**Weather**

Friday

- 32°F to 5°F
- Snow

Saturday

- 2°F to 4°F
- Snow

**Inside**

Ladies fall to Bulldogs

After leading for the bulk of the first half, the win was just out of reach for the women's basketball team who lost 55-53 in last night's matchup. See page 15

**SG shapes campus community**

**Ross emphasizes campaigns’ importance**

**Date Auction**

The Preston Residential College sponsored a date auction in honor of Valentine’s Day. All money raised will be donated for Haiti Relief.

**Crime ranks nationally**

Part of USC's campus recently ranked 14th on a list of 15 college areas with the highest property crimes in the nation. The reported neighborhood includes the area near Whaley and Assembly streets.

**Tips for driving safely on icy roads:**

- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.

**Winter weather**

Forecast for Columbia predicts weekend snow

Jonathan Battaglia

It likely won’t be comparable to the winter walkup residents of the mid-Atlantic and northeast saw earlier this week, but Columbia could see some frozen precipitation of its own this evening.

The National Weather Service is forecasting a mix of rain and snow starting after 5 p.m., changing to all snow before the event ends around 1 a.m. Saturday morning. Total accumulations are expected to be around an inch.

Higher accumulations are forecast for areas south and east of Columbia. A winter storm watch is in effect for the Columbia area and includes the city of Charleston as well as Orangeburg, Aiken and Barnwell counties where the storm could bring 1 to 3 inches of snow.

On Thursday afternoon, the storm had already dumped over 6 inches of snow in northern Texas, with up to a foot possible by Friday morning. Along the I-20 corridor in Alabama and Mississippi, accumulations of 3 to 5 inches of snow are expected.

Randy Martin, Director of Homeland Security for South Carolina, said Columbia has plows and salt trucks available in case road conditions worsen Friday night.

"Everything is set in place and ready to go in case we do get snow," Martin said. "We are prepared for the storm.”

Columbia’s largest snowfall on record came on Feb. 9 and 10, 1973, when 15.3 inches of snow blanketed the USC part of the city, according to the South Carolina State Climatology Office.

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**Crime**

Columbia area listed in the report is 394 property crimes per 1000 residents. However, USC Police Department Director Ernest Ellis points out that the area in the study only includes half of the USC campus.

"It starts up here along Pickens and really we only have a couple of dormitories in that area. The vast majority of that area is off-campus housing. That’s largely the city of Columbia’s area,” Ellis said.

The neighborhood includes Bates West and Bates dormitories as well as Olympia and Granby Mills apartments and the entire Olympia area up until Williams-Brice Stadium.

"[The article] leads you to believe that we are the 14th worst in the country for crimes and that’s absolutely not true if you look at the overall crime rates for the area," Ellis said.

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Students, faculty participate in Preston College’s annual fundraising auction

Derek Legette

One by one, the students walked up to the heart — decorated stage for the sale. An introduction was given of each student. Within seconds, bids for a date were being yelled out of the audience, and by the end of the night, the final proceeds were over $1,000. And the money all went to Haiti.

“This is called prostitution but rather an auction was given to Dance Marathon,” said Caroline DeHaven, a second-year student. “It’s a good way for people to cut loose and have fun for Valentine’s Day, even if they don’t have a significant other,” said Matt Judge, a first-year economics student. “It’s even better since it goes towards Haiti.” Sterneman was one of the 10 people being auctioned off. Five were men and five were women.

Hal French, a professor in the college, provided the introduction and Joe Mascarella, third-year criminology and criminal justice student, was the auctioneer of the dates. With his witty sense of humor, French kept the crowd chuckling with his introductions. “The kids were all pretty good,” he said.

Most in the audience laughed the entire night. Some of the dates even placed bids on each other. Pavel Glah, a fourth-year accounting and finance student, emceed the crowd with his spontaneous bids. “It was an amazing night of crazy craziness,” said Glah.

Every date earned at least $50, but most earned more. The top two dates were Anna Hudson and Steven Zomoros, who accumulated $140 and $141 respectively. The winners of the bids each received a rose and a date with the intended person.

