Choose your fate: Test drive your first day of classes
PG 20

Bern bright or Bern out: Can Bernie Sanders go all the way?
PG 22

New year, new players: Fresh faces take the football field
PG 33
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In 2006, the editors of The Gamecock made a decision which bucked 100 years of tradition — they changed the paper’s name. They called it “The Daily Gamecock” because it was just that: a daily newspaper. When we made the decision this year that we would no longer produce a print newspaper on Fridays, we had a similar choice to make. Should we go back to being The Gamecock? Should we call ourselves something else entirely?
In other words, can you have a daily newspaper that doesn’t put the news in print form every day?
As it turns out, you can. The fact is, newspapers are no longer news “papers.” A staggering amount of content from respected media sites no longer make it into a print form of any kind.
Some of the biggest media organization in the news business today — BuzzFeed, The Huffington Post, Politico — decline to use the physical page entirely. What makes an organization “daily” is that it lives by its name — by putting out content every day.
And, thanks to our website — dailygamecock.com — we can continue to provide content that can reach you wherever you are, every day of the school week.
We will continue to print our regular papers on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The Weekender — the product that you hold in your hands now — will be published on Thursdays instead of Fridays.
There are some stories that, even now, just feel better on the page. This change shows we’re committed to improving our online product in its myriad forms — whether it’s on Twitter, Facebook, The Daily Gamecock mobile app or any other medium.
It’s our way of saying that, wherever you get your news, we’ll find a way to meet you there.
“The guys are getting better. They just never played much. Gotta practice, practice, practice. Repetition, and then we’ll have a chance.”
— Head Ball Coach Steve Spurrier on the first practice of the season

“I know you do not want to see any more of those videos of a black woman thrown out of her car.”
— Sen. Bernie Sanders, who will visit Columbia on Friday, at a Chicago rally

“When foreigners attend our great colleges & want to stay in the U.S., they should not be thrown out of our country.”
— Donald Trump on Twitter

“This is where you belong.”
— President Harris Pastides in his letter welcoming students back to USC

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From the desk of President Harris Pastides

It’s such a pleasure to be able to say, “Welcome home!” to not only our incoming class of freshmen and transfer students, but to the entire student body. You’ve been missed. The Horseshoe has been too quiet, the walkways too deserted and the Russell House too empty. Patricia and I are looking forward to seeing familiar faces and we are excited to meet our new students and neighbors. I hope this will be your best year yet. Within hours of the conclusion of the spring semester, skilled carpenters, bricklayers, landscapers and construction workers were on campus working tirelessly through the heat of summer to prepare the university for your arrival.

From the new hybrid zoysia grass on the Horseshoe, to a gorgeous new home for the 1,500 undergraduate and graduate students from the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, to a completely renovated Hamilton (designed especially for our College of Social Work students), to the new private/public apartments located on our west campus, and lots of other new housing choices; all signs point to a wonderful year. However, I believe the reason you came to South Carolina’s only top-tier research university was based on much more than new buildings, landscaping and renovations; it was based on the undeniable fact that we are a university on the move. As Carolina’s momentum gains national attention, we’ve become a destination of choice, attracting an impressive community of scholars — you. Our Honors College continues to hold the No. 1 ranking in the nation, and our No. 1 undergraduate international business program and international MBA programs are globally recognized. We have more than 47 nationally ranked programs of study. As a Carolina Family, we are inspired by the tenets found in the Carolinian Creed. Our Creed obligates us to be “dedicated to personal and academic excellence.” We agree to a code of “civilized behavior.” And we agree to respect the dignity of all persons. We are here to learn from differences in people, ideas and opinions. The Creed offers the essence of a university life. Living up to these high expectations enhances the Carolina experience for all.

Research tells us that the first six weeks on campus set the tone for the future. Many of you will be learning how to balance new freedoms with new responsibilities. Here are a few suggestions: stay physically active; activity fosters creativity. Walk Carolina’s 450 acres and/or visit one of our exceptional wellness and fitness centers. Take advantage of Carolina’s healthy food choices as the foods you select have a big impact on your wellness and success. Finally, get enough sleep. You may smile at this suggestion, but let me remind you that sleep deprivation is a common cause of mental fatigue, emotional duress and even compromised immunity. USC Health Services has much to offer our students, faculty and staff. I encourage you to visit their web site at www.sa.sc.edu/shs where you’ll find everything from information about immunization to counseling for depression to health tips. Sexual assault on campuses nationwide has become a source of great concern. This fall you will begin to see increased awareness efforts on our campus. Let me be very clear — sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without consent and/or through the use of force, threat of force, intimidation, incapacitation or coercion. It is never tolerated at this university. In the event of sexual harassment or assault, victims are strongly encouraged to visit sc.edu/stopsexualassault where resources are immediately available. Let’s make a pact to look out for each other this year. As Gamecocks, we have an obligation to stand up and speak out when we see a member of our community engaging in dangerous or risky behavior to themselves or others. Together, we can bring a “shared responsibility” for each other. I’m so glad that you are here. This is where you belong. Again, welcome home.
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Last weekend, “Straight Outta Compton” busted straight into theaters and brought with it some honest truths about the industry, money, power and violence. “Straight Outta Compton” tells the story of the revolutionizing rap group N.W.A (N----z With Attitude) and its five teen members Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, Eazy-E, DJ Yella and MC Ren.

Maybe not the first of its kind but definitely the most popular, N.W.A set the bar pretty high in the late ‘80s for gangsta rap groups who followed. Audiences watched and reminisced as N.W.A grew onscreen from their humble beginnings to the peaks of their careers where they were cinematically up to their necks in riches, fame and glory.

