Welcome back, Gamecocks

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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.

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

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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

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

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 bringing 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

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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 largest freshmen class in the history of Carolina—as well as our new transfer students. The faculty and the Student Government Association cannot wait to experience both friends and faculty who support us. Your Student Body President and me in welcoming the class of 2021—the largest freshmen class in the history of Carolina—as well as our new transfer students.  Forty-two states and the District of Columbia are represented in this group as are 105 countries 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 reaching out to 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 Carolinian 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 the 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 been accepted to all four institutions and 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 with everything student life at Carolina has to offer. 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 at the University of South Carolina with everything student life at Carolina has to offer. 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.

Welcome home, Gamecocks.
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New Law School building rich in history, potential

Mike Winkel
special to the daily gamecock

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 187,100-square-foot building, which closed in 1994. Aside from improved classrooms and study areas, Wilcox emphasized the building's expanded capacity, highlighting the significant use of natural light, a front-of-the-room original from the state's only public, non-profit law school.

Overlooking the courtyard, the Coleman Kerrish Reading Room, a room that students believe the building has played a key role in faculty recruitment, as well.

Comprising a full block formed by building architects Boudreaux, Bechtel, and Pickens streets, the new building holds 17 classrooms in all — a number identical to that of the Main Street campus — and two courtrooms, both on the ground level and each named for USC School of Law alumni. The latter trait reflects a common theme incorporated throughout the building.

Students who get care in the Center will now be assigned to "pods" that include everyone from nurses, to nutritionists. This system means that students will always see the same staff. Beck believes the system will also help to improve communication between departments and therefore increase the quality of care.

Mental health care is also a part of the center, and students who require any treatment, whether in the building or in the community, will now be assigned to their "pod."

In the classroom, but the opportunity for the right programs does promise that. It promises not only education that people want to have," Wilcox said. "And this building really emphasizes the building's expanded technology, Wilcox said.

2014. Aside from improved classrooms which broke ground in September 2012 and were designed to represent the parts of plant and its life cycle, from root through growth, as a metaphor for complete wellness. Information about the seven dimensions of wellness also decorates the walls throughout the center.

"We had a student who fell asleep — we think it's an awesome message that [the center] met its mission," she said.

The facility also includes an expanded sports medicine and physical therapy featuring a full rehabilitation gym and athletic trainers.

Students who get care in the Center for Health and Well-Being will now be assigned to "pods" that include everyone from nurses, to nutritionists. This system means that students will always see the same staff. Beck believes the system will also help to improve communication between departments and therefore increase the quality of care.

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As you move forward, the system will also help to see the same staff. Beck believes the new facility is a big step towards those goals.

"I think it's amazing," Guerrero said of the new building. "I think prospective students are going to be impressed, I think people just driving by now. It's not an issue.

Echoing Wilcox's statement about opportunity, Guerrero said she believes the new building will help draw more robust student body and faculty to the state's only public, non-profit law school.

"One hundred percent," Guerrero said. "I think it shows a reflection of our faculty, of our students new, fresh, ready to go. The old building did its job, it served its purpose, and now we're ready for bigger and better."

The School of Law opened for summer classes May 16 and will hold an official dedication ceremony Sept. 14.
Ongoing construction restricting traffic to popular campus spots

Mike Wood
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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 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 avenues 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. 10.

Previously this summer, westbound 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, Woman’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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Aramark takes over food contract, additions include full Chick-Fil-A

Mike Wood
09/07/14

USC food service changed July 1 as Philadelphia-based provider Aramark, known as “Carolina Food Co.” on the USC-campus.

According to USC associate director for public relations Jeff Stensland, the change will net USC just under $212 million over the length of a 15-year contract. Farmston, senior district marketing manager for Aramark, spoke to The Daily Gamecock about some of the changes to campus dining locations can expect in the next few years, including new branding.

A “large majority” will return in 2017-18, Alston said. “All Access” plan as additional all-you-care-to-eat locations will begin with a pair of fully licensed Starbucks locations at Welsh Humanities and Thomas Cooper Library to open by the spring 2018 semester. “Extensive renovations” within Russell House are also planned to begin next summer. Alston added that plans have been made for the future Campus Village development, including a third Starbucks location. Aramark is “pursuing all-you-care-to-eat brand, Fresh Food Co.” and the “Gamecock General convenience store.”

Plans for Campus Village were unveiled in 2015 and involve construction of eight new residence halls and a parking garage in the southern portion of campus along Whaley Street. No construction is underway at this time, but the first phase, a new parking lot and residence hall on the grounds of Clift Apartments, is scheduled to open in 2020. Alston said that meal swipe periods for public relations Jeff Stensland, the USC campus.

Alston stated that meal swipe periods immediately. In 2015, The Daily Meal named Carolina Dining the 23rd-best college dining experience in the nation. CollegeRank.net ranked Carolina Dining 32nd in the nation the following year.

“We have every intention to enhance the dining program at the University of South Carolina to ensure that we are one of the premier universities in terms of the dining services program,” Alston said. “Through a focus on culinary innovations, fresh, local ingredients, made-to-order preparation, cutting edge dining concepts and style of service, and direct feedback from the campus community, will we be able to further solidify the University of South Carolina as a flagship university for food.”

Alston said Carolina Food Co. offered employment to individuals working on Carolina Dining locations under Sodexo. “A large majority” will return in 2017-18, the said. Alston also said recruitment of USC students for food service jobs will be a key objective this fall and added that Carolina Food Co. will partner with the Career Center and the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management to do so.

To introduce the brand to the student body, special “Welcome Back” events are scheduled for the beginning of fall semester, Alston said.

“Welcome Back Gamecocks!”

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Welcome Back Gamecocks!
TUITION UP 3.46 PERCENT FOR ‘17–’18

Hike will provide $12.9M in new revenue; tuition and fees now nearly half of USC budget

The steepest tuition hike in years was implemented into USC’s 2017-18 budget at the Board of Trustees meeting June 23.

The latest increase came just under two months before the release of a study conducted by USC’s Darla Moore School of Business, which found that USC provides an annual economic impact of $5.1 billion to the South Carolina economy, including $220 million in annual tax revenue. According to the study, nearly $4.2 billion of that economic impact comes from USC Columbia alone.

Those numbers are more than likely to come up in any negotiations between USC administration and state legislators over the coming months as the 2018 state budget takes shape.

“Of course, we’re pleased to see a $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 ($4,570 for in-state undergrads in 2016-17) and Clemson University ($4,518 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. Student-body president Ross Lordo reacted promptly with a statement in which he referred to the tuition hike’s passage as a “difficult yet unavoidable decision” in the face of plummeting levels of funding from the Statehouse and ongoing construction projects, including a new student union.

“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.”

A fee 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 hike.

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

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

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

Fourth-year marine science student Aria 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.

Traditional housing plans will also be bumped up 38 percent to $2,665 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 be on campus this fall, according to university officials.

With the class of 2021 numbering hundreds more than in previous years, the question remains whether the university will be able to properly house its largest 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 melt,” he estimated the size of USC’s 2017 freshman class at 8,200 to 8,500 new students.

In USC’s case, Pruitt refers to the phenomenon as the “basketball bump,” a nick name that(c)ould not match 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 6,600 to 7,800, USC’s target was 3,100 to 7,410. Pruitt said freshman overflows have occurred before, but in previous years administration would rent hotel rooms for students through the fall semester. But with a bumbling boom in off-campus student housing, reservations will not be necessary this fall. To accommodate the overflow, the University of South Carolina has contracted off-campus housing partners Pack Place and Aspyre to volunteer 500 and 210 beds, respectively, for incoming freshmen.

