Three keys to defeating Notre Dame on the way to the finals

Meninism: uncovering the thoughts beneath the fedora

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Cover Photo by Kamila Melko | Weekender
“It’s almost like birthing them. They become your child, and you live that, and you’re able to shape their lives on a daily basis and leave part of you in them so they can have the tools to be successful.”

— Head coach Dawn Staley on the women’s basketball team

“UConn is a community that values all of our members and treats each person with the same degree of respect, regardless of their background and beliefs, and we will not tolerate any other behavior.”

— University of Connecticut President Susan Herbst on the men’s basketball staff not traveling to Indianapolis for the NCAA Final Four in light of Indiana’s Religious Freedom Restoration Act

“People still ask me if we’re getting back together, and we are. It’s just a matter of doing it at the right time.”

— Darius Rucker on the reunion of Hootie & the Blowfish

“If Iran cheats, the world will know it.”

— President Barack Obama on the nuclear agreement with Iran
A springtime reminder

Danielle Koonce and Kirby Knowlton

If you picked up this newspaper from somewhere on campus, you've probably already heard the birds and the bees talk, but it's been a while since all of those information sessions about sexual health at the beginning of the fall semester. Danielle Koonce, the sexual health coordinator at Sexual Health Services, has provided a helpful refresher about sexual health and campus resources.

According to the CDC, there are about 20 million new sexually transmitted infection (STI) cases every year, and people ages 15-24 account for half of those new infections. Because many will not show symptoms immediately, people often don't know they have an STI without getting tested. The good news is there are effective ways to prevent STIs. The first, and probably most obvious, is abstaining from sex. Not everyone has the same definition of what abstinence is, but when talking about STI prevention, the definition means abstaining from vaginal, anal or oral sex. Other ways to prevent STIs include limiting number of sexual partners, consistently and correctly using barrier methods (condoms and dental dams) and avoiding alcohol or drugs before sex. Additionally, for HPV and Hepatitis there is a vaccination available.

Beyond STI prevention, many people also want to prevent pregnancy. Regardless of your sexual identity or gender identity, having vaginal-penile intercourse can lead to pregnancy. If you want to avoid pregnancy, you need reliable birth control. Without using any type of birth control, there is an 85 percent chance of pregnancy within a year. There are many types of birth control, including barrier methods (condoms), hormonal methods (pill, patch, ring or shot) and implantable devices (upper arm implant or intrauterine device, also known as an IUD). Combining a barrier method, like a female or male condom, with another form of birth control, like the pill or the IUD, is the best way to prevent unintended pregnancy.

It is also important to remember that sexual health goes beyond just preventing STIs and unintended pregnancy — it also includes healthy relationships and clear communication between partners. Make sure you talk to your partner about your needs and wants, and make sure that any sexual activity is done with consent. The Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention & Prevention (SAVIP) Office at the Student Health Center defines consent as clear, sober, conscious, affirmative and willing.

As a student, you have access to services including STI testing, wellness exams and vaccines (including HPV and hepatitis), at the Student Health Center. You can also talk with a health care provider to access prescription-only birth control. At the SAVIP Office, you have access to advocates and health educators that offer support for survivors of assault and violence as well as outreach training on topics like bystander intervention. At the Sexual Health Office, you are able to pick up lots of free resources including male condoms, female condoms, dental dams and lubricant. You can also chat with a health educator and get answers about sexual health issues.
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Behind enemy lines with Notre Dame

Here’s what you need to know about South Carolina’s Final Four opponent.

**Opponent:** Notre Dame (35-2, 15-1 ACC)

**NCAA tournament seed:** No. 1

**National Championships:** 1 (2001)


**NCAA tournament appearances:** 22
**Last game:** Notre Dame defeated second-seeded Baylor 77-68 in the Elite Eight last Sunday in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Sophomore guard Lindsay Allen led the Fighting Irish with 23 points as Notre Dame pulled away from the Bears in the second half. Junior guard Michaela Mabrey added 14 points, while junior guard Jewell Loyd scored 13.

