TDG Sports Staff ranks all SEC basketball teams ahead of the 2014-15 season | PGS 10 & 12
Get familiar with your men’s and women’s head basketball coaches | PG 15
Spurrier makes his fifth trip to “The Swamp” as the opposing head coach | PG 21

Friday, November 14, 2014

THE BASKETBALL EDITION
Contents

Johnson starts final season 4
Wilson makes college debut 5
Meet the teams: men’s, women’s rosters 6
Day Trip: Charlotte 7
Season schedules 8
Calendar Nov. 14 — Nov. 16 9
Men’s SEC Power Rankings 10
Women’s SEC Power Rankings 12
Meet the coaches 15
Ask Dailey 16
NBA fashion transcends the sport 17
Column: Now is the time believe 20
Spurrier heads back to “The Swamp” 21

Olivia Barthel | Weekender
OPEN HOUSE EVENT
Tour to win $200
THURSDAY-SUNDAY NOV 13-NOV 16 • 12-5P
Rates from $455

RIVERSIDE
800 Alexander Road
live-riverside.com
He might not have to lead the team in scoring a year ago, but the Gamecocks’ success this season will likely hinge on how far senior point guard Tyrone Johnson can take them.

Sophomore swingman Sindarius Thornwell and Johnson should be the main one-two punch for South Carolina’s scoring, but Johnson will influence the game in other areas. He will have to set up his teammates for open shots, play opposing guards tough on defense and be the vocal leader offensively to make sure things run smoothly.

Johnson also wants to build on his best collegiate season (11.2 points and 3.4 assists per game) that was shortened to just 16 games because of a broken foot.

It was admittedly a difficult experience for him to miss the last half of the season, but he did everything he could to try and be an older brother to his young teammates on and off the floor.

Support from all around helped him sustain the drive it took to get back to playing at a high level during this preseason.

“With the mental process, I kind of had my teammates and my family still supporting me in my ear,” Johnson said. “They were telling me to always continue to be the best person that you can possibly be whether it’s on the court or off the court.”

Once he healed, the lone senior on head coach Frank Martin’s team returned to working on his game nonstop. Whether it was shooting, defense or ballhandling, Johnson spent countless hours on improving his. He spent an extra month in May working with strength and conditioning coach Scott Greenawalt and trainer Mark Rodger to get his speed and quickness back.

Martin felt terrible for Johnson when the guard went down last year because the senior was starting to accept the coaching staffs’ lessons, which led to early-season success.

Martin also applauded Johnson for the steps he took after the injury.

“He was starting to taste it, and the team was starting to play well because he was starting to accept it, and then he broke his foot,” Martin said. “What I’ve been proudest with him is that he didn’t go backwards.”

Johnson’s teammates said several times last season that, even with his absence on the floor, he was valuable during games. Players like Thornwell, center Demetrius Henry and guard Duane Notice were all freshmen at the time, and Johnson made sure to make their adjustment to the college game easier.

After leaving his hometown high school in Plainfield, New Jersey, Johnson played at basketball hotbed Montrose Christian School in Rockville, Maryland along with fellow Gamecock Michael Carrera. Johnson shined in the program that was also the stomping grounds for NBA superstar Kevin Durant.

Johnson then played for coach Jay Wright at Villanova before transferring to South Carolina.

In his first year with the Gamecocks, the NCAA ruled that he did not have to sit out a semester for the transfer.

He said in a press conference earlier this week that he didn’t have any nerves to get back on the court in a regular season game — he said he got them all out during the Gamecocks’ exhibition against Benedict College where he had 23 points, six rebounds and six assists in a 92-47 win.

If Johnson can put up those numbers regularly during the season, South Carolina will exceed expectations.

Johnson said he won’t set any team goals to start, wanting them to focus on the little things first before they really begin to think big.

Martin hopes Johnson can continue to improve as a vocal leader while he’s on the floor. The coach said sometimes Johnson is still too quiet as a point guard and gets in his own zone, causing him to forget to communicate with his teammates.

But as far as personal goals go, Johnson said he wants to be better than last year and maximize his potential. He wants to prove he’s the best player and a leader each time he steps on the court.