After the ten were auctioned off, the night didn’t end. Random people were spotted on stage for bidding. Even Mascarella placed himself for auction. “It’s a wonderful event and a great cause,” he said.

Students bid to win dates with 10 students as part of Preston College’s annual date auction. Funds raised at the event usually go to fund Dance Marathon. But money raised this year will support the relief effort in Haiti.

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Nautical club sets sail at USC this semester

Informal sailing course peaks student interest, inspires formation of new group

Cruising on the waters will be a new addition to the number of USC activities students can sign up on campus. The Carolina Sailing Club was officially created this week.

“The motivation for starting the club simply came from the desire of students to continue sailing,” said Jay Lucas, commodore, or president, of the group. After an informal sailing class in recent years, more students expressed interest in taking part and advancing to the next level, Lucas said.

“After becoming hooked on sailing it was difficult for many of us to just write it off and walk away,” he said. “The sailing club was born.”

All club expenses will be covered by the $45 dues plus club fundraising. Typical expenses will include gas money, upkeep costs for any equipment they may acquire and protective clothing for members. Clothing will include gloves and gear designed for foul weather.

The club’s leadership positions include the president, which is referred to as “Commodore,” vice president or “Vice Commodore,” secretary, treasurer, equipment manager and media editor. The officers will have the responsibility of coordinating club activities which mainly take place off-campus.

“We’re permitting us to get on the water at least twice a month and even find partners or races for students in one of Lake Murray’s many regattas,” Lucas said.

Most of the club’s events will be at Lake Murray until they receive further outside opportunities.

“Sailing is a very technical sport that takes years to become competitive at so we try to coordinate with the Columbia Sailing Club to get students more experience time,” Lucas said. Lucas said that he tries to arrange with the Columbia Sailing Club in order to get the students more time on the water. Those interested can join the club’s Facebook page or contact them to give students more information.

Comments on this story?

E-mail sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The 10 U.S. missionaries facing trial for trying to take a herd of children out of Haiti should be released on bail while an investigation continues, a Haitian judge said Thursday, giving the Americans their best news since their arrests nearly two weeks ago.

Judge Bernard Saint-Vil has the final word on whether to free the missionaries, those trying to protect generally the opportunity to raise objections. He said those trying to protect generally the opportunity to raise objections. He said the last of a group of parents who said they willingly gave their children to the Baptist missionaries, believing the Americans would educate and care for them.

“I have granted the bail,” he said Thursday, giving the Americans their best news since their arrests nearly two weeks ago.

After listening to the families, I see the last of a group of parents who said they willingly gave their children to the Baptist missionaries, believing the Americans would educate and care for them.

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WASHINGTON — The mayor of the nation’s capital and other politicians are feeling the heat for not moving faster to clear the streets of snow after the historic blizzard that slammed the East Coast.

“Right now it’s a huge mess. We still can’t get out,” said Carolyn Ward, who served on the neighborhood commission in Washington. “If they had a plan, it was never executed.”

In Washington, which was blanketed with about 18 inches of snow over the weekend and 10 more on Tuesday and Wednesday, residents complained that snow removal by Mayor Adrian Fenty’s administration seemed arbitrary, with some streets plowed minutes times, others not at all. At one point, 25 percent of the city’s snowplows were out of commission, having broken down on the hardest day of a prolonged winter.

Police had heard similar complaints about slow or haphazard snow removal in Pittsburgh, Baltimore and outlying parts of Maryland.

How quickly the elected officials get rid of the stuff will determine their political futures, a hard lesson learned over the years by some big-city mayors.

“Snow, politically, in Washington — in most places it’s a political weapon,” said former Washington Mayor Marion Barry, now a city councilman. He was heavily criticized in 1999 for his vacationing in California during the Super Bowl as snowstorms paralyzed his city for five days. “People are very emotional about snow.”

A Washington Examiner editorial Thursday declared, “Mayor Fenty fails the snow test,” noting that stores and other businesses that rely on private snow removal services cleared their property more quickly than the city did.

