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The Daily Gamecock, THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2013

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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Benjamin hails progress, encourages volunteerism
Sarah Ellis
se@dailygamecock.com

Two-and-a-half years ago, few people would’ve expected to see the community rally on Main Street, when an outdoor ice rink brought nearly 14,000 people to the downtown area this season and where more than 20,000 gathered for a “famously hot” New Year’s Eve celebration. Columbia has realized a lofty goal of downtown revitalization that Mayor Steve Benjamin set when he was elected to office in April 2010, and Wednesday night he praised the city’s many recent and continuing improvements.

And Columbia is just getting started. Benjamin said in his 2013 State of the City address at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

“Look around you today and you’ll see. It’s not a dream. It’s not a hallucination. It’s not a pack of empty promises for political gain and profit,” Benjamin said. “It’s a vision coming true. It’s our present meeting our potential. It’s our city living up to its promise.”

Benjamin delivered Columbia’s role in a changing world where “talent no longer follows industry,” but where people decide what place they want to live more than where to look for jobs. “This rental will impact our city for better or for worse for the next 50 years or longer. It should

SG sees drop in senate filings, rise in executive

Mizzell, Bragg, Waelder to run for top offices
Amanda Coyne
acoyne@dailygamecock.com

Filing times for Student Government executive candidates and the student senate ended Wednesday afternoon, and while candidates haven’t officially been announced yet, three students have confirmed that they have filed for executive positions.

Current Student Body Vice President Chase Mizzell and third-year economics student Kenneth Bragg, along with a third student who has yet to be named, have all filed to run for student body president. Mizzell won his current position in an unopposed race last year, while Bragg single-handedly forced a runoff in last year’s student body treasurer race by running in his own name.

Four-year business student and Drinking Ticket founder Alex Waelder is one of four students who have to file to run for both top offices.

Three students have also filed to run for student body treasurer, one more than last year. None of those who have filed has made it publicly known.

Youth senator Cinthia Zimmet also filed for executive positions this year, student senate is seeing fewer filings this year. Only three senate districts have more candidates filed than spots open, and many districts with fewer candidates filed than senators currently serving.

The College of Arts and Sciences, the Darla Moore School of Business and the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies will be the only senate districts with competition for seats. Twenty students filed to run for the 14 seats in the College of Arts and Sciences’ delegation, 11 filed to run for the seven seats in the business school and ten ran for the three seats in the mass communications and information studies.

Three districts — those of the Colleges of Social Work and Pharmacy and the School of Music — had no candidates file. The College of Social Work currently has no senators in its two seats, while the School of Music and the College of Pharmacy both have their two-senator delegations full.

Elections Commissioner Meghan Aubry encouraged students in these districts who may be interested in student senate but did not file to run to write their names on in executive.

“Since nobody else is running, one vote could do it,” the third-year political science student said.

Five districts that currently have full delegations had fewer candidates file than senators currently serving.

Balz: Obama tougher in second term

Washington Post correspondent talks political philosophies
Thad Moore
thadmoore@washingtonpost.com

The way Dan Balz sees it, the U.S. is starting to get to the core of who President Barack Obama is. Obama came into the presidency with aspirations to bring Democrats and Republicans together, said Balz, the Washington Post’s chief correspondent, who’s covered presidential politics for more than 30 years.

But in recent years, he’s been changed by tough debates, like those over the debt ceiling and health care, all spurred by deep political divisions.

“Political polarization is a fact of life at this point,” Balz said.

That included speaking aggressively of the need to act on climate change — the site of the 1969 riots that sparked the gay rights movement — alongside Seneca Falls, N.Y., and Selma, Ala., where pivotal moments in the women’s and civil rights movements occurred.

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Students looking for Marble Slab Creamery on the second floor of Russell House might be confused to find a slightly healthier option in place of the ice cream shop.

Naturally Woodstock is taking over the space recently freed up by Marble Slab’s move to the first floor of Russell House and will be officially opening up at the end of this month. Until then, it will be performing market testing on and off, working out the kinks in everything from the cash registers to the gluten-free brownies.

The testing has been going on for the past two weeks, since students began returning to campus, according to Cynthia Stoel, marketing manager for Carolina Dining.

Naturally Woodstock will be serving students an assortment of soups, salads and sandwiches, with a multitude of vegetarian and vegan options and yogurt bars. Most items will run students between $5 and $7.

Compiled by Amanda Coyne, Assistant News Editor

Benjamin delivers his State of the City address Wednesday evening.

Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin delivers his State of the City address Wednesday evening.
Students study away, not abroad, with exchange program

NSE sends few to universities in North America

Hannah Jeffrey news@dailygamecock.com

The National Student Exchange (NSE) is a little-known program at USC, but it could potentially send students to six institutions of their choice.

