Welcome back, Gamecocks

As the new class of freshmen comes into Columbia for their four-year journey, The Daily Gamecock is here to inform you on the happenings at USC. Check inside for the latest on student government, campus events, and more.

New this semester
An expanded health center, new law school and new food service provider await the return of USC students throughout this week.

The House that Jerry Built
Jerry Brewer, who was instrumental in developing USC’s Greek Village and the Strom Thurmond Fitness Center, reflects on his tenure with the Department of Student Life as he heads into his 38th year as a USC administrator.

Crime spree
A series of kidnappings and armed robberies along Bluff and Shop roads shocked the USC community last month and forced off-campus housing complexes to re-evaluate their approach to security.

Sarah Stone / THE DAILY GAMECOCK
For me, the start of the fall semester is the most exciting time of the year. Like every semester, it’s a new beginning. Opportunities are available by the handful, and for the most part, what you’ve done before doesn’t really carry over. It’s a time to try new things, meet new people, set new goals and accomplish them.

That’s especially true this year. I’m honored to serve the Carolina community as the editor-in-chief of our storied publication this fall.

Our commitment to bring your source for campus news hasn’t changed, and it never will. But I’m excited to say that the way we bring it to you is evolving.

We know how people, especially students, consume news these days, and it usually isn’t by picking it up from newsstands. We’re making a commitment to meeting you where you are — online.

Along with our fellow Student Media organizations, we plan to bring you plenty of multimedia content, from podcasts to videos and everything in between, all of which will be available on our website and social media feeds.

But as far as the content we bring you? Our goal is to bring you what you want to read, from a student’s perspective.

Not only that, but we want to hear from you. Because our primary purpose is to serve the students and the USC community, we would love to know what you want to see from us. You’re always welcome to message us on social media, call us, shoot us an email or even come up to my office. I want everyone to know that we are receptive to your feedback — good or bad — and that we’re always looking to do more for you.

Whether you’re enjoying the fresh start of a new semester or spending your first fall at USC, I hope you’ll follow along with the new beginnings here at The Daily Gamecock. We’ve got plenty in store for you.

— Adam Orfinger, Editor-in-Chief
University of South Carolina Dining

REDESIGNING

TRANSFORMATION OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS

FRESHNESS.

THE LAB CULINARY STUDIO

QUALITY.

1ST FLOOR RETAIL - CONAGREE RIVER SMOKESHOP

SERVICE.

ENGAGEMENT.

CAROLINA FOOD CO.

FRESH CULINARY CREATIONS
Harris Pastides  University President

It feels absolutely great to welcome each and every one of you “home” to Carolina. You’ve been missed! And for our new students, I can’t wait to meet you. The campus has been busy over the summer, but there is nothing quite like the buzz of activity as a new academic year begins.

I know that our returning students will join Patricia and me in welcoming the most diverse and largest freshman class in the history of Carolina—as well as our new transfer students. We have students from 15 countries, and the District of Columbia are represented in our total undergraduate class.* The world is at your door, all you have to do is open it to learn about cultures and ideas other than your own.

Over the summer I spent time meeting with each of you to set your sights high. You are here because you have earned this opportunity to be a Gamecock. I will continue to ask you to work harder and smarter while still finding time to participate in clubs, activities, intramural sports, student government and more. And when your roommates and classmates perform in concerts, plays and on the field, be sure to support them.

That’s what families do.

Of course, academics are the central reason that you are here and I encourage each of you to visit your advisor. Please don’t put it off. They are the key to scholarship opportunities, internships, study abroad and graduating On Your Time—and that means four years or less!

I also ask each of you to spend some time reading and thinking about the Carolina Creed and how we all should strive to reflect those principles in our daily lives. In particular, I ask you to respect ideas that are different from yours and to engage in reasoned and passionate discourse without being divisive.

Always remember that an essential part of the University experience is to learn from differences in people, ideas and opinions. Let’s continue to look out for each other. As Gamecocks we have an obligation to stand up and speak out when we see a member of our community engaging in potentially dangerous behavior. This includes sexual harassment and/or assault as well as irresponsible use of alcohol. The first six weeks are often a transition period for many of our students. So as a family, keep an eye out, let’s take care of each other.

So here you and I are. Set high goals, make your family and us proud and build a solid foundation for a successful life. I am so happy that you are here. Welcome home.

Ross Lordo  Student Body President

Fellow Carolinians,

It is with much excitement that I welcome you back! Whether you have been taking classes, studying abroad, completing an internship, or finishing up a summer job, there is little I have been looking forward to more than having our entire Gamecock community back on campus to kick off the fall semester.

This year, we are welcoming our largest incoming class in our University’s history. Over 5,800 students have chosen to call Carolina home from all over the world to Columbia, South Carolina to create a student population stronger and more diverse than ever before. Whether this is your first semester on campus or are embarking on your last year, I call on you to get involved alongside you.

At Carolina over 400 unique clubs and organizations provide our students the opportunities to pursue their passions, build lasting relationships, and create positive change. I challenge each one of us to explore something outside of your comfort zone, discover something new, and take advantage of the incredible people and resources we are lucky enough to have at our fingertips.

I would be remiss not to acknowledge that we arrive in a nation’s history. Let us always remember our shared bond; we are all students at this great University. In times of uncertainty, reflection upon our core values forever enshrined in the Carolina Creed reminds us of our oath to “discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions.” In my role as your Student Body President, I am here to represent the over 14,000 students that make up our campus community. I pledge to always be available to you, to listen to your concerns, and to strive to understand and solve the problems that we face together.

Let us make this a great year at our beloved University. Challenge yourself both inside and outside of the classroom, cheer loudly in Williams Brice Stadium on Saturdays, but most importantly, make sure that you will make during your time. We are fortunate to go to the best University in our nation, surrounded by both friends and faculty who support us. Your Student Government Association cannot wait to experience another year at the University of South Carolina alongside you.

Welcome home, Gamecocks.
WELCOME BACK GAMECOCKS!

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in the classroom, but the opportunity Wilcox said. "And this building really education that people want to have," Main Street campus.

feature mostly absent from the old significant use of natural light, a indoor and outdoor facilities and emphasized the building's expanded and updated technology, Wilcox of the 187,500-square-foot building, of Law led media personnel on a tour $80 million Senate Street campus.

USC's newest building on May 16 as @GETHISDOGONETOO Mike Woodel

The public finally got a glimpse of USC's newest building on May 16 as School of Law officials revealed the $80 million Senate Street campus.

Dean Robert Wilcox of the School of Law led media personnel on a tour of the 187,500-square-foot building, which was completed in September 2014. Aside from improved classrooms and study areas, Wilcox emphasized the building's expanded indoor and outdoor spaces and significant use of natural light, a feature mostly absent from the old Main Street campus.

"Going forward, the competition is stronger, you're got to be able to provide the type of education that people want to have," Wilcox said. "And this building really does provide that." Wilcox also said it brought him back to his time at USC.

In addition to what's already available, a new optometry clinic and optical shop is scheduled to open during the spring 2018 semester. Students will have access to basic eye care, eye emergency care and new glasses or contact lenses.

The Thomson Building is also being renovated to include more health services. It is scheduled to re-open in October.

Students and their families can see the new center for themselves during tours offered throughout the day on Move-In Day. Those interested can also take tours on Fridays throughout the fall semester, starting at 2 p.m. each week.

Like many of USC's recent construction projects, the Center is expected to receive a gold certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.
Ongoing construction restricting traffic to popular campus spots

Mike Wood
362-2847

As USC students return to campus over the next week, they will deal with leftover construction from the summer semester. Two ongoing construction projects have temporarily closed off portions of roads on or immediately outside campus. Though expected to wrap within the next month, one recently initiated project currently restricts vehicle access and parking near the Russell House University Union and other buildings along Greene Street.

Throughout the month of August, construction is ongoing on a portion of Greene Street between the gates and the Sumter Street intersection, directly across from both the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and Longstreet Theatre. According to the university, the intent of the project is to widen lanes and introduce a "planted median," extend westbound bike lanes toward Sumter Street, and "create a distinct pedestrian walkway across Greene Street while providing for emergency vehicle access on Greene." Completion of the project is scheduled for "mid-August," according to the university.

While construction is ongoing, daily parking is unavailable in the C3 Facility/Staff lot directly south of the Horseshoe. Motorists are encouraged to instead use the C1 lot near Maxcy and Thornwell colleges instead.

Meanwhile, the portion of Park Street between Blossom and Devine streets is still closed for "infrastructure upgrades," namely, ongoing expansion of the North Energy Facility. Closure of the Park Street access was announced in June, but the road is expected to reopen Sept. 30.

Previously this summer, eastbound traffic on Blossom Street could not turn left onto Bull Street due to ongoing construction in the area. Any drivers wishing to access the Bull Street Garage or parking outside Callcott Social Sciences Center, Women’s Quad and Patterson Hall had to instead head west on Blossom and turn right onto Bull. Construction ceased on Aug. 17 and full access to Bull Street has resumed.

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THE BIGGEST & NEWEST BACK TO SCHOOL POSTER SALE

Where: Davis Field When: Monday August 28 thru Friday September 1 Time: 9 A.M. - 6 P.M. Sponsor: Russell House University Union

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Aramark takes over food contract, additions include full Chick-Fil-A
Mike Woody
Because education is a worthy investment. No one is going to help our state legislature make the decision more than our students and parents. There are currently too many students and parents who are struggling with the day-to-day demands of making ends meet. They are looking to our elected officials to make a decision that will be good for our state. We need our state legislators to do just that.

A fee to pay for construction of a new student union was one of the platforms Lordo ran his campaign on last year. According to his Friday statement, the fee is included in the 2017-18 tuition increase.

Student reaction to the hike has not been as warm as Lordo’s, with most current Gamecocks lamenting the tuition hike.

Fourth-year marine science student Anna Ripley was even less conciliatory.

“I think it’s unfair for universities to continue to raise prices with a college education becoming a standard for many job requirements,” Ripley said.

Further revenue will be generated through increases in academic unit fees for 2017-18, including a doubling of the Greek Village student fee to $250 and a tripling of the fee paid by first-year law students to $1,500.

“Now, more than ever in our 216-year history, the university will depend more on student-funding than state-funding,” Lordo said. “The flagship institution for the state of South Carolina must rely on its students and parents to fill the financial void our state legislature has decided not to fund. As Carolinians, we must continue to lobby our representatives on behalf of all students — past, present and future.”

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“Frankly, I’m always against paying more for something that I pay at a cheaper price the year before,” said third-year computer science student Ryan Dave. “So if anything, I just want to know what’s changing to warrant yet another increase in tuition.”

Michael Vincini, a second-year biology student, was similarly interested in where the new funding will go.

“If it’s all put to a necessary cause,” Vincini said, “then the increase is needed. If it’s not then it’s denying individuals the opportunity to learn at a university.”

No judgment. Just quality medical care.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STD and UTI treatment</th>
<th>Saline IV hydration therapy</th>
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<td>Colds, sinus and allergy</td>
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Check in online at DoctorsCare.com

The presentation named projected the increased tuition figures as $6,131 per semester for resident undergraduate tuition and $16,181 per semester for non-resident undergraduate tuition. The presentation projected the increased tuition figures as $6,131 per semester for resident undergraduate tuition and $16,181 per semester for non-resident undergraduate tuition, increases of $204 and $540 per semester, respectively. The tuition hike is expected to generate $12.9 million in new revenue for USC as of 2017-18.

The hike will likely place USC as the third-most expensive public university in the state behind Winthrop University ($4,700 for in-state undergrads in 2016-17) and Clemson University ($4,189 in 2016-17) this fall. Winthrop and Clemson are both yet to confirm tuition rates for 2017-18. USC has increased tuition every year since 1987.

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Further revenue will be generated through increases in academic unit fees for 2017-18, including a doubling of the Greek Village student fee to $250 and a tripling of the fee paid by first-year law students to $1,500.

Traditional housing plans will also be bumped up 19 percent to $2,661 per student. USC satellite campuses in Aiken, Beaufort and Spartanburg will see a tuition increase of approximately 1 percent in the upcoming academic year.

Editor-in-chief Adam Orfinger contributed to this article.
Mike Model

Many more new Gamecocks than previously anticipated will flock to campus this fall, according to university officials.

With the class of 2021 numbering hundreds more than in years past, the question remains whether the university will be able to properly house its latest batch of freshmen. Though measures will be taken to expand accommodations, Dennis Pruitt, vice provost and vice president of student affairs, is positive it can handle the numbers. The high enrollment may even lead to a new round of staff hiring, Pruitt believes.

Elsewhere in the Southeastern Conference, the University of Missouri announced new layoffs on June 2 partly due to falling enrollment. Perhaps that’s why Pruitt, who also serves as USC’s dean of students, isn’t worried about having too many students. Although enrollment projections are somewhat unreliable due to a wide variety of factors that he calls the “summer effect,” the university’s target was 5,300 to 5,400.

Despite the projected freshman enrollment of 5,600 to 5,700, USC’s target was 5,300 to 5,400. Pruitt said freshman overflow has occurred before, with over 2,000 freshmen arriving each year, but in previous years administration would rent hotel rooms for students through the fall semester. But with a building boom in off-campus student housing, reservations will not be necessary this fall. To accommodate the overflow, the University of Missouri announced new layoffs on June 2 partly due to falling enrollment.

In all, Pruitt estimates 8,200 to 8,500 new students will step onto campus in the fall of 2017, including freshmen, transfers, Gamecock Gateway and more.

“This is a story we haven’t told in a long time,” Pruitt said. “It’s a good news story for us.”

One explanation Pruitt proposed for the sudden jump in enrollment is the phenomenon of American universities undergoing a spike in applications following an outbreak of athletic success. Informally known as the “Flutie Effect,” the concept is named after former Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie.

