INK! announces itself, loudly, just with its name – it’s a student organization for any and all aspects of English and the literary arts. And while writers have been stereotyped as quiet and reclusive, INK! works out in the open. The organization puts on reading events called Piranha’s Parlor, where students read their stories and poetry.

INK! may seem to lend itself to a niche group, but the undergraduate English association isn’t limited to writers. The president of INK!, Ainsley McWaters, insists the group is incredibly diverse.

“There is a wide variety of ages,” McWaters said in an email. “We have some freshmen as well as some super seniors. All of our events are advertised as open to all majors and ages. We focus on creating a community within the English program, but also incorporating the rest of the university and welcoming them to participate in events with us.”

INK! is working towards a number of goals and projects for this year, from service opportunities to professor talks with the likes of Catherine Keyser and Qiana J. Whitted. They focus on incorporating the entire community, which is why the Piranha’s Parlor event is so important.

“Last week put a dent in our sails. The last 10 minutes against Vanderbilt kind of hurt some guys’ feelings,” Martin said of the team’s 65-50 loss to Vanderbilt. “You could either take the ball, go home and cry or you could man up and tighten your pants up and come in here and say, ‘You know what, that’s embarrassing; that’s not happening anymore,’ which is what Sindarius did.”

It makes sense that Thornwell is the one stepping up to fill a leadership role for South Carolina. Thornwell was a four-star recruit...
High school students would have to take a civics test if a recent bill introduced to the South Carolina legislature were to pass, The State reported.

If passed, the initiative would require students to take a 100-question U.S. civics test, which would be necessary to pass in order to graduate.

Lawmakers said the students should know the same information about the U.S. that immigrants seeking citizenship are required to know, such as facts on the Constitution, current political leaders and key historical figures and moments.

South Carolina’s initiative is part of a larger national effort to make students more proficient in civics.

Representative James Smith, a supporter of the bill, said the plan would not cost the state any money because it could already incorporate civics classes, and the material would be based off what is already being studied in high school history classes.

— Madeleine Collins, News Editor

Budget panel votes to close South Carolina State University after financial issues

On Tuesday, a South Carolina House budget panel voted to close South Carolina State University for two years, The State reported.

The university has been facing financial troubles amounting to $10 million owed to food and maintenance vendors and $7.5 million in loans from the state. Enrollment has dropped in recent years, and only 14 percent of the students graduate within four years.

The plan still needs to be approved by the full South Carolina House and Senate. The South Carolina State University would be closed for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years. Current students could get scholarships to attend other state public colleges or historically black schools, as long as they maintain a 2.5 GPA.

— Madeleine Collins, News Editor

Brian Williams suspended for 6 months without pay after ‘misremembering’

“NBC Nightly News” anchor Brian Williams was suspended Tuesday for six months without pay after he “misremembered” a story about being in a helicopter that came under fire several years ago.

The investigation was sparked on Friday Jan. 20, 2015, when Williams misrepresented events he covered during the Iraq War in 2003. Williams had told the same thing when retelling the story at other venues. NBC has concerns about misreported events he covered during the Iraq War in 2003. Williams had done that same thing when retelling the story at other venues.

NBC said that his actions were wrong and completely inappropriate, and as managing editor and news anchor, Williams had a responsibility to be truthful at all times. The network also said it betrayed the trust that Americans put in NBC News, and that his suspension is the correct punishment for his actions.

Lester Holt will act as substitute anchor for NBC’s Nightly News during William’s suspension.

— Madeleine Collins, News Editor

CORRECTIONS
If you find an error in today’s edition of The Daily Gamecock, let us know about it. Email editor@dailygamecock.com and we will print the correction in our next issue.
CRIME BLOTTER

The blotter comes from police reports released by the USC Division of Law Enforcement and Safety and doesn’t include crimes reported by city or county law enforcement.

