRESS • 6

Courtesy of polyvore.com

Leggings and a comfy sweater are good options for those who want to look good without all the effort.

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BIRDS • Continued from 5

hideaway and setting off their traps. The community is led by Chief Broadbeak (Keith David), and Reggie falls in love with the president's daughter, Jenny (Amy Poehler).

"Free Birds" is a lame, repetitive and overlong bore. Too often, the film sacrifices consistent characterization for unfunny gags. In one scene, Jake and a no-nonsense turkey try to communicate through hand signals, which leads them to show off their dance moves and eventually dance together. A comedy is weak when it has to make jokes that contradict the way the characters act.

It almost seems pointless to try and chart the timeline of the time travel, but that falls apart without much thought. When the identity of The Great Turkey is revealed, it does not make sense that he or she knew to tell Jake to go back in time. Also, everyone knows that if someone goes

back in time, they risk altering the future.

Even in the context of a silly children's film, the plot is too illogical.

The computer animation is sub-par, somewhere between a quickly churned-out kids' television series and a Dreamworks film. Jimmy Hayward ("Horton Hears a Who") has co-written and directed a comedy that is nothing more than a silly kids' film, but it is offensively stupid and lazy. It throws in references to "Apocalypse Now," "Raiders of the Lost Ark," and "Braveheart," but it is only for the most undemanding youngsters.

At a time when Pixar, Hayao Miyazaki, and Aardman Animations are making films, audiences can avoid "Free Birds" and let it wobble out of cinemas quickly.

DG

DRESS • Continued from 5

world.

Northerners probably already own a statement coat, which is the perfect accessory when it gets cold outside. Figure out what suits your individual style.

If a wonderful pair of leather leggings is exactly what's needed to dress up, invest in some. If it's more of a 50's-style skirt that suits, buy it.

Dressing up always proves to be a lot of fun. And it shows in the way you carry yourself for the rest of the day.

Take a leap, get out of the sweatpants comfort zone and wear something different.

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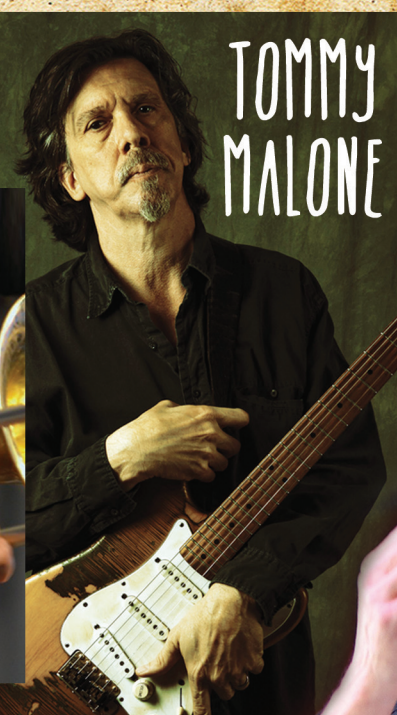


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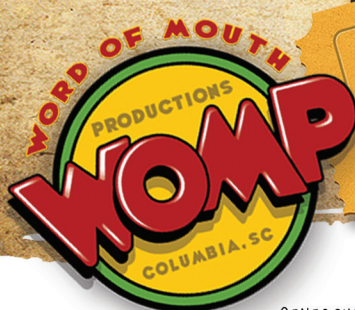
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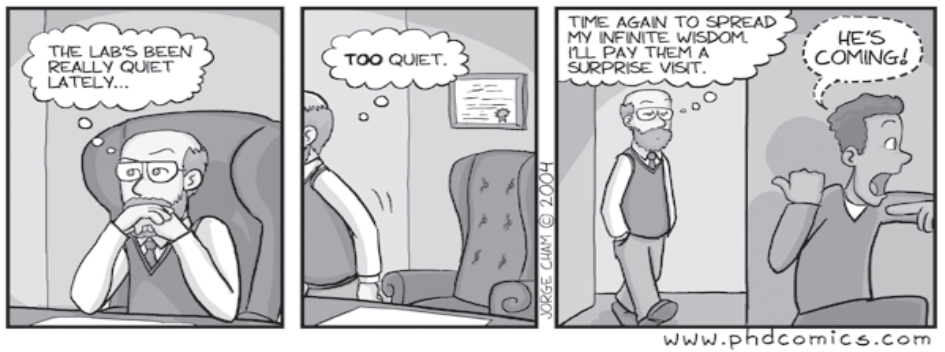
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HOROSCOPES

Aries
With Jupiter in retrograde, give extra care to communications and negotiations. Return calls and correspondence. You meet a key person at a social gathering. Begin to see what needs to be done.

