The Daily Gamecock, Thursday, April 17, 2014

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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Wilson taking her talents to South Carolina

Heathwood Hall’s A’ja Wilson, the No. 1 women’s basketball recruit in the country, announced live on ESPNU Wednesday that she would play at South Carolina.

After months of speculation, it’s finally here — Carolina Production’s spring concert will be tonight at the Koger Center, and Andy Grammer and Ben Rector’s performance will be headlining with opener Ben Rector.

Heathwood Hall’s A’ja Wilson, the No. 1 women’s basketball recruit in the country, announced live on ESPNU Wednesday that she would play at South Carolina.

“I looked at her, she looked at me, she said, ‘The Lord has led me to South Carolina,’” Eva Wilson said.

The next day, A’ja would say it again, calling South Carolina coach Dawn Staley to tell her she’d made up her mind. The hushed tones of their conversation turned into screams from Staley and her staff. A’ja said the noise made her ears ring.

And at 3:30 in the afternoon, she said it one last time, live on national TV in the gym where she’d led Heathwood Hall Episcopal School to a state championship.

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Haley's approval rating rises in Winthrop Poll

Gov. Nikki Haley has gained the approval of nearly half of South Carolinians according to a poll released Wednesday. The State reported.

Just under half of 877 South Carolinians surveyed approve of Haley's job performance. Out of the registered voters surveyed, Haley's job approval rating was 39.6 percent.

This week's approval rating is Haley's highest in all of the Winthrop polls of the general population conducted since she took office in 2011. The margin of error for the most recent poll was 3.3 percentage points for the general population and 4.1 for registered voters.

—Hannah Jeffrey, News Editor

South Carolina gas prices rise across state

South Carolina gas prices have risen once again, but they are slightly cheaper than they were at Easter last year, according to The Associated Press.

According to AAA Carolinas, gas prices have increased 36 cents per gallon since Christmas, but prices are around 1 cent less than they were last Easter. The average price for a gallon of gas in South Carolina is now around $3.83. Gas prices increase each spring when there is a limit on supply, as refiners switch their product to a less-polluting summer blend.

The cheapest gas in South Carolina is in Spartanburg, where it runs at around $3.38 per gallon. The highest average in the state comes from Myrtle Beach, where it's $3.44 per gallon.

—Hannah Jeffrey, News Editor

Peach farms suffer after late March freeze

Peach growers are saying a late March freeze caused major damage to peach farms around Aiken, which may make the fruit scarce until July, The Associated Press reported.

Peach farms in Aiken, Edgefield and Saluda counties were hit with the freeze when the peach trees were in or just past full blooms, according to The Aiken Standard.

J.W. “Sonny” Yonce, a peach grower in Johnston, said 40 percent of the crop on his 4,000 acres are early peaches that he expects to bounce back by July. But the freeze will cost Yonce’s business millions.

According to South Carolina Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture Martin Eubanks, peaches in the northern part of the state will not ripen until June, but peaches may be available in other parts of the state before then.

—Hannah Jeffrey, News Editor

“The staff also took home 12 first-place awards: Moore for news story; Moore and Colin Campbell for feature story; Hannah Jeffrey for arts and entertainment story; Aaron McDuffie for editorial writing; Evelyn Robinson for column writing; Kristen Muldrow for informational graphic; Paul Criziman, Renee Cooper and Danielle Barilla for multimedia story; Andrew Askins for photography, and Danny Garrison for use of Twitter. The Daily Gamecock was also awarded first-place honors for its Facebook page, website and special sections.

“I can’t wait to see where they take it from here,” Moore said.

—Hannah Jeffrey, News Editor

Daily Gamecock named state’s best paper

Hannah Jeffrey

The Daily Gamecock was named the best collegiate newspaper by the South Carolina Press Association for the sixth year in a row and took home 30 awards for its work in 2013.

“I think the awards are a testament to the quality of the journalism. The Daily Gamecock puts out every day,” Editor-in-Chief Thad Moore said.

“Our staff has put in a lot of long nights, and they’ve improved the overall quality of the newspaper.”

Moore was named the state’s journalist of the year, and the staff was awarded first place in general excellence, two of the press association’s top honors.