NSE is an exchange program that sends students to other schools within the United States, its territories and Canada, while staying cost effective.

"NSE is a great opportunity for students to study abroad from USC and still pay the same tuition," said Kimberly Drester, coordinator for student engagement. "Students can go for a semester, a year or summer, and the time can be divided between the two semesters, but these students may only go for one semester at a time."

"Students from USC and still attend other schools around the country, ranging from California to New York. The popularity of the program varies; according to Dressler, as many as 80 students have participated in NSE at a time."

USC uses what is referred to as NSE’s Plan B, which means the school can take in as many students as it sends out. Drester said USC usually sends out 20 students, but these students may only go for one semester at a time.

According to Drester, eight USC students currently attend other schools around the country, ranging from California to New York. The popularity of the program varies; according to Dressler, as many as 80 students have participated in NSE at a time.

Students traveling away from USC are encouraged to keep blogs of their experiences in order to inform interested students about their trips and to keep a record of their adventures for themselves. These blogs are posted on the Office of Student Engagement website.

Though first-year students cannot apply for the NSE program, they are encouraged to begin planning and apply once they are in their second year and have a stronger resume, as well as a better idea of where they would like to go. USC policy states that seniors must spend their final 30 days on campus in Columbia, but these students may petition and gain the ability to spend the extra time traveling. Students planning to study away from USC for a full year can apply for the Office of Study Abroad’s program, called “a historic clash of visions” — a category that with certain majors to be offered here at USC.

This allows students to participate in NSE, the most popular schools being a comprehensive strategy to bring all city wages up to the market rate."

Benjamin cited a laundry list of the city’s gains in the past 20 months including a nearly 2-percent drop in unemployment, increased public safety and public investments in water and sewer system infrastructure.

But the mayor also acknowledged areas of needed improvement, and one of the first issues he said he will ask City Council and new City Manager Teresa Wilson to address is “the problem of city employees, particularly in Columbia, that many if not most employees, particularly city manager Teresa Wilson acknowledged areas of transportation and efforts and public improvements."

Benjamin also encouraged citizens to take a role in their city’s ongoing quest for improvement, particularly through volunteer efforts. He introduced to the audience his 17-year-old “little brother” Paris and told them, “If I can find the time to volunteer as a mentor for Paris, then maybe some of you can too.

”Imagine each of us reaching out with the gift of opportunity and the joy we would make across this city,” Benjamin said. He added that Columbia plans to roll out a new citywide service initiative.

The city council has been dealing with a personnel issue that Benjamin skimped on last year as a key election issue at downtown violence, particularly in the Five Points area, though he did praise the police force for its crime-solving and prevention efforts in the area and the city. He also noted the decreases in violent crimes by 12 percent, aggravated assaults by 23.5 percent and homicides by 50 percent.

And as they search, Balz thinks Republicans will find a strong field of contenders, a group that was a cycle too young to run last year, like New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie or Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal. But the real question facing the Republicans is what vision they offer American voters, Balz said.

Instead, it seemed to be targeted at Obama’s coalition of the left, Balz said."

"Imagine each of us making a difference, Benjamin said. "I have little doubt of our city’s capabilities."

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The students talk about their experiences. Some share the facts at our interest meetings:"

All newly inducted freshmen, Welcome to Alpha Gamma Delta Honor Society.

The deadline for joining is February 11.

Requirements: Earning a 3.5 GPA or higher as a freshman semester, maintenance of a 2.5 GPA overall, a GPA of 3.5 or higher in major courses, active participation in University affairs and a GPA of 3.0 or higher in major courses.

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Taylor Swift to return to Colonial Life Arena

Get ready to pick out some cowboy boots, a sparkly dress and your worst ex-boyfriend story: Taylor Swift is coming to town.

Swift, along with opening act Ed Sheeran, will perform at USC’s Colonial Life Arena on March 23 on her RED Tour, currently numbering more than 60 shows in the U.S. and Canada between March and September.

Swift most recently visited Columbia in November 2011. Her then-finance, country star纳什维尔恩斯特, sold-out the Colonial Life Arena. Tickets will be available starting Feb. 1 at 10 a.m. through LMCIinc.com and at the Lexington Medical Center Box Office, Colonial Life Arena and the Columbia Phar-Ma-Gan Sports Store. Tickets can also be purchased by phone at 1-851-4LMC-TIX.

— Amanda Coyne, Associate News Editor

In Brief.

Lattimore hopes to play sooner than expected

While watching practice at the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., on Tuesday, former South Carolina running back Marcus Lattimore said he expects to be ready to play at the start of the 2013 NFL season.