“I just told myself ‘When I’m able to play again, I’m just going to bring it my all,’” Johnson said. “It’s my last go-around, and I have wanted to prepare myself. And I think to this point, I’m prepared.”
Wilson begins career

No. 1 recruit in nation faces high expectations in 1st collegiate season

Dalton Abel
@DALTON_ABEL22

Freshman A’ja Wilson is a double-edged sword when it comes to her impact on the women’s college basketball landscape.

When she chose to remain in Columbia to attend the University of South Carolina in April, she bolstered the Gamecocks’ recruiting class to No. 2 in the nation.

She also chose South Carolina over the likes of traditional powerhouses Connecticut, Tennessee and North Carolina, showing that the Gamecocks, ranked No. 2 in the country, have closed the gap that once stood between them and the nation’s elite.

Expectations are high for the nation’s No. 1 recruit. As a senior at Heathwood Hall, the 6-foot-5 Wilson averaged 34.4 points, 13.9 rebounds and five blocks per contest en route to winning the Class AAA state title.

Head coach Dawn Staley is excited about the talent Wilson possesses but acknowledges it is unrealistic to expect similar numbers at the collegiate level.

“I think a lot of people are putting a little pressure on her to do what she did at Heathwood Hall,” Staley said. “I think she’s got a little bit more help [at South Carolina] than she had [in high school].”

Wilson, who started at the small forward position in the team’s exhibition against Coker, has the ability to play all five positions on the floor. Though Staley said it isn’t ideal for Wilson to defend another team’s guards, Wilson’s versatility gives Staley a lot of flexibility when sampling lineups.

As for the program, Staley’s signing of Wilson seems to have solidified South Carolina as the premier destination for recruits who hail from the Palmetto State. Staley did not have a South Carolina recruit at her disposal in her first two seasons before signing Aleigsha Welch in 2011.

Wilson acknowledged the impact her Hall of Fame coach has had on the rise of the Gamecocks’ program, adding that Staley helped make Columbia feel like the best fit.

“It is tough keeping people home because everyone wants to have that college where it’s like ‘I want to get away from home,’ but really here has been just great for me,” Wilson said. “I live 25 minutes away, and I still feel like I’m in that college feeling.”

At the Women’s Basketball Media Day in mid-October, a flurry of reporters surrounded the Hopkins, South Carolina native that had yet to play a minute for the Gamecocks at the time.

That day was just a sample of the coverage Wilson figures to receive throughout her freshman year and beyond. While most first-year players might be nervous from the hype, Staley said she has no worries about Wilson’s ability to block out the attention.

“She’s taking it all in, and it couldn’t happen to someone who’s more even-keeled,” Staley said. “She’s not egotistical, she handles things well, but I think at times it’s a little tiresome for people to put pressure on her to have performances like she did at Heathwood.”

With the season set to begin Saturday, the focus now shifts to Wilson’s impending contributions on the hardwood. Above all else, it is understood that the primary reason the Naismith National High School Player of the Year came to South Carolina was to win a national championship.

Although Wilson says the on-the-court product was the main factor in her decision, her “there’s no place like home” mantra didn’t hurt either.

“It wasn’t really a huge impact on my decision, honestly,” Wilson said. “I was kind of looking at the support system, but of course, having girls here with home around the South Carolina area is great.”
Meet the teams: men’s and women’s basketball

**Men**

No. 0
Sindarius Thornwell
Sophomore Guard
34 games started; 13.4 points per game; 4.1 rebounds per game; 2.9 assists per game.

No. 4
Tyrone Johnson
Redshirt Senior Guard
9 games started; 11.2 points per game; 2.9 rebounds per game; 3.4 assists per game.

No. 14
Laimonas Chatkevicius
Junior Forward
1 game started; 4.8 points per game; 4.1 rebounds per game; 0.3 assists per game.

No. 24
Michael Carrera
Junior Forward
20 games started; 6 points per game; 5.6 rebounds per game; 0.5 assists per game.

No. 25
Mindaugas Kacinas
Junior Forward
27 games started; 5.6 points per game; 5.1 rebounds per game; 0.3 assists per game.

No. 5
Khadijah Sessions
Junior Guard
26 games started; 7.2 points per game; 1.6 rebounds per game; 2.6 assists per game.