In a November 1984 football game, Flutie’s Golden Eagles famously edged the defending national champion University of Miami (Fla.) Hurricanes on a 48-yard touchdown pass with no time remaining. Applications to Boston College increased by 12 percent in 1985.

In USC’s case, Pruitt refers to the phenomenon as the “basketball bump,” a nod to the Gamecocks’ dual Final Four runs, one of which ended with a national title. With each tournament win, the USC brand received more and more exposure across television networks and venues in Dallas, Phoenix and New York City.

But the exposure brought on a new challenge. Despite the projected freshman enrollment of 5,600 to 5,700, USC’s target was 5,300 to 5,400. Pruitt said freshman overflow has occurred before, but in previous years administration would rent hotel rooms for students through the fall semester. But with a building boom in off-campus student housing, reservations will not be necessary this fall. To accommodate the overflow, the University of Missouri announced new layoffs on June 2 partly due to falling enrollment.

“Just depends what visa situations are, but we may have to re-visit goal and modify it some,” Pruitt said. “It just depends what visa situations are, but we may have to revisit that goal and modify it some.”

Still standing, he added, is the university’s goal to take in 400 international students in 2021. Pruitt adds that USC is hiring faculty and staff as the student body expands, listing the Career Center and the Office of Financial Aid as two of many departments seeking new employees.

“All the people need service, and there’s jobs being created by that. And more faculty jobs as well. Pruitt said. “It’s a good news story for us.”

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Schedule an appointment with Women’s Health at the Center for Health and Well-Being. Financial assistance may be available for USC students to provide the device and insertion at little to no cost.
The USC system makes an annual economic impact of more than $5 billion statewide, according to a study released Aug. 14 by the Darla Moore School of Business.

Authors of Moore School research economists Jeff Stensland and Mike Woodel, the study looked into the economic impact of the USC system’s 10,000 students and 180,000 in-state alumni. USC associate director for public relations Jeff Scoulard said the study was commissioned as an update to a 2011 economic analysis and sought to prove USC’s "tangible economic benefits to graduates, businesses and communities, throughout South Carolina."

“The economic benefits of higher education are far reaching for both individual citizens and the state as a whole,” Von Nessen said in the study’s release. “Those of individual alumni are improved through earning higher wages and a lifetime of better job opportunities while the community at large also benefits through economic spillover effects and a net increase in tax revenue for the state and counties.”

Overall, the study found that the USC system provides an annual economic impact of $5.5 billion measured in state output and a net total of $3 billion to the state gross domestic product. Included in that is the $220 million USC generates in tax revenue each year.

Across eight schools from Spartanburg to Beaufort, the system also supports the employment of 60,250 South Carolinians, including 16,729 who work for USC directly.

In itself, USC Columbia supports 46,040 jobs and makes a total impact of $4.16 billion on the state economy each year. Both numbers are expected to make an appearance when USC begins to make financial requests for the 2018 state budget. State appropriations will comprise only 0.4 percent of the USC budget this fall, down from 0.5 percent last year and far from the 2 percent in 2007.

“This study once again demonstrates that higher education is unquestionably a worthy investment,” USC President Harris Pastides said in the release. “Supporting higher education is far from a zero sum game — it benefits not only those earning their degrees, but also increases prosperity for the entire state and every sector.”

Higher education funding is down 10 percent in South Carolina since 2008. At the same time, the portion of the USC Columbia budget funded by tuition and fees has ballooned to 48.8 percent.

Pastides’ comment on prosperity for all citizens holds true to the study’s findings on workers with low levels of education. Specifically, it was found that increases in the supply of college graduates affect wages across the economic spectrum, not just for those holding degrees.

Drawing from census data on USC alumni and information from the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the study found that for each 1 percent increase in the state supply of college graduates, high school dropouts around the state saw their wages increase 1.9 percent, high school graduates 1.6 percent and college graduates 2.6 percent.

Addressing how college-educated workers increase wages across their region’s economic spectrum, the study says the "most common" explanation for the wage increase is the "sharing of knowledge and skills in both formal and informal settings across workers."

Expanding upon the extent of USC’s social returns, the study notes that “a more highly educated population is associated with nonfinancial benefits, such as increased voting and volunteering, better health, and improved child educational attainment.”

The study also found a significant discrepancy between the economic well-being of college graduates and non-graduates in the state. 16.1 percent of South Carolina citizens without post-high school education live in poverty. Comparatively, the poverty rate for South Carolinians with at least a bachelor’s degree is only 4.4 percent. The median household income rests between South Carolinians with a bachelor’s degree and those with only a high school education.

Aside from the academic aspect of USC’s impact, the study notes that the Division’s athletic programs support 2,787 jobs and contribute nearly $227 million to the state economy each year.

For more information on the Attractions of University of South Carolina: 

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Examples of services available (some of our services are pre-paid with the student health fee, which is part of tuition; please see sa.sc.edu/shs for more info):

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- Disease management with wellness and prevention strategies
- Examinations of wounds and suturing of injuries
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- Free flu shots (look for our clinics beginning in late September)
- 10 individual sessions w/ a counselor per academic year
- Consultations for stress management, nutrition, exercise, tobacco cessation and sexual health

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**fall/spring**
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8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. M-Th - extended counseling hours 2-8 p.m. Sundays

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New health center:
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Thomson Building
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803-777-3175

**NEW AND EXPANDED SERVICES**

- Enhanced exam space with the addition of mental health specialists
- Expanded sports medicine and physical therapy services including a complete rehab gym
- Expanded pharmacy services including more prescription medicines and over-the-counter drugs
- A new state-of-the-art demonstration kitchen to teach healthy eating habits
- Further supports the Patient-Centered Medical Home model (sa.sc.edu/shs/medical-model)
- A new eye clinic to treat minor eye injuries and an optical shop for contacts and glasses coming spring 2018

**HEALTHY CAMPUS INITIATIVES**

- Sexual assault and violence prevention & advocacy
- Wellness consultations, including stress management, nutrition, exercise, tobacco cessation & sexual health
- Healthy Carolina campus initiatives, programs and healthy policies

**MENTAL HEALTH**

- Counseling
- Psychiatry
- Individual & group therapy
- Outreach
- Crisis intervention
- Psychiatric evaluations
- Medication management

**MEDICAL**

- General/primary care
- Women’s health
- Vision care
- Lab testing
- X-rays
- Immunizations
- Travel consultations
- Sports medicine & physical therapy
- Pharmacy (transfer refills here) - Allergy shots
- Immunizations
- Travel consultations
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**FAST FACTS**

- Opened July 2017
- Located behind the Russell House University Union
- 68,000-square-foot
- Seeking a LEED environmentally mindful certification
- Features design elements that include all the dimensions of wellness (sa.sc.edu/healthycarolina/wheel)
Students' Summit brings unity, reality check to keep 20 South Carolina schools on course.

Mike Woodel / TIMES-DISPATCH

Student government representatives state-level came together over the weekend to discuss empowering South Carolina's 100,000-strong student demographic. The first event of its kind, the South Carolina Student Body Presidents' Summit brought together representatives from 20 state colleges and universities from around the state to discuss issues facing Palmetto State scholars. Opened and closed by USC student body president Russ Lordo, the Summit featured an appearance from two members of the South Carolina House of Representatives and the signing of a two-page proclamation symbolizing dedication to uniting student voices.

Among other things, the gathered student body presidents used the proclamation to affirm the principle that higher education should be affordable and accessible to all students, regardless of race, religion, color, ancestry, ethnicity, age, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, sex, disability status or any other class protected under applicable law. Other sections were set aside to outline objectives for advocacy in local, state and federal government as well as student-specific issues such as campus sexual assault and hazing.

In the section highlighting issues of state government advocacy, mention is made of federal and state funding for state universities and colleges. According to a proclamation, since 2000 South Carolina's bond issuances for higher education have amounted to one-seventh the amount issued by Georgia and one-twelfth the amount issued by North Carolina. With these numbers in mind, the proclamation asserts the presidents' intention to "call on all state representatives, state senators and the governor to make higher education a priority during the next legislative session" and "invite our state leaders to make higher education an investment in the lives of South Carolina's students." According to the proclamation, the University of South Carolina is comprised 23 percent of USC revenue and the USC Board of Trustees voted on June 23 to increase tuition 3.46 percent for the 2011-2012 academic year. State Rep. Brandon Newton (R-Lancaster), a USC alumni, warned the gathered student representatives that the days of South Carolina universities being funded 20 to 30 percent by the state are likely "gone." He added that content is key to effective arguments for state funding, saying that legislators already absorb too many arguments that ignore or distort key facts. And, on Newton's own words: "We hear a lot of bullcrap." Newton is well familiar with the financial woes of South Carolina universities in this decade, having graduated from USC only last year. At 23, he is the youngest sitting member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. Joining Newton on Saturday's panel was Rep. Micah Caskey (R-Lexington), who focused on higher education as an investment. Caskey said that higher education is a difficult sell to state taxpayers who did not attend college. But, he said, that sell must be made to keep state universities-funded. How do we do that in the context of our current practical landscape? Caskey said: "And that's a thing that you got to ask yourself."

Drawing from census data, the U.S. Department of Education estimated that 32 percent of South Carolina residents aged 25-34 held a college degree in 2010. South Carolina's mark was just short of the national average of 35.2 percent and a far cry from Massachusetts 41.1 percent, tops in the country. When asked by College of Charleston student body vice president Tipp Kirk how students can be effective advocates, Caskey advised that students in or out of state government reach out to state legislators and, echoing Newton, present thorough arguments when meeting with them. "You should be empowering more people at your institutions, more club leaders, everybody to be reaching out to your legislators to come and talk," Caskey said. A Columbia native, Caskey received both of his postgraduate degrees from USC and maintains a law firm in West Columbia.

Jay Selickey, director of USC's Legislative Action Network, and former Clemson governmental affairs director Maggie Ambrose also presented the particulars of their universities' Student Higher Education Report Card. A joint undertaking of Clemson and USC student government officials, the Report Card singled out Assembly members for their respective house's "House Roll" for having voting records friendly to higher education. January's report placed 29 state senators (46 total) and 66 state representatives (126) on the Senate and House House Rolls. Ambrose said Saturday that she didn't realize the power of South Carolina's student constituency until she began work on the Report Card in 2016. "I didn't realize until we started working on the Report Card," Ambrose said. "There was a lot of pushback because everyone was saying, 'Oh my God, people are gonna look at this and ... it's going to make people mad.'"

Meet with an attorney for a FREE consultation. Issues including:

- Landlord-Tenant
- Domestic Relations
- Consumer Protection
- Employment Law
- Probate Law
- Housing
- Consumer Credit
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- College is full of surprises. Maybe we can help.

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Byline: The Daily Gamecock

Mike Woodel / TIMES-DISPATCH

Student government representatives state-level came together over the weekend to discuss empowering South Carolina's 100,000-strong student demographic. The first event of its kind, the South Carolina Student Body Presidents' Summit brought together representatives from 20 state colleges and universities from around the state to discuss issues facing Palmetto State scholars. Opened and closed by USC student body president Russ Lordo, the Summit featured an appearance from two members of the South Carolina House of Representatives and the signing of a two-page proclamation symbolizing dedication to uniting student voices.

Among other things, the gathered student body presidents used the proclamation to affirm the principle that higher education should be affordable and accessible to all students, regardless of race, religion, color, ancestry, ethnicity, age, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, sex, disability status or any other class protected under applicable law. Other sections were set aside to outline objectives for advocacy in local, state and federal government as well as student-specific issues such as campus sexual assault and hazing.

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Mike Woodell
@GETTHISDOGONETOO

Next Thursday marks the beginning of Jerry Brewer's 38th academic year behind a desk for USC's Department of Student Life, though not so you'd notice. His office in Russell House's secluded West Wing is out of the way but well-furnished: books taking up one wall, with plans for a new campus development project hanging from the shelves. In front of them, Brewer looks back on what he's accomplished since his first days as director of Student Media in 1980, a position he soon grew out of.

This position as associate vice president of Student Life came about and allowed him to oversee Student Life as a whole, eventually expanding virtually everything from Greek Life real estate to Student Government influence. His accomplishments have earned him more than a few fans along the way.

"He's been a great mentor to everyone that has come through here," student body vice president Dani Goodreau said.

"He was a very smart businessman, but he uses that for the benefit of the students, and it's pretty awesome." Goodreau said the old system of registration for student organizations: Your group asked a particular sect of students to join, that sect identified you as another unique opportunity. His summary of how student services have since changed is simple.

"The quality of the university of the whole, the students, the academics, to status has grown immensely with it," he said. "It basically consisted of, 'Okay, let's check some things out and play basketball.'" Brewer said. "But that's changed in society and it's changed on the college campus.

His position as associate vice president of Student Life came about and allowed him to oversee Student Life as a whole, eventually expanding virtually everything from Greek Life real estate to Student Government influence. His accomplishments have earned him more than a few fans along the way.

"He has been a great mentor to everyone that has come through here," student body vice president Dani Goodreau said.

"I've probably touched a little bit of about everything," Brewer said.

And he has. Up until last month, Brewer's duties as associate vice president had him overseeing most student activities that took place outside a classroom, including substance abuse prevention and operation of Russell House.

But the campus wasn't always the way Brewer has known it to be today.

"Jerry went for advice, Jerry who developed Greek Village and Strom, Jerry who proposed an end to pledging in Free Times last June. "I've probably touched a little bit of about everything," Brewer said.

"He has been a great mentor to everyone that has come through here," student body vice president Dani Goodreau said.

"I've probably touched a little bit of about everything," Brewer said.

"When asked about his interim replacement, Anna Edwards, Brewer says one of his keys to good leadership is having staff members with "a lot of time to really get into facility development for students, as another unique opportunity.

Brewer does not declare a side in the debate, only arguing, "That's the way it is these days, money-wise."

