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Amendments to FOIA proposed

State bills would change current request law

Thad Moore & Cassie Cope
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Two bills that would amend South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act are moving forward in the House of Representative's judiciary committee.

House Bill 4740, proposed Tuesday, would exempt police from releasing information that could be used in law enforcement action or criminal prosecution, and would allow agencies to withhold information that would harm victims or witnesses.

Currently, state law only exempts police from releasing information that would harm their investigations.

The other proposal, H. 3235, picked up two sponsors Thursday. The bill would require the government to fulfill open records requests in 30 days, and would put a cap on the fees agencies can charge citizens in doing so.

The law enforcement exemption, H. 4740, would close a loophole that allows defense lawyers to unfairly access police reports and circumvent court processes, according to bill supporters.

"I think that's a splendid idea, because what you have here is attorneys who don't want to go through the discovery process, so they get a citizen who's not involved in the case to do a FOIA," Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, said. "This closes up a bad loophole."

Taylor said he wasn't sure how the amendment would affect journalists or the media's coverage of crime, but he said it was an issue that would come up as debate over the bill continues.

Rep. Chip Huggins, R-Lexington, a sponsor of the bill, downplayed the effect the proposed exemption would have on news coverage and emphasized that it would protect citizens.

"I think the news is still going to break," he said.

Huggins added that the law, in its current form, allows for "dissemination of information where it's being used in the wrong regard," which he said is his reason for being a sponsor.

The bills detractors, including Jay Bender, an attorney for the South Carolina Press Association, disagree.

"If this passes, you'll never have an opportunity to look to see what

FOIA ● 2



Lee Walker / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Students and supporters gathered on the Russell House patio Thursday evening to watch Student Government candidates debate.

SG candidates debate platforms

Potential officers highlight campaign promises

Amanda Coyne
ACOYNE@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Candidates for student body president, vice president and treasurer were grilled by moderators and duked it out Thursday night on the Russell House patio in the annual Student Government Executive Debate.

Debate coordinator Josh Watts, Election Commission Chair Amy

DeWitt and The Daily Gamecock Editor-in-Chief Colin Campbell served as moderators.

As the sun began to set, the debate began with unopposed candidate for vice president, Chase Mizzell.

Questions largely focused on Mizzell's platform, which places emphasis on initiatives like a campus food bank and a bike-sharing program instead of common complaints like parking and advisement.

"One of the reasons that Student Government has a somewhat disreputable idea around campus is

that we promise things that we can't do," Mizzell said. "We're constantly pursuing parking and bringing the CarolinaCard off campus, but it's bad to campaign on parking without a solid plan. These are things we definitely work on, but they're things you shouldn't hang your campaign on."

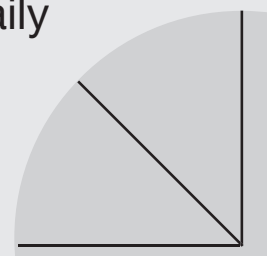
When asked what his plan would be if the widely touted food pantry did not come to fruition, he quickly responded with the Second Servings Program, providing needy students transportation to Harvest Hope Food

DEBATE ● 2

Check out a
SPECIAL EDITION
of The Daily Gamecock Monday.

including profiles of the SG candidates and endorsements

Vote for your favorite candidate in The Daily Gamecock's online poll. Results will be revealed in Monday's issue.



Mast General Store encourages shoppers to 'be sweethearts'



Parker Jennette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Mast General Store on Main Street has pledged to donate \$1 to Harvest Hope Food Bank for every pound of candy sold on Saturday and Sunday for the store's "Be a Sweetheart ... Feed the Hungry" event.

Regional chain donates to local food agencies

Kristyn Sanito
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Buying Valentine's Day candy for your loved one this weekend can help provide relief to those struggling to afford food.

Mast General Store is teaming up with local food agencies for its ninth annual "Be a Sweetheart ... Feed the Hungry" event. For every pound of candy purchased on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, each store will donate \$1 to a local food distribution organization. Columbia's location will donate to Harvest Hope Food Bank.

"It's important to remember that at Harvest Hope, we dedicate 98 cents out of every dollar donated to feed the hungry," said Skot Garrick, communications manager of Harvest Hope Food Bank. "So money that comes from partners turns right around

and goes to food for the hungry."

Harvest Hope Food Bank is a nonprofit, regional food distribution organization that serves 20 counties in South Carolina. According to Garrick, Harvest Hope serves about 48,000 individuals every week, and it served about a million families last year. Harvest Hope accepts food donations and uses all monetary gifts to purchase food.

"We have an emergency food pantry at Shop Road, and people come to us directly and we give them food," Garrick said. "We also work with about 450 agency partners. Those are organizations who come to us for food ... and take it out to their individual feeding missions."

"Be a Sweetheart" is in its ninth year, but it's the first for the capital city location that opened on Main Street over the summer. The event aims to raise awareness of hunger in local communities,

MAST ● 3

WEATHER

Friday
65° ☁️ 40°

Saturday
61° ☁️ 24°

MIX

INSIDE

VIEWPOINTS

Rev Run at USC
Check out staff writer Mary Cathryn Armstrong's review of the former Run-D.M.C. member's on-campus appearance.
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Faith in health care
Columnist Stephen Barry argues that an equal care mandate violates religious freedom.
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SPORTS

USC faces Arkansas
The Gamecocks will travel to the Hogs' home court Saturday, where the Razorbacks are 16-0.
See page 8

Students opt for mo-peds as cheaper way to travel across campus

Scooter riders save on gas, parking expenses

Aston Jeffcoat
NEWS@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Some students have found a more maneuverable alternative to scoot around campus, driving motorized scooters and mo-peds to class and adding a European flair to USC. Chris Mason, a third-year criminal justice student, said he used to own a car but switched to a mo-ped save money on gas.

"My friends say, 'At least you are saving the earth,' and I'm like, 'Yep, because in three weeks I've filled it up only three times,'" Mason said. "This holds a gallon and cost me \$3.60 to fill up."

In South Carolina, the vehicles are considered mo-peds if the engine is 50 cubic centimeters but a scooter if it's more than 50 cc.

A motorcycle license is required to operate a scooter, however; only a mo-ped operator's license is required to drive a mo-ped in South Carolina. This license can be obtained if someone does not have a driver's license and is at least 14 years old.

