Saving the season
How we’ll survive without Spurrier

State Fair
unhindered by flood

Column: Hillary shines in Democratic debate

‘Stop Kiss’ not your typical love story
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“Let me say — let me say something that may not be great politics. But I think the secretary is right, and that is that the American people are sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails.”

—Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) on former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's email scandal in Tuesday night's Democratic Presidential Primary Debate on CNN

“Nobody here will ever forget that they were here, and that’s amazing.”

—Chicago Cubs owner Tom Ricketts on the team’s first postseason series win at home at Wrigley Field in over 100 years.

“They will not be in a combat role. They are armed, but they are armed for the purposes of force protection.”

—White House press secretary Josh Earnest on the White House decision to deploy up to 300 U.S. troops to Cameroon in an effort to combat the Boko Haram terror group.

“When something is inevitable, I believe you do it right then.”

—Former Head Ball Coach Steve Spurrier on the decision to resign midseason.
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Focus, focus and more focus necessary against Vanderbilt

Will Helms

Believe it or not, there’s actually a game Saturday. To cap what has been a crazy week for South Carolina’s football team, the 2-3 Vanderbilt Commodores will come to Columbia for an SEC showdown.

Both teams are winless in the SEC and seeking to rebound from awful starts. The 2-4 Gamecocks are 0-4 in the SEC for the first time in 15 years and without the great Steve Spurrier following the Head Ball Coach’s resignation.

Interim head coach Shawn Elliott will step in to lead the Gamecocks for the remainder of the season, so this week’s keys to victory will look much different than in the past.

1. Focus, focus, focus
To say a lot has gone on in Columbia over the past two weeks would be an understatement. Between historic flooding that devastated parts of the city and the retirement of the greatest football coach in school history, South Carolina has been in the news quite a bit of late.

Several players were taken aback by Spurrier’s sudden resignation. Elliott will have the tough task of keeping his players focused, especially against a pesky Vanderbilt team that always seems to give the Gamecocks more trouble than it should.

If Elliott makes a number of adjustments this week, the players’ focus would shift as well. Look for Elliott to make some changes, especially on the offensive side of the ball to keep the team’s focus on the field.

2. Establish the Run
Shawn Elliott was the offensive line coach. Offensive line coaches like to run the ball. The Gamecock quarterbacks have struggled. Struggling quarterbacks like good running games.

Fifth-year senior Brandon Wilds is scheduled to return this week after missing three games with a rib injury suffered against Georgia and the starter should bring some prowess back to a Gamecock rushing attack that was thought to be a strength prior to the season.

Backups Shon Carson and David Williams should get more carries as well in Elliott’s offense. Center Alan Knott returned against LSU and running lanes seemed to open up in the middle of the line, but the Gamecocks quickly turned one-dimensional and abandoned the running game.

Look for Elliott to make establishing the run a priority Saturday.

3. Be Different
Athletic director Ray Tanner stressed that the Gamecocks will not look for another Spurrier because he was one of a kind.

Elliott cannot try to copy Spurrier. This is his team now and needs to look different. This group of Gamecocks was obviously not succeeding under Spurrier this season and if Elliott hopes to coach in Columbia beyond this season, he’ll have to establish himself as more than just the guy who replaced the Head Ball Coach.

As I stated earlier, I believe Elliott will focus more on the run than Spurrier traditionally did. However, beyond the X’s and O’s, Elliott’s coaching style is up in the air. No one knows how aggressive the fiery Camden native will be on short fourth downs or if Elliott will change the way he motivates players as a head coach.

This weekend will be a good indicator of just how different Elliott’s coaching style will be and the trajectory this Gamecock team will take for the rest of the season.
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Come join us after Worship for a free lunch and an opportunity to volunteer with Samaritan’s Purse in relief efforts around Columbia.
WEEKEND CALENDAR

Friday, Oct. 16

GRiZ
9 p.m. / doors 8 p.m.
Music Farm Columbia
$20 advance / $23 day of show
The electronica, funk disc jockey will be performing for fans in Columbia. GRiZ has performed at several music festivals including Lollapalooza and Electric Forest.

Shawn Mendes
7 p.m.
South Carolina State Fair
$15 (Fair admission included)
Shawn Mendes, the singer-songwriter behind the popular radio hits “Something Big” and “Stitches,” will perform live at the South Carolina State Fair.

Saturday, Oct. 17

“Stop Kiss”
Oct. 15-18
8 p.m.
Lab Theatre, 1400 Wheat St.
$5 at the door
A play revolving around racism and homosexuality, “Stop Kiss” is relevant to today’s political sphere.

Beyond The Gallows, Into The Depths, Venality, Everyday Assumptions, Alias For Now
8 p.m.
New Brookland Tavern
$6 Over 21 / $8 Under 21
These metal and rock and roll bands are performing back-to-back for a nonstop thrill ride. Check out Beyond The Gallows songs like “Vile Design,” “Pestilence” and “Taphophobia.”

Sunday, Oct. 18

South Carolina State Fair
Oct. 14-25 (Prices and times vary by day)
12 to 10 p.m.
State Fairgrounds
$10
Enjoy rides, endless fried foods and several live concerts. Thursday, Oct. 15 is college night; bring your student ID for free admission.