The general theme was, 'Well, the state of South Carolina should fund the cost of higher education,' because that's an economic engine," Brewer said of his early days at USC. "At this point, I think the majority of people view higher education as 'it ought to be funded by the student and their parents,' because that's the benefactor of it."

Brewer's duties as associate vice president had him overseeing most student activities that took place outside a classroom, including substance abuse prevention and operation of Russell House.

"And I think I've done that," Brewer said. "I think we've seen a lot of time to do that now. We need that."

Brewer's new position with Student Life has him focused on development and fundraising for university projects, a job for which there is no endgame at an institution expanding as quickly as USC. But he sees it as another unique opportunity.

"We were always in a situation where you never had a lot of time to really get into facility development for students and student functions before," Brewer said. "So I'm gonna have a lot of time to do that now. We need that."
A string of armed robberies and kidnappings along Bluff and Shop roads, the USC community is on edge.

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced July 27 that two suspects were arrested in connection with seven armed incidents in July.

Lott's announcement came only days after rumors of students being abducted from outside their homes began to circulate on social media. Police reports of two incidents did not name any suspects, and Lott only eventually named one of the three in custody as two were juveniles.

Lott said that the suspects in custody on July 27, 17-year-old Rappaport Green and a 15-year-old juvenile, were involved in a total of seven armed incidents over the preceding four weeks. The suspects began by robbing and assaulting food delivery drivers but eventually escalated to kidnappings.

According to Lott, Green has a previous criminal record, but the July incidents do not show a connection to gang activity. Lott said an investigation is still ongoing and that the Richland County Sheriff's Department has obtained a significant amount of evidence in the cases. He added that residents should remain on guard in the incidents and eyewitness accounts. Lott also complimented the community, saying he told the investigation "tremendously.

"That's the best I could've asked for jumping out of a moving vehicle," Dinsmore said. Lott said the suspects had used complex tools to enter cars, as well as special events or water maintenance emergency, to give themselves a sense of possible criminal presence.

"If I know I can't ask for everything and anything, but I know if those things put together, but I hope that in the future they start moving towards that," Dinsmore said.

The Village at Columbia announced increased security patrols, including the addition of a second residential police officer to their community, on July 28.

At the time of the statement, one Richland County police officer-already lived in The Village and conducted nightly foot patrols. The community has 24/7 "professional management plus a security patrol service," the statement said.

The management team also says they are cooperating fully with law enforcement in connection with the recent reported incident, referring to the kidnapping and robbery of Jordan Dinsmore on July 26. The Village management is "grateful to have learned of the recent arrests of two individuals in connection with this incident and other local incidents." The statement says they are working with Columbia and the community to increase safety and prevent further incidents in their community.

"Definitely utilize the security measures that you've got — the security staff and all that kind of stuff," Lott said the day after her attack. "I mean, they have nothing better to do than walk you to your door at 2 a.m."
Columbia stands with victims of Charlottesville attack at Statehouse rally

By Mike Wood
The Daily Gamecock

True to the event’s name, Columbia stood with Charlottesville on the grounds of the South Carolina Statehouse Monday evening.

Simply titled Columbia stands with Charlottesville, the gathering was held in reaction to a Saturday incident in which a man killed one person and injured several others by driving his car into a crowd in the midst of a white nationalist rally in Virginia.

For two hours Monday evening, Columbia residents of all ages and races listened to speakers from community leaders while wandering the Statehouse grounds with signs calling for peace and open-mindedness in the wake of the attack.

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjami welcomed the crowd from the Statehouse steps by assuring them of his support for their cause.

“God bless you,” Benjamin said.

“Know that your city is with you,” Benjamin’s speech was succeeded by one from State Rep. Beth Bernstein (D-Richland), who represents District 78 in southern Richland County.

Bernstein told the crowd that growing 78 in southern Richland County.

(Mike Woodel/ The Daily Gamecock)

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(Mike Woodel/ The Daily Gamecock)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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| Tues., Aug. 22, 2017 | FIRST NIGHT CAROLINA  
9-10:30 P.M.  
COLONIAL LIFE ARENA |
| Wed., Aug. 23, 2017     | NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION  
10 A.M.-11:30 A.M.  
COLONIAL LIFE ARENA  
STUDENT MEDIA SHOWCASE  
NOON-2 P.M.  
GREENE STREET  
OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL  
STUDENT AFFAIRS  
COMMUNITY CARNIVAL  
4-7 P.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE BALLROOM  
BUSTLE AT THE RUSSELL  
9 P.M.-MIDNIGHT |
| Thurs., Aug. 24, 2017   | CAROLINA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
BACK TO CLASS BASH:  
CALENDAR LAUNCH  
11 A.M.-2 P.M.  
GREENE STREET  
CAROLINA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
BACK TO CLASS BASH:  
KICKOFF CONCERT  
6-7 P.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE PATIO  
CAROLINA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
BACK TO CLASS BASH:  
The EVASONS MENTALIST DUO  
7-8:15 P.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE BALLROOM  
CAROLINA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
BACK TO CLASS BASH:  
The EVASONS MENTALIST DUO  
10-11:15 P.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE BALLROOM  
CAROLINA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
BACK TO CLASS BASH:  
“LOGAN”  
MIDNIGHT SCREENING  
11:30 P.M.-2:30 A.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE THEATER |
| Fri., Aug. 25, 2017     | OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS  
PART-TIME JOB FAIR  
1-4 P.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE BALLROOM  
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN  
STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL COOKOUT  
5-8 P.M.  
GREENE STREET  
CAROLINA AFTER DARK PRESENTS  
THINKFAST  
10-11:30 P.M.  
RUSSELL HOUSE BALLROOM |
| Sat., Aug. 26, 2017     | SERVICE SATURDAY  
8:30 A.M.-1 P.M.  
CHECK-IN AT DAVIS FIELD II  
(LONGSTREET SIDE)  
FUN IN THE SUN AT STROM  
5-9 P.M.  
STROM THURMOND WELLNESS CENTER |
the beauty of what we are trying to do and how we will conduct our practices.

UGA Game Night

UGA Wrestling vs. Georgia 7:00 p.m.

Wrestling Night at UGA

Music, Fun, Food, and Games! Come hang out with us on Blatt Fields 2-7:30 p.m.

Free T-shirts, Free Pokémon Go Plus, Free Pokéball, Music, Food, Games! Come one and all to enjoy a night of fun and games!

We will be at Blatt Fields, Main Campus, looking to have fun and enjoy the Gamecock football victory!

Midtown Field Day

1-4 p.m.

Blatt Ballroom

Sponsored by: McKendree College

Come hang out with us on Blatt fields for free games and a chance to see our DOGLOGO! This is the perfect opportunity to make new friends and have a blast!

The First College Ministry is a student organization at the University of South Carolina that seeks to bring students together to share in the joy and love of Christ. Our goal is to provide a welcoming environment for all students, regardless of their background or beliefs. We believe that everyone is created in the image of God and that all people are capable of change. Our mission is to help people come to know Christ and grow closer to Him through worship, study, service, and fellowship.

Middletown Student Alliance Back to School Picnic 2:30–5 p.m.

Campus Recreation

Join us at the U.S. Student Government's载体 picnic! We will make sure you get in for free! Bring your CarolinaCard to get in for free! Make sure you get your CarolinaCard scanned to earn a reward point for attending the match.

Gamecock Volleyball 7:00 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Mercer 7:00 p.m.

Volleyball at the Harn Pickleball Center

Sponsored by: University of South Carolina Athletics

Come out to the Carolina Volleyball Center for a women's volleyball match as they take on the Mercer Bears. Gates open at 6 p.m. and you just need to bring your CarolinaCard to get in for free! Make sure you get your CarolinaCard scanned to earn a reward point for attending the match.

Frisbee with Alkide Club 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Meet in Russell House 302

Come play in the dark with the Frisbee with Alkide Club! Make new friends and take a break after the first week of classes! Meet in Russell House 302 at 3:30 p.m. Refreshments and gate prizes will be given away!

Mock Trial Information Session 10-11:30 p.m.

Russell House, Room 302

Sponsored by: McKendree College

This is an informational session and interval meeting for all students interested in pursuing a career in the field of law. Each program, you are given the opportunity to prepare for legal offices such as the student association and against each other. Participants portray the witnesses and attorneys. At the end of each year, we will discuss how we will conduct our practices.

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Aries
Handle domestic chores and routines such as laundry or dishes. Don’t worry about the future, decrease an immediate irritation. Clean and beautify your space.

Taurus
Talk about a current project and short-term objectives. Don’t obsess over the big picture; it could seem scary. Take one step at a time. Could seem scary. Take one step at a time.

Cancer
Pamper yourself. Try a new outfit or hairstyle. Soak in hot water. Set yourself to something.

Leo
Nearby you exists more than one way to move. Pull yourself into your comfortable shell. Discover a silver lining and review the situation.

Sagittarius
Manage accounts and finances with your partner. Don’t concern yourself over long-term matters now; handle immediate concerns. Share resources, solutions and ideas. Collaborate for success.

Pisces
Spread your wings and fly. Explore and investigate uncharted territory. It could get messy. Unplanned deviations reveal their fabulous secrets.

Capricorn
Talk about a current project and short-term objectives. Don’t obsess over the big picture; it could seem scary. Take one step at a time. Could seem scary. Take one step at a time.

Aquarius
An assignment may require extra work. New hurdles appear as you thought you were ready to reach the finish line. Slow down to get done faster.

Songs to today’s puzzle
1. “Don’t Stop Believin'” by Journey
2. “Eye of the Tiger” by Survivor
3. “We Will Rock You” by Queen
4. “Bohemian Rhapsody” by Queen
5. “I Will Survive” by Gloria Gaynor

Solutions to today’s puzzle
1. 1:30
2. 1:20
3. 1:10
4. 1:00
5. 0:50

Daily Crossword
Across
1 Down time
2 Visiting Pimlico
3 About to receive
4 Went down
5 Golf chip path
6 Inaccurate
74 Court call
8 Blowfish
9 Wells race
10 Farm structure
11 Enjoys a buffet,
12 _ counseling
13 __ cross
14 Skewer relative
15 Farm structure
16 ___ cross
17 Indispensable
18 ___ cross
19 Indispensable
20 Leave in
21 ___ cross
22 ___ cross
23 Partner of Capricorn
24 ___ cross
25 Comfortable (jazz)
26 ___ cross
27 ___ course
28 Old plucked trout
29 Dawn goddess
30 Bread
31 Toy used on shared commitments
32 Order to Spot
33 About to receive
34 Rural road track
35 Disney character
36 Go Fish request
37 Eyes opened
38 ___ cross
39 ___ cross
40 ___ cross
41 ___ cross
42 ___ cross
43 Down time
44 Makes joyous
45 Miami
46 Very little
47 Joyless
48 Very little
49 Dicey situation
50 Agent
51 ___ cross
52 ___ cross
53 ___ cross
54 ___ cross
55 Physics unit
56 ___ cross
57 “An Enemy of the People”
58 Trident-shaped letters
59 ___ cross
60 Order to Spot
61 Act as lookout, 
62 ___ cross
63 Sugar source
64 ___ cross
65 ___ cross
66 ___ cross
67 “Fairest of ___”
68 Dandy
69 Partner of Capricorn
70 Forward attitude
71 Pizzeria chain
72 Stick dwellings
73 ___ cross
74 Court call

Down
1 Visiting Pimlico
2 ___ cross
3 ___ cross
4 ___ cross
5 ___ cross
6 ___ cross
7 ___ cross
9 ___ cross
10 ___ cross
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73 ___ cross
74 ___ cross

18/8/17

Daily Crossword
Handcrafted • Designed by The Gamecock

Across
1 Sound check item
4 Went down
5 Golf chip path
6 “The Big Sleep”
74 Court call
8 Golf chip path
9 ___ cross
10 ___ cross
11 ___ cross
12 ___ cross
13 ___ cross
14 ___ cross
15 ___ cross
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Daily Sudoku
By The Mepham Group
8/18/17

Grid:

Crossword
Handcrafted • Designed by The Gamecock

Daily Sudoku
By The Mepham Group
8/18/17

Grid:

The Daily Gamecock
CLASSIFIEDS, ETC.
Friday, August 18, 2017

HOUSING

3BD/1.5BA GREAT quartet heart of Downtown. Under renovation. New wood floors, units, yards, paint. Move in Oct. Cash or w/exceptional credit. Awaiting distance sheet. Contact C. USC, 5 points. Lumberland takes care of big backyard. No pets, no weeklies. 6th floor. 482-4343 (call then text). Email application 3:00 credit score, background check. Pictures come with application.

C: 832-945-0114

EMPLOYMENT

Administrative Assistant looking for part-time administrative assistant: all office materials, maintaining supplies and equipment; handling all incoming phone calls; answering questions; confirming student orders; organizing of classes, etc. You must be able to handle phone service with a fast pace during the work day. Position can be adjusted to fit your current needs. Please schedule an interview to see if your availability during the week that fits with the position’s needs.

Email melissamoves.com

Sandhill Tech is seeking an individual to teach the newly established high school technical team. Interested applicants please contact Sallie Atkins, Director of Administration

sallie(at)sandhillstech.org

Babysitting.
Selecting: Child-Looking for a driver to pick-up kids at elementary school and drop off at my work. 3:30-3:30 p.m. Email i lpug@bellsouth.net

Pasta Fresco opening: 9007/ 5360/3320/2250
5:00-9:30 to evening/ weekends. Apply in person between 4pm-6pm Fri at 4720 Towanda

HOROSCOPES

PHD • JORGE CHAM

Aries Handle domestic chores and routines such as laundry or dishes. Don’t worry about the future, decrease an immediate irritation. Clean and beautify your space.

Taurus Talk about a current project and short-term objectives. Don’t obsess over the big picture; it could seem scary. Take one step at a time. Could seem scary. Take one step at a time.