Students like the affordability of scooters, which range between \$750 to \$850, said Billy Campbell, a recent USC graduate and owner of Hawg Scooters on Rosewood Drive. He added that driving scooters alleviates parking woes.

"When I went to USC, parking was pretty crazy," Campbell said. "I was averaging about \$200 worth of parking tickets each semester, so I started this business to cater to Carolina students."

Campbell said that negative stereotypes about those who use mo-peds are evaporating after observing such exponential growth in scooter sales around the dawn of fall semester — grossing \$43,000 in August alone.

"It used to be, 'Oh, he's got a DUI, he's got a DUI and he's got a DUI,' but mo-peds get a lot worse rep than they should because people who have DUIs often are the ones who get in wrecks," Campbell said.

Safety may be a concern for some students, but Mason said operating a mo-ped requires caution.

"You become aware of things around you and just have to think one step ahead of drivers and watch out for them because they don't see you," Mason said.



Aston Jeffcoat / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Some students who drive mo-peds see an advantage in finding parking on campus.

Campbell said students should not worry about the reliability of scooters.

"They usually break down for dumb things," Campbell said. "That's the beauty of it because no part costs more than \$50."

Students risk their scooters being stolen if they don't lock them up.

"People are just going around and putting them in the back of minivans," Campbell said.

USC Police Capt. Eric Grabski also

confirmed that mo-ped thefts occur on campus.

"South Carolina is the perfect place for a mo-ped," Mason said. "In the next few months, people will be envious. They will see people riding around with just a T-shirt on. Even in the winter it is so nice."

Comments on this story?

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FOIA • Continued from 1

information the police have collected," Bender said. "The police instinct is to be secretive, and unless there is something that requires police to give up information, they won't voluntarily."

Bill Rogers, the press association's director, added that the bill's breadth would allow law enforcement to keep information under wraps.

"This is a blanket exemption, and anything used in the prosecution could be withheld," he said.

The exemption, Bender said, appears to have already picked up traction in the House of Representatives; the bill lists 34 sponsors, including House Speaker Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston, and judiciary committee chairman James Harrison, R-Columbia.

H. 3235, the bill that would require a time limit for FOIA responses, had fewer sponsors Thursday, though it doubled its count to four.

The bill, originally introduced by Taylor, also has the support of Bender and Rogers.

"We think it really makes records affordable for the public," Rogers said.

Taylor cited barriers to open records as explanations for the need for such a bill.

"The need is so obvious that we could line up people from Aiken to Columbia to testify of how the FOIA law is foiled by government," he said. "We don't have a strong Freedom of Information Act in South Carolina ... Currently, citizens are thwarted because there's no teeth in the bill. Therefore, they can sort of be put off and be told, 'Oh, we're working on it.'"

"A parade" of citizens who had issues with city governments, school boards and state agencies testified in support of the bill over the last week, he said.

Taylor said he's received criticism of the bill, especially from smaller governments on the city and county level, which are opposed to the time limit and requirement that they bear the costs of fulfilling requests, and anticipates that opposition will emerge as it is debated.

The legislature will be off next week on furlough, but Taylor said he expected the bill would be voted on by the judiciary committee the following week and hoped it would appear on the House floor shortly thereafter.

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Business fraternity offers interview tips

Delta Sigma Pi hosts information table following last week's career fair

Dashia Starr
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As a follow-up to last week's career fair, professional business fraternity Delta Sigma Pi hosted an information table on Wednesday and Thursday to give students interview and resume tips.

Rachel Evans, a second-year global supply chain and operation management student, helped host the event as a member of the fraternity.

"We just wanted to follow up with the career fair and help students who have an interview to succeed in getting their dream job or internship," Evans said.

Delta Sigma Pi provided students with handouts of interview and resume tips, including "do's and don'ts" when applying for careers and internships.

Evans suggested researching the company of interest prior to the interview.

"The company will notice, and it shows that you care and are interested in the opportunity," Evans said.

"Perfect Interview" can be scheduled with the Career Center, in which students may conduct a mock interview with a career specialist to help improve their skills before meeting with an employer. The interview can also be recorded for students to replay and correct themselves.

Evans suggested using the STAR (situation, task, action, result) method when asked behavioral questions in an interview. She said employers often use these types of questions to learn more about the potential employee's attitude and method for solutions in difficult situations.

Students are encouraged to state the situation, the task they were asked to do, their actions and the results. Following these steps helps give the employer a clear picture of the situation and the results in a brief and organized way.

Following an interview, students were told to send a thank-you note to the employer immediately.

"Employers and recruiters still appreciate them," Evans said.

Writing a resume based on the career was also emphasized. Evans suggests getting advice from employers in the field on how to write an organized resume that stands out.

When sending a professional email, it should be three to five sentences. Include when last speaking to the correspondent, be specific in what the email is regarding and let the recipient know you will be awaiting a response.

Employers are beginning to view profiles on LinkedIn, a social media website that highlights students' resumes and professional aspects that employers and recruiters may be interested in.

"It gives you more space to share your professional information," said Julian Oliveros, a fourth-year economics and management student. "It's more personable."

The website also allows students to refer people based on their prior knowledge and experience, as well as meet those with similar professional interests. Delta Sigma Pi partnered with the Career Center to help provide undergraduate and graduate students with the most effective information.

"Partnering with student organizations is a great opportunity because students listen to students," said Erica Lake, assistant director for employer relations. "Peer-to-peer education is very helpful, and Delta Sigma Pi is a great avenue to share the message."

The fraternity plans to host the information table again in the upcoming fall semester to help prepare students prior to the career fair.

"We just want to share our knowledge that we gained from our classes and fraternity with students from every major," Evans said.

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DEBATE • Continued from 1

Bank and starting a student-staffed campus kitchen.

The debate then moved on to the treasurer candidates, Coy Gibson and Yousef Ibreak, between whom there was an occasionally intense exchange.

When Watts asked whether the senate finance committee gives preference in fund allocation to "larger, more established organizations," Gibson, the current senate finance committee chair, immediately shot back.

"Absolutely not. Absolutely not. We treat every organization fairly. We followed the guidelines set out for us, and we treated every organization as if they were the first to come to us," Gibson said.

Gibson was then asked if he believed that was a fair approach to fund allocation, and he said he did. Ibreak, who was asked the same question, disagreed.