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Alex Stroman

He was once called “Alex the Boat” by Garnet and Black Magazine, but Alex Stroman is convinced he’s just an everyday Carolina student. He serves as SG Vice President, but he’s quick to note he’s not obsessed with the organization. He’s in a fraternity, but he’s quick to note he has friends outside the group. He once served as president of USC’s College Republicans, but he’s quick to point out flaws in the party.

What is one thing you must get accomplished as president?
The safe-ride taxi system. It’s the biggest part of my platform because it’s really needed. We need to fix a system where students can get to area attractions safely, and we need to make sure at the same time when we’re spending money we’re spending it wisely for off-campus and on-campus students. This has worked profitably at other places.

What are three things you must accomplish in one year?

- Parking: trying to turn Senate and Pendleton Streets in pay-hour garage. Problems around Russell House and near the Coliseum.
- We’ve opened up relations with two years with the city of Columbia. We met with Mayor Gómez and developed relations. I would like to redefine our campus, put Gamecocks on the streets. I’d like to make this place feel like campus. 
- Parking — trying to turn Senate and Pendleton Streets in pay-hour garage. Problems around Russell House and near the Coliseum.

What is your message to the students about why they should entrust you with the role of SG President?

At the end of the day, I’m a student just like they are. I feel like I deal with the same problems and I’ve got the record that shows my commitment to them and to this university.

How would you describe yourself?

“I’m a fairly simple person that gets enjoyment out of small, crazy things in life that don’t mean as much to some people. I feel like I’m consistent. I stay true to my word. At the end of the day, when someone walks away from me, I want them to feel like they can trust me.”

Justin Cromer

Last year, SG President Meredith Ross said Justin Cromer was the senator most likely to be found on “Come to the Wind.” His country drawl and love for country music help explain why. He’s served as Student Services Chairman of the senate, and he’s been responsible for much legislation in the organization.

What has been your best experience so far at Carolina as a person?

Singing in front of everyone at the Homecoming Showcase. I’ve been a singer all my life, but singing in front of thousands of members of the student body was a different experience.

What is your message to the students about why they should entrust you with the role of SG President?

“I’ve been a singer all my life, but singing in front of thousands of people at the Homecoming Showcase. It was the best year of my life.”

Ebbie Yazdani

Ebbie Yazdani gave his cell phone number out to over 1000 organization presidents last fall. As SG Treasurer, he said he wanted every organization on campus to know how to talk about funding with him. And while Yazdani knows every organization doesn’t get as much money as they’d like, he thinks his communication skills can make him a great student body president.

Facts:

- Chester, SC native
- Phi Kappa Sigma member
- Singer in multiple groups, including Sound Check
- Met both President Clinton and President Bush in church

Drew Kirchofer

Drew Kirchofer’s best shot here before. Last year, he ran for SG President. In the general election, he received the most votes. Kirchofer became president, though, and in the run-off election with Meredith Ross, Kirchofer came up short. This year, he’s hoping to change his luck and take over.

Facts:

- He’s from Dallas, Texas.
- Member of Sigma Chi Fraternity
- Has a sister living in Cameroon studying French

What is your message to the students about why they should entrust you with the role of SG President?

“Why are you the best candidate?”

- I have the combination of experience as an executive office, also the experience of working with student organizations one-on-one. It’s been good to be both a facilitator and work with student organizations.
- Some of the stuff we’ve spent on have been really good. We’ve done a sold job reaching out to students through the Multicultural Forum, Little Buyers and more. We’ve been doing this stuff and talking to students. That doesn’t cost any money. Little things like that are going to help. Locking ourselves as an advocacy group we can spend our money better and a lot of the bickering gets pushed to the side.

What can we do better financially?

One — Bringing the Carolina Card off campus. In the past, through VIP. It’s hard to get to Pendleton Garage. Problems around Russell House and near the Coliseum.
- We’ve opened up relations with two years with the city of Columbia. We met with Mayor Gómez and developed relations. I would like to redefine our campus, put Gamecocks on the streets. I’d like to make this place feel like campus.
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Why are you the best candidate?