For the incoming class of 2021, Pruitt also expects an increase of 500 in-state students over the 2016 figure, due in part to USC’s partnership with RaiseMe, an online service providing students with “micro-scholarships” for high school achievements. Partnered with over 250 colleges, RaiseMe is available to students at 56 South Carolina high schools. Pruitt noted the program’s popularity with students in rural and other “under-represented” parts of the state.

Although the jump in enrollment is the phenomenon of American universities everywhere, a 48-yard touchdown pass with no time remaining against a target of 250, for which he blames the “non- competitive” nature of the federal government. “It just depends what visa situations are, but we may have to re-visit that goal and modify it some,” Pruitt said.

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.”

“Any good news story for us,” Pruitt said.

One explanation Pruitt proposed for the sudden jump in enrollment is the phenomenon of American universities undergoing a spike in applications following an outburst 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 46-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 nick name that could not match 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.

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Mike Model
The USC system makes an annual economic impact of more than $8 billion statewide, according to a study released Aug. 18 by the Data Moore School of Business.

Author: Moore School research economist

Jeff Stensland said the study looked into the economic impact of the USC system’s 50,000 students and 180,000 in-state alumni. USC associate director for public relations Jeff Sexson 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 Neessen said in the study’s release. “The lives of individual alumni are improved through career wages, higher education and a lifetime of better job opportunities as the community at large also benefits through economic spillover effects and a net increase in tax revenue for the state of South Carolina.”

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 is that the $2.219 billion 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 46,840 jobs and makes a total impact of $4.116 billion on the state economy each year. Both numbers were expected to make an appearance when USC begins to make financial requests for the 2018 state budget. State appropriations will comprise only 0.4% of the USC budget this fall, down from 0.5% last year and a ferry from 2.5% 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 not part of a zero sum game — it benefits not only those earning their degrees, but also increases prosperity for the entire state and every citizen.”

Higher education funding is down 37% 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%. 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 see their wages increase 1.9 percent, high school graduates 1.6 percent and college graduates 1.3 percent.

Addressing how college-educated workers increase wages across their region’s economic spectrum, the study says the “most commonly explained for the wage gains is the ‘sharing of knowledge and skills in both formal and informal settings among 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. 16.3 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 study suggests the income rents between South Carolinians with a bachelor’s degree and those with only a high school education.

Aside from the academic and economic aspects of USC’s impact, the study finds that the Division’s athletic programs support 2,787 jobs and contribute nearly $221 million to the state economy each year.

For more information visit: sc.edu/shs or call: 803-777-3175

Tours
Take a 20-minute tour of the new Center for Health and Well-Being

Fridays at 2 p.m. beginning in the second floor lobby behind the Russell House

Want to do a tour for your class or student organization?

Email duffiem@mailbox.sc.edu (limited availability)

New health center: Center for Health and Well-Being

Student Health Services
University of South Carolina

An accredited Patient-Centered Medical Home
Supporting the vision of a Healthy Carolina community

For more information visit:
sa.sc.edu/shs or call: 803-777-3175

New health center: Center for Health and Well-Being
1401 Devine St, Columbia, SC 29208
Thomson Building
1409 Devine St, Columbia, SC 29208
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LEED Verification based on:

1. Sustainability
2. Water efficiency
3. Energy hours
4. Materials used in construction
5. Indoor environmental quality
6. Site sustainability: bike racks and changing rooms
7. Water efficiency
8. Proximity to public transportation
9. Innovation in design: use of green cleaning practices
10. Recycling
11. Resource conservation and consumption
12. Waste diversion
13. Alternative transportation
14. Recycling

Friday, August 18, 2017
$4.16 Billion in output
$5.5 Billion in impact from USC Columbia
$220 Million in annual tax revenue
60,250 jobs supported
$3 Billion to state GDP
$11 Billion in output
$4.16 Billion in impact from USC Columbia

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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):

- Assessment and diagnosis of illnesses such as sore throat, cough, sinus issues, stomach bug/food poisoning, seasonal flu and other primary care health needs
- Disease management with wellness and prevention strategies
- Examinations of wounds and suturing of injuries
- Casting of minor bone fractures
- Comprehensive women’s health care
- 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

Most appointment wait times less than 20 minutes
Make appointments 24/7 online at sc.edu/myhealthspace

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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

LENDING OTHER SERVICES
• 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)

FAST FACTS
Presidents’ Summit brings unity, reality check to keep from 20 South Carolina schools

Mike Winkel

Student government representatives state aide came together this weekend to empower South Carolina’s 200,000-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 Greenville County to Conway for a discussion of issues facing Palmetto State students. Opened and closed by USC student body president Rose Lordo, the Summit featured an appearance from two members of the USHouse of Representatives and the signing of a two-page proclamation symbolizing dedication in 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 socioeconomic status and 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 the proclamation, since 2000 South Carolina’s bond issuances for higher education have amounted to one-seventh the amount issued by Georgia and one-third the amount issued by the state of 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 “secure ... elected representatives to meet their responsibilities.”

Finance was a key reason for the Summit’s calling in the face of plummeting state funding for higher education. State appropriations, which comprised 21 percent of USC revenue a decade ago, will make up only 10.4 percent of this fall’s budget. Meanwhile, the USC Board of Trustees voted on June 23 to increase tuition 3.46 percent for the 2017-18 academic year.

State Rep. Brandon Newton (R-Lancaster), a USC alumnus, 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 context is key to effective arguments for state funding, saying that legislators already absorb too many arguments that ignore or distort key facts. On, in 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. Miké Caskey (R-Lancorting), who focused on higher educations 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 subsidized.

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 32.1 percent of South Carolina residents aged 25-29 held a college degree in 2010. South Carolina’s mark was just short of the national average of 39.3 percent and a far cry from Massachusetts’ 54.3 percent, among the highest in the country.

When asked by College of Charleston student body vice president Tippie Kutch how students can be effective advocates, Caskey advised that students in or out of student 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 Seleyk, director of USC’s Legislative Action Network, and former Clemson governmental affairs director Maggie Ambrose also presented the particulars of their university’s 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 (of 46 total) and 66 state representatives (126) on the Senate and House House Rolls.

Ambrose said Saturday that she didn’t realize the raw 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, ‘If my God, people are going to do this and ... it’s going to make people mad.’”
After 37 years on the job, Student Life's Brewer reflects on evolution of USC

Mike Woodell

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 know.

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.

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

Student body treasurer Merrie Francis said, "He's a very smart businessman, but he uses that for the advantage of the students, and it's pretty awesome." Over his decades in Columbia, Brewer's work has affected the USC student body more than anyone else has.

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Violence plagues off-campus housing along Bluff, Shop roads
Three in custody for seven armed incidents; Southern Drive complex revisits security

Mike Woodley and Emily Barber

A string of armed robberies and kidnappings along Bluff and Shop roads, the USC community’s oldest area, began in July.

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced July 27 that two suspects were arrested, custody for armed incidents, with a third suspect believed involved in the following two.

Lott’s announcement came only days after rumors of students being abducted from around 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 Raquan 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 so far. The department said first in the incidents and eyewitness accounts.

Lott also complimented the students for trying to report the investigation “thoroughly.”