"Some students feel that there is some favoritism towards some organizations," Ibreak said.

He continued to assert that putting the SG budget online, his main campaign point, would eliminate this feeling and the "lack of transparency" he believes there is in SG.

Ibreak was then asked what his platform consisted of besides creating a website where the SG budget would be posted, which has been a point he has campaigned heavily on.

"There's a lack of transparency in other aspects; nobody knows how senators vote in the Senate Finance Committee. There's no accountability," Ibreak said.

He also addressed his relative lack of experience.

"While I haven't had the opportunity to serve in senate finance committee, I did serve

as student body treasurer in high school, where we had a budget of \$5,000," Ibreak said, to which some audience members laughed in response.

The three candidates for president, John Cuenin, Emily Saleeby and Kenny Tracy took the podium last.

Saleeby addressed her hopes to start work on plans to build a new Russell House if elected.

"It's a big project, and I know it's not a five-year project. The reality is 15 to 20 years," Saleeby said.

Saleeby later stated campus safety as an initiative she had already started work on.

"Two weeks ago, I saw that the call boxes in front of Patterson weren't working," Saleeby said. "I had lunch with the USC Police Department last Wednesday, and that day and the day after, I saw those boxes were getting fixed."

She listed increased lighting and more call boxes throughout Five Points, the Vista, south campus and central campus.

Cuenin, who has maintained that SG is "broken" and has been campaigning as an outsider despite two years of SG experience, detailed his plans to change the organization.

"I would make sure that the cabinet is meeting once a week and submitting reports biweekly about what they're doing and what they need help doing," said Cuenin, to which a cluster of his Beta Theta Pi brothers applauded. "We need to be as active on campus as we should be. We should continuously be showing what we do and communicate what we can do."

In response to a question about taking the CarolinaCard off campus, Cuenin cited conflicts with the university's contract with food service company Sodexo.

"It's implausible; once we get it on the table, Sodexo will come in and say that we can't bring it to restaurants that they have alternatives to. The only things you can plausibly bring it to are gas stations, grocery stores and dry cleaners," Cuenin said.

Tracy named parking and advisement as problematic when asked about the biggest issue facing USC students, and offered possible solutions.

"We're looking into providing students with cheaper garage options. Online ticket payment is another thing that we're working on, and it could get online within the next year," Tracy said.

He also proposed transitioning advisement to an online system based on the one implemented in the School of Mass Communications and Information Studies.

Saleeby later questioned Tracy on the plausibility of changing the advisement system. Tracy cited the School of Hospitality and Retail Management's transition to online advisement as proof that the transition is possible.

Tracy also faced a question from Cuenin, who called Tracy a "one-trick pony" and asked him to respond to claims by others that he did not address safety concerns while he was the secretary of safety and transportation.

"I think I've addressed many safety issues. The Carolina Cab is about getting people home from Five Points safely," Tracy said.

He also cited his work on the Safety Walks program.

Candidates have less than a week left to campaign before elections start on Feb. 14.

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MAST • Continued from 1

as well as the world, while also contributing monetary donations to help fight hunger. According to Garrick, 17 percent of South Carolina's population lives in poverty and one in six families goes to bed hungry every night.

"It's important for us to be an active part of each local community, and human services is one of our core areas," said Deb Lazenby, community relations manager of Mast General Store. "And we thought, 'Well, we have our candy, and it's Valentine's Day. Donations are kind of slow down this time of year after Christmas, and this is a great way to help them out.'"

Plus, the stores carry more than 500 types of old-fashioned and modern candies and chocolates that people can buy for the romantic occasion.

"We're known for candy, so we can only imagine how much we can provide for them," said Jill Dortch, area manager for fashion of the Columbia Mast General Store. "We sell thousands of dollars worth of candy over a weekend, especially for Valentine's."

Although \$1 may not seem like much, each donated to Harvest Hope can buy three meals, according to Dortch.

"Fifteen dollars in the food bank will actually be able to feed a family for a week," Lazenby said. "We'll also be collecting change in our change jars to go to Harvest Hope Food Bank."

All seven Mast General Store locations, including Columbia, are taking part in the event, each working with its own local food agency — Greenville, S.C., with Loaves and Fishes; Asheville, Waynesville and Hendersonville, N.C., with MANNA FoodBank; Boone and Valle Crucis, N.C., with the Hunger Coalition; and Knoxville, Tenn., with Second Harvest.

The Mast General Store is located in downtown Columbia at 1601 Main St. and is open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. To find out more on how to volunteer and help fight hunger in South Carolina, visit harvesthope.com.

Comments on this story? Visit dailygamecock.com/news



Parker Jennette / THE DAILY GAMECOCK
The Mast General Store has more than 500 types of old-fashioned and modern candies and chocolates.

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FOIA amendments close, open loopholes

Making their way to the state House of Representatives are two amendments to South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act — both providing, in their respective ways, changes that could have a significant impact on state and local journalism. The first proposes a definitive, 30-day time limit within which agencies must honor FOIA requests; the second, on the other hand, restricts access to crime reports that involve pending investigations in which released information might do harm to witnesses or the victim. At first glance, these bills cover two different practices within FOIA legislation, but they have a common theme — closing loopholes in what has become a capricious process.

“With these bills, state legislators are closing one loophole only to make room for another one.”

In this instance, state legislators are closing one loophole only to make room for another one. We couldn't more strongly agree with the first bill. Agencies, when left to the vague requirement of a “reasonable” time limit for FOIA requests, often brush journalists aside — or outwait them. Forcing organizations to participate in a process that was created for the benefit of the public is finally a sign that the laws of this state are living up to ideals, and not just falling victim to corruption.

What the first bill repairs, the second undoes. The intention of protecting victims sounds wonderful on paper, but common sense teaches us that this sentiment serves to hide the desire to hold back crime reports from the public. No professional news source would use information that could endanger a victim; if one did, the repercussions — both professional and legal — would be severe. While understandable, this type of action gives us serious reservations concerning the direction of information freedom in South Carolina.



Health care: faith's new battleground

Mandate forces choice between ideals, services

In the last few weeks, there has been a fiery debate over the Department of Health and Human Services' mandate concerning employees and equal access to health care. The mandate would essentially require both religious and secular institutions to provide all employees the opportunity to pursue all forms of health service.