It was a tight contest for much of the game, but a basket by senior guard Madison Cable put the Fighting Irish ahead by six points with less than a minute remaining and Notre Dame held on from that point on.

**Best win:** Notre Dame has played one of the toughest schedules in the country, and the Fighting Irish have been nothing short of impressive against some of the nation’s top teams. Notre Dame is 12-1 this season against ranked opponents, but it’s most impressive win to date might be a 92-72 point victory over Maryland from December.

While the Terrapins might have only been ranked No. 15 at the time, Maryland has played extremely well this season and the Terrapins are also in the Final Four this year.

Loyd led Notre Dame with 27 points in the win over Maryland as Notre Dame shot an impressive 58 percent from the field, while holding the Terrapins to just 41 percent shooting.

**Last head-to-head matchup:** South Carolina and Notre Dame have only met three times before with the Gamecocks leading the all-time series 2-1, but the Fighting Irish got the best of the Gamecocks the last time the two teams met in 2009.

The occasion was the U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam and Notre Dame, ranked No. 5 at the time, defeated South Carolina 78-55. The matchup came in just Dawn Staley’s second season as the head coach at South Carolina.

**Player to watch for:** At this point in the season, there are no secrets. By now, it’s clear that Loyd is one of the top players in the nation and by far Notre Dame’s most important player.

Loyd leads Notre Dame with 19.9 points per game and is a threat to score either in transition, behind the three-point line or at the free-throw line. However, Loyd’s value goes beyond statistics. Loyd’s mere presence makes her a weapon, so opposing defenses must key in on her, which can leave other teammates open to score.

Like South Carolina junior shooting guard Tiffany Mitchell, Loyd is the player who takes big shots when her team needs them and the Fighting Irish’s offense runs through her.


Notre Dame has several other players who are capable of scoring, so it’s important that South Carolina doesn’t get too wrapped up in stopping Loyd.

Nonetheless, if Loyd finds her groove early on, besting Notre Dame will be a tough task for the Gamecocks.

**Head coach spotlight:** Few names in women’s college basketball are more respected than Muffet McGraw, the Fighting Irish’s head coach.

McGraw is in her 28th season at Notre Dame, and she’s built one of the more impressive programs in the country.

Notre Dame has reached the Final Four five years in a row under McGraw, and the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame member brought the Fighting Irish its only national championship in 2001.

Like Staley and Connecticut head coach Geno Auriemma, McGraw is a Philadelphia native, and Staley has the utmost respect for what McGraw has accomplished.

“Geno and Muffet have both been doing it for a long time,” Staley said. “I’m pretty much the new kid on the block when it comes to being at Final Fours with the basketball team.”

**Biggest weakness:** It’s hard to find a noticeable weakness in either South Carolina or Notre Dame, considering both teams have lost just two games this season.

However, Notre Dame’s lack of depth, size and strength in the paint might hinder the Fighting Irish a bit against South Carolina.

Meanwhile, South Carolina has many scoring options down in the low post.

“They don’t have to worry about foul trouble because they have so many people on the bench,” McGraw said. “They can really go out and pressure as long as they’re in the game. I think they’re a really difficult matchup for us.”

How South Carolina can take advantage: It’s been spoken about a lot by opposing coaches, but it can’t be overstated how crucial South Carolina’s depth is. The Gamecocks have so much talent that it’s second-leading (freshman guard/forward A’ja Wilson) and third-leading (sophomore center Alaina Coates) come off the bench.

Because of this, the Gamecocks have the ability to keep players fresh and energized over the course of a game, which can really come in handy during the postseason — when results matter more than ever.
When South Carolina faces Notre Dame in the Final Four on Sunday, it will be the biggest game in program history. Of course, the same could've been said of South Carolina's past few games, as the Gamecocks have continued to survive throughout a competitive NCAA tournament.

Now just one win shy from a national championship game appearance, South Carolina faces an extremely talented Notre Dame team. Playing an opponent as talented as Notre Dame means that there's little room for error against the Fighting Irish. Here's a look at three things South Carolina must do in order to be victorious Sunday.