Although audiences are typically intrigued by money and success, those two things are the least interesting part of the movie. “Straight Outta Compton” spends the first part of the film showing us the struggle side of the rags-to-riches story audiences so often crave.

The movie starts off showing us Eazy-E (Eric Lynn Wright) settling a drug dispute with his cousin and things almost immediately turn sour. The police brutality that inspired their first album becomes clear. We are able to see what life was like for teens growing up in Compton who were trying to survive a harsh reality filled with violence.

“Straight Outta Compton” takes a quick jump into endless montages of mansions, parties and half-naked women after N.W.A signs their first record deal with Priority Records. The film spends little to no time dwelling on emotional milestones and the several casualties that spurred the rivalry between East and West Coast rappers.

However, the movie does outline the group’s financial conflict and contract disputes, which led to severed relationships and bad blood.

The film strays from its up and down emotional rollercoaster somewhere in the middle, but then gains momentum toward the end to watch some of Eazy-E’s final moments.

Although the complex personalities portrayed are over-exaggerated, audiences can easily see how N.W.A gained their power and how they were forced to face the consequences of mistreating it.

There was some controversy that headlined media outlets in the ‘90s that were excluded from the film such as the group’s prejudice and mistreating of women, gay bashing and the violent competition amongst themselves. But perhaps this was left out to preserve the memory of the group and its late member.

Original members Dr. Dre, Ice Cube and Easy-E’s widow Tomica Woods Wright, helped co-produce the film with director Gary Gray. Their input lent authenticity to the movie and ensured that this wasn’t just another gangsta-film knock-off.

The film was inspired by the 27th anniversary of N.W.A’s debut album “Straight Outta Compton,” and the timing was on point. “Straight Outta Compton” was a box office success, bringing out old N.W.A fans and walking away with new ones.
Meet with an attorney for a FREE consultation.

Issues including:
- Landlord-Tenant
- Domestic Relations
- Consumer Protection
- Probate Law
- Housing
- Employment Law

Current USC students can schedule appointments on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. by going online or calling:

803-777-6611

When meeting with the attorney, students must bring their CarolinaCard.

This service is provided in partnership with South Carolina Legal Services and funded through the Campus Activity Fee.
Formed in 2009 in Copenhagen, New Politics is a rock band that has managed to fly just below the radar for some time now.

They’ve opened for bands like Paramore and Fall Out Boy, and their sound appeals to both rock and pop fans.

Though singles like “Yeah Yeah Yeah” and “Harlem” reached top charts internationally in years past, the band never topped U.S. stations in quite the same way.

Now with their new album “Vikings,” maybe they have a chance.

Their tunes have become noticeably more poppy, which could make them prime candidates for American radio. It’s obvious that their mood has shifted, and almost every song on their album — released August 14 — has a lighthearted and upbeat attitude.

You could even say they’ve abandoned the true rock genre for a lighter, boy band feel.

The album includes two of their popular singles, “Everywhere I Go (Kings and Queens)” and “West End Kids,” two of the best songs on the album.

“West End Kids” is the story of the New Politics band members growing up and becoming a sensation; though the content is a melancholy tribute to their past, it has a simple upbeat tune that rocks you to your core.

If you’ve been known to like Neon Trees or Boys Like Girls, New Politics may be for you.

The pop punk songs are hard to get out of your head, but most of the substance is definitely more noteworthy than the average dance tune on the top charts.

There are even a couple of slower jams on the album like “Lovers in a Song” and “Stardust,” a bittersweet piano ballad, that give the album just enough twist.

There is really something for everybody in “Vikings”; there are mix-it-up songs like “Girl Crush” and “50 Feet Tall,” and there are songs that really tell a story, like “Loyalties Among Thieves.” Some songs remind you of Grouplove; think “Tongue Tied.” You’d even believe it if I said “Pretend We’re in a Movie” was sung by One Direction.

All in all, New Politics was surprisingly fun to listen to, and you can probably look for some of these songs on the radio in the coming months.

Their sound can sometimes be more pop than rock, but sometimes it’s the opposite; the musicians are all talented, and it’s all easy to listen to.
Are you interested?

Writing, photos, design — whatever you’re interested in, we have something for you. Come out to the Russell House to hear how you can get involved with the editorially independent student-run paper The Daily Gamecock.

when:  Aug. 25  Aug. 26  Sep. 1  Sep. 2  Sep. 7  Sep. 8
where:  RH 205  RH 205  RH 201  RH 348  RH 201

Fall album round up

Aug. 28
“Beauty Behind the Madness” — The Weeknd

Sept. 4
“Rodeo” — Travis Scott

Sept. 11
“Paper Gods” — Duran Duran
“I Am” — Leona Lewis

Sept. 18
“Honeymoon” — Lana Del Rey
“Threat to Survival” — Shinedown

Sept. 25
“GO:OD AM” — Mac Miller

Aug. 25
“Stories” — Avicii
“Every Open Eye” — Chvrches
“Buffet” — R. Kelly

Oct. 2
“See What You Started by Continuing” — Collective Soul

Oct. 9
“Revival” — Selena Gomez

Oct. 10
“The Dime Trap” — T.I.

Oct. 23
“Sounds Good Feels Good” — 5 Seconds of Summer

Nov. 6
“Get Weird” — Little Mix
Every registered student organization at the University of South Carolina must go through the renewal process to maintain their active organization status for the 2015-2016 academic year.

A representative from your organization must attend one workshop. It is not required that the President attend, but we strongly encourage that an executive board member attends.