JAN. 31 TO FEB. 6

1 Disorderly Conduct
2 Fake/Other ID use
3 Larceny/All other
4 Larceny/Theft from building
5 Weapon Law Violation
6 False Pretense/Deceit
7 Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter
8 Harassment/Threats/Intimidation
9 Alcohol/Liquor violations
10 Traffic/DUI
11 Drugs/Narcotics violation
12 Trespass

On Febr. 2, an officer made contact with a man who appeared intoxicated and smelled of alcohol on Greene Street. The officer tried to talk to the man, but realized that the man was deaf — he continued to communicate with him by writing on his notepad. Another officer arrived on scene and ran the man’s information, finding that he had previously trespassed on USC property. After the man stepped off the sidewalk and proceeded to urinate on the ground, the officer arrested him for public disorderly conduct. Once he was under arrest, the man became “uncooperative and forcibly sat on the ground,” and the officers had to carry him to the police vehicle. He acted uncooperatively and banged his head on the counter and wall of the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

An officer was dispatched to Russell House after reports of a homeless person sleeping inside the building Feb. 4. The reporting party led the officer to the fourth floor stairwell where a homeless man had been sleeping. After the officer asked him what he was doing, the man got up and ran out. The officer searched the Russell House and found a person matching the description on the second floor. After the officer ran his ID, he found the man had also trespassed last July. The man was placed under arrest for trespassing and brought to the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

On Jan. 31, a woman reported that after she applied for a job with PeaceLand Farms through USC’s JobMate, she was told she had gotten the job, however, the woman who hired her communicated strictly through text messages. The woman then received a check in the mail for $3,800 and deposited it in her account at Wells Fargo. The employer contacted her the next day instructing her to remove $1,400 from her account and deposit it at Bank of America under the same Adela Ramos. After becoming suspicious, the female reported the activities to law enforcement.

Crime Blotter does not include every incident from the last week, and incidents are presumed innocent until proven guilty. Information could change as investigations continue.

Self-expression in broadcasting requires confidence, creativity, and a passion for sharing what you love. Our DJs are committed to providing a polished, educational experience for our listeners, while building a supportive community in the local music scene. Delivering up-to-date, quality content is a responsibility, but it’s incredibly rewarding.

Nothing feels quite like receiving an enthusiastic call from a listener after you’ve played a great set of music. Nothing feels quite like receiving an enthusiastic call from a listener after you’ve played a great set of music.

— Mason Youngblood, Music Director, WUSC FM

Are always attentive, respectful, and interested,” Harvin said.

And it need not be a creative piece — McWaters

Their biggest USC-supported event is the

Check out

The Newsroom

We’ll be there!

dailygamecock.com/blog/newsroom

NOT EVERYONE’S A COMMUNICATOR

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We’ll be there!

dailygamecock.com/blog/newsroom

Saturday February 14th

10+ Bands!

Costumes encouraged!

For more info:

mardigrascolumbia.com

To redeem this weeks deal simply cut out the coupon or download our app, click on Deal of the Week and show at checkout.

Student Media

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Learn how to join today: sa.sc.edu/studentmedia

The Newsroom

MARDI GRAS AUCKLAND

Party Animals

Ganbymagazine.com

For more info:

mardigrascolumbia.com

Student & Faculty Special

Free 3-Piece Tenders, Sandwich or Salad

Come to the party and enjoy a free 3-piece tender, sandwich or salad! The offer is good at participating locations for one month only. Expires 2/28/15. Not valid with any other offers or promotions.
The “Breaking Bad” spinoff “Better Call Saul” details the origin story of slimy lawyer Saul Goodman, starting with his challenges as down-on-his-luck lawyer Jimmy McGill.

As we all saw the last season of “Breaking Bad,” we watched as Walter White destroyed his own life. And that is indeed what he ended up doing. “Better Call Saul,” the prequel to “Breaking Bad,” premiered the first episode, “Uno,” of its two-part premiere on Sunday, Feb. 8 and its second episode, “Mijo,” the following night.

The highly anticipated spin-off series started off in black and white with the same reversed chronological appeal that sucked us all into “Breaking Bad.” A glimpse of Saul’s post-“Breaking Bad” life can be seen as his mustached disguise character stands behind the counter at Cinnabon in Omaha, Nebraska, and then later drinking wine in his home while watching old commercials of his shattered law firm in New Mexico.

The show then flashes back to 2002, where Saul, using his last name Ehrmantraut, the hit man Saul and Walter call “Mijo,” can briefly be seen working the toll booth in a parking lot at 7-Eleven. Later on “Daily Show,” the crazy drug dealer whom Jesse Pinkman gets his meth from before he and Tuco go into business together, is featured. “Better Call Saul” is the perfect second go at a "SEE SBPA/PAGES"
show like “Breaking Bad.”