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Dreher teacher fired over student sex charges

An honors English teacher was fired from Columbia’s Dreher High School after being arrested earlier this month for allegedly having sex with a 17-year-old student, according to The State.

Until having her contract voided by the Richland 1 school board on Tuesday, Kinsley Wentzky, 34, had been on paid administrative leave. She is being charged with sexual battery and had allegedly been having sex with an underage male student in her home since May 2012.

One of 18 teachers in the past two years who have been disciplined for sexual relationships with students, Wentzky had her teaching certificate suspended by the South Carolina Department of Education on Jan. 9, four days after her arrest.

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Asst. Viewpoints Editor
KRISTYN SANITO

AARON MCDUFFIE

PAULINA BERKOVICH

KRISTYN SANITO

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Bros on Mo-peds

It seems we see you everywhere on campus these days, zipping around the sidewalk in front of Thomas Cooper Library or desperately puttering up the Barnwell hill as your tiny taxi strains to keep up on the jagged road. We all watch in adoration as you fly by, a glorious winter wind whipping the few locks unkempt by your reverse snapback cap. The sweet sound of the putt-putt-putt as you glide on by is music to our ears. And what’s fun for one is always fun for two, right? Good pal that you are, you selflessly transport your best bro from the Carolina Coliseum to Gambrell Hall, both of you squeezed tightly with hands tucked into a gentle embrace as he holds on for dear life. Never mind the naysayers; at least you’ll be on time for class.

The Girl in Uggs

Though it finally seems Columbia will at last be experiencing a bout of crisp cold weather, you do not let that change your wardrobe; you’ve been wearing those Ug boots since the weather dropped to a mere 75 degrees. You trudge around in your shearling treasures, first hitting Panera Bread for a broccoli cheddar soup bread bowl then to Target for some toilet paper. You throw the fashion rulebook out the window on a daily basis, matching boots with your plethora of gym shorts on Monday then in skinny jeans and an oversized sweater by Thursday. With more than 10 pairs of various colors and fabrics to select from, you are certainly the clothing chameleon of your generation. Keep it casual with the black pair during the day and dress it up with the silver-sequined pair at night — we don’t care. We’re all placing bets on what the maximum temperature is for you to take them off.

The Person Who Texts and Walks

While we may never see your face, we do memorize the back of your head. In your own little world with your eyes bathed in a smartphone glow, you shuffle in front of us at a pace matched only by a 90-year-old using a walker — on a bad day. Your brow furrowed in concentration may indicate that you’re answering some very important text messages or responding to a professor’s email, but we all know the truth. You’re scrolling through Kim Kardasian’s Twitter feed or attempting to best some unknown adversary at Ruzzle. As much as we’d like to power-walk past so we actually make it to class on time, your bobbing and weaving to avoid the nearly unseen obstacles on your path prevents us from doing so. How do you see every trash can and light post without ever looking up? One day you won’t. And we can’t wait.

The Crosswalk

Seeing as we’re in college now, a few things should be clear. First, Thursday nights in Five Points are when all of the fun things happen. Second, not all crosswalk symbols are created equal. Since this is apparently getting a little fuzzy for our campus citizens, here’s a simple breakdown so you’ll know what they mean when you see them:

1. The Red Hand: “Hey man, either one or both of the traffic lights right here are green. You probably shouldn’t cross because you never know when a hassled driver will flip a U-turn and take you out. And if you’re already walking and I start to flash, you may want to pick up the pace.”

2. The White Man: “It’s totally safe to cross here. Look, I’m walking. You should be too.”

Besides the fact that it’s completely dangerous to cross a busy intersection where cars are flying at speeds closing in on 60 miles per hour — hope, that’s the end of the sentence. It’s dangerous. Don’t do it.

The Girl Who Takes Two Hours to Order Starbucks

We get it. When you have four 8 a.m. classes...
Do you use the STROM?

All users of the Strom Thurmond Wellness & Fitness Center will need to re-enroll their hand measurements into the system using their VIP ID number. Hand scanning on the new system is available during regular operating hours in the rotunda of the Strom Thurmond Wellness & Fitness Center. Access to the Blatt PE Center will continue to utilize ID cards.

1. Easy as 1,2,3...
   
   Hand scanning on the new system is available during regular operating hours in the rotunda of the Strom Thurmond Wellness & Fitness Center.

   Users should present their CarolinaCard to re-enroll. Once a user has re-enrolled with the VIP ID number, he/she can use it at the turnstiles to access the facility.

   Access to the Blatt PE Center will continue to utilize ID cards.

   This conversion is FREE for students, faculty and staff. Users, however, must be current students enrolled in good standing and paying fees to the USC Columbia campus or be faculty or staff with paid membership fees to the Strom Thurmond Wellness & Fitness Center.