All workshops will be held in the Leadership and Service Center (RHUU 227) and you must RSVP for a time by going to www.sa.sc.edu/lsc.

August 19, 2 p.m.
August 20, 3 p.m.
August 21, 4 p.m.
August 24, noon
August 25, 5 p.m.
August 26, 3 p.m.
August 27, 11:30 a.m.
August 28, 3:30 p.m.
August 31, 11 a.m.

September 1, 6 p.m.
September 2, noon
September 3, 2:30 p.m.
September 4, 2 p.m.
September 8, 6 p.m.
September 9, 5:30 p.m.
September 10, noon
September 11, 11 a.m.
Aug. 28:
*We Are Your Friends* — R
An up and coming DJ dreams of making it big on the music scene, but things get complicated when he starts to fall for his mentor’s girlfriend.

*Z for Zachariah* — PG-13
After most of civilization has been wiped out by a catastrophe, two men fight for the attention of a woman who might be the last woman on Earth.

*War Room* — PG
Tony and Elizabeth Jordan appear to have it all — fulfilling jobs, a loving daughter, and the perfect house — but beneath the surface, their marriage is falling apart. Only Miss Clara, one of Elizabeth’s clients, is able to help them mend the cracks through prayer.

Sept. 4:
*The Transporter: Refueled* — PG-13
Frank Martin returns in the fourth addition of the Transporter series, this time living life a little less dangerously. But the former assassin is in hot water again when a femme fatale and her posse try to pull off the bank robbery of the century.

*Steve Jobs: The Man in the Machine*
Steve Jobs’ legacy is re-evaluated as it relates to our relationships with computers.

Sept. 11:
*The Perfect Guy* — PG-13
Sometimes he just can’t get over it. A man decides to get revenge on his ex-lover after she ends the relationship.

*The Visit* — PG-13
While staying at an isolated Pennsylvania farm, a brother and sister discover some unsettling secrets about their grandparents.

*Wolf Totem* — PG-13
A young Chinese man becomes interested in wolves while living among the nomadic herdsmen of Mongolia.

Sept. 18:
*About Ray*
When a New York teen begins his transition from female to male; his family adjusts to having a son.

*Everest* — PG-13
Two different hiking expeditions join forces to survive during a snowstorm on Mount Everest.

*Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials* — PG-13
The Gladers battle the WCKD organization while trying to survive the desolate Scorch landscape in this sequel.

*Black Mass* — R
Two unlikely partners work together to eliminate the Italian mob in this crime drama set in 1970s Boston.

*Captive* — PG-13
A woman being held hostage saves her own life by convincing her captor to change his life.

September 25:
*Hotel Transylvania 2* — PG
Antics escalate in this sequel once Dracula opens the Hotel Transylvania to human visitors.

*The Intern* — PG-13
At 70 years old, he’s not your usual intern. A man decides to leave retirement for a chance to work for a fashion website.

*Stonewall* — R
Based on the historic 1969 demonstration, this movie depicts New York’s LGBT community protests against discrimination.

*A Brave Heart: The Lizzie Velasquez Story* — PG-13
This documentary tells the story of a woman with a rare disease who came back from being cyberbullied to become an anti-bullying activist.

*Before I Wake* — PG-13
Exactly like a nightmare come to life, this orphaned boy’s nightmares, well, come to life.

*Mississippi Grind* — R
A gambling addict brings his new lucky friend to a hotshot poker game in New Orleans.
THEMED THURSDAY

This Week’s Theme:
THROWBACK

AUGUST 20
6 p.m. & 9 p.m.
RH Theatre

Appears On:
How To Train Your Dragon
Silicon Valley on HBO
Comedy Central
Big Hero 6
Cloverfield

Carolina Productions Presents
T.J. Miller
Comedian
Improv Artist

Carolina Productions Presents
New Model, Original Parts.

August 27
8 p.m.
Koger Center

For more information or assistance, visit www.cp.sc.edu or call (803) 777-3950.
This Event is subject to change. Paid for by Campus Activity Fees.

PICK UP TICKETS AT RH 2ND FLOOR INFO DESK
CONCERTS
IN-
COLUMBIA

Check out these hidden gems you may have never listened to!

**Wed, Aug. 26 — Corey Smith**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$20 to $25
Music Farm Columbia

**Thu, Sept. 10 — Zoso - the Ultimate Led Zeppelin experience**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$15
Music Farm Columbia

**Fri, Sept. 11 — The Blue Dogs**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$15 to $18 (four packs available)
Music Farm Columbia

**Thu, Sept. 17 — Kopecky**
7:30 p.m.
$8 in advance, $10 the day of the show
New Brookland Tavern

**Sat, Sept. 26 — Moon Taxi**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$21 to $23
Music Farm Columbia

**Wed, Sept. 30 — Dawes**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$20 to $23
Music Farm Columbia

**Tue, Oct. 6 — Collective Soul**
Doors open at 7:30 p.m., show begins at 8:30 p.m.
$29 to $31
Music Farm Columbia

**Mon, Oct. 12 — Zedd: True Colors Tour**
Doors open at 7 p.m., show begins at 8 p.m.
$36
Township Auditorium

**Wed, Oct. 14 — Cherub**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$20 to $22
Music Farm Columbia

**Wed, Oct. 28 — Young the Giant**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$26 to $30
Music Farm Columbia

**Fri, Nov. 20 — Who’s Bad - The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute Band**
Doors open at 8 p.m., show begins at 9 p.m.
$12 to $15
Music Farm Columbia

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**Welcome Back!**

**Student Legal Services**
Russell House West Wing
Lower Level 044
www.sa.sc.edu/student-legal-services
803-777-6611

This service is provided in partnership with South Carolina Legal Services and funded through the Campus Activity Fee.

