Musician plays harmonica at McKissick Museum
Sarah Martin
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“Talk about that, Freddie,” was all the encouragement Freddie Vanderford needed to begin wailing on his harmonica. Playing a free concert at McKissick Museum on Thursday night, Vanderford was joined by three other musicians to play traditional blues and folk tunes from his latest album.

Vanderford gained notoriety after receiving the John Lennon-Harry Dean Stark Folk Heritage Award in 2010. The award is given by the state General Assembly and recognizes artists who have worked to keep South Carolina traditions alive through their work.

Vanderford was recognized for “maintaining and sharing the tradition of Piedmont Blues Harp,” an achievement that was on display at the concert. The band was made up of a harmonica, two acoustic guitars and an electric bass. The four men each took turns singing traditional music and picking their favorite songs to play. Vanderford then opened up the concert to take requests from the audience, made up of professors, students and young children.

“We’ll play whatever you want,” Vanderford said. “And if we don’t know it, we’ll play it anyway.”

The concert included both slow-tempo blues tunes and more-upbeat instruments, including “Lost Mind,” a track on Vanderford’s album “Piedmont Blues.” Each musician had the chance to show off their talent during a solo round, while he was cheered on by his fellow bandmates.

The men also harmonized vocals during each song, and as they played, they smiled, nodded in rhythm and tapped the soles of their boots.

Award-winning folk musician plays blues

Freddie Vanderford played a free concert at the McKissick Museum Thursday night, where he was accompanied by a blues band.

Students to go to Honduras
Students Helping Honduras recruits new members, raises funds for trip
Sarah Martin
sarahmartin@dailygamecock.com

A new club on campus is raising money for charity, but not in the ways you might be thinking.

Students Helping Honduras was created to raise money to build schools in Honduras. As part of a national organization, the USC chapter was established last spring.

Catherine Buddin, the chapter’s president, says she wanted to start the club after traveling to Honduras, where she saw the lack of schools for children.

“I fell in love with Honduras, and I realized that I wanted USG students to have the opportunity to go and make an impact there,” Buddin said.

Students Helping Honduras is trying to reach out and recruit students in unique ways this semester. One way is to put up signs around campus that say “Give a HHLink,” in hopes of catching students’ attention.

Public relations coordinator Nikita Morse, a second-year pre-pharmacy major, says other puns are also in the works.

“We really want this program to grow, so we can help the children of Honduras as much as we possibly can,” Morse said. “We’re so important for college students to help others, and creative marketing is a great way to get people talking and involved.”

Currently, the club has about 50 members. With scheduled events and fundraisers planned for the rest of the semester, Morse says she hopes that number will continue to grow and help the club expand.

One event that Morse considers especially unique is Grilled Cheese Tuesdays. From 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., club members with around campus, selling grilled cheese sandwiches for $3. All of the proceeds will go toward the organization’s philanthropic efforts.

In addition to selling late-night sandwich snacks, SHH will be sponsoring...
Federal employees in SC furloughed in shutdown

After the federal government came to a halt Tuesday at midnight, thousands of federal government employees did not return to work the next morning, including 40 at the U.S. Attorney office in South Carolina, The State reported.

"About 41 percent of our workforce has been furloughed," U.S. Attorney for South Carolina Bill Nettles said.

According to Nettles, the majority of the furloughs thus far have been administrative and support staff. Some civil case lawyers have also been furloughed.

"People should not believe that two days into the shutdown, they have seen the full effects of a prolonged shutdown," he said. "The longer this continues, the more acute and crippling this is going to be."

— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

IN BRIEF

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— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

In brief

The U.S. Capitol was locked down Thursday after gunshots were fired while lawmakers were inside debating the federal budget, according to The Associated Press.

The female suspect was shot and killed by police after being chased by the Secret Service, NBC reported.

A woman in a black car attempted to drive through a barricade outside of the White House and then fled police on a chase that ended with gunfire at the Capitol.

According to witnesses, around 20 police cars chased the car to Capitol Hill, where it crashed.

The driver was taken into custody, and the child that was in the car was taken to a nearby hospital. The driver’s condition has not been disclosed.