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How would you describe yourself?

“I’m a fairly simple person that gets enjoyment out of small, crazy things in life that don’t mean as much to some people. I feel like I’m consistent. I stay true to my word. At the end of the day, when someone walks away from me, I want them to feel like they can trust me.”
Patrick Olson is proud of the fact he is not involved in SG. He is the only candidate running for both the top two offices in the organization that doesn’t have a direct link to USC, and he stresses this hasn’t stopped him from being passionate and involved in student life.

Facts:
- University ambassador
- Orientation leader
- From Massachusetts

What are USC’s best qualities?
- Its willingness to work with students. It’s a cooperation between faculty and staff. One cannot succeed without the other. Every person I’ve met with welcomed me with open arms. There’s a big push to help students. It knows where its weaknesses are and is always willing to improve.

What are three things you have to accomplish without feeling like a failure?
- My whole platform consists of stuff I can accomplish at least start for another president to finish. I’d like a big push for course syllabi on time for classes to start. I’d like to put a big push on grade distribution and course evaluation. I’d like to make it electronic and improve dinner situation — the hours, the service and the quality of food.

What brought you to South Carolina from Massachusetts?
- You’d be surprised how often I get that question. I hear it almost every single day. I don’t have a set answer why I came here. A friend recommended this school here, I took the tour and felt connected immediately. This is the place for me. I love the big school, the big opportunities, the big sports, the advisers, the Horseshoe. I love the Carolina community. The St. Hoo is right there. You’re in the center of a growing state.

Steve Vereen loves being a “South Carolina guy.” He enjoys the outdoors and being Southern. He calls the Carolina community a great thing and spends most of his time talking to others praising the University’s positively. The second-year senator wants to take over as SG Vice President after one year as a senator in the business school.

Facts:
- From Myrtle Beach
- Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity
- Attended every home football game in the last 10 years

What is SG not doing well?
- Our senators aren’t spending a lot of time talking to their particular schools. We aren’t getting out and listening to the students’ voices. We’re doing things necessary for the organization to function — but not doing stuff students are aiming to attain.

What makes you more qualified?
- My charisma. I can go out and get things done. The more you know about someone, the better you can serve them. The students of this student body, I can learn so much from them. My charisma can carry over to them.

Three things we can tackle:
- Parking system. We need a tiered parking plan. Incoming freshmen might not think it that much, but it’s been successful at the College of Charleston and rewards people who have been here longer.
- Healthy Carolina. Student Government has a huge power to make sure the student body is aware of health promtions, flu vaccinations and those sorts of things.

We need to start some kinds of initiatives for students that are driven and right-minded for students to create green energy. The potential that our students hold here to make it even better is phenomenal.

Kate Allison

I just wanted to ask Kate how London’s going.

How is London?
- London is amazing. I’m so thankful for the experience. I’m not able to really enjoy it during elections and I don’t really sleep. But I’m trying to balance two of my passions at once. I really tried hard to come over here and I had some little break from the constant work and stress I put into it at school, but it wasn’t till I got here did I really think much about it. Even if it means not enjoying London for a little bit, so be it. I really just care about the future of SG and our school so much.

What needs work in SG and how can you fix it?
- Communication definitely needs work. Our leaders need to not only have an open door policy but go out and talk to your constituents. Leaders within SG need to meet with each other more. As president, I’d like some of my platforms to be the open door policy, because as a chair I know that’s what all the chair’s waited for the VP to be there for them and help them in their initiatives.

What do you have no other candidate passed?
- I believe I’m a huge people person. I not only care about the working relationship I have with those I work with and represent, I care about the personal relationship I have with the students. They know me and I don’t afraid to fight for what I believe in. I believe I can offer different and fresh positions. One that not only say’s effective, but also that, but what encourages students of SG to work together and help each other out with initiatives. I think the true thing that sets me apart is how much I actually care about the potential we have to change things and I have such a great passion and love it.