The staff also took home 12 first-place awards: Moore for news story; Moore and Colin Campbell for feature story; Hannah Jeffrey for arts and entertainment story; Aaron McDuffie for editorial writing; Evelyn Robinson for column writing; Kristen Muldrow for informational graphic; Paul Criziman, Renee Cooper and Danielle Barilla for multimedia story; Andrew Askins for photography, and Danny Garrison for use of Twitter. The Daily Gamecock was also awarded first-place honors for its Facebook page, website and special sections.

“I can’t wait to see where they take it from here,” Moore said.
The College of HRSM is offering summer institutes in each degree program as well as a variety of on-campus and online courses. study/summer/summer-institutes.

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**College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management**

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HRTM 280-JA0 Foundations of Tourism. CRN 54048
Session G: June 30-August 8
HRTM 280-J10 Foundations of Tourism. CRN 53996
HRTM 260-JA0 Hotel Management. CRN 54173
Session C: May 12-June 19
HRTM 110-J10 Introduction to the Hospitality Industry. CRN 50938
Session B: May 12-May 29

**Online**

Session E: M-F, June 2-June 26
HRTM 362 Wedding Planning and Management. CRN 51610
HRTM 364 Conference and Meeting Planning. CRN 51524, 10:05-11:35
HRTM 110-J10 Introduction to the Hospitality Industry. Restaurants. CRN 51610

**Traditional Columbia Campus Courses**

ITEC 428-J10 Sustainable Food Service Systems. CRN 54015
ITEC 362 Item 445, 10:05-11:35 (D, 5/12-7/31)
ITEC 537 Multi-Cultural Dimensions in the Hospitality Establishment. CRN 54072, 11:40-2:10

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President Harris Pastides, coach, tweeted “BOOM!!!!” at the time of her announcement, everything — including A’ja Wilson.   At the time of her signing with USC, Wilson had already been one for the record books.

If nothing else happened the rest of the year, it would have already been one for the team. If nothing else happened the rest of the year, it would have already been one for the record books.

“Winning the first SEC regular-season championship in the school’s history, taking a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament and dropping only five games overall, was already a historic year for the team. If nothing else happened the rest of the year, it would have already been one for the record books.”

Books more telepathic than magical

Books are magic. You’ve heard that before. Repeated, manlike, from sixth-grade English enthusiasts at book fairs and Burnout VHS about English at school; Books are magic. Books are magic. Books are magic. What do you mean when it means something to the people who read them?

So, the obvious: Books aren’t magic. In fact, they’re nothing supernatural about them. They’re just words on pages. They’re not sacred. They don’t transcend any of our laws.

(Although, to be fair, some works are so beautiful that it’s hard to imagine that the author could have created it. James Joyce or Don DeLillo, for example.)

But the more interesting reason why books aren’t magic is that the characters in them don’t seem real. The best realized characters seem so abstract, so disembodied from the world and the characters that they’re all run with money from the state, allocated to the schools and a state-funded college is doing alright.

So when the state complains about giving top priority to education, they should be willing to pay for the state-funded college is doing alright.

But these pick-ups could be classified as meals for college students who have been heavily involved in South Carolina politics.

Being an out-of-state student, I didn’t grow up in the state’s public school system. My dad taught at Laid’s Island Middle School in Beaufort for a year, and I thought I understood a bit about the system, but the state is filled with much more rural schools than Beaufort, and these schools are wallowing in disrepair and underfunding.

It’s easy to complain on our campus about the condition of buildings like the dilapidated Women’s Quadrangle dorms for women, but most of the buildings on campus don’t recommend not drinking from their plumbing. But when these stories are published, many people who have sewage seeping into their water and who are dying of frostbite in winter costs due to a lack of heat, it’s fair to say that they’re being unfair.

The differences between rural South Carolina schools and the USC college campus is obvious. But their similarities are that they’re both top priority to education, they both have sewage seeping into their water and who are dying of frostbite in winter costs due to a lack of heat, it’s fair to say that they’re being unfair.

For anyone who hasn’t seen it, “Corridor of Shame” is an hourlong documentary focusing on the conditions of rural schools in South Carolina. It was made in 2006 for Red Ferril, a public relations and advertising firm that has been heavily involved in South Carolina politics.