A police officer was injured in the car accident, but the injuries are reportedly not life threatening.

— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

Blues • Cont. from A1

Vanderford's presence also captivated the audience, as he wore a wide-brimmed hat, tinted glasses and a belt buckle emblazoned with his name.

While he jammed on his blues harp and sang with a deep, throaty voice, Vanderford exuded a laid-back vibe and directed the music, interacting with audience members and focusing on the music. Vanderford's concert gave those in attendance a feel of tradition blues music.

— Hannah Jeffrey, Assistant News Editor

Bikes • Continued from A1

“Waking up between 4 and 5 a.m., every day and cycling for 12 hours was difficult to handle. A few days we biked in 105° heat,” Ball said. “But we did it. Our team was so positive and focused on the big picture.”

Ball was the route leader for the group’s southern U.S. route. She had completed her first and only triathlon in the summer of 2011, but had never made it a priority and she enjoyed riding a tri-bike and she was able to do it. She did it.

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Weekend offers look at life at USC — good and bad

Gamecocks parents will descend on Columbia’s streets this weekend.

Our Weekend.

Their weekend here should provide an accurate glimpse of campus life.

Hallows parents, and welcome to USC.

Best assured, the cutout you’ve spent a ton of time in. Despite the flashbacks to your child’s teen years, you’ll rambunctiously, perhaps confirmed by the many nights of uninterrupted rest to your child, we can assure that great things are indeed happening at USC.

Are you still skeptical? We don’t blame you. After all, you only want what’s best for your son or daughter, and we understand that.

Perhaps a stroll through the historical horsehoe is in order. While you’re walking through the lush foliage and stilly walkways, perhaps you can look over your shoulders at the students reviewing their subjects among the sun-years-old green. That should soothe your nerves.

Speaking of academics, the Thomas Cooper Library, in all its glory, is newly open to the public. Don’t you think all those sleepless nights cramming you’ve spent studying in those stacks.

In football, girls have game, too

Football is a man’s world, or so we say.

Considering how competitive some girls may be, the thought of little girls enter this world with priorities set in place to nurture their hair, chasing on their male counterparts, and to understand that.

That’s not to say football is completely stacked against them. Now and then, we hear a news story of a girl who tries out for the field for a high school’s annual homecoming parade, and then comes out of the locker room cheering her team on. It might be featured on the homecoming page of the daily gamecock.

Better yet, some women even try out for the game. While it’s very truly does happen it doesn’t happen in Division I, and nearly all of them are kickers or placekickers, due to their undeniably smaller stature.

Unfortunately, that’s about where their careers end in college football players, as the door is vigorously shut when it comes to the NFL. The long legged are left to ponder.

Considering how competitive the NFL is, especially when you take into account that a mere 1.7 percent of all college players make the final traveling roster time for college football, perhaps we should be too light on the lack of women in it.

Oh, did we say cramming? Forget about that. The only thing that could be considered cramming is when the game is over, as campus, as Gamecock families deserves no less.

Parking is undoubtedly a hot commodity right now about which you may be frustrating for you. Trust no one, we can relate. Despite how much we need, it is all in peaches.

Unfortunately, many of the logistical issues you’re facing now are a daily challenge for us. We’ll be sure to keep from saying that the parking shortage and campus streets is a continual mish.

In fact, issues like those are our biggest criticism of USC, nonetheless, we could do with over-crowding, communication and parking. We agree that students can be rather lackluster about things.

Like any campus in an urban environment, crime is an issue.

“We like any school, USC has its ups and downs. Fortunately for us, most of our criticisms can be remedied. We’ve been happy to report any attempts to improve student life, and lately we’ve been improving in student safety, shopping, dinning, athletics and more.”

USC still has much to improve on, progress is being made nonetheless. The school is in good hands with President Harris Pastides, and with an institutionally-emplaced qualified student body, it’s safe to say the outlook is high.

Women now make up 20 percent of all fantasy league players. The majority aren’t married, but only lackiness, or being too busy with the daily grind. Football fans are always cheering for opposite teams.

Fantasy football creates a bond between men and women on a topic women have long given up. When winning their fantasy league or game, they are importantly, bringing rights, women’s rights, into the football fold.