“This was a crime spree,” Lott said. “The suspects would not have stopped him if they were being arrested, and we were able to do that.”

The series of crimes began July 1 with the armed robbery of a Chinese food delivery driver, according to RBCS. Three more drivers were similarly robbed between July 13 and 19. Two of those incidents took place in the vicinity of The Southern Drive, Aster Avenue, and The Village at Columbia, a pair of adjacent student complexes between Bluff and Shop roads.

The suspects were involved in two separate kidnappings at Stadium Suites in the early morning hours of July 25; one at 1:30 a.m. and one at 2 a.m.

The first incident took place in a single female victim and did not include a robbery, but the second incident involved the carjacking and robbery of two victims.

According to a Richland County Sheriff’s Department report, the victims of the second kidnapping were moving to Stadium Suites from The Southern Drive and Aster Drive on July 25 when “three black male suspects” approached them. The suspects were armed with handgun, the report said. The victims requested that the students to drive them to the Shell gas station on the corner of Blair Road.

At the gas station, the students withdrew an unknown amount of money from the ATM. After the report says, the subjects took the students to an area somewhere off Zion Avenue, where they took a television and an XBOX 160 from the car. The subjects took the students back to Stadium Suites, where they picked up a jeep belonging to the second student.

The suspect area near Jamison Airfield. The subjects told the students to remove their clothes, then left in the cars, leaving their clothes behind, the report says.

One of the students said that at one point a suspect “asked him if he knew about ‘Russian Roulette’,” placed a gun in his chest and pulled the trigger, but “with no discharge,” according to the report.

The students reported to police that the suspects appeared to be between 14 and 25, one was clearly shorter and younger, another was in his late teens, and one subject claimed to be 25. In addition to the TV and XBOX 160, the suspects took video games, controllers, golf clubs, several pairs of shoes and the students’ phones.

According to a separate report, police later found the students’ cars off Sands Street.

The final incident occurred less than 24 hours later. In the early morning hours of July 26, Midlands Tech and former USC student Jordan Dinsmore took to a friend’s Facebook account to announce that she had been abducted at gunpoint outside her apartment at The Village at Columbia, a student apartment complex on Southern Drive.

A report released by Richland County Sheriff’s Department Thursday morning corroborated Dinsmore’s account of the incident.

According to the report, Dinsmore arrived at her apartment around 1:15 a.m. on July 26 after a robbery. After parking and leaving her vehicle, the report says, “I saw black males in their teens” confronted her and placed a gun to her head. After surrendering her phone and PIN number, her assailants forced her to drive to the Shell gas station at South Bethlehem Drive and Bluff Road, about half a mile away.

The report says Dinsmore was forced to drive as she saw a police transmission, which none of the suspects knew how to drive.

After arriving at the gas station, Dinsmore withdrew $1500 from an ATM and gave it to the suspects.

She was then forced to drive back to Bluff Road and was told by one suspect that she would be taken to a home where she would be forced to have sex.

Shortly after, Dinsmore was told to turn right on Blair Road. She missed the turn on purpose, hoping that in the incident with only “bruises and scratches.”

Lott eventually surrendered his post to Dinsmore, who told her story before a full room of reporters. While recounting the incident, Dinsmore became choked up when she referred to gunpoint for her life.

“I thought, you know, I’m gonna be strong like my mom and I’m gonna get myself out of this,” Dinsmore said.

Despite being threatened with a gun at point blank range. That as it was traveling (by her estimate) 35 mph, Dinsmore survived the

I know that I can’t ask for everything and I’m definitely utilizing the tools that 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, included 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, who 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 also cooperating with law enforcement in the recent reported incidents. “We’re looking into the kidnaping and robbery of Jordan Dinsmore on July 26. The 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 to the students with whom are some of our neighbors and the community. The management is increasing patrols to increase safety and prevent further incidents in their community.

Definitely stir the security measures that you’ve given — the security staff and all that kind of stuff,” Dinsmore said the day after her attack. “I mean, they have nothing to do too to walk you at your door at 2 a.m.”
Columbia stands with victims of Charlottesville attack at Statehouse rally

Mike Woodell / 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 speeches 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 Benjamin welcomed the crowd from the Statehouse steps by assuring them of his support for their cause.

“I know that your city is with you.” Benjamin said. “Know that your city is with you.

Benjamin's speech was succeeded by a man killed one person and injured 19 and killed 32-year-old Heather Heyer.

Heyer, 20-year-old James Alex Fields Jr. in a speech the then-Senator gave during a campaign rally at Williams-Brice Stadium in December 2007.

“One voice can change a room,” Jackson said. “And if one voice can change a room, it can change a city. And if it can change a city, it can change a state. And if it can change a state, it can change a nation. And if it can change a nation, it can change the world.

“Your voice can change the world,” Jackson concluded in his own words.

“Know that your city is with you.” Benjamin said. “Know that your city is with you.

Hundreds of locals turned up for a peaceful protest against racism, Neo-Nazism and the alt-right movement at the South Carolina Statehouse on Aug. 14.

The driver of the vehicle who killed Heyer, 20-year-old James Alex Fields of Ohio, is being held in Allemane-Charlottesville Regional Jail on charges of second-degree murder, hit and run and three counts of malicious wounding.

Fields was denied bail by Judge Robert H. Downer Jr. at a Monday hearing in Charlottesville.

Wiginton mentioned that the American Civil Liberties Union, which filed a successful free speech lawsuit to prevent relocation of the “Unite the Right” rally will fight the event's cancellation.

“We have two lawyers in Texas who are alt-right leaning who will get in on the action, too,” Wiginton said.

Wiginton and Jackson concluded in their own words.

“Your voice can change the world,” Jackson said. “And if one voice can change a room, it can change a city. And if it can change a city, it can change a state. And if it can change a state, it can change a nation. And if it can change a nation, it can change the world.

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Carolina WELCOME

August 22-27, 2017

We've been waiting for you!

Signature Events

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: “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

VISIT WWW.SA.SC.EDU/WELCOME
FOR INFORMATION ON MOVE-IN,
FIRST NIGHT CAROLINA AND ALL CAROLINA WELCOME EVENTS!

The Daily Gamecock
Friday, August 18, 2017

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FIRST NIGHT CAROLINA AND ALL CAROLINA WELCOME EVENTS!
First College Ministry Table 1-5 p.m. Scavenger Hunt sponsored by First College Ministry
First College Ministry is a student organization at the University of South Carolina and a ministry of First Baptist Church Columbia. Stop by our table on Greene Street to get information about how you can be connected with us. We'll also have cookies and drinks for you to enjoy while you're there.

University of South Carolina Intramural Sports 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Scavenger Hunt sponsored by University of South Carolina Intramural Sports
USC Intramural Sports will be hosting an info table where you can find out all about the intramural sports thrive offer for Fall 2017 as well as what job opportunities that are available.

Opportunity Knocks Part-time Job Fair 2-4 p.m. Scavenger Hunt sponsored by Opportunity Knocks
Hosted a full-time job for the year or just need a part-time job? Come out to the Opportunity Knocks Part-time Job Fair to see what opportunities USC students and alumni to meet with potential employers to discuss part-time, work-study, or on-campus work and internships, and jobs off campus. For more information and tips on how to prepare for the fair, please visit our Career Center website at http://www.sc.edu/career/

Midtown Field Day 2-7:30 p.m. Scavenger Hunt sponsored by Midtown Fellowship
Midtown Fellowship is throwing a Back to School Bash to welcome all new and returning students. There will be fun games, food, a classic car show, and a group photo of the new year. Have fun and bring your friends!