Directors Vince Gilligan and Peter Gould found an interesting and unexpected way to bring back the “Breaking Bad” legacy after more than a year has passed.

They still portray that pathetic, desperate and moody feel of the characters in which so many of the viewers found to be so appealing in “Breaking Bad.”

By bringing back the story line and digging into the background of other characters, a whole new door has been opened that will answer questions that arose from “Breaking Bad.”

Viewers can look forward to an intense show filled with sketchy situations, old and new characters and an unforeseen plot twist.

Get ready to see how Jimmy McGill came to be Saul Goodman, the fast-talking, sleazy, immoral man that everyone grew to love in “Breaking Bad” and that everyone will grow to love even more in “Better Call Saul.”

Interviewers will be on campus at the University of South Carolina on Wednesday, February 11th in the Russell House Student Union, from 10:00 am to 3:00pm.

• Hiring done on a rolling basis — APPLY NOW!
• Room and board plus travel allowance included
• Email access
• All facilities open for staff use
• 7-day staff orientation
• Summer internship and college credits

I've got sunshine on a cloudy day,
When it cold outside,
I've got the forecast of the day

Get your daily news
Check shuttle routes
Check the weather
Get answers to puzzles
Check the Crime Blotter
And more!

Stewart recently wrote and directed “Rosewater,” a film about Iranian-Canadian journalist Maziar Bahari’s imprisonment by the Iranian government. Its 2014 release was Stewart's directorial debut.

After the news broke, Comedy Central sent out an official statement.

“Young, funny, quick-witted, full of ideas, and always on the lookout for a new way to make people laugh, Stewart has been a guiding force in “The Daily Show” for over a decade.”

Stewart’s “Rosewater” has been praised for its witty and insightful commentary on news and politics.

This summer, Stewart's “Rosewater” will be going on tour, allowing fans to get a closer look at the film and the issues it addresses.

“Through his unique voice and vision, The Daily Show has become a cultural touchstone for millions of fans and an unparalleled platform for political comedy that will endure for years to come.”

While “Breaking Bad” focused on the criminal undercover of meth, “Better Call Saul” deals with the underbelly of the law.

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While “Breaking Bad” focused on the criminal undercover of meth, “Better Call Saul” deals with the underbelly of the law.
The nature of USC's Student Government was in the crosshairs in Monday night's executive candidates debate. Multiple candidates questioned the responsiveness, outreach and ideas of our leaders. Pronouncements about low election turnout, a stagnant senate and lack of feedback from students pointed a picture of existential crisis.

I don't think the day is falling just yet, but the candidates are correct that SG must expand its involvement on campus.

The role of SG is to ostensibly represent the student body as a whole. It would go against every student to know every topic discussed by the senate or every initiative being pushed by the executive officers. In reality, however, students only care about what directly affects them.

That's why SG wants to fulfill its role as leader of the student body, it must put more emphasis on student organizations. Student organizations are where students invested in the university's success come together to contribute to campus in a meaningful way.

These are the students who should have the most say in where the money goes and what the priorities are. That's not to say the whole student body should have input, but controlling the billions of 25,000 underpinning students into policy is all but impossible.

A bigger focus should be on groups, whether it's Greek Life, professional organizations, club sports or any of the other myriad collections of students. That's where the energy and passion of the student body lies and where student money is best spent.

Already, one of the most controversially given to SG is to allocate the student activity fees. A lot of money goes to student organizations, so better communication of interest is forged into a better relationship.

There have been efforts at greater collaboration with student organizations in the past. However, right now organizations must navigate a maze of bureaucracy to have a voice in Student Government.

Rather than just have senators grouped by academics and the executive officers work on campus-wide initiatives, there should be a committee or cabinet member dedicated to outreach to organizations.

This also cuts both ways — organizations must see Student Government as more than a piggy bank. These organizations represent the interests of students and should advocate for their interests, not just be a source of interest to finance their group.

Even campus-wide changes affect organizations in different ways. It involves input from as many campus stakeholders as possible. Leadership on our campus must come together, not spread apart with different priorities.

For better or for worse, our student body leaders must give student organizations and their leaders a better seat at the table. Then maybe more people will care about SG and the existential crisis will pass.