Stephen Barry
Second-year print journalism

And just like that, Catholic hospitals will cease to exist. This mandate would require Catholic hospitals to honor coverage for abortions and contraception, both of which are in direct contradiction with the Catholic faith. A cruel choice presents itself for many Catholic institutions. Either hospitals refuse to allow these services and thereby receive hefty fines from the federal government, or these hospitals cave to the pressures of President Barack Obama's administration and abandon their beliefs. Whatever the decision in this case, a truly Catholic hospital will not be a reality in the United States.

There are two problems that this mandate poses. First among them is the fact that Catholic and all other religious hospitals and institutions are private, faith-based institutions protected by special provisions. This means they should be free of regulations that go against the faith and values they hold. The DHHS mandate brazenly spits in the face of these private institutions' right to control what they do and do

not sell. The separation of church and state exists not only to protect the government from the intrusion of religion but also to protect religion from the intrusion of government.

The second problem is that Catholic hospitals actually provide a great deal of free health care because they are nonprofit, nondiscriminatory institutions. These hospitals can also provide a great deal of care while not contradicting the values they inherently represent. For example, in the case of rape, doctors can provide medicines that can prevent ovulation, sperm capacitation and fertilization — so long as there is no evidence of conception.

This mandate would not only be a violation of certain constitutional rights that we as Americans all enjoy, but it would also destroy the inexpensive and diverse treatments that can be received at these institutions. The threat of fines and other reprisals for holding to certain beliefs would have a horrible effect on the availability of treatment from faith-based health providers. If you do not believe in the treatment given or are looking to explore different options, you can choose for yourself which hospital you go to and what treatment you would like to receive. Our country and health care have only been strengthened by these Catholic institutions and the diversity of care they offer.

This is not simply a matter of medical coverage, or of “choice” or “life.” It is a matter of defending the religious and property rights inherent to the freedoms we enjoy as Americans. Catholic or atheist, Democrat or Republican, the DHHS mandate violates the ideals that define our nation and should be condemned by us all.

Prop 8 repeal challenges states to support gays

Momentum for equal marriage rights grows

The past week has been monumental for marriage equality. A federal appeals court ruled Tuesday that Proposition 8 — a referendum measure that placed a ban on same-sex marriage in California — was unconstitutional.

Just five months after a state Supreme Court ruling allowed same-sex marriage, 52 percent of California voters approved a constitutional amendment that defined marriage as only occurring between a man and a woman — what we know as Prop 8. After the passage of Prop 8, gay couples that were already married were allowed to keep all of the terms of marriage except the actual term “married.”



Samantha Hunter
First-year public relations student

Now, with this new ruling, gay couples in California will finally be able to take part in the rights that were promised them and that they deserve as Americans. In two weeks' time, California will count itself among the number of states choosing the side of equality and marriage rights.

The momentum is palpable. States are finally making the progressive steps needed to create real change. Now that the setback that was Prop 8 has been banned, we are finally back on track. It's only a matter of time before marriage discrimination based on sexual orientation is over. All couples should be able to make the same steps in their relationships — the same level of commitment — regardless of sexual orientation. The West Coast is making progressive decisions that all states should follow.

Arts funding contributes to social enrichment

Conservative threats to cut budgets ignore impact of creative projects

Mitt Romney addressed on Wednesday portions of his proposed budget plan that include “deep reductions in the subsidies” for the federally sponsored National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. It was during this talk that Romney had another memorable — and somewhat haunting — quote.

“We're not going to kill Big Bird, but Big Bird is going to have advertisements,” he said.

NEA and NEH each receive around \$167 million as an annual budget, while CPB receives around \$422 million. To put that in perspective, Jerry Falwell's Liberty University received \$445 million in federal aid last year and the National Science Foundation has an annual budget of \$6.9 billion.

The conservative attack on these groups is nothing new; back in 1996, Newt Gingrich, with

support from the conservative American Family Association, successfully reduced the NEA budget to \$99.5 million, down from \$162 million in 1995. This occurred following pressure in 1981 and 1989 to abolish the NEA entirely.

This clear opposition by conservatives to fight arts funding highlights the incredible need to protect and advocate for the allocation of funds to these organizations. CPB, through the Public Broadcasting Service, is responsible for numerous valuable contributions to our overall national discourse and to the intellectual health of our society. Shows such as “Bill Nye, the Science Guy,” “Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood,” Carl Sagan's “Cosmos” and “Sesame Street” were subsidized through the aforementioned agencies.

NEA and NEH distribute grants for arts and humanities projects across the United States to create provocative, freely expressed art and music

that would otherwise be left in obscurity. PBS also hosts a world of independent music, from bluegrass to free-form jazz, which would go unheard without support. Hundreds of documentaries inspiring change would never have made it on screen.

If you ask any student of music or art history, he or she will highlight the indisputable influence of patronage on the arts — whether that patronage was from a person or from a group. As a nation, we must pay homage to that tradition and give our artists and our broadcasters the support and security they need to continue to perform for us.

Conservatives like Romney may consider the arts expendable in a time when many are struggling just to make ends meet. However, despite the threats and the criticisms, the arts remain a vibrant industry in which many find more than a job — they find a lifelong pursuit. The contributions from these publicly funded programs have had an undeniable impact on our society. In these tough years, sacrifices need to be made, but they have to be the right sacrifices.

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 gamecockeditor@sc.edu. 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.

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CORRECTIONS

If you find an error in today's edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. Email sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu and we will print the correction in our next issue.



Whose house?

Rev Run takes over Russell

Carolina Productions brings former Run-D.M.C rapper, reality TV star to campus

Mary Cathryn Armstrong
MARMSTRONG@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

The line started forming before 7 p.m.

A buzzing crowd of USC students snaked its way around the Russell House lobby, slowly winding into an already packed ballroom. As funky fresh beats courtesy of old-school rappers Tone Loc, N.W.A. and Public Enemy vibrated the speakers, it became clear that this wasn't Russell House anymore; it was Run's House.

Carolina Productions hosted Joseph Simmons, better known to this generation as Rev Run from MTV's "Run's House," on Thursday night for an intimate discussion on life, music and, of course, Run-D.M.C. While it's been a couple of decades since Rev Run walked this way with Aerosmith or told us how "tricky" it was to be one-third of the groundbreaking hip-hop group, Run proved there's no dust collecting on his game, breaking into an impromptu rap the moment his feet hit the stage.