Wednesday Night Picnic 5-7 p.m. Scavenger Hunt sponsored by International Students
Join UKirk for an evening of fun to start the “famously hot” environment you will experience your first year as a Gamecock! The picnic is open to all new students and their friends and is sponsored by the Christian Student Association. There may even be some leftovers you need a ride!

The Free College Bash 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Scavenger Hunt sponsored by Church of the Palmetto Soul
The Free College Bash is a chance to experience the “southern” as we introduce you to our “baptism in the bush” tradition! You also will be able to tours the Free College Dorms and see what a typical “baptism” looks like. Bus transportation to the service site during check-in on the morning of the event and serve!

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comforting.

Soak in hot water. Set
you load down and treat

Pamper yourself. Try a

invoices. You don't need

in. Pay bills and send

gas to keep cash flowing

Keep your foot on the

could seem scary. Take

project and short-term

beautify your space.

irritation. Clean and
decrease an immediate

laundry or dishes. Don't

and routines such as

Handle domestic chores

one step at a time.

Unplanned deviations

It could get messy.

uncharted territory.

Explore and investigate

service. Smile and wave.

or portfolios. Keep

Update resumes, websites

professional presentation.

attention. Polish your

than one can do alone.

or challenge that's more

to surpass an obstacle

teamwork. Pull together

Benefits come through

and review the situation.

than far away. Pull

You must be able to handle

Aries

Handy handle 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 worry about the big picture; it could seem scary. Take one step at a time.

Cancer

Pamper yourself. Try a new outfit or hairstyle. Soak in hot water. Set you load down and treat yourself to something delicious, fragrant and comforting.

Leo

Nearby you exists more

uncomfortable shelf. Discover a silver lining you didn't expect. Relax and review the situation.

Libra

Your work is attracting

attention. Polish your

professionals presentations. Update resumes, websites or portfolios. Keep providing excellent service. Souls and way.

Scorpio

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

Sagittarius

Manage accounts and

finances with your partner. Don't concern on long-term matters now; handle immediate concerns. Share resources, solutions and ideas. Collaborate for

Capricorn

Capricorn

Send a sense of humor serve you

well. Breakdowns and circumstances could thwart your intentions with your partner. Focus on shared commitments.

Aquarius

An assignment may require extra work. New hurdles appear as you thought you were reaching the finish line. Slow down to get
done better.

Pisces

Relax and enjoy the sunny Things you can not go as imagined. Watch for love, find a hidden in plain sight.
Fiscal conservatism equality can't coexist

Thalia Hobson
Senior columnist
@ComedicMuse

My thoughts on Nazis are short, sweet and not publishable in this paper. — which, by the way, does live up to its reputation for International Business School.

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 freshman year round two. I know a lot more, and there are a lot of things I wish I could do better.

There are the obvious things like: High school did not prepare me for this, being an adult is difficult, and there will be times when you are lonelier than you ever have been before.

But the thing that I wish I could tell myself is a much more practical bit of advice that was never explained to me at orientation: You will not be completely rewarded for your skills at a foreign language.

Freshmen, watch out for foreign language requirements — which, by the way, does live up to the hype. One of the requirements 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.

At the start of college, everyone has to take a placement test to decide what level of your language you are in, if you make an AP exam, which should have been sufficient, did count. But I still didn’t know how the best way to gauge your student’s aptitude for the language.

Luckily, I did well enough on my test to be placed in the 200 level courses, which are junior level courses. I was shocked. 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 throughout the advising process.

What was not told to me, however, was that I was not receiving all the back credits for the earlier classes. Fast forward to the end of sophomore year and my fourth semester in high school. I was shocked to be finished and move on to more IB-focused classes when my advisor told me that I still needed to take two more semesters of Spanish. Apparently, being placed into the 300 level courses does not grant you credit for the 200 level courses.

I asked if I could take these two 200 level courses now, still not sure why I had to take them at all, but I couldn’t take those either. You can’t move backwards in language progression, so I had to take two more 300 level courses.

I had to take two additional challenging courses because for some reason they did not give me all the credit I deserved for placing into a higher level. In a way, I was punished for my success.

As a recent graduate, I wish I could go back and tell myself that you might not be getting the whole easy.

To all incoming freshmen: Make sure you know exactly what is required for your major or minor before you begin so you are not surprised by classes that you “have to take” down the road.
Conduct office leaves door open for abuse, misconduct or bias

Dan Nelson
Opinion Editor @teaganecook

The Office of Student Conduct is a crucial organization at our university. If you get caught drinking underage, messing with a fire alarm or possessing a drug you are facing one of the above dangers together. The consensus is that these are extremely serious matters that will not shy away from annihilation, a rogue country's neighboring states.

Overall, I think the best solution to the current war. If conflict is inevitable, nations are on the brink of striking against Guam. With North Korea, even going so far as to lay out a plan for a missile strike against the United States and South Korea, the war is already inevitable. With Kim Jong-un, it is likely that he is the current leader of North Korea. If conflict breaks out, it is possible that this is the current leader of North Korea; it is superior to a nuclear conflict, using our military to make surgical strikes on military targets. Thus, the question of whether to even use the existing arsenals is one of the most difficult that we can face.

However, looking into the way the Office of Student Conduct investigates into student conduct, a number of issues arise that could have potentially disastrous consequences for students. For one, the Office of Student Conduct doesn’t appear to have a clear way of eliminating bias in investigations, or at least not in the same way a criminal or civil court handles such matters. Secondly, all matters related to appearance bias.

475x-57

The Office of Student Conduct is a crucial organization at our university. If you get caught drinking underage, messing with a fire alarm or possessing a drug...
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

Resident entertainment lounge with PS4, Xbox & big screen TVs
Sun and fun at The Mills pool deck

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

Schedule Your Tour Today!

803.667.3705

PMC Property Group
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

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.

Jenna Schiferl
@JENNASCHIF

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:
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,ingers, 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

Discount available for groups of 15+ tickets

Drew Holcomb discusses latest album

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors, an established Americana band from Tennessee, will be performing at the Lexington Amphitheater in Lexington on Aug. 25. 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 iHaus for the first time. “For whatever reason our music always seems to do well in both North 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 excited for it.” Now it’s a little bit more collaborative than the previous three in the way Holcomb makes his music.”

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,”” said 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 and call and collaborate and cooperate and that’s 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 staging career, came back to sing on the ballad “Black and Blue.”

“We sort of already laid most of the track down,” Holcomb said. “She came in, worked out the vocals, the key, all that beforehand — it’s real. ‘Oh, this is fun, we used to do this all the time.’”

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

“Because the word was 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 each other,” Holcomb said. “So that’s sort of my way of advocating to the people 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.”

As far as Holcomb’s relationship with Ellie Holcomb before going into the studio next year, it will go on. “It was just a random decision,” he said. “I had other obligations and Ellie was willing to do it for cheap and it went well and we were able to grow it,” he said. Since it was established in 2013, Holcomb has learned that bringing music to a vast community can be hard but also rewarding.

“It’s been tricky because it’s another full time job for my manager and I to figure this festival out, make it grow and do our best,” he said. “It’s sort of a garden, trim that garden and hopefully it continues to become a cool cultural moment.”