Taurus
Make new connections, and discover new rewards. Scratch another person's back without expectations. Just do a good deed. Keeping your promises gives you the superpower of making things happen. Get ideas from home and family.

Gemini
Encourage group unity. Travel compels but could get complex. Friends help you understand. Expand your customer base by figuring out what the opposition wants. Others find you charming.

Cancer
They're saying nice things about you again. But don't fall asleep at the wheel; use those endorsements to generate new sales. Now is a great time to step on the accelerator. You provide the imagination.

Leo
Get rid of some of your surplus stuff. It's easier with the help of a friend who's not attached to your possessions. Work with a partner, and accept their coaching. Over the next four months, rejuvenate an old bond.

Virgo
Turn your attention toward work. Find support and resources where you didn't see them before. Your family is willing to make a difference. Stay out of somebody else's argument.

Libra
Work is getting fun. Play with your tasks, and make fascinating discoveries. Take note of your ideas. Your patience is rewarded. A beautiful moment sneaks up on you. Love is contagious, and you have what another seeks.

Scorpio
Investigate ways to increase income and savings. A potential disruption can be avoided. Neatness counts double, especially at home. Work that you love pays very well. Hold out for the best deal.

Sagittarius
You have an unusual advantage when you listen closely. You inspire others. Don't ignore a brilliant idea. Make love your top priority. Spread your love letters to the four corners.

Capricorn
You may be temporarily overwhelmed and have possible delays in career advancement, but don't worry. Focus on today, and use renewed confidence to make extra money. Talk about your dreams and what you love.

Aquarius
Don't compare yourself to others. You do best focusing on your work. It's not a contest anyway. Inspiration goes farther than being demanding. Pay back a favor. Good will builds from kindness freely given. Dream out loud.

Pisces
The pressure is increasing. Only use what you need. Kindness is the most valuable gift. Find the good news among the rubble. Don't worry ineffectively. Collect an old debt. Blow off steam with someone you love.

THE SCENE

TODAY

"CONFESSIONS OF A GOOD MAN"
7:30 p.m., \$25
Harbison Theatre at Midlands Technical College, 7300 College St.

DANIELLE HOWLE AND BRET MOSLEY
7:30 p.m., \$5
Conundrum Music Hall, 626 Meeting St.

TOMORROW

27TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF IN FIVE POINTS
11 a.m. to 6 p.m., free
Five Points, 2100 Greene St.

ARTISANS FAIR AND SALE
10 a.m. to 3 p.m., free
Columbia Museum of Art, 1515 Main St.



Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams 11/08/13

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ACROSS

1 Gaucho's weapon

5 What two lanterns in the Old North Church signified

10 Shenanigan

14 "Paradise Lost" setting

15 Assessed

16 Holder of small tools

17 Symbolic gifts

19 José's hand

20 Like some ink cartridges

21 Vitruvian Man is on some Italian ones

22 Exasperate

25 Pago Pago resident

28 Sosa's 1,667, briefly

29 Conspiracy theorist's worry

30 Zeno, notably

32 Styled after

35 Soother for men

39 Stadium sound

40 Shake

41 Victory goddess

42 __ Deion: NFL nickname

43 Bk. after Proverbs

45 Indigenous language

50 Selectric selection

51 Became one lane, say

55 Hammer feature

56 President's option, and a hint to the puzzle theme in 17-, 22-, 35- and 45-Across

58 Soprano Te Kanawa

59 Gets zero mpg

60 First name in bike stunts

61 Fall runner's goal, perhaps

62 Requirements

63 Take it easy

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63

3 "Hello, Dolly!" surname

4 Part of a best man's toast, maybe

5 Josh of "True Grit" (2010)

6 Comedian Smirnoff

7 Cordwood measure

8 Bard's nightfall

9 Many pop-ups

10 Madagascar mammals

11 Asteroids maker

12 Syntax problem

13 Newsstand booth

18 When said three times, a WWII film

21 Order from on high

23 Valuable stash

24 Tony's cousin

25 Bandy words

26 It's five before Foxtrot

27 Light-headed insect?

30 Railroad switch

31 Smidgen

32 Indigo dye source

33 Styled after

34 Whizzes

36 "The Canterbury Tales" estate manager

37 Gin flavoring

38 Quick look

42 Dipstick

43 Door to the street

44 Brusque

45 Kisses and then some

46 Kate's TV roommate

47 Regal topper

48 Frère de la mère

49 Blunt, as truth

52 "Houston, __ had a problem"

53 Nice warm times

54 Dimbulb

56 Verb associated with blame

57 Neruda's "__ to Conger Chowder"

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Sudoku

By The Mephram Group 11/08/13

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

For solutions to today's puzzle, go to **dailygamecock.com** or download our app!

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Team’s new season brings high hopes



Jeffrey Davis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Coach Frank Martin says sophomore Mindaugas Kacinas really cares and listens to the coaches to get better. He missed practice during the summer for international play.

New-look team starts campaign with matchup against Longwood Saturday afternoon

Tanner Abel
SPORTS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

In coach Frank Martin’s final press conference before the South Carolina men’s basketball team gets its season underway Saturday, he said his young team has come a long way in the preseason. “I’m happy with some of the things we’re doing offensively,” Martin said. “I think our young guys for the most part are trying to do what we ask them to do. I was actually more pleased with the freshman than I was with the upperclassmen as far as their attention to detail.”

In the team’s only exhibition contest, the Gamecocks let a 21-point lead slip to just three points, but they held off USC Aiken to take a 84-72 win. Sophomore forward Michael Carrera said that he thought the Gamecocks handled the adversity well and did not sense any panic on the bench from the veterans on the team.

Martin said the team had different levels of focus during the first and second halves. He said the Gamecocks played the first half with good aggression and a sense of urgency, but in the second half, they started to lose discipline.

Martin said that some of the change had to do with the team’s youth; seven of the team’s 16 players are freshmen. In the second half of play, he said his players started gambling on passes when

the shot clock got low, putting their teammates in bad positions defensively.

The Gamecocks’ first game of the season is Saturday against Longwood at 1 p.m. This is the Lancers’ second year in the Big South after being a D-I independent program. Last season, they went 4-12 in conference play, finishing 8-25 overall. Coach Jayson Gee is at the helm for Longwood in his first year as the program’s head coach.

Returning for the Lancers is last season’s leading scorer, senior guard Tristan Carey. He averaged 15.6 points per game last season and is expected to set the pace in scoring again this year.

However, the Lancers’ second leading scorer and best big man from last year, Michael Kessens, has transferred to Alabama, and redshirt junior Jeylani Dublin will take a larger role in his absence. Dublin averaged 10 points and almost six rebounds per game last season.

Martin said that film on the opponent is important early in the season, because the coaching staff does not know as much about the smaller programs as they do about conference opponents. But because Gee is in his first year in charge, Martin has nothing to draw on.

One area where South Carolina has noticeably improved is size. Against Aiken, Martin started freshman Demetrius Henry, who is 6 feet 9 inches tall, and sophomore Laimonas Chatkevicius, who is 6-foot 11, at the forward positions. Last year, the second-tallest starter in many games, Carrera, was only 6-foot-5.

“If you follow my career, you’ll always find out I like playing as big as possible,” Martin said. “I

think size is huge in this game.”

Martin said that Chatkevicius and sophomore Mindaugas Kacinas have been catching up from the time they missed with the Gamecocks over the summer, when both played for the Lithuanian national team. Martin said they were unable to get the same individual instruction that others did.

Martin also said that Kacinas really cares and listens to the coaches to get better, but it has been more of a “crash-course” in preparing him for the season. Kacinas said he’s been excited about the new faces on the team and the challenges that each day presents.