But the evening soon took a turn for the mellow, as the reverend of rap settled into his chair for a series of questions moderated by USC African American studies professor Kimberly Simmons. Run began by reflecting on his initial exposure to the world of hip-hop, chronicling



Brian Almond / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC African American studies professor Kimberly Simmons moderated Thursday night's discussion with Rev Run, sponsored by Carolina Productions. Topics ranged from the rapper's exposure to hip-hop to his religious life.

his early obsession with radio DJs, mixtapes and Grandmaster Flash. But it was one experience in the eighth grade that left the greatest impression on the young emcee.

"I became fascinated with radio DJs," Rev Run said. "In eighth grade, I went to my friend's house and he had all these psychedelic lights, and he started playing records by Chic where it sounded like they were rapping, but it was something totally different."

From there, Rev Run began his foray into the music world, tacking up promo posters for shows featuring his brother (multi-mogul and Def Jam founder Russell Simmons) and protégée Kurtis Blow on Jamaica Street in Queens, N.Y. Simmons soon became immersed in mixtape culture, picking up copies of original, experimental material cut by groups like Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five on the streets of Manhattan

before rap records were sold in stores. And when he wasn't soaking in the hip-hop, Simmons could be found DJing in the attic of his home.

So how exactly did Rev Run make the transition from chunky chain-wearing rapper to the white-collared reverend we see on stage today? According to the reverend, the height of his Run-D.M.C. fame was also his low point, as he continuously strived to outshine the competition of rap peers like LL Cool J and the Fat Boys. Bursting onto the stage in a surge of ferocity, Rev Run admitted he would trample anything in his way to get to the front and stand out against the big names.

"I was crazy," Rev Run said. "I was out of my mind I was so competitive."

Eventually, Rev Run came to the realization

RUN ● 6

Band stays true to self with 'Scars & Stories'

The Fray releases third album full of emotional, reflective tracks

Chloe Gould
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"Scars & Stories"
THE FRAY



Label: Epic



They reel you in with a slow kick drum and somber, growing run on the ivories.

It starts out with a level lead, drawing in with a familiar and famed voice, growing to a chorus that shuffles

each song into one of two categories: gut-wrenching, contemplative crier or hopeful ballad fit for the radio.

The Fray is back — three years after its last, self-titled album — with an emotional, provocative and reflective collection of tracks that mirror the Colorado band's tried, true and established chart-topping sound.

"Scars & Stories" is, as an album, just as wonderful as its name. It's simple, understated and cool — it doesn't try and fight the third-disc pitfall with a revamped image and barely recognizable but progressive style. It's true to itself and tells the band's stories, complete with all of the earned scars along the way.

"The third album is the extroverted type. It's the free spirit, wanderer type," guitarist Joe King said in a December VEVO interview. "It's the little kid that I probably was. It's just curious, and there's a lot of wonder in it."

The "Scars & Stories" track list takes listeners on a trip through Europe. From "Munich" to "Rainy Zurich," each song and emotion-packed lyric was inspired by an impromptu, prerecording trip. The band took a good chunk of the album's budget and hopped a plane, vocalist Isaac Slade said in the VEVO interview.

"Heartbeat," the album's first single, hit the radio in October and has since



Courtesy of thefray.com

The Fray's latest album, "Scars & Stories," includes the single "Heartbeat." The album was inspired by an impromptu trip to Europe that the band took prior to recording.

grown into a station staple — a real, honest and charged favorite. And it has a story that reaches far beyond the Malibu beach and weekend bonfire showcased in the music video.

While visiting the genocide museum in Rwanda, Slade stood atop a 250,000-person grave site, staring at a fire burning in the center of the valley, the singer said in the VEVO interview.

The opening track has since been guised as a love song grappling with the give-and-take of a relationship,

the little imperfections and end-all, be-all of love, repeating: "If you love someone, you love them all the same." But, with backstory in mind, it's a powerful piece. It's a worldwide heartbeat.

"The Fighter" follows up the first single, building the album's expectations and fulfilling every hope for The Fray we all know and love. It's Isaac Slade and his infectious voice, complete with occasional falsetto and

FRAY ● 6

Dining celebrates Valentine's Day

USC restaurants offer holiday specials

Kristyn Winch

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Want to make Valentine's Day date plans but you're stranded on campus? Carolina Dining will be serving several special meals in honor of the holiday, and most of them can be purchased on a meal plan. Here's a look at the treats offered for you and your sweetheart, ranging from dinner to dessert.

Top of Carolina, USC's rotating restaurant above Capstone House, has several Valentine's Day specials planned this weekend and on the actual holiday. On Friday, diners can partake in Cupid's BBQ Buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For \$10.75 per person, diners can

enjoy coleslaw, potato salad and a buffet including pulled barbecue pork, pulled barbecue turkey breast, macaroni and cheese, white rice, green beans, rolls, iced tea, coffee and banana pudding.

Top of Carolina will also be serving a Sweetheart Brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday for \$21 per person. Brunch diners can choose from a variety of breakfast or lunch options, and beverages and dessert are included. On Tuesday night, the Valentine's Day Dinner Buffet is \$27.29 per person. Seatings for Valentine's Day are at 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Reservations are recommended for all three events. To reserve your spot, call 803-777-7919.

If you're on the north side of campus on Feb. 14, drop by Gibbes

Court Bistro for a "Love Lunch" special from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. While you're there, check out the Sweet Showdown Cupcake Decorating Competition from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Eight students will decorate oversized cupcakes and compete for the first-place prize, a \$100 gift card. Even though only eight students are competing, spectators can purchase cupcakes to decorate, too. The Sweet Showdown will also feature appearances by Cocky, Chef Al and the Pillsbury Doughboy.

Preston's at Noon has two special menus for Valentine's Day. The restaurant is serving a Valentine's Day lunch with roasted pork loin or broccoli cheddar baked stuffed potato entrees, chicken noodle soup and chili con carne with sides of fire-roasted red peppers,

sugar snap peas and yellow rice. The lunch also includes a bouquet giveaway. Preston's also has a special Valentine's dinner planned on Tuesday night.