“The Brothers Size”
Oct. 16-31
3 p.m.
Trustus Theater
$25 for adults / $20 with student ID
This play follows Louisiana native Oshoosi Size, who left prison, in his search for community. Showtimes are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.
The Senate Judiciary Committee held an official impeachment hearing for Student Body President Jonathan Kaufman Wednesday evening in Russell House.

Kaufman was brought up on charges that he violated constitutional codes by failing to fill the position of Elections Commissioner by the deadline (two weeks after his March inauguration). His initial nominee, third-year Russian and sociology student Cory Alpert, was tabled by the Senate. Senator Zachary Kirby, who brought up the charges against the President, claimed that the lack of an Elections Commissioner prevents the election system as a whole from functioning properly.

“Without an Elections Commissioner, there can’t be an Elections Commission,” Kirby said.

According to Kaufman, the Elections Commissioner office has been vacant since he nominated Alpert in March because Alpert was never confirmed by the Senate. Kaufman and Attorney General Connor Mitchell disagreed over whether Kaufman fulfilled his obligation under student government codes despite the nominee never taking office.

“I took an oath to uphold the codes, and I think we’ve done that,” Kaufman said.

Kirby maintained that it is the responsibility of the President to ensure that the Elections Commissioner position is filled.

“This is not here to attack him as a human … the seat remained vacant, therefore you can’t argue that it was filled,” Kirby said.

Kaufman said that according to the codes, “It is not my job to confirm an Elections Commissioner.” His position was that his job is to nominate, and the Senate can then confirm or deny the nominee. After Alpert declined the position in late June, the executives continued searching.

While the process of finding a person for the job took longer than two weeks, the President was hit with an impeachment notice before his search was over.

“We didn’t hear anything until impeachment … Impeachment is for violating the codes, and I don’t think we did that,” Kaufman said.

The Court of Impeachment will give their recommendation of either Kaufman’s acquittal or of his removal from office at the next Senate meeting.

Before the hearing, the Student Senate confirmed a new Elections Commissioner, second-year insurance and risk management student Alexandra Badgett.
State Fair flourishes in face of flooding

Olivia Reszczynski
@OLIVIARESZCZYNISKI

As the Boil Water Advisory is lifted from Columbia, the South Carolina State Fair opens to the public. A longstanding tradition in South Carolina, the fair is the largest event in the state. Despite operating for 176 years, no one could have predicted floodwaters quite as treacherous as the ones from this previous week.

“[The fair] is kind of another way for everybody to come together, meet new people, share your stories,” Amber Grant, a WIS-TV staff member and former Student Ad Manager for The Daily Gamecock, said. “This is kind of a light event after that disaster as well. I think we needed that.”

The State Fair is conducting multiple fundraising efforts to contribute to the flood relief. Nancy Smith, assistant manager at the South Carolina State Fair, described the efforts the fair is conducting to provide funds for those in need after the flood.

“We do have a $5 parking charge, and the net proceeds from that are going to the flood relief efforts in the state,” Smith said. “Newsboys is coming to the Grand Stand [and] will be giving back to the community through a donation to Harvest Hope.”

Our four-legged friends also seem to be thriving despite the recent flood. Cows, chickens, goats, rabbits and a zebra, along with countless other animals, are present at the fair this year. Matt Oechsle, a 20-year-old from Ohio who prims cows for competitions, was a little worried about the flood. Despite a few delays and messes around the fairgrounds, he insisted that the animals are doing well.

Conquering the recent atrocity, the fair is planning to deliver as usual. All of the classic fair favorites are present, from cotton candy and corn dogs to candy apples and French fries. There are also a few new twists to classic favorites. Patrick Best, from Orme’s Deep Fried Treats, operates the only concession stand that serves unique fried food. Orme’s sells fried candy bars, cookie dough and, recently, Oreos deep fried in red velvet cake batter. Orme’s makes all their treats fresh, and are well-received by fairgoers.

“We decided to make our own red velvet batter and make our homemade cream cheese icing to go on top of it,” Best said.

In addition to the food and animal entertainment, noteworthy events include a sold out performance by Shawn Mendes and upcoming performances by Thomas Rhett, Gladys Knight and Cole Swindell. Ernest Lee — Columbia’s own “chicken man” famous for his countless paintings of vibrant chickens — will be painting a mural in the Smallstock Barn for entertainment.

The State Fair seems like it could not have come at a better time for Columbia. After countless days of rain and floods, the fair will certainly be a welcomed reprieve — lights and carefree fair trips are just what the city needs.

“Our hope and prayer is that it’ll be a bright spot for us and for everyone in the city of Columbia,” Smith said.
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10/19 - Student Health Services patio - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

10/27 - Student Health Services patio - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

10/29 - Say Boo to the Flu - Russell House second floor lobby - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

11/3 - School of Law lobby - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

For more information about the flu vaccine, call 803-777-9511 or visit sa.sc.edu/shs/flu

*Free for students enrolled in 6+ credit hours who have paid the student health fee; $20 for students enrolled in less than 6 credit hours who have not paid the student health fee

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Jimi Hendrix

“Hit Me With a Hot Note”  
Duke Ellington

“Hot, Hot, Hot”  
Buster Poindexter

“Ritual Fire Dance”  
Manuel de Falla

#carolinaband
A recent University of South Carolina alumnus is making good use of his marketing and management degrees by starting his own cigar company based out of Columbia, South Carolina.