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**CHRISTIAN FRATERNITY**

**KTX**

**RUSH AUGUST 26-28**

MEET ON DAVIS FIELD IN FRONT OF LIBRARY AT 6PM
FOR MORE INFO EMAIL IVP@USCKYX.ORG
TWITTER: @PICHAPTELRUSH
Ways To Get Involved On Campus Right Now!

1. Cheer for the Gamecocks at a football game this fall! Learn the process for requesting student tickets to athletic events so you’re prepared to be among the more than 82,000 screaming fans at Williams-Brice Stadium!

2. Sign up to get a mentor through the Multicultural Assistance Peer Program (MAPP). Your mentor will help you make the transition from high school to college and learn to be successful academically, socially and culturally!

3. Visit the Leadership and Service Center to get plugged into community service opportunities. Participate in a Service Saturday or an Impact Weekly service project; spend fall, winter or spring break on an alternative break service trip; or make the holidays happen for those in need through the Carolina Cares holiday drive.

4. Join a fraternity or sorority! Not sure about these Greek-letter organizations? Go through recruitment or intake and learn more about the many opportunities in Carolina’s fraternities and sororities!

5. Gain the leadership skills that employers want! Stop by the Leadership and Service Center to sign up for the Emerging Leaders Program, attend a TED Talk Tuesday or visit with a Leader in Residence. Have a part-time job? Let us help turn it into a leadership development opportunity!

6. Write articles or take photos for The Daily Gamecock, our student newspaper, or Garnet & Black, our student magazine! Host your own show on WUSC, the campus radio station, or SGTV, the campus TV station!

7. Spend time at the Russell House University Union! Meet friends here for dinner, go to a student organization meeting, hang out in between classes, check your mail, go to the bookstore, get a new CarolinaCard, participate in a dinner, go to a student organization meeting, hang out in between classes, shop the Russell House University Union for a week of alternative events, participate in Carolina After Dark and much more. Catch a FREE movie at the Russell House Theater each weekend. Carolina Productions sponsors the movies and FREE concerts, comedians and other special events.

8. Join one (or more!) of Carolina’s nearly 500 student organizations! We have academic, religious, sport and special interest clubs that do everything from serving the community to participating in sports to networking with professionals in your career field. Go to the Student Organization Fair in August and January and find your fit! Think something is missing? Start your own student organization!

9. Get involved in Student Government by applying for Freshman Council or joining a university committee! Student Government members help address civic issues, create new ideas to improve our campus and become a catalyst for change locally and nationally. Learn from the student body officers, student senators and executive cabinet members, and map out your plan for involvement in Student Government!

10. Stop by the Strom to lift weights, use the cardio equipment, run on the track or go for a swim! Play an intramural sport with new friends! Did you play a sport in high school? Try out for that sport’s club team! Sign up for an outdoor recreation whitewater rafting or bouldering trip. Go to a group exercise class. Apply to be a lifeguard. However you want to exercise and stay in shape, Campus Recreation has something for you.

Don’t miss these Student Life events during Fall 2015 at Carolina!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carolina Welcome</th>
<th>Student Organization Fair</th>
<th>Alcoholedu &amp; Haven Deadline</th>
<th>Tailgate &amp; Game Viewing Party</th>
<th>Parents Weekend</th>
<th>Homecoming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Get to know Carolina during this week of activities before classes start.</td>
<td>Learn more and sign up to join an organization on campus!</td>
<td>Make sure to complete both parts so you can register for next semester’s classes!</td>
<td>Join us at the Russell House for a game-viewing party for USC's season opener against UNC!</td>
<td>This is the best time for your family to come visit! Registration is required.</td>
<td>Catch the Gamecock spirit with a week of competition and tradition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 15-23</td>
<td>August 26</td>
<td>Fall: August 17, October 17</td>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>September 25-27</td>
<td>October 10-17</td>
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<td></td>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>Spring: February 15, April 15</td>
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Visit the Leadership and Service Center to get plugged into community service opportunities. Participate in a Service Saturday or an Impact Weekly service project; spend fall, winter or spring break on an alternative break service trip; or make the holidays happen for those in need through the Carolina Cares holiday drive.
For the last few weeks, the term “freshman advice” has been a staple on USC’s Yik Yak. The posts have usually included sarcastic advice mocking things freshmen do out of naiveté about their new surroundings by telling them to perform said silly action.

It’s time for some real freshman advice, coming from a senior.

I won’t bore you guys with the usual “eat healthy, get a lot of sleep” stuff, though that is important. The freshman 15 is not a myth, and getting up for 8 a.m. classes is a lot easier if you slept at least a little bit the night before.

I want to focus on why you are here: to party. I’m just kidding, but partying is a key part of college. Meeting new people, having new experiences and enjoying your time on and off campus is important. The friends you meet and the stories you’ll be a part of will stay with you for the rest of your life. Just keep it within reason; be safe and don’t do anything too stupid.

That leads me to my main point. For all the peripheral stuff that goes with college like new roommates (try to be friends or, if not, just get along) and football games (try to go to at least one this fall, even if you don’t like sports), it’s about learning.

I’m not talking about grades. Whether you get an A or an F in a class (I’ve done both), you’ll learn an awful lot — either about the subject or how to handle failure. Everyone should strive to do their best academically and the main goal is graduation, but in the end learning at college happens in and out of the classroom regardless of your GPA.