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors continue to tour for the rest of the year and will finish off with a couple Christmas shows with Ellie Holcomb before going into the studio next year. But until then, they will rub shoulders with Willie Nelson when they tour South Carolina for The Magnolia Record Club’s 10th anniversary show in November.

“It’s really the thing I’m most excited about that I’ve ever done in music.”

Drew Holcomb and The Neighbors to discuss their upcoming album, “Souvenir” is available now and the Moon River Music Festival will be in Memphis in 2018.
WE’VE GOT ALL YOUR BACK TO SCHOOL NEEDS

THE VISTA
930 Gervais St
LAKE MURRAY
1602 Marina Rd
THE VISTA
828 Gervais St
HARBISON AREA
410 Columbiana Dr

HOMEGROWN HOSPITALITY GROUP

PEARLZ OYSTER BAR
THE VISTA
936 Gervais St

Kaminsky’s DESSERT CAFE
THE VISTA
930 Gervais St

LIBERTY TAP ROOM & GRILL
THE VISTA
828 Gervais St
LAKE MURRAY
1602 Marina Rd

RIOZ
3062 BLVD
HARBISON AREA
410 Columbiana Dr

hghosp.com
In a few short days, a solar eclipse will plunge the entire campus into darkness for about two and a half minutes. Columbia is situated on the path of the eclipse in such a way that we will experience totality—a path that will be perfectly aligned with the sun’s path in our sky. This is a unique and rare event that will happen once in a lifetime experience. — what will likely be (for most of us) a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Friday, August 18:
Event: Pre-Eclipse Weekend at the South Carolina State Museum 
Where: South Carolina State Museum, 102 Gervais St, Columbia, SC 29201
When: Friday, August 18 to Sunday, August 20, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cost: $10
Admission includes entry to both permanent exhibits and exhibits specific to space, astronomy, and eclipses, as well as access to the Telescope Gallery and Bending Over History. You will receive solar eclipse glasses.

Event: EclipseFest 2017
Where: Music Farm Columbia, 1515 Main St, Columbia, SC 29201
When: 7 to 11 p.m.
Cost: $9 ($5 for members)
A ticket to the festival includes entry to the Carolina Fireflies festival as well as the game can be viewed on the Carolina Fireflies official website.

Sunday, August 20:
Event: Event: Total Eclipse: A Space Odyssey
Where: The Nickelodeon Theatre 
When: 8 to 10 p.m.
Cost: $10
The Nick will be showing A Space Odyssey on the eve of the eclipse day.
Event: Eclipse Viewing Stations
Where: Multiple locations on campus.
When: During eclipse (between 11:10 4:05 p.m.)
Cost: None
Ten solar telescopes will be set up around campus, each location will provide a pair of safety glasses to viewers.

Monday, August 21:
Event: iMAGINE STEM Festival
Where: Historic Columbia Foundation 
When: 10 a.m. to 10:05 p.m.
Cost: Free admission/$5 parking per car
A full day of music, food, drinks and art viewing included.

Eclipse Events in Columbia

Solar Eclipse On Campus
Grab a pair of solar eclipse glasses at Russell House with your CarolinaCard and hit up the free events on campus
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. The basement is the perfect location for students who want complete silence 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 sunburned 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.

Keep these places in mind as you hit the books during the 2017-18 school year.

Emily Barber / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Cool Beans rustic interior is perfect for focusing, and located across from the Horseshoe it is close to campus.

Best study spots on and off campus

Taylor Harrison

10 WAYS

Your STUDENT LIFE journey starts here!

1. Learn the process for requesting student tickets to athletic events.
2. Sign up for the Multicultural Assistance Peer Program (MAPP).
3. Visit the Leadership and Service Center to get plugged into community service.
4. Join one of our 40+ fraternities and sororities!
5. Meet with a leadership coach in the Leadership and Service Center.
6. Be a part of the conversation through Student Media.
7. Spend time at the Russell House!
8. Join one of Carolina’s more than 400 student organizations.
9. Make a difference on campus with Student Government.
10. Stay in shape, play a sport and have fun with Campus Recreation.

Friday, August 18, 2017

EclipseFest—Hey, Johnny Park Foo Fighters Tribute, August 19
Moon Taxi
August 24
Abbey Road Live!—Beatles Tribute, September 9
Eclipse Eve
August 20
Barns Courtney
September 1
Kyle September 10

Your STUDENT LIFE journey starts here!

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EclipseFast-Hey, Johnny Park Foo Fighters Tribute, August 19
Eclipse Eve August 20

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Friday, August 18, 2017

EclipseFest—Hey, Johnny Park Foo Fighters Tribute, August 19
Moon Taxi
August 24
Abbey Road Live!—Beatles Tribute, September 9
Eclipse Eve
August 20
Barns Courtney
September 1
Kyle September 10

Your STUDENT LIFE journey starts here!

MUSIC FARM
1022 SENA STREET • COLUMBIA, SC 29201 • MUSICFARM.COM

EclipseFast-Hey, Johnny Park Foo Fighters Tribute, August 19
Eclipse Eve August 20

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.

Emily Barber / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Cool Beans rustic interior is perfect for focusing, and located across from the Horseshoe it is close to campus.

Best study spots on and off campus

Taylor Harrison

10 WAYS

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2. Sign up for the Multicultural Assistance Peer Program (MAPP).
3. Visit the Leadership and Service Center to get plugged into community service.
4. Join one of our 40+ fraternities and sororities!
5. Meet with a leadership coach in the Leadership and Service Center.
6. Be a part of the conversation through Student Media.
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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 or 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 strictly going 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 greatest 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 position 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 fun 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 the whole 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 time viewing. 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 Drogon 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 take advantage of the event or camp out 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.

The Yonder Field drive-in is one of only three permanent drive-in theaters in the state.

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

Earlier this year, the Columbia Museum of Art brought “GUT: Costume and the Cinema,” a featured exhibit. This traveling exhibit featured the theatrical styles 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 SUITED,” traveling exhibit that includes nine hand-crafted Mardi Gras Indian suits from the popular HBO show “Treme.”

“Treme” is a series set in post-Katrina New Orleans, where residents are slowly beginning to return to their homes. At this time, many are faced with 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 feel 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 societies that helped black individuals escape slavery in the 1800s. To this day, every year the Mardi Gras Indians dress elaborately to wear during their parade and celebrations.

Laura Green, the Folklore 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 racial identity and the role of costumes in preserving African-American culture,” Green said.

Students are encouraged to visit the exhibit at McKissick Museum from Monday, August 28 to September 30th, located in the Russell House University Union Ballroom.

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 pm, TBD
Honors College, 177 Ruffin Hall

Sustainability Showcase: Research and Practice
Monday, September 25, 2-7pm
RHUU Ballroom

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

168 Prioritization Workshop
Wednesday, September 27, 10-5pm
Mezzanine Level of Thomas Cooper Library

Get Me to Degree Workshop
Wednesday, September 27, 11am-5pm
RHUU Ballroom

CareerFest/S.E.T. Fair
Wednesday, September 27, 11:40am-1pm
Mezzanine Level of Thomas Cooper Library

How to Pay the Bills Workshop
Wednesday, September 27, 2-5pm
RHUU Ballroom

Service Saturday
Saturday, September 30, 8:30am-1:30pm
Our Workshops
Any of our workshops in September

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

Visit sc.edu/success for more details and guidelines. Thanks to our campus partners for sponsoring the events!
environmental racism and the gentrification of the city, and the terrible crime that was happening,” Green said.