Leo Nearby you exists more than one way to move. Pull yourself into your comfortable shell. Discover a silver lining and review the situation.

Sagittarius Manage accounts and finances with your partner. Don’t concern yourself over long-term matters now; handle immediate concerns. Share resources, solutions and ideas. Collaborate for success.

Pisces Spread your wings and fly. Explore and investigate uncharted territory. It could get messy. Unplanned deviations reveal their fabulous secrets.

Capricorn Talk about a current project and short-term objectives. Don’t obsess over the big picture; it could seem scary. Take one step at a time. Could seem scary. Take one step at a time.

Aquarius An assignment may require extra work. New hurdles appear as you thought you were ready to reach the finish line. Slow down to get done faster.

Crossword
Edition by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis
8/18/17

A21
Freshmen, watch out for foreign language requirements that the “isms” the SJWs whine about the party in recent years. You understand Giuliani, Huckabee and Trump take over my reasons why.

people who identify as such, explaining category are people who identify as white supremacist flashmob are “very the Minecraft Let's Play community. Isn't in the KKK, the White House or They're also boring, because I assume simple and not publishable in this paper.

— which, by the way, does live up to will not be completely rewarded for your more practical bit of advice that was never explained to me at orientation: You wish I could've told myself.

The beginning of the fall semester is fast approaching, and I am returning to this school for the second time as a freshman. Technically, I'm going to be a grad student, but I tend to think of it like a freshman.

The hype. One of the requirements was to minor in a language. No problem, I thought, I had studied Spanish since grade school and wanted to learn as much as I could in order to speak the language well.

As the start of college, everyone has to take a placement test to decide what level of your language you are in, in IB and AP exams, which should have been sufficient, didn't count. But I still didn't feel like the best way to gauge your student body's aptitude for the language.

Luckily, I did well enough on my test to take level 1 classes, which are junior level courses. I was chuffed. This meant, I thought originally, that I only had to take four 300 level courses and I would have my minor. I was told that at orientation and the three 300 level courses and I would have my originall, that I only had to take four 300 level courses does not be finished and move on to more IB-level Spanish classes. I was excited to.

Fiscal conservatism equality can’t coexist.

Fiscal conservatism equality can’t coexist.

LISTEN TO THE EDITOR REQUIREMENTS

Letters to the editor must not exceed 350 words. Students must include their full name, major and year. Faculty and staff must include their name, title and department. Community members must include their full name and applicable job title. Verifiable statements of fact must include at least one source. If you cannot verify a statement of fact, your letter will not be published unless the writer implements necessary changes or provides reputable sources for any facts in question. Letters are edited for clarity, style and grammar. Letters to the editor must be typed and/or signed. Letters to the editor must be submitted online at opinion@dailygamecock.com or mail them to:

The Daily Gamecock
1400 Greene Street
Columbia, SC 29205

LETTER TO THE EDITOR REQUIREMENTS

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Friday, August 18, 2017

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investigations into student conduct. If you are found guilty of a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, you will be subject to sanctions ranging from a reprimand to suspension. If you remain on your conduct record, you will also have a permanent record and may be subject to future rulings. If you choose to appeal the outcome of your case, you have the right to a fair and impartial hearing. The Office of Student Conduct is an impartial body that is not subject to outside influence or bias. If you have any questions about the conduct process, please feel free to contact the Office of Student Conduct at your university.

Secondly, all matters related to student conduct are handled in the same way as matters related to criminal or civil law. This means that the Office of Student Conduct operates independently of academic or disciplinary processes. If you are found guilty of a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, you will be subject to sanctions ranging from a reprimand to suspension. If you remain on your conduct record, you will also have a permanent record and may be subject to future rulings. If you choose to appeal the outcome of your case, you have the right to a fair and impartial hearing. The Office of Student Conduct is an impartial body that is not subject to outside influence or bias. If you have any questions about the conduct process, please feel free to contact the Office of Student Conduct at your university.

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WELCOME BACK, GAMECOCKS!

THE APARTMENTS AT PALMETTO COMPRESS

612 Devine St., Columbia, SC 29201

PALMETTOCOMPRESS.COM
leasing@palmettocompress.com

OLYMPIA MILL
600 Heyward St

GRANBY MILL
510 Heyward St

612 WHALEY
612 Whaley St

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!

WINNER OF BEST OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING THE LAST 6 YEARS!

Bi-level pool house featuring ping pong, billiards, life-sized chess, and sun deck

Open air courtyard with private porches, balconies, and slide

State-of-the-art fitness center with cardio and strength-training equipment

On-site parking

1-, 2-, & 3-BR Apts – Reserve for Fall 2018!

THE MILLS

WELCOME BACK, GAMECOCKS!

Bi-level pool house featuring ping pong, billiards, life-sized chess, and sun deck

Open air courtyard with private porches, balconies, and slide

State-of-the-art fitness center with cardio and strength-training equipment

On-site parking

1-, 2-, & 3-BR Apts – Reserve for Fall 2018!

WINNER OF BEST OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING THE LAST 6 YEARS!

Two-story, State-of-the-art fitness center with Peloton Cycle® Studio and strength-training equipment

Resident billiards lounge with pool, ping pong, shuffleboard & poker tables

State-of-the-art fitness center with cardio and strength-training equipment

On-site parking

1-, 2-, 3- & 4-BR Apts – Reserve for Fall 2018!

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY!

803.667.3705

PMCPROPERTYGROUP
In this section
Columbia is alive with music, art, theatre, food — all sorts of culture, both on and off campus. Our purpose is to clue you in to events that you might not have heard of and recommend artists, videogames, books and movies that you might miss.

B4 Events to look for
The State Fair and Pride Festivals are staples of South Carolina culture. Columbia’s music venues regularly host popular musicians and bands, and here are our recommendations for what not to miss this fall.

B7 Study haunts
When midterms and finals week roll around, you’ll need to hit the books. Whether you need solitude or a steady flow of caffeine, we know the place for you.

B16 Main Street renovations
The Columbia Museum of Art is central to the city’s cultural scene. By fall 2018, the museum will feature a larger event space and more accessible, inviting entrance.
The Palmetto State Mixtape

Jenna Schiferl
@JENNASCHIF

Whether you are an incoming freshman or a fifth semester “super senior,” fall is the perfect time to learn more about musicians hailing from The Palmetto State. Below is a playlist that consists entirely of local bands. It features obscure student ensembles such as Happy, with their tongue-in-cheek track “You’ll Probably Never Hear This Because It Isn’t by Dashboard Confessional,” to big-name artists Iron & Wine and Band of Horses.

1. “Security,” Stop Light Observations
2. “Casual Party,” Band of Horses
3. “My Own Way,” Atlas Road Crew
4. “You’ll Probably Never Hear This Because It Isn’t by Dashboard Confessional,” Happy
6. “This Must Be The Place,” Iron & Wine; Ben Bridwell
7. “Wild With You,” The High Divers
8. “Priscilla,” Dear Blanca
10. “Meh,” Heyrocco
12. “Unknown Legend,” Shovels & Rope; Shakey Graves
15. “Dreams,” Grace Joyner
17. “Find My Way,” The Moon Moths
18. “Just Woke Up,” Beach Tiger

A native of Chapin, South Carolina, Sam Beam from Iron & Wine has reached mainstream success.

STUDENT MEDIA SHOWCASE

AUGUST 23
GREENE STREET
NOON - 2 P.M.
LEARN HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!
FIND ALL FOUR ORGANIZATIONS ON:
University of South Carolina School of Music presents

Bernstein MASS

A Theatre Piece for Singers, Players and Dancers

South Carolina Premiere

March 2 & 3, 7:30 & March 4, 3:00
Koger Center for the Arts

Bernstein’s MASS brings profound messages of peace and unity.

The USC School of Music celebrates the centenary of Leonard Bernstein’s birth with his monumental theatre work – one of the most profound stage works ever created in English and an iconic piece of Americana.

The epic stage production includes two orchestras, a rock band, a blues band, choirs, singers, dancers and actors, and features as the Celebrant, tenor KEVIN VORTMANN, who has performed the role to critical praise with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Sung in English, Latin and Hebrew.

Tickets on sale now
Call 803-251-2222, in person at the Koger Box Office at the corner of Greene and Park (M-F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or online at kogercenterforthearts.com
Adult: $30; Senior/USC Faculty & Staff/ Military $25; Student w/ID & Children $10
Discount available for groups of 15+ tickets

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Discount available for groups of 15+ tickets
Events in Cola you don’t want to miss

Stay updated on the upcoming events coming to Columbia in the upcoming months.

Aug. 21


the eclipse

The eclipse will take place at 2:41 p.m. on Monday afternoon and will last for about 2 minutes. Those on 120 festivals and events taking place over eclipse weekend throughout Columbia. This is one in a lifetime opportunity that you won’t want to miss.

Sep. 14


close to the moon

Columbia Greek Festival

This year marks the 31st annual Columbia Greek Festival, hosted by the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in downtown. The festival include vendors, food trucks and entertainment. The event will feature a live performance by the Holy Trinity Greek Choir, a traditional Greek dance, and other festive events.

Oct. 11


closed to the moon

South Carolina State Fair

The annual fair in the heart of the Palmetto State kicks off this fall with a variety of free rides and entertainment. The fair includes a midway, agricultural exhibits, and live music performances.

Oct. 18


closed to the moon

Columbia Pride Festival

This year marks the 21st annual Columbia Pride Festival, and it will continue for the first time the festival kicks off tonight. All the activities will be held at the Civic Center, and it will also be the first time the festival kicks off in New York City. The event will feature live music, food trucks, and a variety of entertainment options.

Event.

Oct. 17


closed to the moon

Tourist to Country Life Arena

This classic rock band has toured all over the world and, for the first time, will play a show in Columbia in mid-October. Tickets cost $25 - $102.

Oct. 18


closed to the moon

Spoon at Music Farm Columbia

For those who are more into the indie/alternative music scene, Spoon will play a show at Music Farm Columbia. The venue is opening room-only, general admission and tickets are $10 - $30.

Oct. 20


closed to the moon

Foo Fighters - Colonial Life Arena

This classic rock band has toured all over the world and, for the first time, will play a show in Columbia in mid-October. Tickets cost $50 - $102.

Oct. 27


closed to the moon

South Carolina State Fair

This year marks the 31st annual Columbia Greek Festival, hosted by the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral in downtown. The festival include vendors, food trucks and entertainment. The event will feature a live performance by the Holy Trinity Greek Choir, a traditional Greek dance, and other festive events.

Oct. 30


closed to the moon

Sound & Vision - Madonna

The event will feature a live performance by Madonna, and will last for about 2 minutes. There are over 120 festivals and events taking place over eclipse weekend throughout Columbia. This is one in a lifetime opportunity that you won’t want to miss.

Nov. 3


closed to the moon

Moon River Music Festival

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors will perform a new album, “Souvenir,” and will continue to tour as an American icon that are well known your favorite shows. You can see the schedule below.

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors, an established American band from Tennessee, will be performing at the Moon River Amphitheater in Lexington on Aug. 21. Holcomb took the time to sit down with TDG to discuss his upcoming show, his latest album and how he feels about touring with the legendary Willie Nelson.

“We’ve been coming to South Carolina for a long time, not a lot to the Columbia area so this is exciting for us,” Holcomb said of playing at Ijams. “For whatever reason our music always seems to do well in both Nashville and South Carolina, so I’m really excited for it.”

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors’ new album, “Souvenir,” is a tender statement to bringing back the lasting qualities of what makes every person and place unique. After the success of the band’s last album, “Medicine,” Holcomb was ready to go with the flow of how the band operated into the studio.

“The last thing you do is make music that you believe in and I kind of let the chips fall. Not trying to be anything for radio — commercial success. Just make music that you love that comes from an honest point of view that can resonate more with people,” Holcomb said.

The message to get out of “Souvenir” is to hold on to what you cherish, whether it’s in memories, symbols or objects. Holcomb tries to make his songs resonate souvenirs in their tone and content.

“I invoke a sort of narrative or emotion, like a song like, ‘Mama’s Sunshine, Daddy’s Rain,’ I think you have to get your head out and try to make the music match the spirit of the song. So that song is about a dad — me — loving my daughter. So it’s like you want to make the music match that emotion, Holcomb said.

One of the biggest changes for “Souvenir” was the amount of collaboration in the songwriting and production processes. All the different inputs into the album was what made “Souvenir” sound so much grander and more eclectic than their previous repertoire.

Everyone has different ideas to bring to the table musically speaking and that’s sort of the magic of it,” Holcomb said. “Half the battle is gathering the right team in the first place.

The second half is letting everybody have space to dialog and collaborate and cooperate and that sort of where the magic happens.”

All that collaboration in the studio brought a familiar face back into the group: Ellie Holcomb, Drew’s wife and a member of The Neighbors until she left for her own singing career came back to sing on the ballad “Black and Blue.”

“We sort of already laid out most of the track down,” Holcomb said. “She came in, worked out the vocals, the key, all that beforehand... she’s kind of, yeah, this is fun, we used to do this all the time. Now it’s a little bit more of a novelty!”

Due to an unforeseen medical emergency, Holcomb was not there to approve the final mixed tracks. Facing a deadline, Holcomb had to complete his friendship in his band members finishing “Souvenir.”

“One of the ways we were more collaborative than the ones we’ve done in the past, they definitely had more of a stake in the way they sounded. They know what I like. I had to trust them with it, and in some ways they might’ve done a better job than even I would have,” Holcomb said.

In those increasingly tense times that our country faces, Holcomb thinks his songs like “Wild World” are examples of what music has the ability to do.

“The biggest thing we do is we don’t listen to the news... it’s literally the thing that we have to tune out to the news. So that’s sort of my way of advocating in the song, for people to put down the weapons of social media for a minute and engage each other in conversation... Hopefully we can have our minds changed every now and then.”