Bates Diner, Grand Market Place and Honeycomb Cafe will all have Valentine's Day menus. Holiday-themed cookies and candies will be for sale at Café Verde, Jazzman's, Hampton Street Café, Cooper's Corner at the Thomas Cooper Library and Fast Break. Colloquium Café will be selling cake pops and cookies on Valentine's Day.

To learn more about Carolina Dining specials, "like" its Facebook page or follow it on Twitter @ Carolina_Dining.


Comments on this story? Visit dailygamecock.com/mix

from **GAMIE**


The Mix's breakdown of everything you need to know about this week in arts and entertainment

Tyler Simpson


TSIMPSON@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM



Daniel Radcliffe admits to being drunk on the set of "Harry Potter" I wonder what spell he cast on himself to sober up?




M.I.A. flips the bird during Super Bowl halftime show
M.I.A. couldn't (bang, bang, bang) and take your money, so she did the next best thing.



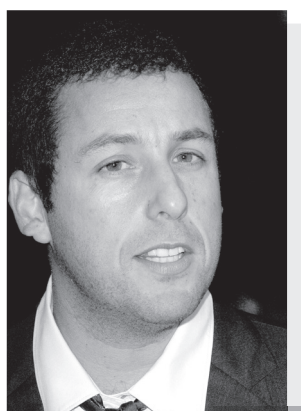
Snooki says she's bisexual
I don't know — is this giant tangerine sure she's not just drunk-sexual?



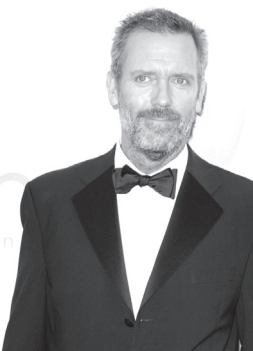
Russell Brand and Katy Perry finalize divorce
Brand has become "the one that got away" in Perry's life.



"The Wolverine" set for release in 2013
Well, I guess it was unavoidable. Let's just hope Fox doesn't screw this up — again.



Adam Sandler to star in "Candy Land" film
Really? Does Adam Sandler want us to hate him even more?



"House" to end after eight seasons
Despite his wisdom, there's one thing Dr. House couldn't save: the show's inevitable end. It's time to pull the plug.

to **COCK**

Photos courtesy of MCT Campus

FRAY ● Continued from 5

far-reaching acoustics.

The song tells the tale of the lover and the fighter, wrapping back up to the chorus of: "Loneliness has always been with me / Maybe we were meant to be on our own / But I gotta try or it will destroy me / 'Cause, baby, we don't have to be all alone."

It wins us over in its honesty and real emotion. Whether it is in his voice, gaze or bald head, Slade has a certain brand of genuineness that's set apart The Fray as a top act.

And then there's a taste of the provocative — never something that's been associated with the "Over My Head" musicians. "Turn Me On" was written about a YouTube video of a regal — and by all accounts wholesome — belly dancer and the movements of the woman's body, according to King in the band's live Walmart Soundcheck.

"Run for Your Life" harkens back to the tracks that made The Fray's career. It's deep, and as the chorus builds, listeners are struck somewhere between tears and a mile-wide hopeful smile. It's the "How to Save a



Courtesy of thefray.com

The iTunes deluxe edition of "Scars & Stories" includes five cover songs.

Life" effect — beautiful in its delivery but heartrending in its conception.

"Scars & Stories" dances through its twelve tracks with an effortless flow. There's no need for the skip button, with each song painting its own picture — each story overtakes each beat and pieces together the grander work.

And it all — on the original version of the album — comes to a close with "Be Still," a gorgeous closer that borders on Christian hymn in its simple

words and piano-backed beauty, with a faint hint of strings.

The iTunes deluxe edition tacks on an additional five covers — well worth the extra \$3 — including Yeah Yeah Yeahs' "Maps" and Bruce Springsteen's "Streets of Philadelphia." And although it's not the pinnacle of Fray talent, The Fugees' "Ready or Not" earns a little laugh with Slade's stellar raps.

Comments on this story? Visit dailygamecock.com/mix

RUN ● Continued from 5

that even though he had fulfilled all of his material desires, a large part of him was still empty inside. Soaking in a tub at a hotel in Los Angeles, Rev Run felt himself rejecting the idea of success and decided it was time to make a change.

"I realized that I had this gift," Rev Run said. "I knew I could have things, but I didn't want those things to have me."

It wasn't long before Rev Run found himself heading to church every Sunday, toting along the biggest Bible he could find (he was still very competitive) as he cultivated his relationship with God. Deciding that if he was going to find God, he wasn't going to miss even the smallest detail. Rev Run was soon named an usher at his church, where he was often recognized by young fans as he seated them in the pews. Although he would always be Run, the Rev knew this was not his ultimate destiny.

"I became very focused on wanting more from God," Rev Run said. "I had this vision of having the white collar and really having it all together that a lot of people didn't understand."

But Rev Run continued to live out his vision, and he encouraged USC students to do the same with their own ideas. One of the key elements, Rev Run said, is to never let the haters keep you down.

"Many of you have visions, and there are so many haters out there who will try and stop your vision because they've never seen an idea like yours," Rev Run said. "God put you on this earth to succeed, but there will not be a testimony without a test."

Rev Run also advised students to remain open to new ideas, a concept he familiarized himself with after originally turning down ideas to collaborate with Aerosmith on "Walk This Way" or the Adidas sneakers he first described as "fugly." As for his thoughts on the current state of hip-hop, Rev Run said he is highly impressed with artists like Lil Wayne for putting out artists like Nicki Minaj and Drake while building up powerhouse companies like Young Money Entertainment. Although he still believes in the honor and "groove" of old-school classic rap, Rev Run said he is watching the genre unfold in this century with no criticism at all.

"I don't sit on the judgment seat; it's not my job in life," Run said. "I don't tell people what to do, even when I'm giving a sermon. If the younger generation wants to discover acts like A Tribe Called Quest and Run-D.M.C, let them do it on their own."

Rev Run has a definite power about him, and even sitting one-on-one after his talk with students, he still maintains a righteous energy that is both inspirational and soothing. When asked about how he created the perfect balance between "Run" and "Rev," he says it's been a surprisingly easy task.

"I'm blessed that a lot of young people have seen me on TV," Rev Run said. "To be my old age, I'm lucky I get to keep both the Rev and the Run. I am a kid, but I don't try to be one because I want them to like me for me."