“The flipside of that was the people’s resilience and the importance of the culture, and how the culture almost became a way to overcome adversity,” she continued.

Alonzo V. Wilson designed the suits for the first three seasons of “Treme.” During the first season, Wilson worked closely with members of the Mardi Gras Indian community to create suits that were as authentic as possible.

“I’m a folklorist, and it’s pretty similar to being an anthropologist,” Green said. “We do ethnography and work closely with communities, and hope to have a pretty strong sense of ethics when working with cultural communities, and I was pretty 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.

“The exhibit 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 1 p.m.

“Our mission at McKissick 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 each other’s traditions, adornment and identity.”

Emily Barber / THE DAILY GAMECOCK
Alonzo V. Wilson worked with Mardi Gras Indians to accurately create the costumes.

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blossomshopcolumbiasc.com
‘EYES OPEN’ brings award-winning musicals to Trustus Theater

MATTIE HOBBS | @DSC_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 ‘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.

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‘EYES OPEN’ brings award-winning musicals to Trustus Theater

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?”

“Just break up with him.”

“The weekend begins on Friday, not Thursday.”

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

“If it’s free, get it.”

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

“Just because Cookout is nearby doesn’t mean you need it.”

“If C’s get degrees.”

“You don’t have to monogram everything.”

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

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

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

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“Please try and make it into the game.”

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Local restaurants to escape campus food

Jenna Schiferl / Student Assistant

Most people warn freshmen about the “sober freshman 15,” but many incoming freshmen don’t realize it’s the impending eventual 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: 4800 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 traditional breakfast pancakes, eggs, and grits. The restaurant has a full service raw bar and offers group seating. Meals typically cost around $10 to $20.

Option 2: Hunter-Gatherer Brewery & Ale House — $$ Where: 900 Main Street Hours: Monday – Thursday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday/Saturday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Hunter-Gatherer is a great casual spot within 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 favorites like shrimp and grits. The restaurant has a full service raw bar and offers group seating.

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 definitely the place to go if you’re down to spend a little bit more for an upscale dining experience. As the name suggests, 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.

If you are under the age of 21, it is against the law to buy alcoholic beverages.
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 funky 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 an 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 achievement.

Bundick strikes each song with his dreamy effects that call upon the perfect ideas to get around your head: lost 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.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”

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

Darby Hallman

If you saw the trailers for “Hellblade: Senua’s Sacrifice,” you would be forgiven for thinking it was a Civil War battle on the backs of horses. With so many soldiers in the air, you might think the game would be about strategy, but that isn’t the case. Instead, where “Hellblade” shines, and in fact they are incredible moments that, even though you never reach the end of the game, you are still start to overstay their welcome by the end. 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 and much like the combat, begun to come across as tedious, especially as the story became more and more interesting.

As a full package, these two pillars of “Hellblade’s” gameplay are a hit disappointing, however there are incredible moments that, in my opinion, make up for the game’s flaws. Without spoiling anything, there are a few sections around the halfway point of “Hellblade” that use audio and visual cues in a way that I had never seen a game even come close to matching. The way that I continue to think about the impression and unique tools that this game used to invoke fear, sadness, confusion and awe in me made for the frustration I felt, even if it didn’t do so similarly.

“Hellblade: Senua’s Sacrifice” provides brutal glimpse into psychosis.

To evoke Senua’s mental illness, the sound effects include eerie voices talking to her, best heard through headphones.

While living with psychosis, as you deep look into what it’s like for this game you will truly be missing out. The very first credit you see when you play “Hellblade” is for Paul Fletcher, the game’s mental health advisor, and this is very indicative of Ninja Theory’s priority in making this game. While “Hellblade” does have a fair amount of combat and puzzles, they aren’t the main focus nor are they where the game shines, and in fact they can both take away from the game’s excitement and fun.

The game’s fighting is fairly basic with the standard dodge, block, light attack and strong attack and the only additional power you learn is one that can slow enemies for a short time. This is fine in the early game as the player gets used to the pace of battle and the different enemies that are thrown their way. The problem is that this never stops. As the game progresses, 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 sometimes absurd amounts. There were multiple times where I started to wonder if I was supposed to be doing something different to end the endless horde of demonic warriors coming at me only to finally kill the last one and then proceed to rub my painful fingers that were tired of the button-mashing. By the end of the game, I started to dread 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 by the end. 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 and much like the combat, began to come across as tedious, especially as the story became more and more interesting.

As a full package, these two pillars of “Hellblade’s” gameplay are a hit disappointing, however there are incredible moments that, in my opinion, make up for the game’s flaws. Without spoiling anything, there are a few sections around the halfway point of “Hellblade” that use audio and visual cues in a way that I had never seen a game even come close to matching. The way that I continue to think about the impression and unique tools that this game used to invoke fear, sadness, confusion and awe in me made for the frustration I felt, even if it didn’t do so similarly.

“Hellblade” is a cohesive opinion as it’s simultaneously intriguing, innovative and irritating. Unlike most games of it’s price, “Hellblade” is undoubtedly an experience worth having, under a few conditions. If you are a 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 and are interested in being told a fascinating story surrounding a multi-layered ground-breaking game, “Hellblade” just might be one of your favorite games in a while.

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Friday, August 18, 2017

The Daily Gamecock
CMA renovations opening soon for growing Main Street

Sarah Nichols @SCHICKOLY

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 city’s cornerstone Main Street development, the Columbia Museum of Art, started a renovation project that will last until the fall of 2018, to make the arts more accessible to the community.

The museum’s renovations can best be broken down into three categories: gallery expansion, a Main Street entrance and a program and events space. Although the building itself won’t be expanded or fundamentally changed in its size or footprint, over 15,000 square feet are currently being renovated to make better use of the space at hand.

The first set of renovations applies to the gallery on the second floor of the museum. While the contemporary collections have been growing, their galleries struggle to showcase the influx of modern and contemporary artwork. The only space these works have to have our audience see what modern and contemporary collections were like, and there were some pieces that people loved. So we really felt like that gallery expansion needed to find a home.

As the second floor gallery is currently being renovated, there are no works on exhibit upstairs at this time.

The construction of the Main Street entrance stems from the looming weekend and nightlife scene in the Main Street district. As the building currently stands, the main entrance in the lobby of the museum 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 very different place. In fact, we 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 evolved into an area that is not just business hours only, the museum wanted to accommodate a greater range of events. This area of the city, 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 facilitate the entry to the museum with that on-going traffic. It’s 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 even-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 create 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 $2-10 for students and $6 for general admissions.

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In this section
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.

C8 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.

C13 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.

C15 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 a update about the offensive line.
**Column: Lack of frontrunner gives Cocks golden opportunity in East**

Adam Orfinger  
GOVT '17

After an 8-5 season that frustrated the Athens faithful, Georgia was projected to be the 2017 SEC East division champion, earning them the right to be the sacrificial lamb to Alabama in December. Despite being a young team this season and having produced stickers 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 either turn to a true freshman in Feleipe Franks or Kyle Trask, or Notre Dame graduate transfer Malik Zaire. While there is plenty of potential on offense, there is a sure thing, yet again, with all options, Florida’s offense is far from a sure thing. So what does all of that mean for South Carolina?

The Gamecocks have been a trendy dark horse pick as well, thanks to plenty of offensive skill talent. As was the case last season, USC gets into the meat of its schedule pretty quickly, opening with a talented SEC opponent in NC State before hitting the road to take on Missouri on October 7.