“Last year, we had guys maybe who didn’t play hard enough, and this year because we have so many freshmen, they’re trying to get their minutes in the games,” Kacinas said. “So they go really hard during the practices, so the competition is really hard. Such little details push us forward, and we’re going to try to do the best we can.”

The Gamecocks are not projected to finish high in the SEC; The Associated Press predicts they will finish No. 12 of 14 teams. Carrera said the predictions motivate the team.

“I really don’t care what people say about our team,” he said. “I think we have a great team. I think we have one of the best coaches in the nation and we want to just work hard, be together as a family and just win as many games as we can win, so we can make it to the NCAA Tournament. That’s our goal this year.”

DG

Women’s basketball team bigger, taller in 2013

Nationally ranked squad aims to build off of back-to-back NCAA Tournament berths

Danny Garrison
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Coach Dawn Staley hopes to set the tone for the season with a slight departure from last year’s philosophy when the women’s basketball team gets its 2013 campaign underway today against Charleston Southern.

With a significantly taller lineup, Staley’s Gamecocks will look to command the low post.

“I think we have the players that have proven throughout our preseason that they can score on the block,” Staley said. “They can demand the ball, and they can actually execute down there in the paint.”

In No. 22 South Carolina’s exhibition game against North Greenville, the Gamecocks seemed to take their coach’s words to heart, dominating the game down low and scoring 78 of their 96 points in the paint.

A large factor in the low post this year — both literally and figuratively — will be 6-foot-4-inch junior center Elem Ibiam. One of three captains chosen by her teammates, Ibiam scored 20 points in the exhibition contest to go with five rebounds and three blocks.

While Ibiam acknowledged that post-play will be a focus this season, she stressed that control in the paint makes life easier on the perimeter players as well.

“[Playing in the post] has been an emphasis from the coaches,” Ibiam said. “But also, if we don’t have it, our guards are there for us to kick it back out and give them a shot, so just to kind of open the paint for our guards.”

One of the guards who will benefit from Ibiam’s command of the paint will be sophomore Khadijah Sessions. The youngest of the team’s three captains, Sessions turned heads in the Gamecocks’ NCAA tournament run last year that was cut short by an upset loss to Kansas.

In her second year with the program, Sessions will look to expand on a tradition of strong guard-play at South Carolina. And Staley, a former guard who was inducted into Basketball Hall of Fame this year, said she has been pleased with the progression of her young point guard.

“Sessions has done everything that we’ve asked her to do. Now it’s time for her to just put into action her preparation,” Staley said. “She’s really aware of a lot of things that young point guards aren’t.”

After sitting behind star point guard Ieasia Walker for most of last year’s season, Sessions said she has gained enough experience to expand on her strong finish to last season.

While the team was known as an offensive juggernaut a year ago, the defense struggled at times, though it posted good stats for the year. After a full offseason to try and right the ship on defense, Staley said she has seen improvement.



Jeremy Marshall Harkness / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Coach Dawn Staley (left) says she hopes her team will command the low post now that her team is taller. The team is currently ranked No. 22 in the nation.

“We’re getting there, as far as just keep making the adjustments to how we think the officiating is going to be,” Staley said. “We’re not there completely.”

Staley said that her starting five against the Buccaneers Friday will consist of Sessions, Ibiam, sophomores Tiffany Mitchell and Asia Dozier and South Carolina’s third captain, junior preseason All-SEC forward Aleighsa Welch.

Though each of the starting five has experience in the collegiate game, the team will show its youth on the bench. Staley said she will look for early contributions from players like freshmen

Tiffany Davis and Alaina Coates; the latter was named a McDonald’s and Parade All-American in 2013.

As the Gamecocks start their season ranked in the top-25, they will bring high expectations to the Colonial Life Arena.

But if you ask the players, they’re just ready to get the season underway.

“It’s exciting. We’ve just been waiting for our season to start,” Ibiam said. “Preseason, you’re just kind of waiting, waiting, waiting. For the season to be literally less than 24 hours away, we’re all excited.”

DG