No. 22
A’ja Wilson
Freshman Guard/Forward
IN HIGH SCHOOL:
25 games started; 34.4 points per game; 13.9 rebounds per game; 2.2 assists per game.

No. 24
Aleighsa Welch
Senior Forward
33 games started; 13.7 points per game; 7.6 rebounds per game; 1.9 assists per game.

No. 25 Tiffany Mitchell
Senior Guard
34 games started; 15.5 points per game; 5.6 rebounds per game; 3.4 assists per game.

No. 33
Elem Ibiam
Senior Center
34 games started; 9.5 points per game; 6.1 rebounds per game; 0.3 assists per game.

**Women**

No. 10 Duane Notice
Sophomore Guard

Men’s Roster:
No. -- Shamiek Sheppard - Freshman Guard/Forward
No. 1 Marcus Stroman - Freshman Guard
No. 5 TeMarcus Blaton - Freshman Guard
No. 12 Austin Constable - Junior Forward
No. 15 Reggie Theus Jr. - Sophomore Forward
No. 20 Justin McKie - Sophomore Guard
No. 21 Demetrius Henry - Sophomore Forward/Center
No. 35 Brian Steele - Junior Forward

No. 41 Alaina Coates
Sophomore Center

Women’s Roster:
No. 0 India Farmer - Sophomore Forward
No. 1 Bianca Cuevas - Freshman Guard
No. 2 Olivia Gaines - Senior Guard
No. 3 Kaydra Duckett - Freshman Guard
No. 4 Doniyah Cliney - Freshman Guard
No. 15 Tiffany Davis - Sophomore Guard
No. 23 Tina Roy - Junior Guard
No. 31 Asia Dozier - Junior Guard/Forward
No. 40 Jatarie White - Freshman Forward
THE AVETT BROTHERS

TOWNSHIP AUDITORIUM
THURSDAY MARCH 5 • FRIDAY MARCH 6 • SATURDAY MARCH 7

TICKETS ON SALE THIS FRIDAY AT 10AM!
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP AUDITORIUM TICKET OFFICE & ALL TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS
TICKETMASTER.COM OR BY PHONE AT 800-745-3000.
THEAVETTBROTHERS.COM

THE TAILGATE DOESN’T START ‘TILL YOUR CAR DOES

Blazing Copper

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14
KARAOKE & TRIVIA WITH DJ DAPPER
JOIN US FOR FREE PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15
COME PARTY WITH US FOR THE FLORIDA GAME!

1410 North Millwood Avenue
(at the intersection of North Millwood Ave and Washington Street)
Columbia, SC 29204
803.256.2110
Monday – Friday
www.suddethauto.com

TUES. - SAT. FROM 5 P.M. UNTIL 2 A.M.
812 Harden St. blazingcopper.com 803.779.4445
## 2014-15 Basketball Schedule