Justin Shelton officially started his business, Atlas Cigars, just a week before he graduated this past May. I spoke to Shelton in a phone interview wherein he shared his favorite hobby of smoking cigars.

“I've always had a big passion in cigars; I started right when I turned 18 and just ended up getting really into it,” Shelton said. “What goes into producing them, and the way that the tobacco is blended and, you know, all the things that go into making cigars.”

What started out as a small venture selling cigars to his fellow Beta Theta Pi fraternity brothers, has now turned into a business spanning the country. Shelton said that his company now has representatives at nearly 25 colleges from South Carolina to Arizona.

Shelton's business isn't just targeting college students. They're now trying to incorporate many ages (all 18 and older, of course) and give people an opportunity to begin the hobby of cigar smoking.

“Now we're actually expanding into a subscription model where we're going out to young professionals and people that maybe aren't into cigars as a hobby yet,” Shelton said. “A lot of people are intimidated by it. A lot of people think you have to be old and rich, basically, to smoke cigars, and they think there's a lot of upfront cost, so we want to educate people and provide them with the opportunity to get into the hobby relatively inexpensively.”

Shelton gave some advice to those just starting out in the cigar world.

“All you really need to know is how to cut the ends of them, light it up and don’t inhale,” Shelton said.

Shelton also talked about the flood and its effects on Columbia. He told me that while his cigar business wasn’t directly affected, his day job and his home were both damaged in the flood.

This, along with having roots in the Columbia area, has inspired Shelton to give back.

“This is where we started; this is where we grew our business. Why don’t we give back to our community?” Shelton said. “So I looked for a local organization to help ... I found Harvest Hope.”

Shelton decided donating a part of his profits from Atlas Cigars was the best way to get involved in the relief efforts.

“We’re going to give 10 percent of our proceeds for two weeks, and we might even extend it longer if we feel like there’s a demand there,” Shelton said. “We’re also offering some deals to incentivize people ... for the next couple of weeks we’re going to give people the opportunity to order boxes of cigars straight from us, and [we’ll] send that to them. We’ll also deliver straight to people's tailgates. I'll even come do it myself and chat with them for a while.”
Curse words stunt young vocabularies

As I walk around the USC campus, I can’t help but notice the ubiquity of curse words in normal conversation. Many times in passing I hear — out of perhaps a 15-second excerpt of a dialogue — two or three f-bombs dropped.

Though I don’t use strong language myself, I don’t necessarily condemn its use by others as an exclamation of shock, an expression of pain or in times when ordinary language cannot adequately express the depravity of a person’s words or actions. People of all kinds have greeted such circumstances with strong language.

But more and more today, I find curse words being used in normal conversation as modifiers, fillers or short responses. This trend is disturbing because it conveys an attitude of unprofessionalism and unconcern for offending others. And while it may seem that since everyone is doing it (it must be alright), using curse words in normal conversation to fill in sentences or cultivate a positive peer perception has negative consequences down the road.

A survey by CareerBuilder.com found that “64 percent of employers said that they’d think less of an employee who repeatedly uses curse words, and 57 percent said they’d be less likely to promote someone who swears in the office.”

And a majority of people, 54 percent, said swearing at work makes an employee appear less intelligent.

More insidiously, the versatility of curse words allows them to stand in for almost any kind of normal word, taking the place of once-common words that are now unknown to a large segment of my generation. I enjoy learning and using so-called big words but often have to give my listeners the definitions for words like incorrigible, pleasantry or fatuous — words that are not particularly scholarly or arcane in nature or use.

When I use proper punctuation and capitalization in text messaging, most of my friends think it odd. But while such experiences could just be a local anomaly, broader research points to a decline in the vocabulary of the American people. According to a 2012 Wall Street Journal article, results from standardized vocabulary tests over the years indicate that “12th-grade verbal scores … fell sharply between 1962 and 1980 and … have remained flat ever since.”

Researchers have attributed the drop to numerous causes, ranging from increased standardized test participation of lower-income students to simplified textbooks. But whatever the effect of the precipitous decline, the American vocabulary has yet to recover from it.

While admitting that it may have no correlation with broader trends, I attribute the vocabulary gap between my peers and me largely to the consumption of different forms of media. I frequently read books and newspapers in my free time, while most college students spend more time watching TV or movies. While these newer forms of media require less time and concentration to enjoy, they fail to provide the same verbal richness as their written counterparts.

I’m not advocating that everyone give up their favorite TV shows for classic novels, but improving your vocabulary is a profitable investment and not too difficult to accomplish. If you want to build your lexicon, an easy step is to begin writing down unfamiliar words as you encounter them and looking up their definition. It only takes a pause of a few moments from reading to get the definition on your smartphone and even less time to ask the person you’re speaking with to define the word they just used.

So try it. Look up or ask about an unfamiliar word. Later it will come to mind and make you sound (and feel) much more intelligent than a curse word that could take its place.