Surprising though it may seem, South Carolina may have the division’s most explosive offense, and Muschamp has never been on the short end of explosive offense. The Gamecocks are starting to get more kinks at the offensive line, linebacker and special teams spots.

The Gamecocks’ offensive firepower could push them over the top.

The Florida project with three defensive standouts onto the Preseason All-SEC team. Kentucky gets Florida, Tennessee and Ole Miss at home this season, and if no one emerges from the group at the top, the Wildcats could become the division’s dark horse.

What does all of this mean for South Carolina? The Gamecocks have been a trendy dark horse pick as well, thanks to plenty of offensive skill talent. As was the case last season, USC gets into the meat of its schedule pretty quickly, opening with a talented SEC opponent in NC State before hitting the road to take on Missouri on October 7.

In a division with no clear favorite, the Gamecocks, matchups with Florida, Tennessee, Texas A&M and Georgia don’t come until October and November, though three of those four are on the road. The latter dates allow time for Will Muschamp’s team to grow on both sides of the ball, working out the kinks at the offensive line, linebacker and special teams spots.

And why should he be? In a division with no clear favorite, the Gamecocks’ offensive firepower could push them over the top.

17 might represent the Gamecocks’ best chance in recent years to unseat SEC powers like Florida.

**Adam Orfinger  
GOVT ’17**

2017 might represent the Gamecocks’ best chance in recent years to unseat SEC powers like Florida.
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**VOLLEYBALL**

**AUGUST**
- 25 vs. Mercer, 7 p.m.
- 26 vs. North Florida, 7 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER**
- 1 vs. Northwestern (Durham, N.C.), 12 p.m.
- 8 vs. Eastern Kentucky, 1 p.m.
- 9 vs. Georgia Southern (Clemson, S.C.), 4 p.m.
- 10 vs. Texas Tech (Clemson, S.C.), 10 a.m.
- 11 at Clemson, 7 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 vs. Georgia, TBD
- 17 vs. Auburn, 1 p.m.

**EQUESTRIAN**

**SEPTEMBER**
- 2 vs. N.C. State (Charlotte), 3 p.m.
- 9 at Missouri, 7 p.m.
- 16 at Marshall, 1 p.m.
- 19 vs. Furman, 7 p.m.
- 22 vs. New Mexico, 7 p.m.
- 26 at Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
- 30 vs. Coastal Carolina, 7 p.m.

**OCTOBER**
- 3 vs. Virginia Tech, 7 p.m.
- 8 at Kentucky, 2 p.m.
- 14 vs. Florida International, 7 p.m.
- 20 at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
- 24 at N.C. State, 7 p.m.
- 29 vs. Old Dominion, 2 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 at UAB, 7 p.m.

**FOOTBALL**

**SEPTEMBER**
- 2 vs. N.C. State (Charlotte), 3 p.m.
- 9 at Missouri, 7 p.m.
- 16 vs. Kentucky, 7:30 p.m.
- 23 vs. Louisiana Tech, TBD
- 30, at Texas A&M, TBD

**OCTOBER**
- 3 vs. Virginia Tech, 7 p.m.
- 8 at Kentucky, 2 p.m.
- 14 vs. Florida International, 7 p.m.
- 20 at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
- 24 at N.C. State, 7 p.m.
- 29 vs. Old Dominion, 2 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 at UAB, 7 p.m.

**MEN’S SOCCER**

**AUGUST**
- 20 vs. College of Charleston (exhibition), 3:30 p.m.
- 25 vs. USC Upstate, 7 p.m.
- 28 vs. Mercer, 7 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER**
- 1 at Clemson, 7:30 p.m.
- 5 vs. North Florida, 7 p.m.
- 9 vs. Florida Atlantic, 7 p.m.
- 16 at Marshall, 1 p.m.
- 19 vs. Furman, 7 p.m.
- 22 vs. New Mexico, 7 p.m.
- 26 at Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
- 30 vs. Coastal Carolina, 7 p.m.

**OCTOBER**
- 3 vs. Virginia Tech, 7 p.m.
- 8 at Kentucky, 2 p.m.
- 14 vs. Florida International, 7 p.m.
- 20 at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
- 24 at N.C. State, 7 p.m.
- 29 vs. Ole Miss, 8 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 at Alabama, 7 p.m.

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

**AUGUST**
- 16 vs. UNC, 7 p.m.
- 20 vs. Florida Gulf Coast, 7 p.m.
- 24 at Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
- 27 vs. High Point, 7 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER**
- 1 at Notre Dame, 7 p.m.
- 3 vs. Michigan (South Bend, Ind.), 2:30 p.m.
- 8 at Clemson, 7 p.m.
- 10 vs. Jacksonville, 2 p.m.
- 15 vs. Alabama, 7 p.m.
- 21 at Kentucky, 7:30 p.m.
- 24 vs. Tennessee, 2 p.m.
- 29 at Ole Miss, 8 p.m.

**OCTOBER**
- 5 vs. Mississippi State, 7 p.m.
- 8 at Arkansas, 6 p.m.
- 14 vs. Florida International, 7 p.m.
- 20 at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
- 24 at N.C. State, 7 p.m.
- 29 vs. Old Dominion, 2 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 at UAB, 7 p.m.

**EQUESTRIAN**

**SEPTEMBER**
- 3 vs. Georgia, TBD
- 17 vs. Auburn, 1 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 at Georgia, TBD
- 17 vs. Auburn, 1 p.m.

**MEN’S SOCCER**

**AUGUST**
- 18 vs. UCF, 7 p.m.
- 20 vs. Florida Gulf Coast, 7 p.m.
- 24 at Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
- 27 vs. High Point, 7 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER**
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- 24 at N.C. State, 7 p.m.
- 29 vs. Old Dominion, 2 p.m.

**NOVEMBER**
- 3 at UAB, 7 p.m.
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Friday, August 18, 2017
The Daily Gamecock
Kingston takes charge of USC baseball

Mark Kingston poses with former USC baseball head coach and current athletics director Ray Tanner after Kingston's introductory press conference on June 30.

Adam Orfinger
@AORFINGER

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. As 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 offensively, shortstop Kevin Merrell 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 2011, 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 Tyrone 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 Jumah Beide, 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.

Valencia Abraham
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Mark Kingston poses with former USC baseball head coach and current athletics director Ray Tanner after Kingston’s introductory press conference on June 30.

Adam Orfinger
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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

Caron Mason
@CARSONANNMASON

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 copped 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' poll. While the tournament elimination -- a 1-0 loss to No. 3 North Carolina in the Elite Eight -- 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 their legacy and we're going to make sure they did 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. "We're going to carry in the footsteps that they've left and just do the best we can."

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 GamecocksOnline. "You're playing with some of the best players in the country. Going in 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 to the Hermann last season, Krzeczowski set her fair share of program records. She holds the lowest single-season goals against average (.40) and recorded the most shutouts ever 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 Rhathin, Lindsey Lane and Anna Conklin, who is a key member of the Gamecocks back line that set a program-best 0.40 goals against average in 2016. Nine seniors graduated last season, including team captain Chelsie Drennan and speedy forwards Daija Brian and Sophie Geoffr. Drennan led the team in assists in all four years of her collegiate career and set the school record for career assists with 48. 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 15 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 GamecocksOnline. "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 upper-classman."