What could leaders have done more?
- They could have done more to involve the student body. The one thing I hear over and over is bringing down textbook prices. As a representative, we can’t bring down prices. They could haggle with the bookstore to bring down rental prices. They could do more to get out information to the student body to buy their books from another source. There’s a movement of not launching big bookstore prices. I don’t mean to bash my competition, but they could do a lot more.

Buddy Baliew

Buddy Baliew hasn’t been in SG for the past year, but he’s proud of his former record. Baliew served as Student Services Chairperson for the 2008-2009 academic year and worked to bring Chai-Fili-a to campus, only for them to back out “at the last minute,” he says. Now he’s running for SG Vice President because he thinks the current leadership isn’t doing enough for students.

Facts:
- From Gaston, S.C.
- 2009 Resident Mentor of the Year
- Frequent concertgoer

What are two things you’d like to see accomplished as VP?
- I’d love to see the senate work more efficiently for students. It’s time for the college to complete the construction of the student union. It’s also time to complete the last SG drama. Finally, I’m ready to see a Center for Advisement. It’s time students feel confident when they leave their advisement sessions. It’s time for full-time faculty devoted to advisement and not teaching classes and researching for their next book. It would take pressure off instructors and give students more peace of mind.

What do you want students to know about you?
- I want students to know that I honestly do care. I hear the complaints that they have — “SG doesn’t matter because it doesn’t do anything” or “who cares about Student Government.” I want students to believe in SG again — to believe that the students that are willing to work on their behalf. It’s time students feel that SG can and will work for them and not run right over all the things they think need to be done.

Best experience as a Gamecock?
- My favorite experience as a Gamecock would have to be beating the top-ranked Kentucky Wildcats in basketball a few weeks ago. The win was awesome, but being able to sing the alma matter while standing on the court with all the other students who went down there was surreal. Nothing beats being a Gamecock. And that right, more than ever in my years here, it felt so great.

Taylor Cain

She has been a VG since last year to Alex Swanman and vowed she never run again. But after reconsideration, Taylor Cain, the current Student Government Finance and Administrative vice president, Cain, whose typical attire is jeans and a T-shirt, speaks candidly on her campaign. Cain is Running Mover of the Year for USC, currently serves as an advisor to Freshman Council and works with advisor of the University’s Ill program. Now, she wants to run the student senate as SG Vice President.

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Peter Schaeffing isn’t in a tough race for SG Treasurer. In fact, he isn’t even in a race at all. For the second year in a row, the treasurer position within SG is unoccupied, but Schaeffing was not to worry about the lack of competition. He thinks he’s the perfect man for the job.

Facts:
- Columbus, Ohio
- Started Carolinians Combating Poverty
- Just completed a triathlon

What do you want to do as treasurer?
- Let’s make sure we’re spending our money efficiently and not wasting our money. Beyond that, I do want to do a lot with student organizations because I think whether or not you’re directly involved with one or not, they can impact your career in some way. I hope to be that leader.

What has been your best experience as a person here at Carolina?
- I have to start where it all began. Living in Macon my freshman year was such a big part of my experience. I got a lot of my best friends there.

What do you think people should trust you as treasurer?
- Pretty qualified based on my track here. I’m an economics major and have had a lot of success here as a student. I’ve got the leadership capability to stay focused and get things done. I don’t know the whole SG system yet, so I think that can be an advantage. I won’t be affected by that.
Viewpoints
"Staying True" renews Sanford's reputation

"I'm not trying to get even, really." Perhaps so, Jenny Sanford. But we at The Daily Gamecock are not trying to get paid. The swiftness with which "Staying True," Sanford's autobiography, was issued in the wake of the affair's revelation is astounding. Yes, it was in the works long before the affair broke, but the fact that it is out now is too timely for coincidence. Mark Sanford might as well have announced his new book to the national media today.

The most commercialized holiday this side of Christmas is Valentine's Day. The teenagers you make for a kiss with a flower or a cellular phone. The younger kids you make for a kiss with chocolate or candy. The adults you make for a kiss with a box of chocolates or a box of flowers. Valentine's Day is a commercial holiday that should be celebrated but not acknowledged in Valentine's Day. Giving your five-year-old sailor suit clothes, and nothing else, for Christmas when she expects toys of none other than characters adventurers read up to Hayes.