HANNAH JEFFREY
Editor-in-Chief
SAMANTHA LOCKWOOD
Managing Editor
EMILY PRESTON
Assistant Editor
BRIAN WILLIAMS
Assistant Opinion Editor

Student Government exists primarily to give the student body some control over what areas of student life should receive funding and which should not.

The existing structure that holds the core of SG together is a functional concept. Senators are elected as representatives of their particular college and decide on what initiatives or student organization programs deserve a portion of a huge Student Activities fund.

Existing programs like Carolina Closet and Carolina Cab are useful and thoughtful programs, conceived by students, put into action by students and used by students.

It should be said that SG takes on worthy and needed things, like trying to erect a statue of our beloved Cocky, lest we forget what our own mascot looks like.

But, all in all, SG works. It might not work as well as it could, but the tools are there to get the job done.

So, if it does its job, why does the student body patently refuse to care about virtually everything SG does? To put it another, more specific way: on a campus with 10,000-some-odd students, why is the prospect of getting poling for the SG Executive candidates something to hope for?

Because, put simply, it's day-to-day purpose is incomprehensible.

Petty arguments about how SG runs itself up an embankment amount of time and would prompt any curious student pecking into the Senate chambers to swipe readily at the fear of dipping into the SG coffers.

SG members themselves lament their lack of communication with the student body year after year. Every time Student Body elections come around, one can be quite sure that each candidate is going to promise to make SG meaningful to the student body.

At least in my experience, those promises generally come to nothing and are given half-seriously at the best of times. Either that, or the job of connecting the students to SG is simply impossible.

None of this invalidates my original point that SG performs its particular function.

We do useful things every once in a while and keeps student organizations funded so they can put on cool events. This is their job, and, apparently, they can do it without a majority of the campus either knowing or caring that they exist.

Whether this is a drawback or something good is up for debate. It would be nice if spots for student senate were competitive. But there is something relieving about the way in which the only people there are the people who want to be there.

The existence of those running for SG who genuinely wish to serve the student body is the reason why SG, in the end, fulfills its purpose no matter how many people know it.

SAVANNA ROBBINS
Sports Editor

Let us all laugh at the slow jams Williams did on The Tonight Show, but now that Williams finds himself in a very different jam, we take it seriously.

Brian Williams’ suspension justified

The NBC Nightly News anchor was one of the brightest stars in journalism and is now a persona non grata in our field. As reporters and journalists, we try to uphold the ethical standards of the profession which includes serving for the truth. Thus, Williams’ fall as a stark reminder of how important that goal is to reporters everywhere.

Despite his long and distinguished career, Williams apparently felt he could play fast and loose with the truth when he wasn’t behind the anchor desk. As people, we are all guilty of embellishing stories to our friends from time to time, but as a reporter your audience should never be left in doubt whether his accounts of events are accurate or not.

Especially disconcerting is Williams’ use of war as a late-night couch topic. War reporting is one of the most dangerous and important roles the media plays, but to stretch the truth about combat demeans the heroism of soldiers who are really under fire.

Williams’ fall from grace plays into a common criticism of the media — that we make ourselves the audience instead of reporting what we know.

Our standards must include their full name and applicable job title. Letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words.

Letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words. Students must include their full name, major and year. Faculty and staff must include their full name, position and department. Community members must include their full name and, if applicable, job title. Verifiable statements of fact must include at least one source. If we cannot verify a fact, your letter will not be published unless the writer implements necessary changes or provides verifiable sources for any facts in question. Letters are edited for clarity, style and grammar.

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Aries
Costs may be higher than expected. Home for a bargain. Recent monetary gyrations give way to a surge in communication, now that Mercury’s direct influence can be felt. Values shift. Deliver a message of love today. Artistic impressions remain a role play. Balance work with fun. Play with the big kids. You’re irresistible, and partners buzz. Salary taxes are at hand now, with savings growth possibilities under substantial change.

Taurus
It’s easy to make friends. Artistic impressions remain a role play. Balance work with fun. Play with the big kids. You’re irresistible, and partners buzz. Salary taxes are at hand now, with savings growth possibilities under substantial change.

Gemini
Creative folks take a leap forward. A legal or partnership agreement comes together. Re-affirm a commitment. Opponents plan can advance quickly. Support your beauty and deficiencies.