College is the time to transition into adulthood, which is a steep learning curve (steeper for some than others). Part of that is learning the skills for your chosen profession and the knowledge of the world that is required to contribute intelligently to society, but part of that is learning how to deal with new situations, people and ideas.

Hopefully you’ll open yourself up to new perspectives and opinions that you haven’t heard before, both from your professors and from fellow students. And hopefully you’ll read and write into our opinion section, where we try to explore the diverse viewpoints that help make our campus such a great place.

While some of this learning is passive (i.e. sitting in class and listening to a lecture), most of it is on you. Our previous editor at the The Daily Gamecock had a saying — you get out of it what you put into it. That really sums up college.

Whether you go out and party all night or hole yourself up in the library is up to you. You can join every organization and go to every event, or stay in your dorm room and watch Netflix all the time. It’s about finding the right balance, one that allows you to learn the most about the world and yourself.

So enjoy your next few years as a Gamecock, and try to learn as much as you can.
“College lunch, don’t get me started. It’s like going home for momma’s cookin’. Homemade mac & cheese next to the creamy mashed potatoes that have bacon in them—bacon—genius! Whoever makes the bacon mashed potatoes deserves awards. Oh, and I can’t forget about the pork loin, sooo yummy. The green beans are to die for, and I don’t even like veggies... also, who makes that bread? Seriously, does anyone know!? It’s the best bread I have ever put in my mouth! Don’t quote me on this, but I stick a whole loaf in my purse almost every college lunch. College lunch is the best day of the month. Yep. It happens every month. If that isn’t a blessing, I don’t know what is.” — Carson Brantley, Sophomore

THIS SUNDAY AT SHANDON BAPTIST CHURCH
5250 Forest Drive | (803) 782-1300 | SHANDON.ORG
Sunday School - 10:00AM | Modern Worship - 11:30AM | College Lunch after Worship
Shuttles from Horseshoe, Blatt, & Capstone @ 9:30AM
Whether you’re a freshman walking around campus for the first time or a returning student already familiar with the ins and outs of college life, it’s undeniable — there’s something in the air. Maybe it’s the new grass on the Horseshoe or the crisp pages in new textbooks, but there’s something about August and the first days of the semester that smells like a fresh start. Perhaps this is going to be the year you don’t give up on your planner mid-October and fall back on frantic texts and emails to yourself as reminders. Or maybe this is the year you’re going to cut yourself a break, let your hair down. No matter what kind of student you are, now is your chance to start over. Only you, dear reader, can decide how your semester will go, and your first day of classes will set the tone.

It’s the first day of classes. All your professors have put their syllabi on Blackboard. Campus is abuzz with people. Some wave to friends across the street, while others look confused and fiddle with their lanyards. You’re walking to your first class in Leconte when you see an exciting game of frisbee underway on the Horseshoe. Do you continue on your way to Leconte or ask the frisbee players if you can join the game?

Continue on your way to Leconte. The game might still be going on in 50 minutes. If not, you’re sure it’s not the last time you’ll see people playing. The professor spends a few minutes telling the class what the rest of the semester should look like. She has the syllabus projected on a screen and goes through it section by section. After assigning some reading, she dismisses the class after only twenty minutes. Do you stick around for a few minutes and introduce yourself to the professor or leave and use your unexpected free time to grab a drink from Colloquium?

Ask the frisbee players if you can join the game. You’ll just print out the syllabus the next time you’re in the library. That’s probably all the professor went over.

You pass around the frisbee for a bit, learn the names of the players, what they’re studying, and where they’re living this year. Everybody is nice and friendly, like most Gamecocks are, as you’ve discovered. It’s about lunchtime now and people say they’ve got to get going. Do you quickly ask for their phone numbers for fear of never seeing them again or tell them you’ll catch them later and head to Russell House for lunch?

Stick around and introduce yourself to the professor. You’re looking forward to class on Thursday. Since you have some extra time, you head to your next class and sit on one of the benches to work on your E-textbook on your phone. After referring to your planner, you realize there’s a meeting you forgot. You decide to wander and you glance up from your phone to see the room on the bulletin board across the street is filled with tear-off tabs at the bottom that reads “Colloquium.” You’ve got a pretty hefty course load and you’re feeling a little stressed. Do you tear off a tab and introduce yourself to the professor or decide you have too much to do and head to Russell House for lunch?

Leave to grab a drink from Colloquium. You order your usual coffee and wait for your name to be called. You scroll through Twitter for a minute and then look around to see there’s going to be an I Survived the Gamecocks versus Furman on Sunday. Maybe they’ll both be in town by then. Maybe they’ll both be in your class, too. At least you put yourself out there.

Ask for their phone numbers. You’ll probably never see them again. Maybe they’ll both be in your class, too. At least you put yourself out there.

Head to Russell House for lunch. Chick-fil-A line was too long. You decide to do the next best thing and head downstairs and outside to find a table. You spot a few people you know and arm wrestle with them to see if they know introduce you to the people you do know introduce? Do you’re talking about Drake’s new single?
roduce yourself. You spend a few minutes
about the syllabus before students from her
he answers all your questions and you tell her
class on Tuesday.
A few time, you make your way to Gambrell for
one of the wooden benches, reading from your
After reading a few pages, your mind begins
up from the page to see a colorful flyer across
ard across the room. You walk over to it. The
oted to the subject you’re most interested in,
tom that say when and where the first meeting
y course load this semester and already feel a
off a tab and think about going to the first
ve too much on your plate and walk away?

from Colloquium. Time for a caffeine pick-
al coffee drink and wait for it to be prepared.
for a minute and see from a USC account that
ived the First Day of Classes cookout later. A
when you grab your drink, you spill it all over
people are staring. Do you drop everything and
out of Columbia or grab some napkins, clean
with your life?

umbers. A few of them say they’ve really got
ition they’re heading. Two people stick around
phone swap thing, blank contacts open. Maybe
g to get lunch together sometime. Maybe one
sk if you want to go to the men’s soccer game
Maybe you won’t hear from either of them ever
in your English 282 class two semesters from
elf out there, right?

for lunch. You opt for Taco Bell because the
g. You don’t see anyone you recognize upstairs,
outside to the Russell House patio where you
w and a few you don’t. Once you join them,
roduce you to the people you don’t, and soon
es new single.