1. GET OFF TO A FAST START

Performing out of character, South Carolina struggled in the early portions of its wins against fourth-seeded North Carolina and second-seeded Florida State last weekend. The Gamecocks struggled out of the gate against the Tar Heels, trailing 8-0 before eventually leading at halftime. Meanwhile, Florida State led at the half against South Carolina and was up by as many as 10 points at one point. Slow starts like the ones it experienced in Greensboro may not fly against Notre Dame.

Unlike North Carolina and Florida State, Notre Dame has the talent, focus and experience to use an opponent's bad start to its advantage over the course of a game. While games aren't necessarily won in the first 10 minutes or so, they can certainly be lost.

“For us, I think we let our team know that we got off to two slow starts and I think we've had to make adjustments to how teams are playing us,” Staley said. “So we have that [to] reflect on and hopefully we'll use it to our advantage and get off to a better start.

2. USE ITS SIZE TO ITS ADVANTAGE

Few teams across the country have the skill, size and depth of South Carolina's post players.

When the Gamecocks start games off, it's senior forward Aleighsa Welch and senior center Elem Ibiam who get to play. While both of those players bring a lot to the table, they're far from the only Gamecocks who can score near the basket, as sophomore center Alaina Coates and freshman guard/forward A'ja Wilson have made clear.

Overall, South Carolina has five forwards or centers who are at least 6'0”, and the Gamecocks' length helps them on both offense and defense.

South Carolina shoots an impressive 48.5 percent from the field, and a lot of that has to deal
with the easy looks it gets at the basket.

On the other end of the court, opponents are shooting only 34.7 percent against the Gamecocks, which is partially a result of their size and length in the paint.

Notre Dame certainly presents its fair share of challenges to South Carolina, but the Fighting Irish don’t match up well with the Gamecocks in terms of talent and physicality down low.

Because of this, South Carolina has an opportunity to exploit Notre Dame on the inside.

Coates was named the Greensboro Regional’s Most Outstanding Player after a great weekend in the Sweet 16 and Elite Eight, and Notre Dame could struggle to guard her if she keeps up that level of play.

3. GET MITCHELL GOING EARLY ON

Although she’s a bit reserved and shy when it comes to speaking about how talented she is on the court, South Carolina junior shooting guard Tiffany Mitchell knows how big of a role she has on offense for the Gamecocks.

That showed when put in the game-winning layup against North Carolina in the Sweet 16 and when she took over late in the game against Florida State.

Staley has called Mitchell South Carolina’s “Superwoman” and she may not be exaggerating too much.

Despite playing on a team full of talent, Mitchell still averages 14.5 points per game, while also excelling as tough defender on the other end of the court.

Because of this, Mitchell earned first-team All-America honors earlier this week, adding another prize to an already-crowded trophy case.

Needless to say, South Carolina is only at its best when Mitchell is at her best and another impressive performance by the Charlotte, North Carolina-native would go a long way in helping South Carolina defeat Notre Dame.

If Mitchell can get in the flow of things from the opening minutes, she could be poised to have another big-time postseason outing.
With springtime comes reinvention. The trees regrow their leaves. Baby birds learn to chirp. We remember to actually take care of ourselves now that we’ve traded shoes for sandals and everyone has to look at our weird feet. Looking around, it’s strange to see change. While we were freezing and oversleeping during a long winter hibernation, we expected the world was doing the same. But it’s not like that. While we were in the dark, the world was slowly but steadily pushing toward spring. And now we must take our Zyrtec and catch up.

Since 1969, the home of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications has been in the Carolina Coliseum. More specifically, in the basement of the Coliseum. Windowless and cramped, the basement has housed the school for over 40 years — a significant chunk of time in any context, but especially in the field of communications. In that time, the Coliseum has seen steady growth in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications' enrollment and consequently added television studios and computer labs, which the school has already outgrown. While members of the J school have been walking in the seemingly endless circle that is the Coliseum’s basement, the outside world of journalism has been evolving at a near-constant rate. Its been a long, long hibernation.