### Men’s Basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/14/14</td>
<td>vs. North Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/16/14</td>
<td>vs. Baylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20/14</td>
<td>vs. Cornell (Charleston, S.C.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/21/14</td>
<td>Penn State/Charlotte (Charleston, S.C.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/23/14</td>
<td>TBD (Charleston, S.C.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/26/14</td>
<td>vs. UNC Asheville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/01/14</td>
<td>at Marshall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/06/14</td>
<td>vs. Oklahoma State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/19/14</td>
<td>vs. Clemson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/21/14</td>
<td>vs. Coker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/30/14</td>
<td>vs. North Carolina A&amp;T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/03/15</td>
<td>vs. Iowa State (Brooklyn, N.Y.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/07/15</td>
<td>vs. Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/10/15</td>
<td>at Ole Miss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/13/15</td>
<td>vs. Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/17/15</td>
<td>at Auburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/20/15</td>
<td>vs. Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/24/15</td>
<td>vs. Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/28/15</td>
<td>at LSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/31/15</td>
<td>vs. Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/03/15</td>
<td>at Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/07/15</td>
<td>at Vanderbilt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/10/15</td>
<td>vs. Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/14/15</td>
<td>at Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/17/15</td>
<td>at Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/21/15</td>
<td>vs. Texas A&amp;M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/24/15</td>
<td>at Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/28/15</td>
<td>vs. Mississippi State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/05/15</td>
<td>vs. Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/07/15</td>
<td>at Tennessee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Women’s Basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/15/14</td>
<td>vs. Southern California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/16/14</td>
<td>vs. Clemson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/23/14</td>
<td>vs. San Diego State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/27/14</td>
<td>vs. Wisconsin (Freeport, Bahamas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/28/14</td>
<td>vs. East Carolina/Syracuse (Freeport, Bahamas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/01/14</td>
<td>vs. North Carolina Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/04/14</td>
<td>vs. Charlotte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/07/14</td>
<td>at Duke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/14/14</td>
<td>vs. Savannah State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/17/14</td>
<td>at Hampton University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/20/14</td>
<td>vs. Central Michigan (Minneapolis, Minn.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/21/14</td>
<td>vs. Liberty (Minneapolis, Minn.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/02/15</td>
<td>vs. Auburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/04/15</td>
<td>at LSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/09/15</td>
<td>vs. Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/11/15</td>
<td>at Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/15/15</td>
<td>vs. Mississippi State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/19/15</td>
<td>at Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/26/15</td>
<td>vs. Texas A&amp;M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/29/15</td>
<td>vs. Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/01/15</td>
<td>at Ole Miss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/05/15</td>
<td>vs. Georgia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/09/15</td>
<td>at Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/15</td>
<td>vs. LSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/15/15</td>
<td>vs. Vanderbilt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/19/15</td>
<td>at Arkansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/23/15</td>
<td>vs. Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/26/15</td>
<td>vs. Mississippi State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/01/15</td>
<td>at Kentucky</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**WEEKENDER**

**Weekend Calendar Nov. 14 through Nov. 16**

**FRIDAY**

**TIM NORTHERN**
Red Door Tavern, 134 1/2 State St.
Fri, 8 p.m., Free

Tim Northern is a comedian currently touring the U.S. stand up circuit. Tending toward cerebral comedy, Northern tends to “provide you with two-thirds of the joke, and you provide the other third. It’s like do-it-yourself comedy.”

**OUR TOWN**
Longstreet Theatre
Fri, 8 p.m., $12 (students), $16 (faculty/staff, military, seniors)

This weekend, you could go see Thornton Wilder’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play about the American dream. The show was hailed by the New York Times as a celebration of “both the marvel of everyday existence and the ‘something way down deep that’s eternal about every human being.’” This production will run from Nov. 14 through Nov. 22.

**SATURDAY**

**FALL BRAWL WITH COLUMBIA ROLLER DERBY**
Solomon Center at Fort Jackson, 6510 Strom Thurmond Blvd.
Sat, Bout 1 doors: 11 a.m., whistle: 11:30 a.m., Bout 2 doors: 4 p.m., whistle: 4:30 p.m., Free

Support the Columbia QuadSquad in their final bouts of the season. In the morning, the Fort Meyers Derby Girls will face off against the Carolina RollerGirls, then it’s Skater Tots vs. Minor Violations. In the evening, Columbia’s Miss B-havers will go head to head with the Carolina RollerGirls B-team.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL SEASON OPENER**
Colonial Life Arena
Sat, 7 p.m., Free with CarolinaCard

Beginning the season as the No. 2 team in the nation and the reigning SEC champions, the South Carolina women’s basketball team will open up its 2014/15 campaign Saturday against Southern Cal.

**SUNDAY**

**CINÉCOLA FILM FESTIVAL**
Columbia Museum of Art, 1515 Main St.
Sun, 2 p.m., Free

CinéCola is the city’s own French and Francophone film festival, started to promote culture diversity in the community. With the help of the USC and Columbia College French departments, a screening of “Ernest et Célestine” will take place at the Columbia Museum of Art and is free to the public.