Tear off a tab. You pocket the information and find your next class, excited
about the prospect of meeting people who have the same interest as you.
Whether you actually go to the meeting or not, you feel hopeful that somewhere
on campus, there are people who care about the same things you do.

Walk away. Your studies come first. Maybe two weeks from now when
you’ve got a better idea of what you can handle, you go back to the flyer
and take a tab. Or maybe a different flyer from a different club entirely will
catch your fancy. There’s so many clubs out there, and you have time to
consider them all.

Buy a bus ticket. Sike. It’s college — you don’t have the budget for
spontaneous trips like that.

Clean up the mess. It’s just a spill. It happens every day. Today just
happened to be your turn. Everyone staring eventually gets over it and goes
back to their own business.

Point is, the first day of classes aren’t going to determine your entire
future, much less the rest of your semester. It’s easy to think that the first
impression you make on every professor, classmate, or random person in
Russell House is going to shape how you’re viewed for the rest of the
semester, but that’s just not the case. Do your best, but don’t overthink it.
Relax. Breathe. But it’s probably a better idea to go to class than to play
frisbee on the Horseshoe.
Since my last column on Sen. Bernie Sanders, his presidential campaign has been riding high. There was the CNN poll that showed him leading in the key state of New Hampshire. There were the new revelations over his main rival Hillary Clinton's email server, leading to a justice department investigation and Clinton being called on the carpet in Congress. There are even comparisons being drawn between Sanders and Donald Trump, the other unconventional politician making the most waves this campaign.

But all of this belies a simple truth: he has almost no shot at winning the Democratic nomination, let alone a general election.

In an average of national polls, Clinton leads Sanders 49 percent to 25 percent. That’s even with all of her scandals and sputtering campaign. In the last fundraising quarter, Sanders only raised $15 million to Clinton’s $45 million. And with Joe Biden potentially getting into the race, it offers another outlet for the anti-Clinton vote to vent their frustration with the front-runner.

Assuming he pulls off a miracle and wins the nomination, the path is still difficult.

Sanders still loses in most polls to every Republican except Donald Trump, who has just as little chance of winning as he does. And in a recent Gallup poll, 50 percent of Americans said they would not vote for a socialist for president.

Now, one should never say never in politics. After all, far-left candidates have captured Democratic nominations in the past. Sanders has been drawing record-breaking crowds everywhere he goes, even in deep red states, and his message against income inequality has the potential to work for any candidate in a general election.

I’ll go back to the point I made in my original column. Sanders’

---

**Yes**

Griffin Hobson
Second-year economics and marine science student

So far, Sen. Bernie Sanders has focused almost exclusively on economic inequality and electoral reform rather than articulating a broad platform.

Sure, he occasionally talks about something else, but his campaign has a clear core. At present, he has won over educated, white liberals but he has done little to expand his influence in the party.

As such, Hillary Clinton destroys him in national polling through a coalition of minority voters, women and moderate Democrats. I believe that Sanders could change this, but it would require a partial rebranding and a lot of luck. He would need to start by broadening his appeal in the party.

His logical first step would be to attract more African-American votes. While Clinton has already positioned herself as an advocate for criminal justice reform, making it hard to run to her left, there’s probably room for Sanders.

However, he might need to get a little negative in the process. He could point out that while he has consistently worked for the expansion of civil rights, the last President Bill Clinton passed many of the policies that led to the mass incarceration regime.

Additionally, Sanders could push Clinton on drug policies and the extent of her proposed reforms. While Sanders has mostly stuck to economics and run a positive campaign so far, he could make some changes to expand his base and threaten Clinton’s support among more than white liberals.

The other factors he would need to win largely come down to luck. He would need Jim Webb to get a name recognition boost and start stealing away moderate voters after the debates. A higher-profile Webb attacking Sanders’ policies and forcing Clinton to pick a side, causing

---

**No**

Ben Turner
Fourth-year print journalism student

Since my last column on Sen. Bernie Sanders, his presidential campaign has been riding high.

With Sanders hosting a town hall in Columbia on Friday, we thought we’d ask our Opinion staff: does he have a real chance at the presidency?
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her to risk further losses among either moderates or liberals, would also help.

Joe Biden entering and stealing away establishment money, voters and endorsements would also help erode her strength a little bit more. Then the email scandal would also need to blow up even further, costing Clinton support among independents and giving her increasingly less favorable match-ups to Republican opponents in the polls.

This would threaten Clinton's biggest advantage of all: the sense that she is far and away the most electable Democrat running. It would also allow Sanders, should he choose to run a more negative campaign, to unfavorably compare her ethics and credibility to his.

Is this at all likely? Perhaps. A lot depends on other candidates surging — which Sanders has next to no control over — as well as fundamentally changing his campaign into a fairly negative, less single-minded machine. If he is really running to push Clinton to the left and make his ideas heard, he would have no reason to do this.