   The first phase of a brand new campus health facility has begun!

   The next important step in determining our goals and needs is input from students...YOU!

   Student Health Services and architects Perkins+Will and Quackenbush will facilitate this student-focused town hall meeting.

   We are excited to have you join the discussion and value your ideas!

   THURSDAY

   Jan. 24

   Patterson Hall rooms 103/104

   5 - 6:30 p.m.

   Call 803-777-2533 for more information.

   campusrec.sc.edu

   803.576.9375
**PHD • JORGE CHAM**

Horseshoe in Lieber College.

Application deadline: Friday, March 8, 2013. 

Applications are available in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. 

Admissions located on the first floor of Davis Library. 

For more information, please call

Phone: 803-777-8231. 

**SERVICES**

Parking Spaces Available: 550 on Campus, 3,900 semester: 797-3682.

**THE SCENE**

**EMPLOYMENT**

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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- Preparing financial reports and statements.
- Managing accounts payable and receivable.

Requirements:

- Bachelor’s degree in Accounting or Finance.
- Knowledge of accounting software and principles.
- Excellent communication and organizational skills.


Email resume and cover letter to:

Jassy@wuminyo.com

**SUDOKU**

By The Meagh Map

4/1/2013

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**THE SCENE**

**BACKDROP**

**Crossword**

Edited by Wayne Roberts.

01/24/13

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4/1/2013
Women's basketball to host Kentucky

South Carolina looks for first win against ranked opponent

Isabelle Dufraisne/staff writer

Three times this year, the South Carolina women's basketball team has played a ranked opponent, and each time the Gamecocks have fallen short. USC will have another chance to get a "signature win" when it hosts No. 5 Kentucky (16-3, 4-2 SEC) for the first time this season on Thursday, January 24, 2013.

"It's really time for us to start taking every game as important, and get a big win," coach Dawn Staley said. "The building to this point has done more to prepare us than probably any other time in my career to take advantage of being at home."

"I think it's important to win all the time," Staley said. "Everybody that comes into Colonial Life Arena, we need to make sure we take care of. ... When we have an opportunity to host a team like Kentucky, a ranked opponent, we need to take advantage of being at home."

Since the 40-42 loss at Georgia, USC has rallied with two straight wins against LSU and at Florida, respectively. Through the start of the SEC slate, the Gamecocks have toiled on offense as they ranked 13th in the league with a 39.9 field goal percentage in conference games.

Staley said the way out of the scoring droughts USC finds itself in is through confidence. "Surely in her team's defense, Staley has shifted more of the emphasis off the offense in practice.

"We want to make our kids comfortable in pushing the ball up and down the floor, but do you want some easy baskets," Staley said.

Against a Kentucky team that has scored at least 90 points seven times — and has scored 100 points twice — Staley said USC "would have to be monitored to keep costly errors because the Wildcats are likely to capitalize."

As for Kentucky's senior guard A'dia Mathies, the SEC's reigning player of the year, it will be everyone's assignment to defend her tonight because "she's that good," Staley said.

"We have to stop the ball," Staley said. "Once we're able to score the ball, we've got to spring our defense and kind of slow them down a little bit. Where they are most effective is scoring off of their defense, and if we're able to take care of the basketball and get more shots up then they do, then I think we can make it a halftime advantage."

Having played top teams in the country in Stanford, Tennessee and Georgia, sophomore forward Aleighsa Welch said those experiences help the Gamecocks prepare for rankings teams they've lost to top-ranked Baylor and LSU that are ranked teams they've upset against a ranked opponent, the Gamecocks aren't downplaying the magnitude of the win.

"This is league play right here," Welch said. "We've already lost two games and we're jockeying for position, so we need to make sure we get every game we can get at this point."

Sophomore forward Aleighsa Welch said USC needs every win it can get after losing two league games already.

USC to travel to ITA Kickoff Weekend

Double-header prepares Gamecocks for elite competition

Paula Berberich
pberberich@gamecockleade. com

A seven-hour double- header last weekend was a major challenge for South Carolina's men's tennis team.

"It looks like a mountain that is impossible to climb," coach Josh Goffi said. "But after sweeping Furman on Saturday morning, and Furman on Saturday afternoon in the No. 2 singles position.

Junior Chip Cox lost his first match in Saturday's double-header with his speed. He added that Cox took that aspect instead on attacking the ball with big hits, relying not overpower opponents.

"His coach attributed the win to improved footwork. "The other guy was just a hollow player," Cox said. "He didn't move well, and we were able to attack the ball with our speed. He added that Cox took that aspect of his game for granted and overlooked it in the morning match.""