**THE FOXERY / MARTIN + POSTRONICS / DYEL**
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.
Sun, 8 p.m., $5 / under 21 $8

This weekend the New Brookland Tavern is going indie — The Foxery is coming to Columbia from Louisville, Kentucky. Columbia-based groups Martin + Postronics and DYEL will also take the stage on Sunday.
PRESEASON POWER RANKINGS

SEC Men’s Basketball

Kentucky

Head Coach
John Calipai

Team’s Roster
Aaron Harrison
Andrew Harrison
Alex Poythress
Karl Anthony-Towns
Tyler Ulis
Marcus Lee
Devin Booker
Trey Lyles
Dominique Hawkins
Derek Willis
Dakari Johnson
Willie Cauley-Stein

Key Player
Junior Forward
Willie Cauley-Stein

Lost in NCAA National Championship
Second in SEC

Gamecocks head-to-head
Jan. 24 at South Carolina
Feb. 14 at Kentucky

Sports Staff

PRESEASON POWER RANKINGS

SEC Men’s Basketball

Kentucky

Head Coach
John Calipai

Team’s Roster
Aaron Harrison
Andrew Harrison
Alex Poythress
Karl Anthony-Towns
Tyler Ulis
Marcus Lee
Devin Booker
Trey Lyles
Dominique Hawkins
Derek Willis
Dakari Johnson
Willie Cauley-Stein

Key Player
Junior Forward
Willie Cauley-Stein

Lost in NCAA National Championship
Second in SEC

Gamecocks head-to-head
Jan. 24 at South Carolina
Feb. 14 at Kentucky

Sports Staff
Head Coach
Billy Donovan

Junior Guard
Michael Frazier II

Lost in NCAA Final Four
First in SEC

Jan. 7 at South Carolina

Arkansas

Head Coach
Mike Anderson

Key Player
Bobby Portis

Lost in NIT Sweet 16
Fifth in SEC

Feb. 3 at Arkansas
March 5 at South Carolina

LSU

Head Coach
Johnny Jones

Key Player
Sophomore Forward
Jordan Mickey

Lost in NIT Sweet 16
Seventh in SEC

Jan. 28 at LSU

Auburn

Head Coach
Bruce Pearl

Key Player
Senior Guard
KT Harrell

No tournament bid
12th in SEC

Jan. 17 at Auburn

ALSO

Georgia
S. Carolina
Missouri

Ole Miss
Texas A&M
Vanderbilt

Alabama
Tennessee
Miss. State
PRESEASON POWER RANKINGS

SEC Women's Basketball

Head Coach
Dawn Staley

Team's Roster
India Farmer
Bianca Cuevas
Olivia Gaines
Kaydra Duckett
Doniyah Cliney
Kadijah Sessions
Tiffany Davis
A’ja Wilson
Tina Roy
Aleighsa Welch
Tiffany Mitchell
Asia Dozier
Elem Ibiam
Jatarie White
Alaina Coates

Key Player
Junior Guard
Tiffany Mitchell

Lost in NCAA Sweet 16
First in SEC
SEC opener
Jan. 2 vs. Auburn
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Head Coach</th>
<th>Key Player</th>
<th>Lost in NCAA</th>
<th>Sec. Rank</th>
<th>Matchup 1</th>
<th>Matchup 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
<td>Key Player</td>
<td>Lost in NCAA</td>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Feb. 23 at South Carolina</td>
<td>Jan. 26 at South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
<td>Key Player</td>
<td>Lost in NCAA</td>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Jan. 11 at South Carolina</td>
<td>March 1 at Kentucky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
<td>Key Player</td>
<td>Lost in NCAA</td>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Jan. 4 at LSU</td>
<td>Feb. 12 at South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>LSU</td>
<td>Head Coach</td>
<td>Key Player</td>
<td>Lost in NCAA</td>
<td>Seventh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** ALSO **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Head Coach</th>
<th>Key Player</th>
<th>Lost in NCAA</th>
<th>Sec. Rank</th>
<th>Matchup 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vanderbilt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Miss. State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ole Miss</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Voting runs through November 25th. Results will be published in a special issue of The Daily Gamecock in February 2015. Winners will be notified in December.

Download The Daily Gamecock app or go to www.dailygamecock.com to fill out the survey!

GIFT CARDS FROM:

yoghut
Premium Frozen Yogurt & Smoothies

COWBOY
Brazilian Steakhouse

MAST GENERAL STORE
SINCE 1883

REGAL
ENTERTAINMENT
GROUP

The Daily Gamecock

boots & bows

Donate plasma today and earn up to $300 a month!

Who knew I could earn money, save lives, and get free wi-fi at the same time?

215 Assembly St., Columbia, SC 29201

803-254-2280

Scan for an insider look at the plasma donation process.