But if he sincerely wanted to win the nomination, it would give him a chance at doing so.
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Presidential Candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders addresses the Columbia area.

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Fri, Aug. 21 at 5:30 p.m., $20
1616 Blanding St., Columbia, SC 29201
Attendants learn about different military tactics throughout history by using water balloons as ammo. Historic Columbia will teach battle strategies and serve up drinks and light appetizers at the Robert Mills House.

ACOUSTIC OPEN STAGE & JAM
Fri, Aug. 21 at 6 p.m., $5
710 Meeting St., West Columbia, SC 29169
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SUMMER CELEBRATION OF WATER
Sat, Aug. 22 at 10 a.m., Free
312 Laurel St., Columbia, SC 29201
Classes may have already started, but summer isn’t over quite yet. Enjoy free water sports and activities at the Riverfront Park and try to squeeze in a bit more fun in the sun this August.

MAIN STREET LATIN FESTIVAL 2015
Sat, Aug. 22 at 11 a.m., Free
1400 Main St., Columbia, SC 29201
See what Columbia’s Latin community has to offer with live music, authentic food, vendors and more at the Main Street Latin Festival.

GLASS FUSION WORKSHOP
Sun, Aug. 23 at 10:30 a.m., $75
1928 Calhoun St., Columbia, SC 29201
Experienced glassmaker Steve Hewitt will teach attendants how to create glass artwork and glassware.

THE END OF THE TOUR
Sun, Aug. 23 at 8:00 p.m., Prices vary
1607 Main St., Columbia, SC 29201
The Nickelodeon Theatre is showing a film about the five-day interview between Rolling Stone reporter David Lipsky and author David Foster Wallace after the 1996 publication of Wallace’s novel “Infinite Jest.”
4 CONCEPTS. 5 LOCATIONS. ONE EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE.
Legislators have toyed with the idea, and now the decision has been made to give student athletes a little extra spending money.

South Carolina will now give stipends — which are a fixed regular sum paid as a salary or allowance — to their players on scholarship. The stipend will be determined based on the full cost of attendance and the university’s financial aid office. Each school’s amount will be different, but for the Gamecocks this will include 10 payments of $420.10 throughout the year.

Stipends will be awarded to the Power Five conferences including the SEC, ACC, Big 12, Big Ten and Pacific 12. In terms of stipend size in the SEC, the Gamecocks come in sixth, awarding $4,201 to their student athletes. Tennessee ranks first offering $5,666 per year.

Head Ball Coach Steve Spurrier has been one of the more vocal supporters of athlete stipends. “They deserve a piece of the pie, we all agree, I am sure,” Spurrier said.

The extra money will help with the cost of expenses the athletes may have that are not covered by the university, like food on the weekend. In the past, student athletes have received scholarships, but for the vast majority of players, these do not cover the full cost of attendance. Scholarships cover tuition and most room and board, but often fail to cover fees such as technology and book costs.

There is always speculation on how this money will actually be spent, but Spurrier hopes some players will use it to get their families to the games or save some of it. However, he knows the money belongs to them and can be spent in whatever way each athlete chooses.

Redshirt senior offensive lineman Will Sport knows the stipend will help out in day-to-day activities. “It’s not a crazy amount of money, but it’ll help with weekly stuff,” Sport said. “A little less money my parents have to give me basically. That’s all it has changed for me.”

Stipends give more responsibility to the players. It will be interesting to see how this might change the game throughout the year.
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The beauty of college football often lies in the higher rate of turnover teams experience when compared to their professional counterparts. Despite an underwhelming 2014 campaign, South Carolina will have to replace a number of key players heading into the season.

The Gamecocks will return 13 of their starters in 2015 leaving them to replace nine key contributors, including four players drafted in the 2015 NFL Draft.

Replacing these players, including quarterback Dylan Thompson and running back Mike Davis, won’t be an easy task, and the burden will fall to a healthy mix of seasoned veterans and fresh faces.

Some of these new starters have played more than just a handful of snaps, but the vast majority are unproven. Every year however, teams face similar, seemingly dire situations — then new players step up and teams improve.

Connor Mitch — QB, RS So.

Mitch was a four-star recruit out of high school. The redshirt sophomore threw for 4,661 yards and 63 touchdowns his senior year with Wakefield High School in North Carolina. Last season, Mitch went 2-6 with 19 yards in two games. While the quarterback race is not yet decided, Mitch is the definite front-runner to be the full-time signal caller this upcoming season.

Brandon Wilds — RB, RS Sr.

Wilds has been a household name among Gamecock fans since replacing Marcus Lattimore in 2011. Wilds started each of the team’s last five games notching three 100 yard performances on the ground. The former Blythewood High School standout has made a career as a backup, but will get the chance to start the season in the spotlight. The Gamecocks will rely on his leadership in an otherwise inexperienced offense.

Deebo Samuel — WR, RS Fr.

Samuel had a strong spring and could have a big season. The Inman, South Carolina, native was a three-star recruit out of high school and redshirted last season. With the departure of veterans Nick Jones, KJ Brent, Damiere Byrd and Shaq Roland there is opportunity for some new guys to step up. Samuel will not be the only freshman to see time at the wide receiver position this season.

Shamier Jeffery — WR, RS Sr.

OR

Carlton Heard — WR, RS Sr.

OR

Terry Googer — WR, RS Fr.

The third wide receiver position is wide open and few have any clue who will start. Head coach Steve Spurrier has stated that no one has separated themselves and the Gamecocks will probably use quite a few bodies at receiver. Jeffery has the most experience of the three, but Googer has the talent to challenge both veterans.