Aside from recording and touring, Holcomb tries to make his passion for music resonate with listeners in a variety of ways. One of them is owning a record club called the Magnolia Record Club.

“The thing I like most about it it’s that there’s a lot of new music that sort of emerges,“ he said. “I’ve been doing this for 12 years and sometimes you forget how much you love music.”

Another more elaborate way Holcomb makes his music resonate is by hosting his own music festival called the Magnolia Music Festival, called the Magnolia Music Festival.

“Another thing I like about it is that we’re doing it for the rest of the year and sometimes you forget how much you love music.”

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WE'VE GOT ALL YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL NEEDS
Friday, August 18:

Event: Pre-Eclipse Weekend at the South Carolina State Museum
Where: South Carolina State Museum105 Gervais St. Columbia, SC 29001
When: Friday, August 18, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cost: $17
Admission includes entry to both permanent exhibits and exhibits specific to space, astronomy and eclipses, as well as access to the Telescope Gallery and Boreing Observatory. You will receive solar eclipse glasses.

Event: Arts & Draughts
Where: Columbia Museum of Art
1022 Senate St, Columbia, SC
When: 7 to 11 p.m.
Cost: $10
An evening of art, beer, and music that will provide a pair of safety glasses to viewers.

Saturday, August 19:

Event: Eclipse Fest 2017
Where: Music Farm Columbia, 1012 Lincoln St, Columbia, SC
When: 8 to 11 p.m.
Cost: Varies
A ticket to the festival includes entry to the Carolina Fireflies game, which will be briefly suspended as the eclipse passes in a “Total Eclipse of the Park.” Tickets for the STEM festival as well as the game can be found on the Carolina Fireflies website.

Sunday, August 20:

Event: Total Eclipse A Space Odyssey
Where: The Nickelodeon Theatre
When: 7:30 p.m.
Cost: $10
The nickel will be showing A Space Odyssey on the eve of the eclipse day.

Event: Total Eclipse Tailgate at SC State Fair
Where: The South Carolina State Fair, Rosewood Drive and George Rogers Blvd (Columbia, SC 29012)
When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Cost: Free admission/$5 parking per car

Event: Soda City Eclipse Viewing Festival
Where: Historic Columbia
2001 Charlotte Hey, Cayce, SC
When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: None
A full day of music, food, drinks and art. Viewing glasses included.

Eclipse Events in Columbia

Natte Hibs
@TDG_ARTS

In a few short days, a solar eclipse will plunge into thin darkness for about two and half minutes. Columbia is situated on the path of the eclipse in such a way that we will experience totality longer than any other place on the East Coast. With this in mind, the city is preparing for a rush of visitors from all over the country to witness the eclipse. Here’s a rundown of events around Columbia so that you know what’s going on and can maximize this monumental occasion — what will likely be (for most of us) a once in a lifetime experience.

Thursday, August 17:

Event: Syzygy: The Solar Eclipse Plays
Where: Tapp’s Arts Center, 1644 Blossom Street
Devine Street
When: 7 p.m.
Cost: Varies
This event will premiere a series of six short plays in honor of the solar eclipse, as well as access to the Telescope Gallery and Boreing Observatory. You will receive solar eclipse glasses.

Friday, August 18:

Event: Silas-Eclipse Wednesday at the South Carolina State Museum
Where: South Carolina State Museum105 Gervais St. Columbia, SC 29001
When: Friday, August 18, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cost: $17
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When: Friday, August 18, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cost: $17
Admission includes entry to both permanent exhibits and exhibits specific to space, astronomy and eclipses, as well as access to the Telescope Gallery and Boreing Observatory. You will receive solar eclipse glasses.

Event: Arts & Draughts
Where: Columbia Museum of Art
1022 Senate St, Columbia, SC
When: 7 to 11 p.m.
Cost: $10
An evening of art, beer, and music that will provide a pair of safety glasses to viewers.

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An evening of art, beer, and music that will provide a pair of safety glasses to viewers.
Now that classes are about to start, it is time for incoming and returning students to establish their study habits for this upcoming year. USC is a big campus with many places to set up camp for spontaneous or planned study sessions, but where are the best spots to get the quiet, uninterrupted and purposeful studying every student craves?

First floor of Thomas Cooper Library

Though it might be misleading, the main floor of Thomas Cooper Library is not the first floor. There are five stories below the ground floor. The lowest floor is the perfect location for students who desire complete solitude with limited to no distractions. The smell of aging books and wooden shelves is cathartic as you manage your to-do list and studies.

Gambrell

Gambrell Hall is next to the Pickens Street bridge with the Capstone Building in its horizon. Though this gray building tends to blend in with its surroundings, it contains two choice study locations that would benefit every student. The basement of Gambrell is typically quiet and has direct access to a collection of computers for research and a cheap printing service you can pay for with Carolina Cash. If you need a break from the books, there are a couple of unique chess sets you and your study buddy can use thanks to the in-house 3-D printer.

Need some fresh air? Head to the top floor. To your left is a large outdoor patio with scattered iron tables and chairs. Be sure to bring a hat for those hot, sunny days. It is not uncommon to get a sunburn out there while you're engrossed in your studies.

Colloquium Café

Colloquium Café is a stone’s throw from Gambrell. Though it is less quiet than the aforementioned locations, its seating on the second floor overlooking the incoming lunch traffic makes for a nice place to take a step back from academic reality. Another perk of the café is the close proximity to delicious food. Whether you are wanting a breakfast bagel or a Caesar salad, Colloquium has it all for those mid-study cravings.

Cool Beans

This coffee shop is not necessarily on campus, but it might as well be. Perched right across from the historic Horseshoe, Cool Beans is a quirky establishment with some of the best coffee if Starbucks just isn’t your thing (or in your price range). Cool Beans has the right snacks and caffeinated beverages to get you through mid-day slumps. Partnered with the comfy, eclectic furniture, the local art decor gives the building a homey feel.

Keep these places in mind as you hit the books during the 2017-18 school year.
One of the most popular television shows today is coming to an end. There’s only nine episodes left of “Game of Thrones” until it’s all over for Westeros (at least on screen). But until that fateful day, the new season of “GoT” has all its fans freaking out over the epic battles, brutal revelations and especially all our favorite characters meeting for the first time ever in a long time.

This season is different from every other season that took place before it. No longer are show creators David Benioff and D.B. Weiss straying off from the material of George R.R. Martin’s magnum opus; they are leading even fans who have read all of “A Song of Ice and Fire” into uncharted territory.

Season seven begins by taking what has been percolating for the whole series and just lets it explode. Dany is finally on her way to Westeros with her army, ships, advisors and of course three freaking dragons! But this isn’t the Westeros she dreamt of conquering when she reaches the shore. Now, The Mad Queen Cersei is Lordess of the Seven Kingdoms, and Dany has to face her fiercest enemy yet – but she’s not alone. Up North in Winterfell lives the new King in the North, Jon Snow. However, he’s not interested in the Iron Throne, or even his own throne for that matter. All he cares about is bringing everyone from the Approaching Army of the Dead and the Night King. Also, winter is here.

Suffice to say, “GoT” is getting real, with the major storylines getting all the attention. This is good for narrative and fan service. Having characters meet and interact in expected and unexpected ways is the best part of the season so far, even more than a dragon lighting up an entire army. However, this new narrative flow can make “GoT” feel clunky and rushed. The show used to benefit from the subtlety in the storyline and the details that flew over your head on a first viewing. Now, because of the amount of story left to fill and the few hours left to serve it up, the subtlety is brushed aside for a more straightforward dynamic. Seeing “GoT” operate in a blunt manner is definitely interesting to watch, but some of the best aspects of the show are now gone. It almost feels like a reboot airing years after the season six finale.

In a perfect universe, maybe Martin could write his books faster so the show creators can slow down to adapt the dense source material better. Unfortunately, television doesn’t work as well as Dragon on the battlefield. Now, these minor hiccups haven’t stopped the new season of “GoT” from being some of the most exciting television of the year. The acting and production elements are amplified for the new settings and interactions.

And it’s nice to see the story come to a cinematic conclusion until we get Martin’s written version of it. “GoT” has been responsible for many viewers’ joy and pain over the years. Ironically, now that the show is delving into some major fan service, we poke holes at it. Like the wise Littlefinger once said: “It doesn’t matter what we want; once we get it, we want something else.”

Brad Dountz
@TDG_ARTS

“GoT” rushes conclusion
Yonder Field to open with Drive-in

A new drive-in movie theater opened in Bowman, South Carolina, called Movies Rock!, as a partnership between Yonder Field and Highway 21 Drive-In. Yonder Field is a versatile concert, festival and event space that is set to officially open next week with the Solar Eclipse Festival. In conjunction with a festival experience, Yonder Field plans to retalate before or after the show.

Movies Rock! will screen “Wonder Woman” on Aug. 18 and 19, and the venue will announce upcoming movies on its website and Facebook page. The theater will start with one screen, but will expand to three films on three separate screens stationed on the 200-acre lot in September.

“We thought it would be a great way to utilize Yonder Field beyond the season and everyone loves the Drive-In, right?” Yonder Field spokeswoman Lauri Fultz said. “It’s great to be in the open air and our beautiful landscape will serve as an incredible backdrop for a full night of fun.”

Fultz mentioned that while the drive-in does not currently allow overnight campers, it is a possibility in the future. However, the theater does include a live music performance from local bands 90 minutes before each screening, as well as lawn games, traditional movie concessions and a food truck village.

“There are very few areas that are fortunate enough to have drive-ins. We are so excited to be able to offer this to everyone in the area,” Fultz said.

Jenna Schiferl
@JENNASCHIF

Summer Releases: ‘Spider-Man’ excels while ‘Valerian’ falls short

Darby Hallman
@darbyhalleconomist

Best: “Spider-Man: Homecoming,” Released July 7

After his universally loved introduction in “Captain America: Civil War,” Spider-Man’s first solo film in the MCU had great expectations and it manages to surpass them all with flying colors. In the MCU where nearly every film contains some measure, world-ending conflict, it was a much needed change of pace to have a smaller, coming-of-age story that could take time to delve into the characters of Peter Parker and Spider-Man and what they both mean and represent.

This penetrated by incredible acting by Tom Holland as Spider-Man, “Homecoming” built an emotional connection that sometimes superhero movies can fail to achieve.

“Homecoming” even managed to break the Marvel trend of lackluster villains with Michael Keaton’s Vulture. Spider-Man’s first solo film had great expectations and it manages to surpass them all with flying colors.

Worse: “Valerian,” Released July 21

Somewhere deep inside of “Valerian’s” wacky, convoluted cringe-inducing story and script is a good movie. “Valerian’s” potential can be seen very clearly from the impressive and undoubtedly expensive CGI used to create its many alien creatures and planets however these visuals were the absolute only saving grace. From the very start, “Valerian’s” script was corny and cliché and the acting felt incredibly wooden. From strange and flat sexual tension to the absolute cheesiest of one-liners, “Valerian” writing left much to be desired and is determined to distract the viewer from the visual spectacle going on before them.

However, even with the poor writing, “Valerian” could have been a decently fun, goofy popcorn sci-fi flick if it wasn’t for the sheer unrelenting amount of fluff. I’m not joking when I say that a full hour could be taken out of “Valerian” without an impact on the main plot.

The film seemed intent on constantly taking you from storyline to storyline without ever providing a legitimate reason to be invested in any of them. A character would be revealed and shown only a few times before dying and then the writers would act as if it were supposed to have a strong emotional connection to them. At the end of the day, some might be able to squeeze some joy out of “Valerian,” especially those who know its source material but to most “Valerian” will likely be viewed as a waste of potential.

Jenna Schiferl
@JENNASCHIF

Opening next weekend with a solar eclipse-themed festival, the entrance to Yonder Field leads to ample space for cars to park or camp.

Courtesy of Yonder Field
Pizza, Planners, and Peers
Enjoy free pizza while talking with SSC Peer Leaders about tips for finding success early! All students will leave with a free 2017-2018 planner.
Wednesday, August 23rd from 4:30pm - 6:30pm!
Located in the Student Success Center, on the Mezzanine Level of the Thomas Cooper Library

Grantmakers' Roundtable: The Treme Exhibit
Thursday, September 7, 1-4pm
Located in the Mezzanine Level of Thomas Cooper Library

Sophomore Welcome Back Carnival
Thursday, September 7, 4-7pm
Located in the Student Success Center, on the Mezzanine Level of Thomas Cooper Library

CareerFest/S.E.T. Fair
Wednesday, September 27, 11:40am-1pm
Academic Advising Center - Center for Health and Well Being

Curbside Wellness Fair
Wednesday, September 27, 10am-2pm
Davis Field

Curbside Wellness Fair
Wednesday, September 27, 10am-2pm
Davis Field

168 Prioritization Workshop
Wednesday, September 27, 9:30am-10am
Greene Street in front of RHUU Library

One on One Time: Out to Campus
Monday, September 25, 6-7pm
RHUU Ballroom

One on One Time: Out to Campus
Monday, September 25, 6-7pm
RHUU Ballroom

Get Me to Degree Workshop
Wednesday, September 27, 2-5pm
RHUU Ballroom

Get Me to Degree Workshop
Wednesday, September 27, 2-5pm
RHUU Ballroom

One on One Time: Out to Campus
Monday, September 25, 6-7pm
RHUU Ballroom

Pizza, Planners, and Peers!
Wednesday, August 23, 4:30-6:30pm
Mezzanine Level of Thomas Cooper Library

What’s the Big Deal About Sweet Tea?

Get the full story on the history and cultural significance of sweet tea in America and around the world.

