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University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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Columbia woke up excited for football weekend. “I craved the big school, the big school spirit, the community that loved its university. So far I’ve definitely gotten it.”

Cocky statue unveiled outside Davis College

The long-awaited bronze statue of USC’s official mascot, Cocky, moved into its permanent home Friday in a ceremony outside Davis College.

A crowd of students, staff, alumni and members of the Columbia community celebrated the unveiling of the statue, which was designed and sculpted by artist Anne Allison, a University of South Carolina alumna.

“Cocky has been an important part of the university experience for thousands of South Carolina school children since

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Shooting on Gamers Ferry injures 15-year-old

A 15-year-old girl was shot late Saturday night on Gamers Ferry Road, according to a Richland County Sheriff’s Department report from WLTX19. The victim is in stable condition.

— Compiled by T. Michael Boddie, Assistant News Editor
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Columbia’s 31st annual Greek Festival was held this weekend at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. This annual event pulls people from all over the area together to enjoy Greek culture. The cathedral transforms for a weekend into a completely different space, allowing for vendors, food and entertainment native to Greek culture. Community members of all ages come to volunteer and share in this festival each year. Events include everything from a marionette show to craft beer tastings. This year included self-guided tours through the church, a Greek cultural exhibit, live Greek music and dancing and even a Greco-Persian battle re-enactment.

Kristin Shipley, a second-year international business student, went to the festival for the first time this year. She enjoys learning about different cultures, so the Greek folk dance performed by children was especially fun for her.

“I really love food, so it was really fun to be able to watch the dancing and eat delicious Greek food,” she said.

Anna Friedman, a fourth-year global studies communications student, was at the festival for the third time. Friedman keeps coming back because she loves the event as a whole and enjoys its unusual activities.

“I love the food and all the shops are really unique and it’s just a fun atmosphere to come over the weekend,” she said. “It’s different because it gives the community something to do together, that I normally would have never come down here, but it brings me to the Greek Church.”

The Greek Festival continues to bring in hundreds of families and students every year, including foreign exchange students such as Lobna Naguib, a fourth-year computer science and business double student from Egypt. Having already been immersed in American culture for a few weeks, Naguib was excited to experience Greek culture as well.

“I thought it was very interesting in general,” Naguib said. “I wanted to see the cultural aspects of the festival and how people from the Greece carry their culture to the U.S. I also wanted to have some Mediterranean food because it’s close to Egyptian food.”

With at least seven outside dining options and special food choices including gyros, salads, burgers, baklava ice cream and more inside the cathedral, food is one of the biggest appeals of the festival.

Travis Zuidema, a fourth-year chemistry and art history student, returned to the festival for the third year in a row specifically for the gyros and craft beer.

“It’s definitely for the food, it’s all for the food,” he said.

With so many things to enjoy, from artisan items to music to food, this year’s Greek Festival was a success for shoppers, dancers and eaters alike.
**Student follows family’s lead, runs needlepoint company**

It will be a year ago this October that she and her sister first bought the company from an older woman who was retiring from her needlepoint business. “We bought her company, so we adopted all of her designs, but we added our own,” Lynch said.

Both the craft of needlepoint and business ambition run in her family, and Lynch says she’s focused on both for as long as she can remember.

She noted that it is typically a hobby for “moms and grandmas,” but that’s something her family really enjoys. Lynch’s dad owns a larger needlepoint business. “He’d be able to help out our daughters with their smaller one.”

Earlier this month, Two Sisters Needlepoint traveled to Dallas for a hotel show, where knitting and needlework conventions are great ways to get publicity and get their website noticed.

“So basically all the needlepoint designers from all over the country go in different countries throughout the world,” Lynch said.

When asked if the show was a success, Lynch replied “It was.”

“I had never been to a hotel show … and it went really well,” she added. “My dad’s company did good, my company did good and it was a lot of fun.”

With even the recent success and opportunities for growth, it is difficult to find time to needlepoint. The designs vary in complexity, and Lynch is a full-time student with two jobs.

Needlepoint may be something generally associated with women of earlier generations, but the Lynch sisters bring a youthful, pop culture element to the world of needlepoint companies.

“It’s a lot of fun, fun colors because we’re aiming it towards people my age, people my sister’s age — rather than older stuff,” Lynch said.

The needlepoint patterns reflect the Lynch’s influences, as most artwork does. There are surf-inspired logos — indicative of their time spent on the East Coast — college logos and cute catchphrases.

You can check out Preston and Grace Lynch’s crafty takes on their company website, Facebook page or Instagram.

**To read the rest of the article, please visit [The Daily Gamecock](https://www.thedailygamecock.com/)**
Trump neglects traditional duty to unify

Alyssa Broer
interpersonal public relations student

Once upon a time, in a land seemingly far away, there lived a president who actually cared about uniting his country during times of tragedy and crisis. Whether it was a terrorist attack on London, we all look to our allies for both aide for the people who were scared and fear for the future, Trump, however, went about it with scams, to push his anti-immigration agenda. Using his most famous word, "loser," to describe the perpetrator, Trump went on a Twitter rant to explain why we need tougher protection. In the words of Londoners, we actually appreciated literally instantly liking someone after they were the hero of their lives. When an all-nighter rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, turned to a deadly event around the country needed a leader to condemn those who were truly to blame. Instead, Trump stood with the white supremacists by saying that there was "blame on both sides" as well as good people on both sides. After an interview with a former person died, he really needed to console his country and assure us that this bigotry and hate will not be tolerated.