In this with this in mind — and the you 40s falls on Sunday — here's what I'd do. It's that time again love birds: Valentine's Day. The most commercialized holiday this side of Christmas. The teenagers you make for a kiss with a flower or a cellular phone. The younger kids you make for a kiss with chocolate or candy. The adults you make for a kiss with a box of chocolates or a box of flowers. Valentine's Day is a commercial holiday that should be celebrated but not acknowledged in Valentine's Day. Giving your five-year-old sailor suit clothes, and nothing else, for Christmas when she expects toys of none other than characters adventurers read up to Hayes.

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SEX etiquette

That’s right boys and girls Valentine’s Day is just around the corner — and it’s not just chocolate we’re thinking about. Here are some tips to a safe and seductive holiday.

Clothes.  
Borrowed clothes are not souvenirs.

Music.  
Use your resources wisely, turn up the volume.

Alcohol.  
Moderation is key.

Contraceptives.  
We’re trying to start passion not a plague, so wrap it up.

Movies.  
Don’t turn up the the heat til after the previews — let the anticipation build.

Phones.  
Professors don’t like to be interrupted, neither do we.

Playlists.  
Keep it classy not trashy, pumping Jersey fists is a no.

Toys.  
Play toys are permitted, only with consent.

Borrowed Clothes.  
Borrowed clothes are not souvenirs.

Two words: Trim it.

Some Daily Gamecock staffer tips

“Sometimes it’s fine to laugh during sex. When he takes his clothes off is not a good time.”

“Just because it’s in Cosmo doesn’t mean it’s a good idea.”

“There is no male G-spot, and it’s definitely not near his prostate.”

“Two words: Trim it.”

“Don’t do sexting.”
Hollywood classic stands the test of time

By Jenny Gilmour

Among their seeming endless capabilities as markers of our culture, films — more specifically film genres — seem to inspire plenty of marathons at certain times of the year. Halloween is prone to screening blocks of terrifying classics, while Christmas lends itself to a stable of heartwarming and nostalgic looks at family spirit. Valentine’s Day is quick to offer new entries each year. This work marks the occasion in the style powers that he is pushing the aptly named “Valentine’s Day” as a star-studded extravaganza that tries to appeal to literally every demographic.

While all couples clamor for a date movie, that perfect two hours of escapist, heartwarming entertainment replete with the right balance of laughs and love, those looking for something different should dust off the DVD of one of Hollywood’s perennial classics. 

Admirers often discuss 1942’s “Casablanca” with a glaze over sense of nostalgia. Its complex and honest look at the human spirit, finding logic through love while facing the realities of historical ramification, is worth taking a peek inside. “Casablanca” works, and it’s worth remaining on the list of annually screened love stories.

Foremost, “Casablanca” was never supposed to be a success. It was a film like a dozen other films, an assignment handed to a director who built his reputation as a filmmaker but at a time of year when we’re anxious to define how we perceive these emotions, style, and artistry, which is easy to forget from day-to-day.

For the girls:

Dress appropriately: When going out to a nice dinner for Valentine’s Day, don’t have to spend lots of money, but look like you have. So if it’s true that movies can provide us with emotional experiences and the chance to define how we perceive these emotions, “Casablanca” created a space to imagine the story of two individuals to the grand scheme of historical ramifications. So it’s true that movies can provide us with emotional experiences and the chance to define how we perceive these emotions, “Casablanca” created a space to imagine the story of two individuals to the grand scheme of historical ramifications.

For the guys,

Fashion book coming out in the fall.

ากะร่าร์ ภูตภัก totaled in the fall.

DIY professional Erica Domesek shares ways to ‘upcycle’ everyday bras into key fashion pieces.

Lisa Gutierrez

Whether you’re in a long-term relationship or in the stages of a new romance, Valentine’s Day is the perfect time to make sure your sweetheart knows that they’re lucky to be with you. While Valentine should be attracted to you every day, Sunday is an excuse to really knock their socks off. Here are a few special somethings to make Valentine’s Day something to remember.