While we women may still be the cutes of the fantasy football world, it’s time to know that don’t cloud our ability to pick plays with the men's. We can do anything, we can do it better, on boys.

Mackenzie Grant, second-year broadcast journalism student

WHAT’S YOUR TAKE?

Do you want your opinion voiced in The Daily Gamecock? Contact viewpoints@dailygamecock.com for more information.

About The Daily Gamecock

The Daily Gamecock is the student voice of the University of South Carolina. Founded in 1899, it is published weekly in print and online at dailygamecock.com. The Daily Gamecock is a student publication, and the opinions expressed in this publication are those of the editorial board and not necessarily of the University of South Carolina. All views and content in the Daily Gamecock are protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

Correction

If you find an error in today’s edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know by contacting viewpoints@dailygamecock.com, and we will print the correction in our next issue.

To compete, USC needs to ditch video-based courses

If USC wants to step up its game and jump in college rankings, it needs to ditch any and all classes driven by recorded lectures.

In this day and age of the Internet and its free flow of information, USC can’t afford to relegate a well-aged lecture, live and in person, to a digital format, especially those that can’t compete with the likes of the already popular Khan Academy and MIT OpenCourseWare: highly touted and well-reviewed resources that don’t cost students a dime.

Is this the right, strategy? What about the cost? Khan Academy and MIT’s OpenCourseWare are absolutely free.

With all the press it’s gotten, it almost goes without saying that Khan Academy’s material is on point. Have a calculus test on partial derivatives, gradients and divergences that you’re frantically studying for an SI session? Hop on Khan Academy to give a refresh to your material that you’d otherwise have to pay. The free YouTube videos come with your notes and lonesome self. The text is accessible and to the point, and the videos are engaging and intelligently narrated.

The problem is, for something as fast as the Internet, a level that far exceeds the antiquated video lectures some schools offer, we see a potential issue. Particularly, Khan Academy and MIT’s OpenCourseWare provides video lectures covering university-level science, economics, humanities and computer science classes.

But, the power of the Internet is not too strong to let someone else dictate your education. USC’s MIT’s OpenCourseWare provides video lectures covering university-level science, economics, humanities and computer science classes.

Still, we’re sure the registrar’s office wouldn’t mind if you ditch video-based courses.

With such great resources available online and for free, we won’t force you to feel like they’re cramming your content instead, but with yourself with incredibly substantial material.

For many students, paying tuition is half the battle of college, and for them to make sure their money’s worth out of their hard work is a disrespect to their dedication to getting an education.

When students sit down, students what their tuition has earned: the expertise of their professors, lived done live in less. Whether the decision to build classes around YouTube video lectures was financially minded, or a poor use of technology and shows a concerning lack of innovation at USC.

Well-versed and knowledgeable professors will always be the staple of a college education, and USC would be smart to leave the video lectures is a merely supplementary to the foundation provided by the classroom or lecture hall.
Indie favorites changing up the game

Back to back at the box office, the audience is being treated to two films that are both visually and narratively unique. "Contagion," starring Justin Timberlake, Ben Affleck today; directed by Brad Furman; and that it is 90 minutes of brilliant best special effects in film history all written glowing reviews of the this year, Alfonso Cuarón's sci-fi Bullock and George Clooney Argento completists. harsh reviews. Perhaps the film on even fewer screens. This might number of theaters and shown in 3D. The film was shot in 3D, but sadly it maestro Dario Argento has taken a. In the wake of his recent death, the film has received a second wave of buzz, with the release of a new trailer that showcases the film's visceral and unsettling atmosphere.

The reactions most people have to the term "indie game" can vary, but there are a few constants. Indie games are cheap, unique, and plays to the strengths of the platform on which they are released. This is especially true for mobile and console games, where the developer has more control over the experience.

Here are some upcoming releases:

1. **Bastion**
   - Opened with the dulcet tones of a rugged narrator, saying, “Proper stories supposed to start at the beginning. Ain’t so simple with this one.” This sets the tone for an atmospheric RPG experience that’s like few others. Expecting the important word here, as the polished presentation elevates the frankly muddy gameplay. The art style is beautiful, the narration is wonderful, and the soundtrack is so great that it might be the best part of the game. It is representative of the Diablo series, and it’s engaging enough, but it’s not a selling point for every player. Its imagination and writing make the entire experience unforgettable.