Speaking to his wife Justine as she read the newspaper in the seat next to him, Rev Run looked upward as he smiled to himself in reflection of the evening's discussion.

"I kept it real," he said, gently nodding his head. "I kept it real and so deep."

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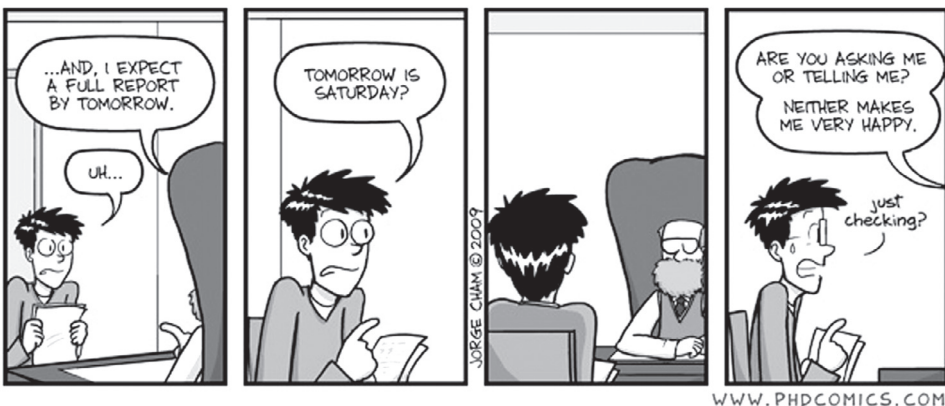
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Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams 10/02/12

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ACROSS

- 1 Revolution for Caesar?
- 6 Run together
- 10 Midnight snack
- 14 "The Family Man" actress
- 15 Mystical letter
- 16 Home furnishings acronym
- 17 Success symbol
- 18 Alarm clock toggle
- 19 Shout to a line
- 20 Movie about a wacky submarine crew?
- 23 Give out in portions
- 24 Set-to
- 25 Quarterdeck?
- 28 Set the stage for
- 32 Carpooler's ___ lane
- 33 Feeling when surrounded by taxis?
- 36 Largest of a septet
- 38 Tote
- 39 Certain surgeon's concern
- 40 Prince's request to the Pauper?
- 45 In addition
- 46 Level of importance
- 47 Harper Lee recluse Boo ___
- 49 Chicago city council mem.
- 50 Prepare eggs, in a way
- 52 Random criticisms from the Musketeers?
- 57 Thick-bodied fish
- 58 Stir up
- 59 Birthstones for some Scorpios
- 61 Farm housing
- 62 Letters from Hera
- 63 Cap
- 64 Like the ocean around SEALAB
- 65 Run like a rabbit
- 66 Green Goblin, to Spider-Man

DOWN

- 1 In the vein of
- 2 Pond denizen
- 3 Role in the musical "Two By Two"
- 4 Like fliers on the windshield, usually
- 5 Place to start for a young music student
- 6 "Well played!"
- 7 "12 Angry Men" director
- 8 Offensive to some, briefly
- 9 "Why'd I do that?" feeling
- 10 Trendy retailer named for its original 57th Street address
- 11 Gave the nod
- 12 Tantalizing, in a way
- 13 Magician's prop
- 21 Iconic Ingrid role
- 22 Mineralogist with a scale
- 25 Fiona of "Harry Potter" films et al.
- 26 Put forth
- 27 Walled Spanish city
- 28 Desire
- 29 Bumpkin
- 30 Goddess of peace
- 31 Down-and-out
- 34 Down
- 35 Pint seller
- 37 Bible bearer, often
- 41 Winter season
- 42 Put in place
- 43 Pictures taken in a hosp.
- 44 Football helmet feature
- 48 Unexpected visitor ... and a hint to 20-, 33-, 40- and 52-Across
- 50 Like some panels
- 51 Earthshaking '50s event
- 52 Slender
- 53 Clumsy ship
- 54 Edible pocket
- 55 Get under control

Solution 08/02/12 - Sorry!

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Solution 09/02/10

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S	N	E	A	K	E	D		N	E	S	T	O	R

56 Unlikely
57 TV drama set in Vegas
60 Wilbur's whereabouts, in "Charlotte's Web"

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Sudoku By The Mephram Group 02/10/12

	1		4			7		
	6				3			4
9				2				8
4		8	5					1
			8		9			
6					4	2		7
5				9				6
1			6				2	
					1		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 02/09/12

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

Gamecocks prepare for Arkansas



Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Damontre Harris fouled out after 21 minutes against Tennessee.

Razorbacks 16-0 on home court

Kyle Heck
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South Carolina suffered another setback in the season last Thursday, falling to Tennessee 69-57. Coming off a 34-point blowout to Kentucky, USC was looking to get back on track Wednesday against a Tennessee team with a shooting average below 45 percent. However, Tennessee shot 50 percent from the field and made 10 of 20 3-pointers to send the Gamecocks to 1-8 in the SEC heading into Saturday's contest at Arkansas.

"They did a really good job of executing offensively," said South Carolina coach Darrin Horn. "For a stretch of about 16 minutes there, I felt we did a really good job defensively. Then we gave up that barrage of 3s at the end of the half, and that really changed the game. When you get down by double figures, that's hard to come back in this league."

The Gamecocks nearly pulled off the comeback, coming within three points at 58-55 with four minutes

to play in the second half. However, the Volunteers pulled together and shut the door on the Gamecocks. Carolina shot just 34 percent from the floor, and sophomore forward Damontre Harris once again ran into foul trouble, holding him to just 21 minutes on the floor.

Sophomore guard Bruce Ellington led the Gamecocks with 12 points and freshman guard Damien Leonard scored 11 on three of four 3-point shots. Although USC limited Tennessee to just 38 shots, and just 15 in the second half, the Vols made the most of the shots they were able to take.

"There were some good things that we did tonight," Horn said. "We had 12 assists on 19 baskets and took care of the basketball against one of the top two or three defensive teams in our league statistically. But the bottom line is that we did not finish the first half defensively and gave up too many easy ones down the stretch to be able to overcome it."