*Applicable for eligible, qualified new donors. Fees vary by weight.
New donors must bring photo ID, proof of address and Social Security number.

CSL Plasma
CSPlasm.com

Columbia's station for music lovers.

Rock, Reggae, Indie, Folk, Pop, Alternative, Vintage Classics, and today's best new artists...

We are the soundtrack to your life

The Palm
92.1 FM

Join the LAB!

Win concert tickets, CDs, trips - and more - just for telling us what you think!

LISTENER ADVISORY BOARD

www.ThePalmFM.com

STREAM US LIVE!
There has been an undeniable buzz surrounding South Carolina’s women’s basketball team, a large portion of which could be attributed to what head coach Dawn Staley has been able to accomplish during her tenure.

After her most successful season at the helm for South Carolina, Staley landed the nation’s top recruit A’ja Wilson, who will complement 2014 SEC player of the year Tiffany Mitchell this coming season. The hype directed toward Staley’s squad is a direct result of three consecutive NCAA tournament appearances, despite failing to move past the Sweet Sixteen.

Staley is a three-time Olympic champion, and was inducted to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2013. Before landing at South Carolina, she played seven seasons in the WNBA, as well as rejuvenating Temple’s program, leading the Owls to six NCAA tournament appearances in eight seasons.

Though the success head coach Frank Martin has sustained in his two and a half years at South Carolina has been limited, it has been enough to draw and stimulate the interest of a fan base longing for a successful men’s basketball program.

Martin came to South Carolina after a stop at Kansas State, where he won 117 games in five seasons. He accumulated 32 conference losses over that span, yet over two years with the Gamecocks has 27 conference losses.

Under Martin, the team has seen two players named to the SEC all-freshman team — forward Michael Carrera in 2012-13, guard Sindarius Thornwell in 2013-14.

Martin and the Gamecocks finished last season winning four of their last six contests, triggered by a 72-67 upset of then-No. 17 Kentucky.
This week Dailey tackles matters of the heart and that ever-awkward Strom experience.

**Q:** I started talking to my ex-girlfriend the other day, and we ended up talking for hours. I'm starting to have second thoughts about our breakup, even though it's been a while. What should I do? Dateless Devon

**A:** Post relationship drama is always tricky. Often when you go a while without talking to your ex, you tend to romanticize all of the good things about your past relationship and block out the bad things that led to your breakup. Absence makes the heart grow fonder, and that applies in more ways than one. I'm not saying you should stop talking to your ex-girlfriend, but what I am saying is that you should take the time to reflect on what led to the two of you splitting up in the first place.

**Q:** I hate going to Strom. I want to work out but I feel like every time I go, all the cardio equipment is taken by an entire sorority or something. And don't even get me started on the straight up body builders downstairs with the weights. How is a girl who doesn't have time to live at the gym supposed to fit in? Gym Jitters Julie

**A:** To be honest, if you're looking for a space at Strom, you're going to have to fight for it. Unless you have the time and energy to get to the gym when it’s not populated (either very late at night or very early in the morning), it’s going to be a struggle. It might require you to perform a few radical acts of gym socializing, like waiting for them to get off the cardio machines or politely asking them when they're going to be finished. If that seems impossible, it doesn't hurt to diversify your exercise regimen. There are usually spots on other machines somewhere. Take the less-used machines, then move on when others finish.
Basketball fashion is iconic — the influences of NBA and college stars go beyond the boundaries of their uniforms. These players, unlike any others, bring something extra to the world of professional sports: style that transcends the game and turns basketball into a cultural superpower.

The sport’s transition from short-shorts to knee-length shorts prompted the public to (thankfully) follow suit. The introduction of Air Jordans in the 80s yielded a mainstay shoe that has yet to go out of style. Allen Iverson’s cornrows married hip-hop culture to basketball. You can still find Chuck Taylors in countless closets. Jerseys have bridged the gap between casual wear and a statement piece. (See: Miley Cyrus wearing the remains of a Chicago Bulls jersey in the music video for “23.”)