—Andy Wilson, first-year English student

Boil Water Advisory lifted as new guidelines are issued

At university officials announced that the City of Columbia has lifted its boil water advisory Wednesday evening.

Campus officials say before any water can be used on or off campus, city guidelines advise that all water-related utilities must first be purged — cleared of harmful substances that cause water discoloration.

University instructions for off-campus residents are as follows:

• “To flush your faucets, turn on the cold water tap at all faucets and run the water until you feel a change in temperature (the water gets noticeably colder). This may take several minutes. Begin with the faucet that is highest up in your home (for example, a faucet on the highest floor of a multilevel home) and continue to run while opening the other faucets one at a time, moving from the highest floor to the lowest floor.

• For hot water faucets, change all faucets to hot water and flush for a minimum of 15 minutes for a typical household 40-gallon hot-water tank, 30 minutes for an 80-gallon hot-water tank or larger. Hot water is then safe to use for drinking, cooking or other internal-consumption purposes.

• Automatic ice dispensers should be emptied of ice made during the boil advisory and run through a 24-hour cycle, discarding the ice to assure purging of the ice-maker water supply line. Bins should be thoroughly cleaned before use.

• Water dispensers from refrigerators should be flushed by at least one quart of water and their filters replaced.

• Dishwashers: After flushing hot water pipes and water heater, run dishwasher empty one time.”

For more information, visit sc.edu/weather
Though I have been very critical of her campaign in past columns, I must admit Hillary Clinton won Tuesday night’s Democratic presidential primary debate.

She put a huge dent in concerns about her handling of the scandal surrounding her possible mishandling of classified information, and she made a case that she is the perfect mix of liberal and moderate to succeed in governing.

“I’m a progressive,” Clinton said. “But I’m a progressive who likes to get things done.”

Bernie Sanders, while he got lots of applause and social media buzz from his supporters, fell flat in trying to broaden his appeal in the Democratic Party. His most-talked-about moment of the night was when he supported Clinton’s position on her scandal, saying to her “the American people are sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails!” Sanders was unwilling to attack Clinton on her most vulnerable issue and only time will tell if this was a solid strategy.

Sanders pounded away on income inequality, his signature issue. He took aim at his favorite target, the financial sector, saying, “Congress does not regulate Wall Street. Wall Street regulates Congress.” But he treated the
RULE
MAKE EVERY GAME
DON’T WAIT FOR SATURDAY
PRIDE! WEAR YOUR OFFICIAL
debate as if it were a campaign rally, mostly shouting his platform instead of engaging Clinton, and seemed to be too focused on the economy and not enough on other issues.

Clinton, meanwhile, sharply attacked Sanders and her Republican critics. She correctly noted that many of the current investigations of her time as Secretary of State are politically motivated.

The biggest exchange of the night between the front-runners centered on gun control. Sanders was forced to explain his votes in the Senate against key gun control legislation. He defended his record, saying he was representing Vermont, a rural state, and explaining away one of his votes as being on a “complicated bill.” Clinton noted she voted for the bill in question and said, “I was in the Senate at the same time. It wasn’t that complicated to me.”

Overall, the debate was much more substantive than the previous two Republican debates, and much of that had to do with the fantastic moderation by CNN’s Anderson Cooper. Cooper aggressively questioned the candidates on their records rather than trying to get candidates to constantly attack each other as Jake Tapper did in the last debate. It should be noted the Fox News moderators had the same strategy as Cooper in the first Republican outing, but didn’t execute it as well.

Sanders showed that he will have a tough time explaining the nuances of his support for socialism, are not Denmark,” Clinton said to applause, slighting the notion that America can scale ideas from a nation 60 times smaller in population.

The other three candidates on stage struggled to make an impression, just as they have on the campaign trail.

Sanders showed that he will have a tough time explaining the nuances of his support for socialism, are not Denmark,” Clinton said to applause, slighting the notion that America can scale ideas from a nation 60 times smaller in population.

The other three candidates on stage struggled to make an impression, just as they have on the campaign trail.

Still, O’Malley did much better than former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb and former Rhode Island Gov. Lincoln Chafee, whose awful performances are yet another reason they should not be in the race at all.

Webb touted his record of passing liberal gun control legislation, but was pushed on just how easy that is in a liberal state by Bernie Sanders. O’Malley responded by implying that Maryland has a large gun culture — yeah right.

Chafee struggled mightily while grinning awkwardly through the entire night. He took the most direct shot at Clinton of all the candidates, saying “I think we need someone that has the best in ethical standards as our next president.” It backfired when Clinton was asked if she wanted to respond and replied with a smile, “no.” Cue lots of applause.

Overall, the debate showed that Clinton is the clear front-runner for the nomination, and she did well to shore up her liberal credentials in the face of Sanders’ surge. However, many hurdles remain for her between now and the actual casting of primary ballots. First up, she’s scheduled to testify before the Benghazi committee next week. Then there’s Joe Biden, who wasn’t on stage as he still considers a presidential run. And she’ll have trouble defending some of the positions she took in the debate come general election time.

But on Tuesday night, Clinton showed why Democrats are overwhelmingly supporting her for president.
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War on drugs an expensive, useless, inhuman failure

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, drug addiction is classified as a diagnosable, chronic disease that chemically alters the brain in order to facilitate further drug use.