Study Abroad Fair
Wednesday, September 13, 11am-4pm
RHUU Ballroom

National Student Exchange Info Sessions
Thursday, September 14, 4pm (RH 348)
Monday, September 18, 4pm (RH 348)
Thursday, September 21, 4:30pm (SSC Conference Room)
Tuesday, September 26, 3pm (RH 203)

Diversity Dialogue
Thursday, September 28, 4:15-5:30pm
Honus T. Johnson Room, 4th Floor, RHUU Library

Sustainability Showcase: Research and Practice Info Sessions
Thursday, September 7, 1-7pm
RHUU Ballroom

For the fifth exhibit in the Diverse Voices Gallery, USC’s McKissick Museum is bringing a slice of Louisiana’s African-Carolina with the recently opened year-long installation of “WELL SUITE: The Costumes of Alonzo V. Wilson for HBO’s "Treme."

Earlier this year, the Columbia Museum of Art brought “GUT Costume and the Cinema,” as a featured exhibit. This traveling exhibit featured the theatrical stylings of famous costume designers from stage and screen to Columbia.

The McKissick Museum on campus at USC continued the costume theme in their latest installment, “WELL SUITE,” traveling exhibit that includes nine hand-crafted Mardi Gras Indian suits from the popular HBO show “Treme.”

“Treme” is a series set in a post-Katrina New Orleans, whose residents are slowly beginning to return to their homes. At this time, many are facing housing displacement due to the limited availability of temporary storm housing options. The exhibit focuses on individuals and families attempting to rebuild their lives and homes in Treme, America’s oldest African-American neighborhood and an influential place of music and art.

One facet of Treme is the historically preserved traditions of the Mardi Gras Indians. The Mardi Gras Indians consist of African Americans living in the inner city of New Orleans. Many of these individuals felt as if they couldn’t participate in traditional Mardi Gras celebrations due to segregation.

Eventually, members of the community began to create their own individual way of celebrating the holiday. It is thought that their name and culture is in part a tribute to the Native American society that helped black individuals escape slavery in the 1800s.

To this day, every year the Mardi Gras Indians celebrate their own unique traditions.

Alonzo Green, the Folklorist and Traditional Arts Program Director at McKissick Museum, emphasized the rich cultural history of the Mardi Gras Indians when she discussed why the exhibit was brought to the USC campus.

“The show really explores issues of identity and cultural preservation through a lens of African-American culture and experience,” said Green.

Mckissick Museum to house HBO show “Treme”

Mardi Gras Indian Suits

Pizza, Planners, and Peers!

Good News!

Now available around campus at the Student Success Center! Shuttles available around campus.

How to Pay the Bills Workshop
Thursday, September 14, 2-5pm
RHUU Ballroom

Calm, Cool, and Collect
Monday, September 25, 6-7:30pm
Center for Health and Well Being

CareerFest/S.E.T. Fair
Wednesday, September 27, 11:40am-1pm
Career Center - Center for Health and Well Being

Out to Campus
Monday, September 25, 3:30-4:30pm
RHUU Ballroom

Service Saturday
Saturday, September 30, 8:30am-1:30pm
RHUU Ballroom

Our Workshops
Any of our workshops in September

One on One Time: Out to Lunch, Success Connect Consultation, Financial Literacy Consultation
On your own between August 23 and September 30! Have a one on one

Thank you for voting us for voting us for voting us for voting us for voting us

5 years in a row
environmental racism and the gentrification of the city, and the terrible crime that was happening,” Green said. “I was impressed by the extent to which the producers and everybody worked closely with the community to try and get it right.”

The exhibit features nine of his creations as well as interviews from cast members, design sketches, clips of the series and behind the scenes images. “They’re not just beautiful, they’re spectacular, they’re unbelievable in terms of their workmanship and design, but they are also very meaningful,” Green said, referring to the detailed suits.

“Treme” opened on Aug. 1 with a reception and discussion with Alonzo V. Wilson himself. Entrance to the museum is free for students and can be accessed weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“Our mission at the museum is telling the story of the American South,” Green said. “We saw this exhibit as a way to explore some of these issues of cultural hybridity, people borrowing other’s traditions, adornment and identity.”
**‘EYES OPEN’ brings award-winning musicals to Trustus Theater**

Mattiie Hibbs
@TDG_ARTS

This September, Trustus Theater will launch a new season of productions tied by a common theme: EYES OPEN. The shows in Season 33 range in content from comedies to more serious, political-driven shows, but all will fall under the umbrella of this common theme. EYES OPEN will reflect the values of Trustus Theater, such as diversity and social justice.

“With open eyes we can embrace a new way of seeing ourselves, others, and the world,” the Trustus Theater website states. It explains that Season 33 is about being observant of what is around us and seeing things one might typically overlook. The season’s theme also refers to the idea of Trustus Theater looking forward in terms of the organization itself. As the staff grows, Trustus intends to expand their scope of interaction with the community while continuing to bring relevant shows to the theater.

Barbecue is the opening show of the season. It is a comedy centered around a family with complicated dynamics that explores the ideas of race and stereotypes. Another comedy coming this fall is Evil Dead, The Musical, which tells a slightly horrific (though humorous) story of five college kids in the woods who unintentionally turn themselves into demons. Other musicals to look forward to include Sunset Baby (winter), and The Restorations (spring).

The season will wrap up in the summer with HIR in June and Memphis in July. HIR is a production that tackles issues surrounding gender roles, familial conflicts, and mental health. Memphis on the other hand, is a 2010 Tony Award winner for Best Musical that takes place during the racially tense times of the 1950s.

Season 33’s Company Season Briefing says that winter will bring racially tense times of the 1950s. Additionally, THE MOTHERS, who have their own show schedule, sell student tickets for $5.

Trustus Theater values the art of storytelling and hopes to share stories this year “that open our minds, open our hearts, and open our eyes.” A full list of Season 33 Trustus Shows can be found on their website.

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**ADVICE FROM A&C**

We’ve all been there. Starting your first year of college means lots of move-in day jitters, awkward roommate encounters and plenty of getting lost. The Arts & Culture staff has compiled a few pieces of advice to help incoming freshman not make the same mistakes that we did. Here are the responses when we asked, “What piece of advice would you tell your past self as a freshman?”

“Please try and make it into the game.”

“Be yourself. You can’t please everyone, so just chill.”

“Just break up with him.”

“The weekend begins on Friday, not Thursday.”

“Get the lowest possible meal plan because it will be more than enough. You can only eat so many Einsteins bagels.”

“If it’s free, get it.”

“Don’t be the person who sets off the fire alarm at 3 a.m. for burning quinoa.”

“C’s get degrees.”

“FYI: Vapes set off the fire alarms, too.”

“Seriously, it’s not that big of a deal.”

“You don’t have to monogram everything.”

“I know Strom is far away, so find other means of working out.”

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ByFarr Design

**C’s get degrees.**
Local restaurants to escape campus food

Most people warn freshman about the iconic “freshman 15,” but many incoming freshmen don’t realize it is the impending emotional monotony of the dining hall. There are only so many times a week you can eat Chic-Fil-A nuggets or a burger from Einstein’s. Below are three restaurants in Columbia at three different price points.

Option 1: Original Pancake House — $ Where: 4840 Forest Drive Hours: Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday/Sunday 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Located in Trenholm Plaza, the Original Pancake House is only a short 15 minute drive from campus. It offers traditional breakfast comfort foods — think eggs Benedict and a great selection of pancakes and waffles. It’s perfect for a late night breakfast — quaint brunch date or the perfect spot for a short wait. Quick service — usually with 5-10 minute wait times. If you’re going with friends in a slightly larger group, reservations are needed. Final note: the place gets busy, but OPH also has an upstairs area that can be booked. The menu is a great place to start your adventure at OPH. The Original Pancake House — $-

Option 2: Hunter-Gatherer Brewery & Ale House — $ Where: 900 Main Street Hours: Monday – Thursday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m, Friday-Saturday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Hunter-Gatherer is a great casual eatery in walking distance of campus. Located near the corner of Main and College, the restaurant/brewery is great for a first date or for hanging out with friends in a slightly more upscale setting. It offers everything from delicious and creative pizzas, sandwiches and burgers to more eclectic options including pan-seared duck breast and Prince Edward mussels. Hunter-Gatherer also offers a beautiful aesthetic for Instagram-worthy food pictures, and a laid back environment where you chose to dine inside or outside. No reservations are needed, and a typical meal will cost around $10 to $20.

Option 3: Pearlz Oyster Bar — $$$ Where: 936 Gervais Street Hours: Monday – Thursday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday 12 p.m. to 11 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. Located in the Vista, Pearlz is attached to Kaminsky’s Dessert Cafe, which is a great late night spot for milkshakes, cakes and espresso. Pearlz excels in all things seafood — from raw shellfish to Lowcountry recipe favorites like shrimp and grits. The restaurant has a full service raw bar and offers group seating. Meals typically cost between $16 to $25, but check their daily specials for deals on entrees. Bonus: Pearlz is attached to Kaminsky’s Dessert Cafe, which is a great late night spot for milkshakes, cakes and espresso.

Next week we will discuss bars, coffee shops and more. See you next week!

Jenna Schirf, E’18, Managing Editor
Columbia native and USC alumnus Chaz Bundick, a.k.a. popular alternative musician Toro y Moi, has slowly morphed from being a young artist of maddening substance variation into an elder statesman of a genre of music he helped pioneer. Even though he and most other artists responsible for the rise of “chillwave” distance themselves from that label, Toro y Moi has nevertheless mastered the art of creating pulsing beats that seem to come at you flawlessly like a fleet of headlights.

His latest album “Boo Boo” has him up front, producing his own tracks at his highest level yet. Gone are his catchy singles. He has turned towards more melancholy territory. The opening track “Mirage” gets down to an effortlessly lanky confessional. The walk of sounds Bundick deftly creates is the album’s most impressive feature. Always a consummate singer especially on “Boo Boo,” Bundick’s vocals attack himself and what he has done to cause this much absence inside of him.

Throughout the album, Bundick creates one of his most consistent artistic statements of his long career. No longer up and coming star, it makes sense for someone who originally started out making music by himself on his laptop to be overwhelmed by all this attention. In helping ushering the “chillwave” movement, a new genre could be explored, but the path to navigate it as a career was still unknown. For better or for worse, Bundick has taken everything he’s done in stride in order to pull off this amazing impression.

Bundick strikes each song with his dreamy effects that call upon the perfect ideas to get around your head: love, confronting your own ego and the beauty of summer. Multiple listens to “Boo Boo” gives you little nuggets that hooks you on to it for future enjoyment. This subtlety shows great professionalism, but it shows a changed Bundick.

His songs seem to wander in the distance and trail off. The stronger songs in his previous albums like “Anything in Return” and “Underneath the Pine” are not to be found on “Boo Boo.” It’s good to see Bundick changing his dynamic. But when you close out your album with the seven minute song, “W.I.W.W.T.W” and the only wake up call the listener has is when the album comes to an end, it can be disappointing.

No matter what Bundick comes up with next and how new or familiar it may be, it will be the byproduct of his journey to unexpected stardom, and I will be excited to hear him out.
“Hellblade: Senua’s Sacrifice” provided brutal glimpse into psychosis.

Release Date: Aug. 8
Platforms: PS4, PC
Developer: Ninja Theory

Darby Wallace

If you saw the trailers for “Hellblade: Senua’s Sacrifice,” you would be forgiven for thinking it was a Cesar Award-winning flick and slash game set in Norse mythology. The design of the characters and the entire game operates with binaural sounds, that the entire game operates with voices actually whispering in the sensation of different exist inside Senua’s head, and throughout the entire game it immediately becomes over-ear headphones, and experience you will need Norse version of Hell.

Senua who suffers from a severe mental illness. As a Celtic warrior named Senua her tragic past or deep fears. This makes for a story that is strange, dark and impossible to stop thinking about.

However, for a game with such an impactful narrative and tone, “Hellblade” can get pretty tedious. As I said before, “Hellblade’s” combat and puzzles aren’t where the game shines, and in fact they can both take away from the game’s enjoyment at times.

The game’s fighting is fairly and slash game or even a genre pushing puzzle game, “Hellblade” isn’t going to satisfy these needs. However, if you are patient and you want a new type of gameplay experience that use audio and visual cues in a way that I have never seen a game even come close to matching. The way that I continue to think about the unique and impressive tools this game used to invoke fear, sadness, confusion and awe in me made up for the frustration I felt, even if it was done so narrowly.

“Hellblade” is a game that provokes a cohesive opinion on as it’s simultaneously intriguing, innovative and irritating. The game’s fi ghting is fairly dull, and sometimes absurd amounts. However, for a game with as its $30 price, “Hellblade” is undoubtedly an experience well worth having, under a few conditions. If you are looking for a sharp hack and slash game, keep looking. Instead of adding new elements to combat to make it harder and more interesting, Ninja Theory opted to just increase the number of opponents to such an impactful narrative

With “Hellblade’s” combat sections as they felt unnecessary and honestly stopped being fun.

The other half of “Hellblade’s” gameplay identity is its puzzles, while these are certainly better than the combat, they still start to overstay their welcome after a while. The majority of “Hellblade” is spent solving puzzles in the environment in order to progress and while there is some variety in the puzzles, many of them are repeated too many times. It’s much like the combat, began to come across as tedious, especially as the story became more and more interesting.

While the two pillars of “Hellblade’s” gameplay are a bit disappointing, however there are incredible moments that, in my opinion, make up for the game’s flaws. Without spelling anything, there are a few sections around the halfway point of “Hellblade” that use audio and visual cues in a way that I have never seen a game even come close to matching. The way that I continue to think about the unique and impressive tools this game used to invoke fear, sadness, confusion and awe in me made up for the frustration I felt, even if it was done so narrowly.

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The other half of “Hellblade’s” gameplay identity is its puzzles, while these are certainly better than the combat, they still start to overstay their welcome after a while. The majority of “Hellblade” is spent solving puzzles in the environment in order to progress and while there is some variety in the puzzles, many of them are repeated too many times. It’s much like the combat, began to come across as tedious, especially as the story became more and more interesting.