But, as usual, he disappointed. When you're the leader of a country as diverse and dynamic as the U.S., there is no room to play politics in time of tragedy. We need to see comfort coming from the White House.

We need to feel assured that our leaders are not going to become synonymous with American. There is a character arc that comes with the current president's neglect of the very people he was supposed to help. It's ironic, but it's important to recognize the strength of bringing his country together after such a tragedy. Trump needs to show the strength we once did.

Isabelle Carroll
Second-year public relations student

I have been trying to get one of my textbooks for almost a month. Every time I walk into the University Bookstore, the line is either out the door or completely empty. In fact, my professor is used to this. The line is usually very long, but just a few minutes wait is acceptable. However, some students have been frustrated time after time until I realized something: I have been doing well in the class almost for a month without the textbook. I wasn't aware that there are many students who have experienced this problem before. In fact, this is not the first time that I have faced the same issue. At least, this happens to me now. I have found that many students are facing the same problem. They have to worry about other than the classwork and other things. It is not easy to get textbooks.

The textbook is now becoming more important than before because the professor is already teaching us the course with the textbook. Without the textbook, we cannot make sense of what the professor is teaching. Also, the textbook is the only source of information that we can use to prepare for exams. Without the textbook, it is very difficult to prepare for exams.

But, things are not going as well as expected. In fact, some students are not even able to open the textbooks. Many students have to rely on second-hand books or even online resources to complete their coursework. The textbook is the most trusted source of information for students. Without the textbook, students cannot complete their coursework. Therefore, the textbook is critical to the success of students. In conclusion, the textbook is an essential tool for students. Without the textbook, students cannot succeed in their coursework.
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Capricorn

Indulge the temptation to travel and explore. Keep things simple to cut expenses. Adapt your itinerary to changing circumstances. Pursue a passion.

Aquarius

Join forces to get the necessary funding. A profitable venture develops in collaboration. Avoid impulsive moves or gambles. Plan and strategize together.

Leo

There’s potentially money coming in. Avoid distractions or silly arguments. Your dreams reveal a major change, anticipate and profit from new opportunities.

Virgo

Get into action and do what you’ve been talking about. Reject a far-fetched scheme in favor of a practical solution. Gain strength and options.

Gemini

Find a peaceful setting to relax and revise your plans. Make choices and determine your upcoming course. Rest and take care of yourself.

Scorpio

Community action goes much further than solo efforts. Write down your goals and come up with team priorities.

Pisces

You and a partner seem aligned and on the same page. Unexpected new shared direction. Anticipate and profit from new opportunities. Avoid distractions or silly arguments.

Libra

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While the South Carolina football team came into the season with two kickers competing for the starting job, neither delivered when the Gamecocks won a tight one over Kentucky on Saturday.

Place-kickers Alexander Woznick and Parker White went a combined 0-for-3 on field goals, and Woznick missed an extra point in the Gamecocks’ 23-11 loss to Kentucky at Williams-Brice Stadium.

Woznick’s extra point miss came after Deuce Scott’s 68-yard touchdown reception on the first play of the game, giving the Gamecocks a 6-0 advantage. A few plays later, White was out to kick a 42-yard attempt that sailed wide right, one of several misses throughout the game. The Gamecocks were called for a delay of game penalty.

"Disagreement," head coach Will Muschamp and head coach Ashley White, "He’s not a specialist, but I go to the offense. In a game where the Gamecocks lost by 10 points, the CSCD lacked left points on the scoreboard. On Saturday, it was Blythe Besel for not being able to finish the drives with touchdowns.

"I try extremely difficult, to have a good drive put together and then go not get any points," Besel said.

Alexander Woznick missed an extra point and a 42-yard field goal attempt in Saturday’s loss.

Eighnteen newcomers joined the Gamecocks and will play major Mark Kingston this season.

The Gamecocks opened their fall schedule Thursday, and Kingston said he was eager to help players fine tune their skills.

"To this point, I’m very encouraged," Kingston said. "They’re talented. Are they on time? Me, that’s the biggest factor. We need the time to fine tune their skills."

According to GamecockOnline, this is the eighth straight season the Gamecocks have won their opener in each of the last eight seasons. The team’s perfect regular season and postseason run under Smith in 2016 contributed 21 wins to their career total.

While surprised to hear about her milestone, Smith said she was excited to help players fine tune their skills.

"I’ve been very pleased with our approach and their desire to try to learn and to understand we all want to take that next step," Smith said.

According to GamecockOnline.com, this is the eighth straight season the Gamecocks are ranked by Baseball America, including top-5 rankings in each of the last five years.

Eighteen newcomers will fit into the Gamecocks’ lineup this fall to play under first-year head coach Mark Kingston, who was hired on June 10 after three years as the head coach at South Florida.

While in Tampa, Kingston and the Bulls made two NCAA Regional appearances and won five of seven overall.

The Gamecocks opened their fall practices schedule Thursday, and Kingston said he was eager to help players fine tune their skills.

"This to point, I’ve been pleased with what I’ve seen from a talent standpoint," Kingston said. "It’s a matter of getting them on the field, starting to teach them how we want to do defense, how we want to cut and cut backs, how we want to approach for a game offensively. Just a lot of great things."