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- *Super Meat Boy*
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“Gambit” — released Oct. 12; written by Ethan and Joel Coen; starring Colin Firth, Cameron Diaz, Alan Rickman, Stanley Tucci and Cloris Leachman

This remake of the 1966 comic caper starring Shirley MacLaine and Michael Caine is the first film the Coen Brothers wrote, but did not direct. It was set to be released a year ago and has struggled to find a release date. It has gotten almost nothing but bad reviews. The Coen Brothers did not have any input during or after the film’s production.

“Kill Your Darlings” — limited release Oct. 16; directed by John Krokidas; starring Daniel Radcliffe, Elizabeth Olsen, Michael C. Hall, Jack Huston, Ben Foster, Jennifer Jason Leigh, David Cross and Kyra Sedgwick

Daniel Radcliffe is certainly putting his Harry Potter days behind him by tackling the role of beat poet Allen Ginsberg. Jack Huston (“Boardwalk Empire”) plays Jack Kerouac, and Ben Foster plays William Burroughs. The three writers come together because of a 1944 murder.

“The Fifth Estate” — released Oct. 18; directed by Bill Condon; starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Daniel Brühl, Carice van Houten, Stanley Tucci, Laura Linney and David Thewlis


“12 Years a Slave” — limited release Oct. 18; directed by Steve McQueen; starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Fassbender, Brad Pitt, Benedict Cumberbatch, Paul Giamatti, Paul Dano, Sean McEneny, Sarah Paulson, Michael Kenneth Williams, Alfre Woodard, Dwight Henry and Adepero Oduye

Steve McQueen’s violent, brutal period piece is one of the few films that deals with slavery in America. The film has received astonishing reviews and has made Oscar front-runners of Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael Fassbender and McQueen.

“Carrie” — released Oct. 18; directed by Kimberly Peirce; starring Chloë Grace Moretz, Julianne Moore and Judy Greer

Stephen King’s first novel was also the first of his works to be adapted into a film. Brian De Palma’s 1976 horror classic has already been remade once before as a TV movie in 2002. There are only two things going for this seemingly pointless remake director Kimberly Peirce (“Boys Don’t Cry”) and star Julianne Moore. In the original, Sissy Spacek was so perfectly cast as the painfully shy and frail Carrie. Chloë Grace Moretz plays opposite Daniel Domscheit-Berg in “The Fifth Estate.”
MOVIES • Cool, from AS

Moretz is a talented young actress, but she is too much of a beautiful, everyday teenager for the role. “All Is Lost” — released Oct. 18, directed by J.C. Chandor; starring Robert Redford

J.C. Chandor’s second film sharply contrasts his first film, “Margin Call.” "Margin Call" is a dialogue-heavy drama set almost entirely in an office building, with a cast full of top-notch actors, and “All Is Lost” is basically a one-man show with minimal dialogue. This is the first time since 2005 Robert Redford has starred in a live-action film but did not direct it.

“Blue Is the Warmest Color” — released Oct. 25, directed by Abdellatif Kechiche; starring Lea Seydoux and Adèle Exarchopoulos

This three-hour French lesbian romance was given an NC-17 rating for its 10-minute unsimulated sex scene. While the controversy over that scene will cause the film to be released only in select theaters, this year’s Palme d’Or winner at the Cannes Film Festival should be seen by anyone who cares about cinema.

“The Counselor” — released Oct. 25, directed by Ridley Scott; written by Cormac McCarthy, starring Michael Fassbender, Brad Pitt, Javier Bardem, Cameron Diaz and Penélope Cruz

Ridley Scott has directed everything from "Alien" and "Blade Runner" to "Gladiator" and "American Gangster." Putting him together with this all-star cast and the first script penned by Cormac McCarthy ("No Country For Old Men," "The Road") will hopefully equal a gangbuster crime thriller.

“Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa” — released Oct. 25, directed by Jeff Tremaine; starring Johnny Knoxville and Jackson Nicoll

Johnny Knoxville plays his old man character Irving Zisman that originated in the "Jackass" television series and films. The trailer is admittedly funny; who knows if the gag can be successfully sustained over a feature film?

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Though South Carolina has suffered just one loss this season, coach Steve Spurrier said Saturday’s home contest against Kentucky will be a crucial turning point in the Gamecocks’ 2013 campaign.

“We’ve got some coaching to do if we’re going to turn around this season,” Spurrier said. “Because we’ve been on the verge of really blowing a couple of games.”

Those couple of games would be South Carolina’s last two outings, a 35-25 win over Vanderbilt and a 28-25 victory at UCF. The Gamecocks (3-1, 1-1 SEC) had built a lead of 28 points against Vanderbilt and 18 points against, only to allow their opponents to claw their way into the game.

“We’ve got a lot of improving to do trying to hold leads,” Spurrier said. “We’re very, very fortunate to have won the last two ball games. We’re very fortunate that we’re not sitting here in the dumps, because we could’ve lost the last two ball games.”

Though Kentucky is just 1-3 on the season, recent history suggests South Carolina should not look past the Wildcats.

Last season’s matchup in Lexington, Ky., also saw Kentucky enter the game with a 1-3 record, only to take a 17-7 lead over South Carolina into the locker room at halftime. The Gamecocks managed to outscore Kentucky 31-0 in the second half to earn a 38-17 win, but an inconsistent showing against this year’s Kentucky team would fall right in line with the trend South Carolina has established this season.

The similarly unpredictable play of last year’s game against the Wildcats and South Carolina’s most recent game against Central Florida was not lost on Spurrier.

“It was very similar to the Kentucky game, almost exactly like the Kentucky game,” Spurrier said. “We had to try something different.”

South Carolina sits at 3-1 with a 1-1 conference record going into the game against the Wildcats and has not won a game by more than 10 points since beating North Carolina 27-10 in the season opener. Despite the at times unconvincing fashion in which the team has won games, South Carolina sits at No. 13 nationally — a number that Spurrier is thankful for.

“We’re 3-1 and 13 in the country, which is flattering for the way we’ve played at times,” Spurrier said. “But on the other side, we’ve played pretty well at times.”

By now, most Gamecock fans are aware of widespread youth on the South Carolina roster. With just four scholarship seniors, South Carolina is the youngest team in division I football, Spurrier said.

This inexperience can explain much of South Carolina’s inconsistent play, but senior defensive end Chaz Sutton thinks that his younger counterparts can grow as the season goes on.

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“It’s just all about just being focused,” Sutton said. “We try to talk to these guys to just focus in each week, because it’s always a new team, and it’s always a new scheme that we’ve got to just get prepared for.”

Spurrier said that faulty tackling and dropped passes on the part of inexperienced players has prompted the team to go back to the fundamentals in practice this week in the hopes of eliminating minor mistakes.

As Spurrier prepares South Carolina for its third SEC clash of the season, he is choosing to look at the ugly fashion in which his team has won games with the glass half full. Spurrier said that he was proud of his young team, and its ability to grind out close games early in the season bodes well for the Gamecocks.

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— Steve Spurrier

The defensive unit looks to improve on fundamentals against Kentucky

Defensive unit looks to improve on fundamentals against Kentucky

Senior defensive end Chaz Sutton (90) said that the leaders of the defense have stressed the importance of being focused to the younger players on the football team.
No. 24 Ole Miss looks to bounce back at Auburn

Georgia faces Tennessee in SEC East battle

Salvation Costa

Georgia State @ No. 1 Alabama, Sat. 12:31 p.m., ESPN3

There is no way to put this nicely. No. 1 Alabama has the Georgia State Panthers (0-6) visiting Bryant-Denny Stadium this Saturday in a game that should be over in the first quarter. No disrespect to what coach Bill Curry and his staff are building at Georgia State, but the Panthers don’t have a chance in this one. The Crimson Tide have proven again and again why they are the best team in college football, and this weekend will indicate the same exact senior quarterback A.J. McCarron and sophomore running back T.J. Yeldon have had the way for the Alabama offense this year. The two have been a part of nine touchdowns this season, and on Saturday, that number could jump significantly.