Following the team's tournament elimination in November, Smith and her staff worked to focus team returning players--on-field techniques during the spring. "The spring is a huge time for us to develop, especially as individual players," Smith told GamecocksOnline. "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 as the Top 15 in the last four years. Florida is just behind them at No. 7, while Auburn comes in at No. 10, Arkansas at No. 13 and Tennessee 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.

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.

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.

“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 1 experience as a transfer,” Berson told GamecocksOnline. “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 1 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.

The Gamecocks opened the season by hosting USC Upstate at Stone Stadium on Aug. 21. 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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NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association
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 were 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 that 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.

"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."

Similar to Shields, middle blocker and outside hitter Alicia Stuer led the team in total blocks with 80 and owned a team-high 1.13 block per set rate as a freshman last season.

The Gamecocks' setter, Ashville native Courtney Kostler, is also a sophomore. Kostler played in all 30 matches for the Gamecocks in 2016, setting 12 acts with only nine service errors and averaging four assists and 1.09 digs per set, according to GamecocksOnline.

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 Keko Atos-Williams and Dessa Logue, who both set career-bests in solo blocks last season. Instead, USC will welcome four freshmen to the squad, including outside hitter Jess Vastine and Brooks Gostomski and middle blockers Mikayla Robinson and Ellie Popelka.

"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. 19. More notable tournaments include the Duke Invitational on Sept. 1 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. 29.

"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

After a breakout freshman year, Mikayla Shields (8) is starting to gain popularity.

Career Center
University of South Carolina

Career Fest & the S.E.T. Fair

Held concurrently, Career Fest is for non-technical positions and the S.E.T. Fair is for science, engineering, & technology positions. Employers will be hiring for internships and full-time jobs that are available.

WEDNESDAY
September 27

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
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After a breakout freshman year, Mikayla Shields (8) is starting to gain popularity.
like Samuel, Bryan Edwards and benefi t from having talented weapons school, giving offensive coordinators with the ball in his hands in high well as a receiver. Coaching staff expects to use him as to Deebo Samuel, saying that the County speedster compared his game Signing Day ceremony, the Union position group, Shi Smith's versatility in 2017, has been overshadowed by newcomers saw the fi eld in their first for most true freshman starters in There's no doubt about that. Deebo Samuel and Bryson We all know about Jake Bentley, the Palmetto State this season. who could become household names in And who could be in for a breakout But who could be in for a breakout year? The Gamecocks were tied for most true freshman starters in the country (seven), and six more newcomers are on the field in their fi rst year out of high school. Guys like Jammie J-Jones and O’Keefe Smith are expected to contribute as early as 2017, but who will unexpectedly break out and be this season’s Rico Dowdle?

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 O’Keefe Smith, the only in-state 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 Deebo Samuel, saying that the coaching staff expects to use him as a half-backer and return specialist, as well as a receiver.

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

K.C. Crosby, tight end
Hayden Hurst was 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, emerging as a quality red zone target thanks to his stocky 6-foot-1, 250-pound frame. The redshirt junior was key for the Gamecocks in two-score ends, playing alongside Hurst, and Crosby was occasionally featured as the offense’s frequent tight and screen. A former top-150 prospect, Crosby could become a touchdown machine in a potentially prolific South Carolina passing attack.

D.J. Wonnun, defensive lineman
Wonnun wasn’t expected to be a major contributor as a freshman, 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, fi nishing with 3.5 tackles for loss, including 1.5 sacks and two forced fumbles.

Expected to start at the buck position this season, Wonnun could become a lethal pass rusher as the Gamecocks look to rebuild the dangerous defensive front of years past. SEC Network analyst Brandon Gaud said Wonnun ‘is a name that you will know by the end of the season on the Gamecocks defense.’ The 5-10, 240-pounder is expected to help fi ll the void left by his former mentor and T.J. Holloman, who graduated after last season. In 2016, all three starting linebacker finished with at least 68 tackles, so you can expect to hear Wonnun’s name a lot throughout the 2017 season.

T.J. Brunson, placekicker
Brunson is tasked with replacing Elliott Fry, the school’s all-time scoring leader, but he certainly showed in the spring game that he has the potential, hitting three fi eld goals from longer than 45 yards out. The concern isn’t about his talent, however, but his experience. A redshirt freshman, Wonnun has yet to attempt a fi eld goal or even an extra point in a college game, so Will Muschamp is putting the pressure on his kicker in practice.

The simulated pressure situations will help, though it’s expected that a freshman might have a freshman moment or two throughout the season. Regardless, the combination of talent and opportunity make Wonnun a breakout candidate.
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.”

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 is one of the defining differences between college and professional football.

But when the DJ is playing?

“The times that (the band doesn’t) play, we had to make better,” Nichols said. “To do that, Nichols said 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 practice,” 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 auditions are “hard to come by.”

When looking to improve gameday atmosphere, Nichols says that in addition to other college venues, his staff looks at what is being done at professional stadiums, 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.

September 5
#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.

September 12
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.

September 19
#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.

September 26
#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.

October 3
Gamecocks Stay Informed
Don’t be fooled by fake news, come to the market and learn how to get accurate health information.

October 10
World Mental Health Day
Come celebrate World Mental Health Day at the farmers market. Learn about resources we have on campus that will help you live your best life like the CALM Oasis, our resident therapy dog and FREE stress consultations for students.

October 17
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
This week the market staff is teaming up with SAPF to honor Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Stop by to learn more about the events happening on campus throughout the month of October.

October 24
Homecoming
Get into the Gamecock spirit this week at the Healthy Carolina Farmers Market.

October 31
Say Boo to the Flu
Our Halloween nightmare? Getting the flu just in time for finals. Say Boo to the Flu at the market by getting a flu shot at the pop-up clinic and learn how to prevent the spread of the flu.

November 7
Hunger and Homelessness Week
Join us this week as the Healthy Carolina Farmers Market highlights hunger & homelessness as a growing issue on our campus and in our community.

November 8
Cleaning Out the Pantry
Learn how to make quick, healthy recipes with pantry items you already have.

November 17
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.

December 5
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.

Healthy Carolina Farmers Market
Fall 2017 Themes

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays
Greene Street

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Supported by the vision of a Healthy Carolina community
The University of South Carolina is an equal opportunity institution.

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays
Greene Street

Gamecocks Eat Well Cooking Classes
Fall 2017 Themes

5:30-7 p.m. - Demonstration Kitchen
Center for Health and Well-Being

Tuesday, August 15, 2017
The Daily Gamecock
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.

“Myers was Maine’s leading scorer during his one season with the team after transferring from Delaware two seasons ago.

A lot of players flash. The thing is, who can consistently play for 75 snaps, 80 snaps when you are going fast and you’re tired and it’s hot? This is a detail-oriented position. "Dennis has been inconsistent, which you would expect from a new player," Wolford said. "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 Zack Bailey, Alan Knott and Cory Helms. However, the line will be tested right away in the season opener in a matchup with NC State.

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 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.

Felders suspension comes as the Gamecocks prepare to face North Carolina State in their season opener on Friday afternoon. The line will face a physical challenge in the Wolfpack’s front seven and the return of veteran defensive tackle Travis Wimsatt.

“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.

"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 Zack Bailey, 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."

FRANK MARTIN WELCOMES TRANSFER, OLD RECRUIT MYERS AT GUARD

Frank Martin managed to fill out his roster after all.

The Gamecocks missed out on Brandy Onwuzor, 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, Devon Rush and 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.

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2017

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!!