Lingerie that’s far from dull

DIY professional Erica Domesek shares ways to ‘upcycle’ everyday bras into key fashion pieces.

With love.

Erica Domesek

DIY professional Erica Domesek shares ways to ‘upcycle’ everyday bras into key fashion pieces.
Inside the Box

By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

Inside the Box Valentines

Have you ever been to the store to buy a gift for someone and struggled to decide what to get? Have you ever walked out of the store feeling like you didn’t find the right thing? Have you ever walked up to the counter and realized that you didn’t have enough money for the item you wanted? Have you ever walked into the store and realized that you didn’t know what you wanted? Have you ever walked out of the store and realized that you didn’t know what you were going to buy?

The reason why you have these feelings is because you have not been thinking about the person you are buying for. You have not been thinking about what they like. You have not been thinking about what they need. You have not been thinking about what they want. You have not been thinking about what they are interested in. You have not been thinking about what they will appreciate.

The reason why you have these feelings is because you have not been thinking about what you want. You have not been thinking about what you need. You have not been thinking about what you want. You have not been thinking about what you are interested in. You have not been thinking about what you will appreciate.

You have to think about what you want. You have to think about what you need. You have to think about what you want. You have to think about what you are interested in. You have to think about what you will appreciate.

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James Krutsch
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

In and around sports – you always wonder what you haven't seen or heard. Something that rang true at Colonial Life Arena last night for the Lady Gamecocks 51-47 loss to the Lady Carolinas is one of those moments.

It was a mistake. It's not going to come down to that one play, but it was a crucial part of the game.

"It's not anything you're trying to think about," Coach Dawn Staley said. "It's just something that you don't want to do."

The lane violation was just one of many mistakes that the Gamecocks right up to the last play of the night when they lost to the superior Wolfpack team. USC was unable to take an inbounds pass in for a potential game-tying layup as time expired.

"Very difficult," USC coach Dawn Staley said. "Very difficult."

That legendary USC football commentator Bob Fulton was once quoted with the on-court action resembled — a fall or an injury, 40 minutes of play, with several scrums under the basket on rebounds, a few rough-and-tumble jam balls and several players Winning in pain throughout the game.

Nainima led the Gamecocks with 15 points and Stephens and White had 10 each.

On the ball for the bulk of the first half, USC (11-11, 6-6) went cold enough for Staley (6-7-5) to grab a lead 21-19 lead before recovering for a 25-23 halftime deficit.

The Bulldogs continued to play well coming out of the half, but USC rallied for a 36-31 advantage on a 9-0 run. Staley then took the lead down to a micron by outscoring them 46-46 with 14 seconds left.

USC still had some fight in them, a 5-0 run pulling them to within three, 34-31, with just under a minute left in the game before the Nainima brought them to the brink.

After Stephens' violation, USC was unable to get to the free throw line. Then came the lane violation and a personal foul on the one-one-one, the had the last chance to tie the game.

"We got a very good shot at the basket," Staley said. "It didn't come down to those points."

"But certainly [those plays] had an effect in the outcome of the game."}

One of the guys making plays has been junior forward Sam Muldrow. Over the last four games the Florida native is averaging a double-double with 12.1 points per game and 11.5 rebounds per game, giving Carolina a post-presence it's been searching for.

"Sam has been really good for a couple of weeks now," he said. "He's given us a lot of production."

The Gamecocks will be looking for another stellar performance from All-SEC guard Devan Downey. The senior is now averaging 10.1 points per game since the start of conference play and managed to score 24 against Florida despite playing with a rolled ankle. Putting up 13 in his last meeting with the Bulldogs, Downey will likely have the center of attention on Saturday.

"He's at his best when he's motivated," Staley said. "I'm going to be the player on the floor and prove to everybody on both ends, how good we are.""

"I've said it over and over before that what we've done is special in what makes all special players who they are. He can dominate a game and change it on both ends of the floor. He's at his best when he's doing that."

"Tipoff is at 4 p.m. in Athens, Ga."
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