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Andy Grammer goes in-depth on his music

Pop-rock musician talks about his influences and inspirations

Erika Ryan
May 1, 2014

Andy Grammer was born in South Carolina and moved to New York when he was five years old. His first big break came when he was a big lug in high school. But then he really started liking guitar. I think I decided somewhere in college that that was really something I wanted to do. I just love songwriting. It’s my favorite. So it was somewhere in college, I was like, “Alright, this is gonna be super hard, but I’m gonna do that.”

DG: What was the defining moment for you with music? Was there any specific accomplishment that stood out over others?

AG: I think, for a lot of people, you say, like, “What was the moment?” When they first heard themselves on the radio and different things, but for me, it was when I had my first headlining tour and people actually came. That was amazing. Because I played out on the streets and I played a lot of different places, and it’s hard to get people to really care or come out to see you. So developing a fanbase, it was pretty amazing.

DG: You’re doing pretty well in the public eye, so what has it been like moving into the spotlight?

AG: It was awesome. It was like, it was super incredible to be on the radio, on TV videos, stuff like that. It was just unbelievable. I’ve been doing it for a really long time, so the fact that it happened, and I know it happens to not that many people, so I feel very lucky.

DG: I read about your influences, and it said they were a combination of guitar, piano and hip-hop musicians. What do you do in your music to combine all of those?

AG: I think I usually start with one of those elements, whether it’s drum loop or a piano line or some sort of guitar thing, and then I just get a blend of them until it feels right. Like, “Keep Your Head Up” is kind of a piano song with a dirty beat underneath it, and then it starts falling into place like I like it.

DG: What are a few of your favorite musicians?

AG: Right now, I’m really into Macklemore, huge into Coldplay, and I love Drake.

DG: What is some non-musical media that inspires your work?

AG: I love...I think it’s really cool. I just post a lot of things on Instagram. I love street art.

DG: What can we expect from your second album?

AG: A whole bunch of different things! It’s mostly done. And then we’re heading out on tour after that, we’re just gonna see where the rest of this year takes us.

DG: Do you have a favorite part about performing live?

AG: My favorite part about performing live is that usually what ends up happening is that about half of the people are into my stuff and know what I’m like and know the words and stuff, and then the other half have no idea. They just heard that same week was playing on the lawn. I like trying to win them over.

DG: What’s your favorite part about performing for students?

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DG: What are your future plans, for music or otherwise?

AG: Well, we just finished the second album, which is mostly done. And then we’re headed out on tour for the summer. It’s gonna be awesome. And then after that, we’ll just wanna go wherever the rest of this takes us.

“The Road to Livingston” — a documentary on the trials that Delia Perez Meyer went through for her brother’s own trial for a triple murder that put him on death row.

Andy Grammerwill be coming to perform at the Koger Center today, bringing his catchy musical talent to USC. Before his performance, he took the time to discuss his musical techniques, passions and Macklemore.

DG: Do you do what do you do for fun on tour?

AG: On tour, we play a lot of basketball, we play a lot of racquetball. We rarely get to go see a movie. Just love being with my best friends on the road.

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Indie Grits Festival offers feature films

Movie lineup ranges from religious apocalypse to redneck comic

Jonathan Witsell
MIX@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

The Indie Grits Film Festival ends Sunday with three blocks of the winning screenings at the Nickelodeon from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Earlier screenings are being held at multiple locations, including the Nickledeon (1607 Main St.) and Tapp’s Arts Center (1644 Main St.).

Here are the feature films screenings for the rest of the festival:

**“Liahona” — Thursday at 3 p.m. at the Nickelodeon**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and the Mormon faith are examined in this experimental documentary that showcases the history of the religion, including its largely hidden past of folk magic and the stakes the church has on culture in Utah today. Director Valerie Taylor sees her personal experience with the church to explore an often-forgotten misunderstood religion.