In fact, recent studies have shown that certain individuals have a genetic predisposition to addiction, and much like many other genetic diseases, this gene is passed down from generation to generation.

Nonetheless, drug abuse is treated as a crime in the United States.

According to data from 2014, around 50% of inmates in federal prison have been sentenced for drug related crimes. With less than 5% of the world’s population, the U.S. has 25% of the world’s inmates, costing taxpayers an estimated $39 billion a year. Additionally, only 11% of those incarcerated for drug related crimes received treatment.

This begs the question, given the number of inmates in the U.S., the cost to taxpayers, the obvious inefficacy of incarceration in these cases and the fact that drug abuse is a classifiable disease, what exactly is the point of treating drug addiction like a crime?

Frankly, there is no point. Those in favor of mass incarceration have long sung the tune of how the point of prison is not necessarily punishment, but rehabilitation.

Why then, were ex-convicts in Washington state twelve times more likely to overdose on drugs then the average citizen? Considering the amount of money this country spends on the war on drugs, one would think something more could be done for drug offenders than simply locking them up, given the obvious failure of this technique.

It is time for America to revamp Richard Nixon’s four-decade-old war on drugs and, using the example of more progressive cities and countries, we are more than ready to do so.

If the United States represents one end of the spectrum regarding drug policies, Portugal certainly represents the other. In 2001, despite vast criticism and end-of-days predictions, Portugal decriminalized all drugs and began to truly, unlike the United States, emphasize rehabilitation for those addicted.

The results: a decrease in drug related pathologies and overall drug use and an increase in treatment facilities as funds were funneled away from the criminal realm and into the medical one.

Many Americans are likely to point out that the U.S. is not Portugal and could never institute such sweeping reforms, even if it wanted to. While the stagnant nature of American politics can be held responsible for many of our country’s shortcomings, the town of Gloucester, Massachusetts has shown that drug reform does not have to be one of them.

Earlier this year, Gloucester promised refuge to all drug abusers actively seeking help and guaranteed that they would face no legal consequences in light of a slew of heroin related deaths in the area.

A movement spearheaded by the town’s police chief, the intention was to create an “oasis of amnesty” for drug abusers who see the error of their ways. The initiative has seen great success and is the first step this nation has taken to revitalize the war on drugs. Using Gloucester as an example, hopefully our nation can come together to look at drug abusers not as criminals, but as fellow Americans who need help.

—Graham Gusman, first-year international studies and Spanish student
ESPN to broadcast live from campus

ESPN’s SportsCenter will broadcast live from the historic Horseshoe this Saturday from 7 to 9 a.m. Additionally, they will broadcast a segment live from Greene Street Friday afternoon during the “There's No Place Like Carolina” Homecoming Celebration.

Overnight camping will not be permitted, and students are encouraged to arrive between 5:45 and 6:30 a.m. Portable restrooms will be made available behind Harper-Elliott, behind Pinckney-Legare and in front of Russell House.

This is the fourth time in six years that ESPN has broadcast live from campus.
—Compiled by Mary Ramsey, Assistant News Editor

COLUMN

Spurrier spurred UofSC football to historic peak

Of course, the Head Ball Coach is well-known throughout the landscape of college football. Some know him as a Heisman winner, some as a national championship winner, some as a pioneer that helped make the SEC the elite conference that it is today, but to us here in South Carolina, he's known as something different.

Winless seasons and lower-level bowl games were the norm here at South Carolina. So was the occasional star athlete that would come to play, just to be overwhelmed by the lack of talent anywhere else on the field. The mindset, “If we lose every game but still beat Clemson, then I will be happy” was very popular among fans. Well, it was — until one man came in and said three powerful words that shook the Gamecock nation to its core: “Why not us?”

Those words would shape the landscape of and vision for South Carolina for the next 11 seasons.

After immediate success his first season, ending 7-5, people began to wonder. Spurrier did not wonder for a moment, though, because he knew what was coming. In 2009, after signing two of the most influential recruits, wide receiver Alshon Jeffery and cornerback Stephon Gilmore, the team went 7-6 but showed lots of promise in those games.

The next year, no one knew what they were getting into when South Carolina signed tailback Marcus Lattimore. Obviously, he was a great player, but really he was one of the best people that have ever put on a Gamecocks jersey, and it is well-documented that Coach Spurrier played a big role in his signing. That season ended 9-5, in which we got to witness the defeat of a number one-ranked Alabama, and a visit to the Georgia dome for the SEC Championship.

This was just the beginning of what would be the best four-year stint in Gamecock football history, as the next three seasons would end with an impressive 11-2 record. Each saw South Carolina ranked in the top ten at the end of the season, and one year the Gamecocks ranked as high as number four. It was so much success all at once, and everyone wondered. “Where did this come from? Who knew this could happen?”

The answer to both of the statements is just a name: Steve Spurrier. For almost 11 seasons, Steve Spurrier allowed fans to forget the days of winless seasons and losing to Clemson. He allowed us to forget that South Carolina was not a historically good football team. He allowed us to forget that success was not supposed to happen here. He allowed us to feel relevant — that the games attended, watched on TV and celebrated by spending countless dollars on food, tailgates and merchandise were actually going to matter in the big picture of college football.