Cancer
Launch new projects now that Mercury’s direct influence can be felt. You can see clearly the future you want to create. Study. Solidify the steps to take. Try to reach your goal. Work faster for higher income.

Leo
Communication with your partner reveals new possibilities at home. Resolve a breakdown. It could get intense, and lovely. Don’t spend beyond your budget or gamble, though. Creativity infuses the idea.

Virgo
Cash flows in a more positive direction now, although a potential setback looms ahead. Look farther away for your answers. Creative solutions evolve. It’s easier to reach consensus and compromise.

Libra
The game is getting fun today, and you know it! Setbacks. It’s easier to get your message out and advance to the next level now that Mercury direct. Your exceptionally persuasive now.

Scorpio
Takes extra time for yourself today. Travel and transport flow with renewed ease, but so does traffic flow. A new style or look suits you. Indulge in a little personal expression. A bubble bath by candlelight soothes.

Sagittarius
Rest and think things through. Walls come down. All is not as it appears to be. Indulge in your daydreams. Long-distance connections come together. Consider, and for what you want.

Capricorn

Pisces
Travel plans advance, despite an obstacle. A test requires your full attention. Proceed with caution. A rise in income is possible. It’s easier to ask for money. Collaboration is a good idea.

PHD • JORGE CHAM
Sudoku
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
4 5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 2
7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6
5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4
8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
LeveL 1-4
How to Play
Graids 1-9 to each row, column and 3-by-3 grid (also called “boxes”) so that each digit appears exactly 1X to 9.

For solutions to today’s puzzle, go to everydaygamecock.com or download our app!
South Carolina's softball team will host Central Florida in its home opener Wednesday afternoon. The Gamecocks opened their season strong this past weekend at the Puerto Classic, taking away four wins in five games thanks to many dominating performances.

Friday afternoon, the team opened its season against Longwood and defeated them 3-1. Saturday, the Gamecocks faced Delaware State and crushed them 17-0, then beat ECU in an impressive 11-2 win. The Gamecocks faced Delaware State and crushed them 17-0, then beat ECU in an impressive 11-2 win. South Carolina overpowered Longwood again Sunday for the game. "We're definitely ready for Wednesday," senior pitcher Julie Sarratt said. "Coming out of ECU, we won four big games, so we're just going to carry it through working hard in practice and getting ready for the game."

The team was successful the first four games, scoring 41 runs total, but they were trolled by the last game. They only allowed the Piratas to score once, but once was enough. Overall, they put in a solid performance, which gave a good impression of how ready they are for the rest of their season.

"I think our goal is to build every game," head coach Beverly Smith said. "I think we took a lot of confidence from the things we did well this weekend and are looking to build on them."

Coming back from the tournament, the Gamecocks fixed what they needed to be ready for their first home game. After learning what they did wrong and fixing those mistakes, they feel more than ready to be back on their home field.

With UCF coming to their home turf, South Carolina is excited to have their fans come out. They're hoping to build more of a fan base this season to show their fellow Gamecocks what they have. "It's our first home game and we just had a great weekend," sophomore first baseman Kaylee Bonner said. "We love playing at home, and we're ready to show our fans and everyone what we have."

Sophomore pitcher Nickie Blue (center) has won two games this season, while compiling a 0.41 ERA this season. Blue has 17 strikeouts over 17 innings so far this season.

"We're definitely ready for Wednesday," junior pitcher Julie Sarratt said. "Coming out of ECU, we won four big games, so we're just going to carry it through working hard in practice and getting ready for the game."

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Sophomore guard Sindarius Thornwell was head coach Frank Martin's biggest catch in his first two classes.

"Sophomore in leading the team. Now that Thornwell has come out of high school, and are looking to build on them."

"I think everyone just worked to improve their game individually at first," Smith said. "Now that we've been back, we've been putting all that individual hard work together and everything we've been stressing now is team. I think the girls have really bought into our team atmosphere, and we're looking to attack with that."

Being prepared as a team is important for the Gamecocks to have a great season. Coming together, playing as one and knowing all of their roles will help the team tremendously. "The team, we're ready to go," Sarratt said. "We're banding together and we're working for each other."

After playing five more games, the Gamecocks want to play on the field they've put so much work into. "We're all ready," Sarratt said. "We've been working really hard since we came back in January, and we're ready to put it on the field and just perform."