**“The Road to Livingston” — a documentary on the trials that Delia Perez Meyer went through for her brother’s own trial for a triple murder that put him on death row.**

**“The Road to Livingston” — Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at Tapp’s**

For years, Delia Perez Meyer has fought for her brother, who was convicted of triple murder in 1998 and remains on death row in Texas. This documentary shines a light to show that she has endured for 15 years not just for her brother but to enact change to the current death penalty laws.

**“As It Is In Heaven” — Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Nickelodeon**

Another religion-themed film, this narrative feature follows a man who must lead his sect through a heralded apocalypse after the death of its prophet.

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**“Last Stop, Flamingo” — Friday at 3 p.m. at the Nickelodeon**

The third film in Georg Koszulinski’s Florida trilogy examines the early history of the state, going all the way back to Ponce de León’s discovery of the state 500 years ago. It confronts how people and their quests have altered the state’s landscape.

**“Surviving Cliffside” — Friday at 5 p.m. at the Nickelodeon**

A family living in a trailer park in a town surrounded by guns and drugs help their daughter, who beat leukemia, to compete for Little Miss West Virginia.
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“Limo Ride” — Friday at 7 p.m. at Tapp’s

A dark docu-comedy tells the truth—is-stranger-than-fiction story of 19 friends who rented a limousine on New Year’s Eve, got kidnapped and wound up stripped and left for dead on a dirt road. The film is told through narration from the people who went through the ordeal and through reenactments.

“Lighter” — Saturday at 5:30 p.m. at the Nickelodeon

Redneck comedian Roman Clower (Matt Hagan) wants to become a serious actor in this dark comedy. He decides to come back to his childhood home in rural South Carolina to star in a community theatre production of Hamlet. He is forced to face his family and friends and the reality of his career prospects.

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“Lighter” portrays the efforts of a redneck comedian who tries to become a serious actor.

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**Aries**

Travel and adventure call to you. Keep the big picture in mind. Does this trip forward the dream? Set long-term goals. There's more work coming in. A mate has excellent advice. Invest in an experience that forwards the action for a proper finale.

**Taurus**

Get into the details today and tomorrow. Consider resources and supplies, logistics and team management, and finances. Wheeling and dealing could be required. Build a strong foundation. Consult friends and experts. Many hands make lighter work. Someone from your past could reappear. Be prepared for a compromise. Two heads are better than one.

**Virgo**

Home and family take priority today and tomorrow. Sort through your nest. Good deeds you've done bring benefits. Check out an interesting suggestion. Keep your future vision in mind. There's more money coming in. Diversify some of the flow. Share a treat.

**Libra**

It's easier to learn for two next days. Study instructions first. Talk to someone who's been there, done that. Creative work pays well. A generous offer requires more thought. A lucky break blesses your passion projects. Your work and opinions garner respect.

**Scorpio**

Pay attention to finances. Fill orders and rake in the money. Schedule a sit down meeting. Pull strong strings to get a compromise today and tomorrow. You're very persuasive and can affect feminine sides. Make time for visiting friends. Take the roundabout routes when necessary.

**Sagittarius**

Generate enough to cover expenses in a ten of your fragility skills. There's more money coming your way. Friends and siblings share the wisdom of their experience. Brilliant ideas come in odd moments. Evaluate old policies. You're becoming more certain. Ideal for out.

**Capricorn**

There's more work, and the pressure's rising. Take a philosophical view. You're taking an excellent impression. Acknowledge your team's efforts. Celebrate a weekend by relaxing in the water and preparing a fabulous meal to share. Tell your people you're looking especially good.

**Aquarius**

Get together with friends today and tomorrow. Share your emotional support and laughter. Invent new goals, and excavate some previous ones. It's a good time to ask friends to come to your perfect pitch. Socialize your social circle, and the world is where it happens. What comes around goes around.

**Pisces**

Career matters occupy your time now. There's a time to stay in shape, and a time to relax. Prepare for a test or get a compromise today and tomorrow. Compete for the best slot. More work, and better for your family. Find out what your partner wants. All you need is love comes back to you multiplied.

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**Crossword**

Edited by Wally Roberts Williams

Brough to you by:

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USC tennis teams set for postseason

Men take on Ole Miss

Jackson Filyo

South Carolina's men's and women's tennis teams are preparing to enter their regular season play this past weekend, and have previously qualified for first-round byes in the SEC tournament, which begins this week.