Just like how one day you wake up and all of a sudden your car is covered in pollen, the sun is out and you don’t need your winter coat, the construction of the new journalism building has quietly — and quickly — bloomed. What used to be the Health Sciences building on the historic horseshoe will be the new home of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications. On the corner of Sumter and Greene streets, the facility will be approximately 55,000 square feet, feature many windows with natural light (a welcome change for J school students) and even house a broadcast studio inside a greenhouse. Construction is on track and the ribbon-cutting is scheduled for July.

None of this is new information, but seeing something grow is much different than just hearing about how it will grow. The journalism school is coming up for air. You can see it getting a little closer every day.
greenhouse studio’s infrastructure is up. President Harris Pastides has toured the building, commenting on the ambience and view from the rooftop garden. Faculty from the journalism school have even picked out which offices they want. Set to open for classes in Fall 2015, the new journalism building still has meaning for current students, whether they’re in the journalism school or not. Like any blossoming dogwood tree or cloudless day, it is a reminder of why every winter is worth the wait for spring.

We are relearning how to communicate, and how to connect. Leaves fall and the tree stays bare for a long time, but not forever. The field of journalism is not dead, but evolving in ways we might not have even noticed. Students aren’t unaware of the news — they’re immersed in it. It’s in our hands, whether on a page or a screen.

The world is always changing, even if we don’t actively notice. The new journalism building’s beautiful location on the horseshoe, open architecture and pleasing yet functional rooftop patio will remind its students what’s on the outside, inspiring them to get out there and report on it. Moving the School of Journalism and Mass Communications will breathe life into the program, and give it fresh air.
Men’s rights activists (MRAs) have been around since the start of the feminist movement, in one form or another. While some MRAs have some of the same features of your run-of-the-mill misogynist — an addiction to self-pity, a distinctive hate-musk that’s hard to get out of clothing and an excessive share of impotent rage — they distinguish themselves from your average he-man woman-hater by participating in a sort of counter-revolution to feminism.

The difference between a MRA and a misogynist is a pretty important one. Misogyny is easily found pretty much anywhere you go looking for it. (Scroll through USC’s Yik Yak if you want some on-the-fly proof.)

The point is this: it’s easy to be a misogynist. You can be a misogynist and hide it. You can be a misogynist and not be conscious of it.

Being an MRA, however, means that you have to take a conscious effort to knowingly erode the decades-long advances of feminism.

This particular variety of sad-sack can take a few different forms. Some older male activists pine for the patriarchy as it was up until the 20th century and (hopelessly) try to help it re-emerge in the most effective possible way — by calling women disgusting names on the Internet.

A prime example of this is Paul Elam, the leader of the men’s rights group “A Voice for Men.” To give you some idea about how this guy and similar-minded folk thinks, here’s a few choice facts; “When is it OK to Punch Your Wife?” is the name of one of his more popular essays. He wants to make October “Bash a Violent B---Month,” suggesting that men should lash out violently if they’re being physically abused by a woman. (He escapes the legal consequences of these ideas by giving them the name “satire.”)

The second type of MRA might more or less genuinely believe in equality between the sexes.

Their problem is that they are so removed from reality that they think that feminism has completed its secret goal: to reverse the patriarchal power structure and create a society where women socially dominate men.

They’ll be the first to point out unequal prison incarceration rates between men and women, custody statistics that supposedly favor the mother and the “unfair” exclusion of women from the draft. The fact that feminist groups like the Service Women’s Action Network have spearheaded the inclusion of women in the draft seems not to register.

This second type of MRA is, I believe, the single best definition of a “meninist.” While the term originated in early 2001 from feminism.com to mean, essentially, “male feminist,” it came back en force late last year as an identity movement.

The interesting part? MRAs have more or less adopted the exact same narrative that feminism has. Through the imposition of social constructs, they believe that a formidable group has grown in power and uses that power to subjugate others. They have adopted the tone of feminist response to social situations with complaints like: “Why can’t men ever get in the club free?”
or “Why can’t she open the door for me?”