But what Spurrier allowed us to do more than anything else was let our dreams become a reality and let the 11-win seasons seem normal, because for so long losing records and missing bowl games were the norm. Despite how things played out, Coach Spurrier really took South Carolina fans on a ride that they never could have imagined on Nov. 23, 2004. It had its downs, but the majority of the ride was on its way up. Will we make it back to the top of college football? I do not know, but I like to think so and feel confident in that because of the way Spurrier has allowed me to think about this team.

It is a sad ending and an even harder goodbye, but I think the thing to do is be thankful that you got to be a part of the ride.
—Scotty Garlin, first-year broadcast journalism student

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

At the University of South Carolina, we hired a man. He’s a husband and father. He’s a former professional football player. He is the first Florida Gator to win the Heisman Trophy in 1966.

He became head football coach for the Gamecocks.

He set records at every place he coached, whether they were bad or good. He has one of the worst winning percentages in Washington Redskins history. Ouch! But he has the most wins for the Gamecocks and the Florida Gators.

So, as a professional, he rocked our world with his achievements in the football arena. We couldn’t ever envision him going back into private life to spend time with his kids, wife and grandchildren. Those were his other jobs he already had to do besides wearing the headset and visor on the sidelines.

He has been involved in football for nearly a half-century. Most people, whether in the private or public sector, retire after fewer years of service. We in the University of South Carolina community should respect him as a worker and for all that he did for this university.

—Jordan Cooper, USC alumnus who played defensive end for the Gamecocks in 2009
Josh Peck Postpones Homecoming Appearance

On Tuesday, Sept. 29, Carolina Productions announced the postponement of their highly anticipated event featuring *Drake & Josh* star, Josh Peck. This event was originally planned to take place in collaboration with Homecoming on Oct. 16 in the Russell House Ballroom. The concept of the event was to produce a USC “late night” show featuring Peck being interviewed by a student host and participating in games styled similar to those seen on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*.

Carolina Productions developed this idea after talking to other universities that had brought Peck in the past. Considering Peck’s popularity among the student body, they believed this innovative style of an event would be entertaining and give students the opportunity to interact with the guest.

“Everyone on the entire CP team – exec, PIT, advisors – strives to serve this campus, listen to campus, and deliver to campus. We hope to be as transparent as possible, especially when situations like this occur,” said Rachel Scola, president of Carolina Productions. “If there are any questions from anyone in the USC community about our process or this particular event, they should not hesitate to reach out to us.”

Peck’s postponement of his CP appearance was due to changes of the filming schedule for his new FOX show, *Grandfathered*. Carolina Productions and Josh’s management are working on a rescheduled date for the near future.

This article was paid for by Carolina Productions any questions may be directed to Taylor Hooper at savppr@mailbox.sc.edu or (803) 777-3950
“Stop Kiss,” the provocative play by Diana Son, is coming to campus courtesy of the USC Department of Theatre and Dance. The work is a tour de force of controversial themes — a performance with powerful, multi-faceted statements.

Directed by Liz Houck, fourth-year theatre and psychology student, “Stop Kiss” tells the story of Callie and Sara, two African American women whose friendship develops into a romantic love. When the two share their first kiss, they are assaulted and tragedy ensues.

“Stop Kiss” does not shy away from difficult topics that are controversial in today’s social and political climate. The work deals with homosexuality, race and the place of the patriarchy — all themes that Houck considered when she chose this play.

“It’s to the point that two people can’t even kiss in the park without getting assaulted,” Houck said. “Especially regarding the violence against not only women of color, but even more so queer women of color, and our two leads are black, female actresses, and the time was right — especially in light of this political sphere.”

The play’s focus is on relationships, and not just the one between Callie and Sara. Platonic love is involved as well, through the presence of the women’s ex-boyfriends and a prodding Detective Cole determined to get to the bottom of the attack.

“I think that, for a lot of people, this play kind of humanizes different types of relationships, especially for people in communities of color,” Jasmine James, fourth-year theatre student who plays Callie, said.

The actors also embrace the play’s complex themes and welcome the audience to bring their opinions with them when they come to see the work.

The “Stop Kiss” cast seems to believe that some audience members may just change their opinions after seeing the show.

“I want them to take that love has many different forms and this is one of them,” Imani Hanley, fourth-year biology student who plays Sara, said. “And then, anybody who comes to see the play that has those viewpoints that love is just a man and a woman to take out of it, that love is just love.”

The director and cast do not want “Stop Kiss” to become a specialized experience for only members of homosexual communities or communities of color, but rather a story that connects with all types of people.

“I want people to realize ‘Stop Kiss’ is not a romance,” Ashley Graham, a second-year theatre student playing Detective Cole, said. “It’s just a story, and it’s beautiful and it’s something that everyone can relate to in terms of being human, being young, being scattered, being in love; that’s all a part of everyone’s life.”