While the two pillars of “Hellblade’s” gameplay are a bit disappointing, however there are incredible moments that, in my opinion, make up for the game’s flaws. Without spelling anything, there are a few sections around the halfway point of “Hellblade” that use audio and visual cues in a way that I have never seen a game even come close to matching. The way that I continue to think about the unique and impressive tools this game used to invoke fear, sadness, confusion and awe in me made up for the frustration I felt, even if it was done so narrowly.

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About 20 years ago, Main Street was a quieter place. There was little attention to the area past the Statehouse – no farmer’s market on Saturday mornings, no cafes and no venues for entertainment.

With the arrival of some of Columbia’s now-strongest cultural enterprises, such as the Nickelodeon Theatre, the Columbia Museum of Art and Tapp’s Art Center, the Main Street district underwent a little cultural renaissance. This year, one of the most significant developments, the Columbia Museum of Art, went from being a Main Street district landmark that was free to enter and show some less-striking works that people love. As the second-floor gallery is currently being renovated, there are no works on exhibition upstairs at this time.

The construction of the Main Street entrance stems from the booming weekend and nighttime scene in the Main Street district. As the building currently stands, there is an entrance in the lobby of the museum that is in Boyd Plaza, accessible from Hampton Street. There is a small entrance on Main Street to the museum’s gift shop, but it does not provide direct entrance to the lobby.

“When we built and opened the building in 1998, Main Street was a very different place. In fact, we were asked by City and County Council to locate a new facility downtown, on Main Street, to help anchor revitalization of that area of the downtown,” Ryan-Cook said.

Since Main Street has now expanded into an area that is not just business hours only, the museum wanted an accommodating entrance to keep up with the growth of the city.

“We, because of that activity, really felt like we needed a door on Main Street,” Ryan-Cook said. “We will be adding this Main Street entrance to help really engage the museum with that foot-traffic of the regular folks who are going past our building on a regular basis.

The final installation of revitalizations will be a new programming space that will allow for more educational opportunities and events to engage the public. This space, added to the second floor, will also be available for rentals.

The new Main Street entrance will also be able to accommodate this new public space. An additional entrance will allow event-goers to enter the museum and get to the public space without adding to the foot-traffic of the regular museum-goers. This adds a dual-functionality to the museum – it becomes not just a space to showcase art but also a space for more programming and interactive activities and partnerships.

Along with the new programming space, there will also be a new interactive gallery on the first floor of the museum. The current interactive gallery is small and geared mostly toward children. However, by observing curious patrons throughout time, the museum administration noticed that it was not just kids who enjoyed using this space – adults found it entertaining, too. Recognizing this, the administration decided to construct a larger, more comprehensive interactive gallery for museum-goers of all ages and types.

With any kind of construction brings added inconveniences. In this instance, the second floor will be unavailable to patrons at present until the renovations are complete. However, the museum administration has recognized this and tried to compensate for the burden.

During the time of renovation, all admissions prices will be reduced by half, making the cost $2–$5 for students and $6 for general admission. For any kind of construction brings added inconveniences. In this instance, the second floor will be unavailable to patrons at present until the renovations are complete. However, the museum administration has recognized this and tried to compensate for the burden.

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The museum’s renovations are noticing this, and now Charleston is the only city in South Carolina where homeowners are looking to purchase a summer home. Perhaps the future of Columbia will be one that is more multi-faceted than just one avenue of entertainment or nightlife. The Columbia Museum of Art might just be taking a step in that direction.
While you’ve been away, Gamecock student athletes have been hard at work. Inside, you’ll find previews of several fall sports, updates on news from the summer and a schedule of your favorite fall sports.

Women’s soccer season preview
Savannah McCaskill and the Gamecocks are coming off an undefeated regular season, but are hungry for more after a heartbreaking home loss in the Elite Eight to North Carolina.

Revamped gameday experience
After an intensive look at college and professional sports environments, the USC athletic department is making changes to the football atmosphere, most notable with an in-stadium DJ.

This week in sports
Get the latest news from USC athletics, including an update on suspended basketball player Rakym Felder, Frank Martin’s newest transfer and an update about the offensive line.
After an 8-5 season that frustrated the Athens faithful, Georgia was projected to be the 2017 SEC East division champion, earning the right to be the sacrificial lamb to Alabama in December. Despite being a young team this season and having produced stinkers in home losses to Vanderbilt and Georgia Tech last season, the Bulldogs are the media’s pick for the best team in the East.

What does that mean for everyone else?

The Florida Gators, who have represented the division in the title game each of the last two seasons, were predicted to finish second behind their border rivals. The Gators lost plenty of defensive talent to the NFL Draft, as usual, but the stellar unit shouldn’t take much of a step back this season thanks to strong recruiting classes.

Florida has its own flaws, though, particularly on the offensive side of the ball, which has plagued the team since Tim Tebow and Urban Meyer left Gainesville. At quarterback, the Gators will feature Joshua Dobbs, Jalen Harder and Alvin Kamara, but all those players are gone now. Additionally, Tennessee has a new offensive play caller, and Butch Jones’ unit has never been hotter.

In a weak division, Tennessee figures to be in the thick of things come November, but there’s not nearly as much upside as there was this time last year. Before we get to South Carolina, ignoring the expected also-rans (Vanderbilt and Missouri), we have to talk about Kentucky. The Wildcats, who were just 2-10 last year.

The Gamecocks’ offensive firepower could push them over the top.
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Kingston takes charge of USC baseball

Classifying the 2017 South Carolina baseball season as a disappointment may be an understatement, but with the hire of former South Florida head coach Mark Kingston, there’s energy around the Gamecock program again.

Kingston was officially introduced as the Gamecocks’ head coach on June 30, where he made it clear that the expectations are to win, and win a lot. The former Miami assistant knows what it takes to win a title, helping the 2001 Hurricanes reach glory after receiving the tournament’s No. 1 overall seed.

At USF, Kingston spent three years as the head coach, finishing with a 42-19 mark in 2017 that included wins over two top-five teams, including eventual national champion Florida. Kingston’s Bulls were among the best in the country with a 1.24 team ERA, and ominously, shortstop Kevin Murrell was drafted No. 3 overall in June’s MLB Amateur Draft, the third-highest selection in USF history.

Kingston also spent five years as the head coach at Illinois State, where his Redbirds won at least 30 games each season, highlighted by a 39-win campaign in 2013, setting a program record.

In July, Kingston announced that he would be retaining USC pitching coach Jerry Meyers, assistant coach Stuart Lake and director of baseball operations Tyson Lusk. Kingston brought USF’s Mike Current along with him to serve as the team’s hitting coach and recruiting coordinator, replacing Sammy Esposito, who is now an assistant at Wichita State. Current helped build USF’s first-ever top 10 recruiting class in 2015, which ranked as high as No. 7 in D1Baseball’s rankings.

Kingston held onto the majority of USC’s 2017 recruiting class, losing one player to the draft and one before he was hired, but seven players turned down professional contracts to join the Gamecocks, and the first-year coach has experienced returning starters such as Jonah Bride, Madison Stokes and Adam Hill to help with the transition.

Eager to get on the field, Kingston and the Gamecocks will have to wait until September to kick off fall practice.
McCaskill, Gamecocks determined after Elite Eight defeat

Carson Mason | The Daily Gamecock

With senior All-American forward Savannah McCaskill leading the charge, the South Carolina women's soccer team looks to build on its historic 2016 season. The Gamecocks, coached by Shelley Smith, are defending an SEC regular-season title capped off by a deep NCAA Tournament run before being eliminated by North Carolina in the Elite Eight.

Going 17-0-1 in the regular season, USC made SEC history as the first team in the conference to record an undefeated regular season and ended the year ranked No. 5 in the United Soccer Coaches (formerly the NSCAA) poll. While the tournament elimination -- a 1-0 loss to Anson Dorrance's Tar Heels -- was hard to swallow, the return of McCaskill is a bright spot for the Gamecocks to build on this season.

"We're going to carry on John's [senior's] legacy and we're going to make sure what they did to help us, we're going to follow in their footsteps and just do the best we can," McCaskill said after the loss.

McCaskill made program history in 2016, setting single-season records for points (45) and goals (17), while being named SEC Offensive Player of the Year and earning NSCAA First Team All-America honors. She and sophomore keeper Mikayla Krzeczowski were named to the 2017 Women's MAC Hermann Trophy Watch List by the United Soccer Coaches on Aug. 8. The trophy is given annually by the Missouri Athletic Club and honors the top male and female college soccer players.

The 21-year-old McCaskill is projected to have another standout year, taking no time off, as she played for the U.S. Women's National Team and U-23 squad this summer.

"Playing with extremely high caliber players for two weeks at a time is huge because you see all levels of talent," McCaskill told GamecockOnline. "You're playing with some of the best players in the country. It's kind of that environment, if there's something I learned there, I can bring it back here and hopefully help the team reach new levels of play."

Like McCaskill, who was named SEC Offensive Player of the Year for the Hermann last season, Krzeczowski set her fair share of program records. She holds the lowest single-season goals against average (0.40) and recorded the most shutouts over by a freshman with 11, including two in the NCAA Tournament against No. 20 Colorado and No. 4 BYU.

McCaskill and Krzeczowski are two of five starters and 12 letter winners who will return to the Gamecocks this season. They are joined by starters Dominique Ralph, Lindsey Lanee and Anna Comito, who is a key member of the Gamecocks' back line that set a program-best 0.41 goals against average in 2016.

Nine seniors graduated last season, including team captain Chelsie Drennan and speedy forwards Dajja Griffin and Sophie Groff. Drennan led the team in assists in all four years of her collegiate career and set the school record for career assists with 40. The Gamecocks will look to not only fill her role as a dynamic offensive-minded midfielder, but also her role as a physical and vocal leader, especially with 13 freshmen joining the team this season.

"They've learned a lot from the senior group that just left and kind of what needs to be done to continue that kind of success going forward," Smith told GamecockOnline. "They've already done a great job to take their place and lead the team. We have some great players that are growing into their senior year and again taking leadership. It's not just them, but everyone returning is like upperclassman."

Following the team's tournament elimination in November, Smith and her staff worked to focus on returning players' on-field techniques during the spring.

"The spring is a huge time for us to develop, especially as individual players," Smith told GamecockOnline. "We focus a lot more on some of their individual touches, techniques, functional training for their position. We do some tactical training as well."

The Gamecocks are ranked No. 4 in the 2017 preseason poll, which is the highest ranking among all SEC teams and the third time they've started the season in the Top 15 in the last four years. Florida is just behind them at No. 5, while Auburn comes in at No. 10 and Arkansas at No. 17.

The Gamecocks play against 10 teams that recorded at least 10 wins last season with seven of their opponents qualifying for the NCAA Tournament. They'll kick off their regular season at home against Central Florida at 7 p.m. on Aug. 18.
If the South Carolina men's soccer team needed motivation going into a new season, it doesn’t need to look any further than its loss to rival Clemson in the 2016 NCAA Tournament.

Mark Berson’s Gamecocks are coming off a 2-1 overtime defeat in the Sweet 16 to the Tigers in November and will look to advance further than the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the second straight season.

After going 5-2-1 in Conference USA play last season, the Gamecocks were predicted to finish fifth out of nine teams in the preseason poll for 2017. They led the conference with three players named to the preseason All-C-USA team: Bjorn Gudjonsson, Peyton Ericson and Julian Veen Uldal.

Uldal started 19 of 21 matches as a freshman. Earning Third Team All-C-USA honors and being named to the C-USA All-Freshman team, the Norway native is on track to have another standout season as a sophomore.

Gudjonsson and Ericson are both entering their junior seasons. Ericson became a consistent defensive presence last season, starting in 16 of 17 matches and earning Third Team C-USA honors. On the opposite side of the field, Gudjonsson led the team with eight goals, which came on just 20 shots in 19 matches (including eight starts).

The Gamecocks welcome 14 new players, including five transfers, this season. They will be without junior midfielder Danny Dukin, who signed with Orlando City SC of the United Soccer League and led the team with 20 points, earning First Team All-Conference USA honors for the second straight season.

Along with Deakin’s departure, eight seniors graduated last year, including Ryan Arambula, who started 20 of 21 matches last season and led his class with 12 career assists. Forward Tucker Monheimer and defender Matt Morgan are the newest transfers to join the Gamecocks from Northern Kentucky and UNC-Wilmington, respectively.

"Tucker was a prolific scorer in high school and club play. He is a relentless, hard-working forward that comes into our program with NCAA Division I experience as a transfer," Berson told GamecocksOnline. "Matt is an athlete and talented defender who will strengthen us in the back. He has two years of NCAA Division I level experience, which will be important."

The team also added two new assistant coaches, Justin Cook and Tyler Kettering, to the staff in March. Cook was an assistant coach at Tulsa for 10 seasons, while Kettering spent one season as an assistant coach at Dayton, and seven as an associate head coach at Gardner Webb.

"[Cook] has an outstanding pedigree as a player at Ohio State, where he was one of only two players in history to earn both Big Ten freshmen of the year honors and then Big Ten player of the Year honors as a senior,” Berson told GamecocksOnline. "As associate head coach at Gardner Webb, [Kettering] was responsible for bringing in outstanding recruiting classes and helping develop the Gardner Webb program."

The Gamecocks kicked off fall camp on Aug. 9, and competed in their first scrimmage four days later on Aug. 13, which resulted in a 2-0 loss to Duke.

“[It’s the first scrimmage of the year, and that’s the first time our guys have played anything close to 45 minutes at a stretch,” Berson told GamecocksOnline. “We have a lot of work to do. In spite of the score line, there were a lot of positives to build on.”