Even the rhetoric toward the “other side” is mirrored; in response to the proud feminist epithet for agents of the patriarchy “chauvinist pig,” meninists have embraced their own term to label agents of the feminist power structure: “feminazi.”

I went to USC’s Feminist Collective — colloquially known as FemCo — to figure out how organized feminists saw MRAs as a whole and meninists in particular.

Elyssa Dougherty, a fourth-year Spanish student and FemCo member, said that a lot of the movement stems from two factors: ignorance and the Internet.

“I think there are issues that men’s rights deal with. That said, a lot of what they do is blame feminism for things when they really should be in line with us,” she said. “Some of them have had bad experiences over the Internet and may not know that most feminists are not men-haters.”

In a small group talk about MRAs that formed after the main meeting was over, much of the discussion centered on how feminists have helped move forward real progress for men.

It was feminism, some members of the group pointed out, that was the driving force behind issues like recognizing male rape victims on an institutional level. When FBI director Robert Mueller approved expanding the definition of rape to include men, he was fulfilling one of the goals of feminist organizations everywhere.

“Every issue is a feminist issue,” said second-year biology student and president of FemCo Clarie Randall “If people say ‘this isn’t feminist-related,’ they don’t know what they’re talking about. Everything you could talk about has a feminist point to it.”

Meninists, it seems, don’t know a friend when they see one.

In short, the crucial difference between meninists and feminists is that the premises of feminism are true, while those of meninism are not.

Every single piece of evidence points to the continued existence of patriarchy. National Public Radio, reporting on information gathered from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, showed that women make 80.9% of what men make on average. (While some of this disparity is due to “job choices” between women and men, the report makes sure to say that any such reasoning doesn’t square that difference.)

According to a paper published in the Journal of Language and Social Psychology, both women and men are more likely to interrupt women than men in conversation. We have never had a female president.

The patriarchy is real, and the more meninism tries to cloud or deny that idea, the more they prove the intrinsic truth of it.

Meninists have adopted a feminist rhetoric and thought process, building a similar argumentative structure against feminism on faulty, ignorant premises. Even when they stumble upon important issues, they’re too absorbed in self-pity to recognize that the current incarnation of feminism is fighting for men also.

If imitation is the highest form of flattery, then this new incarnation of the men’s rights movement is basically one long, confused love letter to their most hated enemy.

Editor’s note: Clarie Randall is a photographer for The Daily Gamecock.
Weekend Calendar:
April 3 to 5

FRIDAY

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS
Nickelodeon Theatre, 1703 Taylor St.
Fri to Thu, varied times, $8-$10
From the creator of “Flight of the Conchords,” this movie highlights the struggles of modern day vampires. Between keeping up with the rent and a disappointing social life, they have nothing to live forever for. Mundane jobs, disagreements with friends and sucking blood — they’re just like us!

2015 IN WATER BOAT SHOW
Lighthouse Marina at Lake Murray, 1925 Johnson Marina Road, Chapin
Thu to Sat, 10 a.m., Free
Come down to the marina and enjoy a day in the sun, celebrating the season opening of Lighthouse Marina at Lake Murray. The boat show will have live music by local artists Andrew Burlenson, Bockus & Daniels and the DB Bryant Band.

SATURDAY

CAYCE EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA
Granby Gardens Park, 1800 12th St. Exit, Cayce
Sat, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Free
Starting with an Easter egg hunt in the morning, the Cayce Easter Extravaganza will be a day full of fun holiday activities for all ages. Some activities include an egg hunt, face painting, balloon animals and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

AAG KI RAAT “NIGHT OF FIRE”
Koger Center, 1051 Greene St.
Sat, 5:30 p.m., $10-$15
Aag Ki Raat is the Indian Cultural Exchange at USC’s annual fusion dance competition. Seven teams will compete for cash prizes.

SUNDAY

EASTER SUNDAY JAZZ WITH THE TERENCE YOUNG EXPERIENCE
Rue 77, 1301 Assembly St.
Sun, 7 p.m., $15
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Compiled by Kirby Knowlton, Features Editor
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