“Stop Kiss” will be performed at the Lab Theatre at 1400 Wheat St., Oct. 15 to 18. The nightly performances begin at 8 p.m., with the theatre opening at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 at the door.
Season Predictions
from the staff of
WEEK 7

#13 OLE MISS @ MEMPHIS

#10 ALABAMA @ #9 TEXASA&M

#7 MICHIGAN STATE @ #12 MICHIGAN

#8 FLORIDA @ #6 LSU

VANDY @ USC

OVERALL RECORD

WILL HELMS
SPORTS EDITOR

JOSEPH CREVIER
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

DREW MUELLER
WRITER

Memphis  
Ole Miss  
Ole Miss

Alabama  
Alabama  
Alabama

Michigan  
Michigan  
Michigan

LSU  
LSU  
LSU

South Carolina 24, Vandy 13  
South Carolina 31, Vandy 21  
South Carolina 20, Vandy 17

19-11  
18-12  
17-13
The Daily Gamecock recently talked with Ben Weinrib, sports editor of the Vanderbilt Hustler, to get his take on this weekend’s game.

The Daily Gamecock: Nashville went through historic flooding just five years ago. Do you think that has had any impact on the way people have viewed the flooding here in Columbia?

Ben Weinrib: I don’t think there’s any doubt that the flooding in Nashville contributed to Vanderbilt’s efforts. Athletic Director David Williams said as much, “This is a reminder of what we went through. We saw that it was in Columbia, right at the University of South Carolina, in our conference, and it hit home. We decided, ‘What can we do to help?’ It really does not take a lot of us to do something that is very helpful.” Even though no football players hail from South Carolina, it was clearly the right thing to do.

TDG: Through five games, Vanderbilt is 25th in total defense, after ranking 70th in the same category a year ago. What have the Commodores done differently on that side of the ball this season?

BW: The biggest difference is that Derek Mason has taken over as the defensive playcaller. After firing defensive coordinator David Kotulski, who had worked with Mason for 20 years, Mason decided that he was the best defensive coordinator available for the job. The difference is clear with a much stouter rush defense (21st in the country) and better communication. It also helps that a defense that was largely freshmen and sophomores last year is now made up of sophomores and juniors, even if last year’s leading tackler Nigel Bowden is still out with a concussion.

TDG: Vanderbilt was trending upward before James Franklin left for Penn State. Have you seen enough for Derek Mason through a season and a half to believe that the Commodores could make a run in the coming years?

BW: Franklin definitely left at the right time, just as Jordan Matthews was graduating and he was coming off a record-tying 24 wins in three seasons. Mason was left with a roster mostly full of freshmen and sophomores, which makes winning a difficult task in the SEC. Mason has certainly had his struggles, chiefly playing four quarterbacks last season instead of showing confidence in one, but he’s made massive improvements. The defense looks far better this season now that he has taken over as playcaller, and they’ve held all but three of their five opponents to season-low scoring outputs. It wouldn’t be fair to dismiss Mason after two seasons considering how young of a team he inherited and how tough his schedule is. This team is clearly improved from last season, which is encouraging for when the key players are older.

TDG: Give us a player who we haven’t heard much about that could be an X-Factor on Saturday.

BW: I’m not sure if Trent Sherfield still qualifies as a player people haven’t heard of, since he is third in the SEC in receiving yards and receptions without playing last week and was just added to the Biletnikoff Award watch list. I think the big name to look out for is Zach Cunningham, who has flourished taking over for the injured Bowden as a middle linebacker. He leads the team with 35 tackles and is tied for the team lead with 4 tackles for a loss and 1 sack. Cunningham was one of five four-star recruits in Vanderbilt’s 2013 recruiting class that also includes Bowden and Johnny McCrary, so it has been nice to see him start to reach his potential.

TDG: What’s your prediction?

BW: This will be one of Vanderbilt’s best chances to win an SEC game this season, up there with home games against Missouri and Kentucky. I think with an error-free game from McCrary, the Commodores will be able to put up enough points to win a defensive struggle.
New coach, new game: How Elliott will pull through

Joseph Crevier @JOSEPHMCREVIER

Saturday, the Gamecocks will march into Williams-Brice Stadium without Steve Spurrier for the first time in 11 seasons, after the former head coach announced his resignation this week.

South Carolina (2-4) suffered a blowout 45-24 loss at the hands of Louisiana State University last weekend and will look to regain steam as it takes on the Vanderbilt Commodores (2-3).

1. Players respond well to Spurrier's resignation

Athletic Director Ray Tanner will conduct a search for a new head football coach for the first time in over 10 years, but in the meantime, former co-offensive coordinator Shawn Elliott will serve as the team's interim head coach.

A South Carolina native, Elliott joined the Gamecocks staff in 2010 as the offensive line coach. Elliott was promoted two years later in 2012 to co-offensive coordinator, working in direct relation to Spurrier. A former coach and player at Appalachian State University, Elliott has an impressive resume — winning three straight national titles in Division I-AA football during the mid-2000s.

Elliott is already a trusted, highly touted figure in South Carolina's locker room, so the temporary promotion was certainly justifiable. Will he earn a full-time head-coaching job? It's possible, but far too early to tell. In all likelihood, the Gamecocks will respond well to the change and prove — to fans and themselves — that they can find success without the Head Ball Coach.