Mason Zandi — RT, RS Jr.
The six-foot-nine Zandi has seen action at each tackle position, as a sixth lineman and even as a tight end in short yardage situations. This season, the redshirt junior from Chapin will, in all likelihood, start at the right tackle position.

Mike Matulis — LG, RS Sr.
Matulis has battled knee and shoulder injuries throughout his career at South Carolina, but has been effective when healthy. A three-star recruit from Boynton Beach, Florida, Matulis has started 10 games at South Carolina.

Jerell Adams — TE, Sr.
Adams, much like Wilds, has spent most of his career as a reliable backup for NFL-caliber players. Playing behind Justice Cunningham and Rory Anderson, Adams earned All-Freshman SEC Honors in 2012 and started games as both a sophomore and a junior. Hailing from Pinewood, South Carolina, Adams is on the Mackey Award Watch List and is considered a viable NFL prospect.

Marquavius Lewis — DE, Jr.
Lewis is under immense pressure entering the season. The top-ranked junior college prospect in the country is expected to completely turn around a dismal 2014 defensive line that recorded just six of South Carolina’s 14 sacks. Lewis had a tremendous spring and the Gamecocks will look for him to produce in the pass-rushing department.

Dante Sawyer — DE, So.
Sawyer originally signed with the Gamecocks in 2014, but took a year at East Mississippi Community College to improve his academic standing. Much like Lewis, Sawyer used a strong spring to push himself into the starting lineup. Listed as a defensive end, Sawyer may wind up starting inside instead.

Cédrick Cooper — DE, RS Sr. OR
Dexter Wideman — DE, Fr. OR
David Johnson — DE, RS So.
Co-defensive coordinators Jon Hoke and Lorenzo Ward plan to rotate linemen. Cooper, Wideman and Johnson will all see extensive playing time though the starter is yet to be determined.

Isaiah Johnson — SS, RS Sr.
A transfer from Kansas, Johnson was only recently given his eligibility by the NCAA. Johnson graduated from Kansas in May where he recorded 148 and six interceptions in two seasons with the Jayhawks. The North Carolina native should help improve the Gamecocks’ 88th-ranked pass defense.

Jordan Diggs — FS, RS Jr.
Diggs played extensively last season at the Spur position. This spring however, the redshirt junior dropped 10 pounds to move to safety. He should bring experience to a young secondary.

Sean Kelly — P, RS Jr.
Let’s not forget about the punter, as Tyler Hull and Patrick Fish both graduated. Kelly is a transfer who averaged 42.7 yards per punt in two years at Florida Atlantic University.
Minor League Baseball welcomes the Columbia Fireflies to the field in the upcoming 2016 MiLB season.

A new era of Columbia baseball will begin when the Columbia Fireflies officially take to the field, a sneak peek of which was given with the release of the 2016 schedule. As the team of the midlands and the state, the Fireflies are an affiliate of the New York Mets as the newest addition to the South Atlantic League. The Mets’ general manager, Sandy Alderson, was present for the announcement of the affiliation on May 21.

“We are excited about returning to Columbia where we had a presence for over two decades (1983-2004),” Alderson said. “So many of the top Mets stars, like current team captain David Wright, got their start in Columbia. The plans for Spirit Communications Park look spectacular, and we can’t wait to develop the next generation of Mets Major Leaguers here.”

As a part of the South Atlantic League, the Fireflies will compete against rivals such as the Charleston RiverDogs, Rome Braves, Augusta Greenjackets and Greensboro Grasshoppers. The Fireflies’ home games will be played under the lights of Spirit Communications Park.

Spirit Communications Park is a year-round sports and entertainment venue. Currently under construction, the stadium will open in March of 2016. The stadium will seat approximately 9,000 for major sporting events and 15,000 for outdoor concerts. Spirit Communications Park will serve as a public park with the concourse representing a one-third mile path for runners and walkers.

The name “Fireflies” comes from a certain species of firefly, Photuris frontalis, and the behavior that it displays. Its synchronization with other fireflies of its kind represents the community of Columbia and how the city comes together to tackle major issues. This theme also represents the coming together at Spirit Communications Park, which is located in the Midlands.

“We’re very excited because not only is today about welcoming Minor League Baseball back to the city of Columbia, it’s about celebrating the new spirit of energy and enthusiasm sweeping across our city like never before,” Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin said. “Something special is happening in Columbia and this team is a big part of it.”

Along with this announcement, Hardball Capital welcomed John Katz as team president. Katz is a 23-year Minor League operator and has been a part of Hardball Capital for the majority of the decade. For the past five seasons, Katz was the president of the Savannah Sand Gnats.

“Columbia is a wonderful city. I have had the opportunity to spend a great deal of time here over the past year, and my family and I look forward to becoming permanent residents,” Katz said.

Hardball Capital is continuing the process of finalizing the logo, name and brand identity for the Fireflies. They have over 2,000 submissions and plan to unveil the new designs in the near future.
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19 Nebraska tribe
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22 “Ben--”
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26 Like a private tutoring session
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29 Not used
32 Senior-to-junior address
33 Betty of cartoons
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39 Back up talk with action
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46 “Ivanhoe” author Sir Walter
49 The Tar Heels of the NCAA
51 Forget-me-__
52 Considering everything
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60 Hosp. area for urgent care
64 In person
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69 Not quite right
70 Word after something or anything
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72 Eccentric
73 Mass transit option

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9 Melville work subtitled “A Peep at Polynesian Life”
10 “Much __ About Nothing”
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