Both teams finished the regular season with winning records and were just under .500 in SEC play. The men's team (14-12, 5-7 SEC) went on to win two of its final three matches, good enough to qualify them for the sidelines of the SEC tournament, beginning this weekend.

That puts the team against No. 10-seed Alabama, which comes into the tournament having lost three SEC matches in a row. In this regular season matchup against the Crimson Tide, South Carolina won 4-2.

"Alabama is dangerous," men's coach Josh Goff said. "They've got a lot of depth. I don't think they have any other team out there. They're a young team, and they have nothing to lose."

With a victory, South Carolina would move on to face No. 2 seed Texas A&M in the SEC Championship on Friday.

"The level of tennis is always going to be challenging," Goff said. "It can go up and down; it doesn't really matter. But the SEC awards are competitive and stick to matches that is going to be at the table.

"Gamecock's tennis team's (15-7, 6-6 SEC) season has had its ups and downs, but they've maintained a six-game losing streak followed immediately by a six-game winning streak. The team ended its regular season with a win over Vanderbilt.

"I don't expect any doubts that we can, it's how we do it," women's head coach Kevin Epley said when asked about his team's ability to rebound from last weekend's loss. "If we stay in the process, adjust and commit to some things moving forward and to the match, we will have a chance against a top team."

"The men's team will open the NCAA tournament against No. 9 seed Ole Miss, who the Gamecocks defeated 6-2 in their only regular-season meeting earlier this year. The winner will advance to face No. 1 seed Alabama on Friday.

The regular season gives coaches a chance to address the strengths and weaknesses of their team, hoping to have the team firing on all cylinders by the time the postseason begins. Both Goff and Epley believe they have done that and look to translate the regular-season results into tournament success.

As individuals, every guy has put in their best ability, said Goff. "It's on the same day, and that's our goal."

For the women's team, Epley believes postseason success hinges primarily on the team's ability to maintain mental toughness throughout an entire match.

"Mentally, we still have some work," Epley said. "We can't check out—not for a second. Sometimes checking out for that one minute can be the whole match."

Men's tennis head coach Josh Goff says the leadership of seniors Chip Cox (picture) and Tewton Mihow have been huge for his team's confidence this season, and the Gamecock tennis team is set for a strong run in the NCAA tournament.

Junior Katherine Schmidt has been instrumental in South Carolina's success, earning All-SEC honors in both singles and doubles and All-Southeastern Conference honors. Eight South Carolina players landed on the 2014 All-SEC equestrian team, totaling eight awards in both competition and academic achievement.

Nick Carter • From 1

UMC seniors set for postseason

Men take on Ole Miss; women face Ole Miss

Robert Smith

UMC's seniors are set for the NCAA tournament, which begins Thursday. Both the men's and women's tennis teams are set to face Ole Miss. The men will play on Thursday, followed by the women on Friday.

The SEC Men's Tennis Championship begins Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 8:00 p.m. in Athens, Georgia.

Women's Tennis Ends Season in NCAA Tournament

Women's tennis standout Sophia Olinghaus is headed to the NCAA tournament. The senior is ranked 40th in the nation and is the highest-ranked player in the University of Alabama at Birmingham's history.

"It's important to us because it was not four great programs," Al Wilson said. "The coaching staff, talking with the coaches and really getting a feel for what they need to be able to do to be able to have some expectations and to see what we can do in NCAA's."

"They have done a great job, said Goff. "Senior leadership definitely instills confidence in our guys. We've been here before and we've excited to see what we can do in this tournament and, more importantly, to see what we can do in NCAA's."

Each team will play a single in the single-elimination tournament beginning Thursday afternoon. Each team will play one match per day until the final is narrowed to two teams, who will vie for the title Sunday.

"Certainly it's great to get the recognition," Major said. "I think it helps to promote our sport a little more. It's great to see the girls get the exposure they deserve for the hard work they put into the sport. It just feels real good to us as a program to be recognized by a very well-deserving group of young people.

After earning a first-round bye, the Gamecocks' 6-2 loss to the Volunteers in the regular season cutoff between the two of them and then who we compete against."