Next up for the Gamecocks is a road game against Arkansas. The Razorbacks were toasted Thursday by Georgia, which was just

1-7 in the league before the game. The problem for USC, though, is that it will have to play at Arkansas where the Hogs are 16-0 for the season.

Overall, Arkansas is 16-7, 4-4 in the SEC. They are led by their star forward, junior Marshawn Powell, who averages 19.5 points per game. They have three other players who score in double figures, with 73.5 points per game.

On the other hand, Carolina is second-to-last in the SEC in scoring at 62.3 points per game, and at times, the matchup zones have left opponents wide open from behind the arc.

Against Tennessee, Horn stressed that the Gamecocks needed to stop the Vols from making 3-pointers because "they have been a different team when they have made them ... Those shots really got them going offensively."

Tennessee made seven first-half 3-pointers, in fact. Carolina hopes to improve that statistic against an Arkansas team that is in the middle of the league in most offensive categories.

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Equestrian expects improvement

Gamecocks travel to Tennessee-Martin

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Despite four straight loses, South Carolina equestrian remains ranked No. 7 in the latest coaches' poll.

Carolina started the season in 2005 and 2007 national champion fashion; however, the women's equestrian team, aside from one close win against Southern Methodist University, has been on a losing streak since falling in a tiebreaker against No. 1 Auburn and dropping two close games against No. 2 Georgia and Oklahoma State. The four-game skid that confronts coach Boo Major's team has put it at an overall season record of 3-5, 0-3 in conference. Be that as it may, Major is optimistic about USC's next matchup against Tennessee-Martin.

"We know we are better than our record, and we have caught a lot of bad breaks," Major said. "Of course we are frustrated, but are pretty pleased with how we are riding this semester. Our hunt seat team actually has a 6-2 record, and if they keep going the way they are going [they] should get a high seed at our national championship. Our western team is constantly improving and is competing well right now, despite their record."

The last time USC and Tennessee-Martin met was in an National Collegiate Equestrian Association national championship match in 2011, where the Gamecocks won 5-3. The Skyhawks are also having a downturn with a three-game losing streak for a season record of 2-4, but they will be no pushovers for the Gamecocks. The previous game for the Skyhawks was a close loss in a tiebreaker to No. 6 Kansas State. They will be looking to bounce back as well in this matchup that is only a few games

away from the Southern Equestrian Championships.

Major is looking forward to this matchup, despite the cold weather.

"I am hoping we will do well," Major said. "The weather is going to be brutal with a high on Saturday of 35 (degrees), so we're going to have our work cut out for us. We are putting some different folks into the lineup, so it will be interesting to see how things pan out. We have had a great week of practice, so we'll just have to see."

Advancing forward to the match, Major expects her outstanding players to continue to glisten. Standout players include juniors Kimberly McCormack and Audrey Jewell and redshirt sophomore Johnna Letchworth. McCormack has an overall record of 12-3, with two MVP awards. Letchworth is 6-1 in horsemanship and has been awarded two MVP awards as well.

"Kimmy McCormack is doing a great job for us on the hunter seat side. She is consistently winning in equitation on the flat and equitation over fences, and I expect her to continue to be the anchor for our team. Johnna Letchworth has only had one loss this season in horsemanship," Major said. "She is pretty unbeatable and has a great mental preparedness ... We expect her to continue her winning ways as she did last year with hopes that she will be named to the Equestrian All-America team again this year. Audrey Jewell is currently 5-1 in reining, and that is the best record amongst our reiners."

The season standouts are going to need to step it up this weekend to quell frustration with the team's record and keep sights on another national championship.

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Courtesy of USC Athletics

Junior Kimberly McCormack will "be the anchor for our team," says coach Boo Major.



Chris Keohane / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

South Carolina will have a mature team this season with eight returning position players.

Softball opens season

USC starts 2012 campaign with Palmetto Classic at home

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The year before Beverly Smith took over as softball coach for South Carolina, the Gamecocks won just 11 games and went 1-27 in the SEC.

Last season, Smith's first, the club won 26 games. Smith was happy with the progress made, but says the players still haven't reached her goal.

"My expectations this year are the same ones I had last year — to finish .500 or better," Smith said. "We didn't reach that goal last season (going 26-30), but if we can get that goal, we will have a shot to make the NCAA tournament. That is our goal. I know my team better this season, and I am excited to get the season underway."

Carolina will get the 2012 campaign underway Friday at the Palmetto Classic, which will be played here in Columbia at Beckham Field. The Gamecocks will face Tennessee State Friday afternoon, then will turn around and face Western Kentucky and Winthrop on Saturday. USC will finish up the tournament Sunday with a game against Cleveland State.

"We are really just ready to play against someone other than ourselves," Smith said. "We will be facing some quality competition this weekend. I believe all four teams we face are introducing new pitching staffs, so we have to be ready."

With eight position players returning, the Gamecocks will have a mature team this season. Significant returnees include center fielder Lauren Lackey, shortstop Samie Garcia, second baseman Dana Hathorn and pitcher Audrey Broyles.

However, Carolina will have a

new face at catcher and little depth on the mound. Sophomore sensation Julie Sarratt, who tossed a no-hitter in her first collegiate start, will miss the season after undergoing Tommy John surgery. April Borchardt and Ashley Chastain graduated, which will force the Gamecocks to rely heavily on Broyles and senior Kierstyn White this season.

"To be honest, I'm not too concerned with our pitching staff this season," Smith said. "Our three pitchers we will throw out there this weekend are excellent. However, we will not have the depth that we had last year. I remember last year we could pitch three pitchers in a game; we can't do that this season. We are going to need a lot of quality starts."

P.J. Fulmer, who started 179 games at catcher in her four-year career at Carolina, will be replaced by junior college transfer Shelby Gonzales. Gonzales had 27 home runs and 104 RBI last season for North Idaho College. The leaders last year in home runs and RBI for Carolina had five and 28, respectively. Smith says Gonzales will provide more than power for the Gamecocks.

"Shelby brings us a great bat, but she also brings in a lot of experience," Smith said. "All three catchers we brought in to replace P.J. can swing a bat, but Shelby has the most experience."

Winthrop won the Palmetto Showdown in Columbia last year, but Smith is hoping to see a different team from the one that took the field last year.

"I'm looking for our team to come out and compete consistently," Smith said. "I want to see some intensity this season. We have shown it in preseason practice so far; we just have to show it in games now."

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