2. Gamecocks record highest rushing total of season

Elliott's bread and butter is on the ground, where the Gamecocks have struggled mightily all season long. Part of his former co-offensive coordinator role included overseeing the offensive line and running game, which has perhaps been South Carolina's weakest area this season.

No South Carolina running back has exceeded the 200-yard mark yet this season, as redshirt senior Brandon Wilds, redshirt senior Shon Carson and redshirt sophomore David Williams are each hovering around 180 rushing yards. Carson, who has accumulated 184 rushing yards, currently ranks 243rd among Division I running backs.

Clearly, the rushing game needs rejuvenation, and the key to success is establishing a reliable one. Despite flashes from quarterbacks freshman Lorenzo Nunez and redshirt junior Perry Orth, inexperience at the position has historically spelled doom, making the rushing game absolutely vital.

Although the interim head coach cannot magically transform his running backs into Leonard Fournette, he can instill new ideas and schemes to scrape an unproductive rushing game from the cement.

3. South Carolina defeats Vanderbilt in emotional contest

The campus of South Carolina, city of Columbia and state of South Carolina as a whole have endured a brutal few weeks. Record rainfall flooded residences and businesses, causing death, destruction and emotional damages that cannot be quantified.

To add salt to the wound, a football program that is such an integral part of the South Carolina community has plummeted to mediocrity. Mass devastation is obviously much larger than wins and losses, but Gamecocks football serves as an outlet for emotional distress all the same.

With South Carolina's first true home game after the flood and Spurrier's departure, expect the team to find a way to win this one.
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TRAVEL

Surviving a Spring Break Hangover

The spring break hangover can be a thing of the past with these tips.

1. Hydration:
   - Drink plenty of water. Dehydration can cause fatigue, headaches, and sluggishness.

2. Fuel the Body:
   - Eat a healthy breakfast to fuel your body for the day.

3. Stay Active:
   - Engage in light exercise to help your body recover.

4. Sleep:
   - Get a good night's sleep to help your body recover.

5. Stay Hydrated:
   - Drink water instead of sugary drinks.

6. Avoid Alcohol:
   - Limit alcohol consumption to avoid further dehydrating the body.

7. Stay Hydrated:
   - Drink water instead of sugary drinks.

8. Stay Hydrated:
   - Drink water instead of sugary drinks.

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Sudoku

Sudoku By The Mepham Group 10/15/15

9 1 8 7 5 6 4 3 2

1 6 2 4 3 5 8 7 9

2 3 5 1 7 9 6 3 2

3 4 9 2 1 5 9 6 8

4 9 2 1 5 9 6 8 6

5 9 2 1 6 9 7 8 3

6 3 5 1 7 9 6 3 2

7 9 5 2 1 6 4 3 8

8 5 2 9 1 4 7 2 3

9 9 4 1 9 8 7 3 2

Level: 1234

How to Play

Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

For solutions to today’s puzzle, go to dailygamecock.com or download our app!

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Crossword

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ACROSS

1 “Poetic” or “Prose” mythological work
5 Movie rating org.
9 R&B singer known for popularizing Auto-Tune
14 Device for Mariner
15 Orderer’s reference
16 “In what way?”
17 Not to mention
18 Non-magical “Harry Potter” animal?
20 Shill
22 Serengeti predators
23 Camembert left out in the sun too long?
26 Whammy
29 Cockney location word
30 Bean opening?
31 Constant flow
33 Annoy
36 Inventing middle name
37 Woman’s enticing movements?
42 Gulf of __
43 Stands
44 The Aztecs’ Tonatiuh, for one
47 Bert Bobsey’s twin
48 Old sports org. with a red, white and blue ball
49 Hunting dog
50 More pretentious
51 Germaphobia may be a symptom of it, for short
52 Miracle in the mire?
56 British bishop’s headress
57 Target
58 Periodical dedicated to stylish boots?
63 Best Picture of 1958, and a hint to this puzzle’s theme
64 Japanese comics
65 Kitchenware brand
66 First name in case fiction
67 Rebuff
68 Luncheon

DOWN

1 Go by
2 Almighty
3 How much to take
4 First __ equals 5 “Dee-lish!”
6 Little, in Lille
7 Position, as a pool cue
8 Bellow title hero March
9 Place to browse
10 Sci-fi vehicles
11 Reverence
12 Expert finish?
13 Here-there link
19 Fan’s disappointment
21 1980s-90s heavyweight champ
24 E. follower
25 Serengeti scavenger
26 Word after raise or catch
27 Place for a nest, perhaps
28 Short holiday?
32 Joplin works
34 Sun. message
35 Strong like string
37 Burkina __
38 Cabinet dept.
39 Heal
40 Part of Caesar’s boast
41 Italy’s largest port
45 Sci-fi character nicknamed Ben
46 Hepat affection (on)
47 Bert Bobsey’s twin
48 Regard highly
49 Hunting dog
50 More pretentious
53 “is good”
54 “Wall Street”
55 Spinal Tap guitarist Tufnel
56 Roman Cath. title
58 Verbal stumbles (on)
59 Disparity
60 Serengeti prey
61 PC screen type
62 “___-hoo!”
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3 CHEFS  3 TASTES  1 WINNER

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