Young is a physical, down-the-field style of back that can create problems even for ranked opponents. He should have an open field to run on and shouldn’t be surprised when coach Nick Saban asks him to sit down after the first half of action.

No. 6 Georgia @ Tennessee, Sat. 3:30 p.m., CBS

After a 44-41 Bulldog victory over LSU, Georgia quarterback Aaron Murray and the team’s focus is now directed toward the Tennessee Volunteers. Murray has bounced back better than most thought he would and put himself back on track this year after an early loss to Clemson. Murray already has thrown for 1,600 yards, completed 68.1 percent of his passes and thrown 11 touchdowns. He is doing a stellar job separating Murray and five rushing touchdowns. He is a talented player with all the right tools to lead his team over a ranked opponent. Prescott has completed 53.3 percent of his passes this season to go along with three passing touchdowns and five rushing touchdowns. He is averaging 8.4 yards per carry and has done a stellar job combining defenses this year. LSU will call on sophomore quarterback Zach Mettenberger and sophomore Jeremy Hill to deliver some scores for the Tigers. Mississippi State should shut down LSU at first, but expect the Tigers to get back to their winning ways this Saturday.

Arkansas @ No. 18 Florida, Sat. 7 p.m., ESPN2

After suffering a 35-0 loss to No. 1 Alabama in which Ole Miss was prepazing to jump up to national stage with an upset win in Tuscaloosa, the Rebels now switch focus and must prove resilient on Saturday in Jordan-Hare Stadium. The Rebels were held to 205 total yards against the Crimson Tide last Saturday, which junior quarterback Bo Wallace said has not happened to him often in his career. Failing to execute and capitalize on scoring opportunities led the Rebels to a disappointing loss. It will fall on Wallace and senior tailback Jeff Scott to get the read option working once again this season. The two have combined for 517 yards and five touchdowns.

Florida’s success the rest of the way is on the shoulders of these two young backs. Arkansas is coming off a contest in which they almost upset Johnny Manziel and the Aggies, losing 45-15. Senior Brandon Allen has played well this year, collecting 476 yards and eight touchdowns. He has the difficult task of going up against the eighth-ranked Florida defense (12.8 points per game allowed). If Allen is able to locate his wide-outs and move the chains on tough third downs, the Razorbacks could pull off an upset in Gator country.

No. 24 Ole Miss @ Auburn Sat. 7 p.m. ESPN

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SEC • B3

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**SEC • Continued from B2**

Saturday against the Tigers, Auburn is a team that needs a lot of help on both sides of the ball. Although home-field advantage could disrupt Wallace in the beginning, expect Wallace and Scott to go back to confusing defenses and making defenders pay with their ground game to kill the clock for the Fighting Irish tackles against a good defense this season. Franklin has kept the chains moving and scoring two touchdowns himself.