The Gamecocks open the season by hosting USC Upstate at Stone Stadium on Aug. 25. They will face six preseason nationally-ranked opponents, including No. 2 Wake Forest, No. 15 Charlotte and a regular-season rematch with No. 5 Clemson at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 1.
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With All-SEC freshman Mikayla Shields returning for her sophomore season, the South Carolina women’s volleyball team isn’t shying away from competition in 2017.

Shields was named to the preseason All-SEC team after setting the USC program record for hitting percentage (.308) and leading the Gamecocks with 341 kills in 2016. She and five other sophomores return to the team, hoping to build on last season’s 18-12 overall and 6-12 conference record. USC’s 18 wins last season were the most since 2012.

“We intentionally scheduled tougher this year, we knew we’re going to have a talented team,” head coach Scott Swanson told GamecocksOnline. “It’s what our girls wanted, it’s what our coaches wanted and it’s important that we challenged in the preseason so we’re not surprised by that first SEC weekend!”

When she began her freshman season, Shields said she was just hoping to live up to Swanson’s expectations. Now, she’s coming off one of the best freshman seasons in USC program history, playing in 101 of 106 sets and earning MVP honors at the College of Charleston Tournament in August.

This past summer, Shields spent time training with Team USA and played in four matches with the under-20 team.

“We are so proud of Mikayla being named to the preseason team,” Swanson told GamecocksOnline. “She has proven to be a program-changing talent, and this promises to be an exciting year for our team as a whole.”

The Gamecocks’ setter, Asheville native Courtney Koolshier, is also a sophomore. Koolshier played in all 30 matches for the Gamecocks in 2016, setting 12 assists with only nine service errors and averaging four assists and 1.09 digs per set. She earned All-SEC honors.

Five seniors graduated last season, including Megan Kirkland, who led the team with 149 total digs. The defensive specialist started 28 games at the libero position, and her 1.39 digs per set average ranked ninth in the SEC.

The Gamecocks will also be without graduated seniors outside hitters Koko Atoa-Williams and Deasia Legros, who both set career highs in solo blocks last season. Instead, USC will welcome four freshmen to the squad, including outside hitters Jess Vastine and Brooko Grotschild and middle blockers Mikayla Robinson and Ellie Popula.

The Gamecocks will go to work in their season opener against Mercer as a part of the Gamecock Invitational at 7 p.m. on Aug. 25. More notable tournaments include the Duke Invitational on Sept. 1 and 2 in Durham, the Carolina Classic on Sept. 8 in Columbia, and the Clemson Challenge in Clemson on Sept. 16. They begin their SEC Slate at Mississippi State on Sept. 22.

“I think this year, the SEC schedule for us lines up better than it has in my seven seasons,” Swanson told GamecocksOnline. “Any given night, especially on the road, you’re going to get into a battle, it doesn’t matter if it’s a last-place team or the first-place team. You always have to bring your A-game. You can’t take anybody lightly in this league, and we’re excited for the challenge every night.”

Carson Mason
@CARSONANNMASON

With All-SEC freshman Mikayla Shields returning for her sophomore season, the South Carolina women’s volleyball team isn’t shying away from competition in 2017.

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After a breakout freshman year, Mikayla Shields (8) is starting to gain popularity.
like Samuel, Bryan Edwards and plenty to work with. Smith should Kurt Roper and Bryan McClendon well as a receiver. the coaching staff expects to use him as County speedster compared his game could help him stand out. At his ranked ahead of him. In a crowded in 2017, has been overshadowed by newcomers saw the field in their first year out of high school. Guys like Jammie-Williams and O’Toole Smith are expected to contribute as early as 2017, but who will unexpectedly break out those three guys, as well as some others, are going to have to play well. Let’s take a look at underrated players who could become household names in the Palmetto State this season.

Shi Smith, wide receiver
Smith, the No. 2 recruit in the state in 2017, has been overshadowed by DeVier Smith, the only-other player ranked ahead of him. In a crowded position group, Shi Smith’s versatility could help him stand out. At his Signing Day ceremony, the Union County speedster compared his game to Debo Samuel, saying that the coaching staff expects to use him as a half-backer and return specialist, as well as a receiver.

The fourth-round pick was electric with the ball in his hands in high school, giving offensive coordinators Kurt Roper and Bryan McClendon plenty to work with. Smith should benefit from having talented weapons like Samuel, Bryan Edwards and Hayden Hurst around him, as he should see plenty of favorable matchups in single coverage, even though he may not get too many touches.

K.C. Crosby, tight end
Hurst gets the majority of the recognition out of the Gamecocks’ tight end group, but it was Crosby who tied for a team-high with four touchdowns, among as a quality red zone target thanks to his-sticky 6-foot-1, 250-pound frame. The redshirt junior was key for the Gamecocks in two-touchdown end screens, playing alongside Hurst, and Crosby was occasionally featured as the offense’s frequent tight and screens. A former top-150 prospect, Crosby could become a touchdown machine in a potentially prolific South Carolina passing attack.

D.J. Wonnum, defensive lineman
Wonnum won’t be expected to be a major contributor as a freshman in 2016, but he earned a spot on the defensive line rotation, playing in all 11 games and registering 10 tackles. The Georgia native proved he could be disruptive at times as well, finishing with 3.5 tackles for loss, including 1.5 sacks, and two forced fumbles.

Expected to start at the buck position this season, Wonnum could become a lethal pass rusher as the Gamecocks line finishes with at least 68 tackles in 11 games last season as a redshirt freshman. Wonnum wasn’t expected to be a major contributor as a freshman in 2016, but he earned a spot in the defensive line rotation, playing in all 13 games last season as a redshirt freshman. Wonnum wasn’t expected to be a major contributor as a freshman in 2016, but he earned a spot on the defensive line rotation, playing in all 11 games and registering 10 tackles. The Georgia native proved he could be disruptive at times as well, finishing with 3.5 tackles for loss, including 1.5 sacks, and two forced fumbles.

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As excited as players and students are for the addition of the in-stadium DJ, associate athletic director for marketing Eric Nichols said in an early August interview that the decision was really centered around recruiting.

"The DJ, along with in-game hype videos displayed on the videoboard and a revamped recruiting entrance, is part of the strategy to boost the image of the South Carolina football program to talented high school prospects."

"The number one priority is the recruit and putting on a great show for the recruit," said Nichols, who is in his ninth year at USC, "and that was not always the case."

Nichols says that the focus sometimes in the past was geared toward pleasing different sections of the fan base, but going forward, the gameday experience will be geared toward the recruits on the sideline.

In evaluating the Williams-Brice Stadium atmosphere from previous seasons, Nichols says music was an area that needed improvement, which led to the decision of adding a DJ. "If recruiting is your number one goal, there’s no recruit that’s going to have a problem with a DJ," Nichols said. "So that makes that decision easy, where maybe in years past, it was a little more difficult."

Nichols says that the traditionalist fans were definitely kept in mind throughout the decision-making process, as Nichols said the DJ wouldn’t take away from the band, a statement Will Muschamp echoed at his July 30 press conference. Muschamp said it was very important to keep the Carolina Band in a prominent role, referring to the group as "fantastic."

Nichols ensures that the DJ will only be playing in the times that music was being played before, to avoid overshadowing the band, which he says it one of the defining differences between college and professional football. "If the band doesn’t play, we had to make better," Nichols said. "To do that, Nichols and the rest of the decision-makers are turning to the players to help make the hire."

"We want the players to have significant input in the decision, so the intent is to bring someone and let them play for them at practices," Nichols said. The players helped to pick out the music last season, but Nichols says there was an issue in deciding what music to play at what times. "It’s not as easy as just saying ‘Hey, what songs do you like?’ because it’s parts of songs played at the right time that’s most important," Nichols said. The DJ hire has not officially been made, but Nichols said there is a leading candidate, while adding that signing DJs are "hard to come by."

When looking to improve gameday atmosphere, Nichols says that in addition to other college venues like those of the Atlanta Falcons or Carolina Panthers, "outside of the DJ, videos and the new recruiting entrance, some other things will be coming this season as well. Before home games, local bands will play in Gamecock Park in an effort to add some extra energy around the stadium. Inside the stadium, decisions are still being made regarding the ‘mic man,’ who leads the student section every Saturday. Like the DJ, that decision should be made in coming days."
**Welcome to a Healthy Carolina: Wellness Kickoff**
Student Engagement Week continues with a display of health and wellness resources on campus. Apply to be a Changing Carolina Peer Leader, sign up for a cooking class & win prizes.

**#MoveMoreCarolina**
Healthy Campus Initiatives launches their physical activity campaign #MoveMoreCarolina this week to promote getting active on campus. Head over to the farmers market for giveaways & games.

**Healthy Tailgating**
Football season is upon us. Before you make your Saturday tailgating plans, come to the farmers market to get information about ticketing & get tips for healthier tailgating at Willie B.

**#MoveMoreGetFit**
There are so many ways to get fit on campus. Join us at the farmers market as we highlight some of our campus partners and get some tips on starting your fitness journey.

**#MoveMoreStressLess**
Physical activity is a great way to relieve or even prevent stress. This week’s market focuses on the resources available on campus to help you stress less.

**Gamecocks Stay Informed**
Don’t be fooled by fake news, come to the market and learn how to get accurate health information.

**Healthy Tailgating**
Football season has finally arrived. Learn healthy recipes for tailgating or to watch the game from home.

**That’s Amore! Italian Night**
Love Italian flavors? This is the class for you.

**Meat-Free Meals**
Meatless meals can be a great, low-cost option for vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike! Note that the recipes in this class may not be vegan.

**Clean Out the Pantry**
Learn how to make quick, healthy recipes with pantry items you already have.

**Fast Food Swaps**
Ditch the extra fat and calories that come with fast food. Come learn to make healthier versions of your favorite fast food dishes.

**Healthy Holiday Swaps**
Maintaining a well-balanced diet during the holidays can be challenging. Join us to learn how to lighten up your holiday recipes.
**FELDER SUSPENSION, ASSAULT AND BATTERY CHARGE SURFACE**

USC basketball will be without Rakym Felder indefinitely. Frank Martin announced Wednesday, and the sophomore guard won't be taking classes during the upcoming fall semester.

Felder, who was suspended on June 30, was arrested July 13 and charged with third-degree assault and battery according to Richland County court records.

Due to some unfortunate decisions by Rakym, he has been suspended indefinitely from our program," Martin said in a statement. "I will continue to help Rakym grow as a young man even though basketball is not a part of our relationship right now.

Felder, who averaged 6.6 points per game as a freshman in 2016-17, was suspended last October for one game after an arrest for an assault in Five Points that initially resulted in six charges, including simple assault and battery and assault and battery.

**MARTIN WELCOMES TRANSFER, OLD RECRUIT MYERS AT GUARD**

Frank Martin managed to fill out his roster after all. The Gamecocks missed out on Brandy Onwuzurike, one of the nation's elite scorers who considered a graduate transfer to USC before choosing LSU. However, Martin secured the commitment of Maine guard Wesley Myers, a graduate transfer who will be eligible immediately for the 2017-18 season.

Myers was Maine's leading scorer during his one season with the team after transferring from Niagara. The 6-foot-2 Brooklyn native averaged 16.9 points, 4.5 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game while playing over 30 minutes per contest last year.

Martin offered Myers out of high school, but the former state champion chose Niagara instead. Myers spent two years at Niagara, averaging 6.7 points per game as a freshman and 9.4 as a sophomore before transferring. Myers fills a major need for the Gamecocks, who lost guards Sindarius Thornwell, PJ Dozier, Duane Notice, Justin McKie and Te-Marcus Blanton this offseason. Sophomore Rakym Felder has been suspended indefinitely following his second assault and battery arrest in his short tenure with the team.

USC's last graduate transfer doesn't come without a bit of off-court drama, however. Myers missed the last four games of his only season at Maine after he broke his teammate's jaw in a locker-room dispute about music.

According to reports from the Bangor Daily News in Maine, Myers asked a teammate to turn off some music that was playing in the locker room. When the teammate refused, both players exchanged blows with Myers connecting to his teammate's jaw, knocking out teeth and creating a need for major surgery.

On the basketball court, Myers will add depth to a thin guard group that features Hassani Gravett and transfer Kory Holden, who averaged 18 points per game at Delaware two seasons ago.

**“CONSISTENT” YOUNG EDGES OUT DALEY FOR LEFT TACKLE JOB**

Four of USC's offensive line positions were already locked up, and position coach Eric Wolford suggested Tuesday that the Gamecocks have found their left tackle as well.

Junior Malik Young, who played right tackle last season, had been battling with junior college transfer Dennis Daley, but Wolford gave the edge to the more experienced Young.

"Dennis has been inconsistent, which you would expect from a new player," Wolford said of the 6-foot-6, 319-pounder. "At times, he flashes like the guy we expect him to be. At other times, he’s a bit of a liability.

"Right now, Malik plays harder than him on a consistent basis," Wolford said. "He's ready to be a starter because of the learning curve of the team's offensive system.

Daly admitted Tuesday that he doesn't feel like he's ready to be a starter because of the learning curve of the team's offensive system.

Wolford pointed to Young's work ethic as another factor that gave him the edge.

"Right now, Malik plays harder than him on a consistent basis," Wolford said. "Malik plays hard. That son of a gun will play hard, but you have to keep pushing him too. All these guys you have to keep pushing.

Wolford seemed comfortable with his unit, reiterating his confidence in returning starters ZackBailey, Alan Knott and Cory Helms. However, the line will be tested right away in the season opener in a matchup with the NC State defensive front, one of the nation's best.

"These guys have done a good job recruiting," Wolford said of NC State. "Every pro scout that comes in here talks about all those defensive linemen they have and what a great matchup because that's what we're going to face when we play in the SEC. It's going to be a preview of what we can expect to come up."
Get your Garnet & Black gear ready and make sure to check out collegecolorsday.com to enter for a chance to win a trip to the 2017 National Championship game & Daily Prizes!!