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1. What do Kentucky fans think of Mark Stoops so far this season? Imagines most fans understood that the team would struggle, but Stoops so far this season? I imagine most fans understood that the team would struggle, but Stoops expectations internally are a bit more relaxed than his public statements. When the offense fails, you can see players giving up, and you can see that.</p> <p>2. What's the quarterback situation looking like going into this weekend? Both Maxwell Smith and Jalen Whitlow have played this season, but Stoops said he wants one to step up. Is that likely to happen this week?</p> <p>3. How much attention do you think Kentucky will put on Jasseyow and Clooney? Every opponent South Carolina has had this season has struggled to contain their top-20 opponents. Has the difficult stretch demoralized the team, or are the Wildcats still a confident bunch?</p> <p>The matchup against Kentucky is the first time that South Carolina has seen a quarterback against Florida, South Carolina and Alabama in a 21-day span? That's my way of saying I don't believe, barring victory ... and west, they'll run the ball effectively. But the Cats also running away from him. I think if Kentucky can they carry that into the game against the Gamecocks?</p> <p>The team has a big lead. It was uncharacteristic for the Gamecocks to triple-team him. Do you think the Wildcats demoralized the team, or are the Wildcats still as confident as they have been all season? The Cats are still as confident as they have been all season. I'd expect Connor Shaw, who is the announced starter at quarterback, to share time with Dylon Thompson, and I think book it (definitely should) hand the ball to Mike Davis at least 21 times. UK's defense must get pressure on the quarterback in order to keep the game in reach, while the offense must find a way to move the football through the air and not turn the ball over. The story likely stays the same for the Cats: the defense stays on the field all night and a heartbreak in the opponent's territory turns a solid loss into a thorough defeat.</p> <p>There's not much momentum to look at in regards to UK's offense in that second half. The Florida defense is real deal and will give Georgia running backs and Mike Davis some trouble. Any weekend that goes for without a quarterback standing out is not good for UK. But the Cats defense was on the field for over 58 minutes and got only a field goal in the second half against the Gators.</p> <p>Five questions with Nick Gray, Sports Editor, The Kentucky Kernel</p> <p>1. What do Kentucky fans think of Mark Stoops so far for this season? Imagines most fans understood that the team would struggle, but Stoops expectations internally are a bit more relaxed than his public statements. When the offense fails, you can see players giving up, and you can see that ... part of the press conference, which would have been a bigger problem. Spurrier said he had a talk with Clayton that day, and Clayton has refused to be in the rotation as a kicker. Spurrier hinted that Moore would see more work in the rotation also with redemption front linebacker T.J. Oden. Spurrier said, "You don't know what you're going to get from some of these young guys unless you get out there." Spurrier said, "There's guys who look good in practice they don't do well in games, but when the games count, the lights come on, they do something. As coaches, that's what we have to do—find who they are and who can play."

Secondary coach Grady Brown said Wednesday that South Carolina has two running backs and Mike Davis some trouble. Any weekend that goes for without a quarterback standing out is not good for UK. But the Cats defense was on the field for over 58 minutes and got only a field goal in the second half against the Gators.

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Connor Shaw to start on Saturday against Washington

Kyle Heck
KHECK@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

Only three days after he announced quarterback Connor Shaw would be out for two to three weeks, coach Steve Spurrier said that Shaw would be starting in this week’s game against Kentucky.

Shaw announced his absence after Wednesday’s practice and is a possible starter for a Gamecock team that was prepared to turn to redshirt freshman Dylan Thompson.

“He was throwing the ball very well,” Spurrier said. “Dylan will probably go in on about the third series, somewhere right in there. They both deserve to play, we think, and as the season goes on, we’ll see who will be the other."

The news changes a lot of things heading into this weekend. While the coaching staff is confident in Thompson, Shaw brings an ability to run that Thompson doesn’t quite have.

Shaw has taken more a positive approach this week after expressing frustration after the Central Florida game last Saturday.

“Trey was a negative afterwards, and I don’t want to be negative anymore,” Spurrier said. “I always try to be something positive on myself if we’re not coaching very well.”

Shaw was most frustrated with the mistakes on offense and the defensive miscues that allowed UCF and Vanderbuilt to get back in the game. One of the offensive mistakes was Shaw’s fumble at the UCF 4-yard line last week.

Spurrier was disappointed with the turnover, but it doesn’t change his opinion about the sophomore.

“It doesn’t waver our confidence in him, but it is something that shouldn’t happen, and it doesn’t need to happen to good teams,” Spurrier said. “Staff that has happened to us the two last games doesn’t happen to good teams or well-coached teams.”

Davis 588 rushing yards lead the SEC among running backs who have played four games. It’s more impressive than it is Davis in his first full season.

With Brandon Wilds injured, Davis may be asked to carry more of the load, but he said that wouldn’t change his preparation. And after the game in Orlando, Fla., Davis said he knows there are plenty of things he can do to get even better, especially with the added workload.

“I didn’t expect to get this many carries, but that’s up to the coaches,” Davis said. “If they want to put the ball in my hands, I’m all for it.”

The injury may also open up a door for another Gamecock who has yet to make an appearance in college play.

Sophomore tailback David Williams, a four-star recruit from Philadelphia is backing up Davis and Shon Carson. While the initial plan was to redshirt Williams, he may see the field this weekend, and the coaches say they are confident in his abilities.

“We sort of had to give him a ‘refresh,’ where he learned everything, but he is picking everything up,” running backs coach John Grass said.