Like any other sport, the greatest moments tend to involve a winning season and a trophy, but basketball superstars make as much of a statement off the court as they do on it. Instead of only signing deals with Nike or Gatorade, these men and women promote their personal styles on the cover of GQ or front-row at Fashion Week, and people take notice. The players are the brand, and their style is their branding.
Meet the teams: men’s and women’s basketball

No. 0
Sindarius Thornwell
Sophomore Guard
34 games started; 13.4 points per game; 4.1 rebounds per game; 2.9 assists per game.

No. 4
Tyrone Johnson
Redshirt Senior Guard
9 games started; 11.2 points per game; 2.9 rebounds per game; 3.4 assists per game.

No. 14
Laimonas Chatkevicius
Junior Forward
1 game started; 4.8 points per game; 4.1 rebounds per game; 0.3 assists per game.

No. 24
Michael Carrera
Junior Forward
20 games started; 6 points per game; 5.6 rebounds per game; 0.5 assists per game.

No. 25
Mindaugas Kacinas
Junior Forward
27 games started; 5.6 points per game; 5.1 rebounds per game; 0.3 assists per game.

No. 5
Khadijah Sessions
Junior Guard
26 games started; 7.2 points per game; 1.6 rebounds per game; 2.6 assists per game.

No. 22
A’ja Wilson
Freshman Guard/Forward
IN HIGH SCHOOL:
25 games started; 34.4 points per game; 13.9 rebounds per game; 2.2 assists per game.

No. 24
Aleighsa Welch
Senior Forward
33 games started; 13.7 points per game; 7.6 rebounds per game; 1.9 assists per game.

No. 25 Tiffany Mitchell
Junior Guard
34 games started; 15.5 points per game; 5.6 rebounds per game; 3.4 assists per game.

No. 33
Elem Ibiam
Senior Center
34 games started; 9.5 points per game; 6.1 rebounds per game; 0.3 assists per game.

No. 10 Duane Notice
Sophomore Guard

Men’s Roster:
No. -- Shamiek Sheppard - Freshman Guard/Forward
No. 1 Marcus Stroman - Freshman Guard
No. 5 TeMarcus Blaton - Freshman Guard
No. 12 Austin Constable - Junior Forward
No. 15 Reggie Theus Jr. - Sophomore Forward
No. 20 Justin McKie - Sophomore Guard
No. 21 Demetrius Henry - Sophomore Forward/Center
No. 35 Brian Steele - Junior Forward

No. 41 Alaina Coates
Sophomore Center

Women’s Roster:
No. 0 India Farmer - Sophomore Forward
No. 1 Bianca Cuevas - Freshman Guard
No. 2 Olivia Gaines - Senior Guard
No. 3 Kaydra Duckett - Freshman Guard
No. 4 Doniyah Chiney - Freshman Guard
No. 15 Tiffany Davis - Sophomore Guard
No. 23 Tina Roy - Junior Guard
No. 31 Asia Dozier - Junior Guard/Forward
No. 40 Jatarie White - Freshman Forward
THE TAILGATE DOESN’T START ‘TILL YOUR CAR DOES

TOWNSHIIP AUDITORIUM
THURSDAY MARCH 5 • FRIDAY MARCH 6 • SATURDAY MARCH 7

TICKETS ON SALE THIS FRIDAY AT 10AM!
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP AUDITORIUM TICKET OFFICE & ALL TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS
TICKETMASTER.COM OR BY PHONE AT 800-745-3000.
THEAVETTBROTHERS.COM

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14
KARAOKE & TRIVIA WITH DJ DAPPER
JOIN US FOR FREE PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15
COME PARTY WITH US FOR THE FLORIDA GAME!

1410 North Millwood Avenue
(at the intersection of North Millwood Ave and Washington Street)
Columbia, SC 29204
803.256.2110
Monday – Friday
www.suddethauto.com

TUES. - SAT. FROM 5 P.M. UNTIL 2 A.M.
812 Harden St. blazingcopper.com 803.779.4445

If you are under the age of 21, it is against the law to buy alcoholic beverages. All ABC regulations enforced.
As the 2014-15 college basketball season gets ready to tip off Friday, my mind wanders off to some of the great moments of the madness that was last March (and April).

Although South Carolina unofficially set off the fire on March 1 with a stunning, court-storming worthy victory against eventual national runner-up Kentucky, its involvement in the Big Dance was mute. The Gamecocks missed the NCAA Tournament for the tenth straight year.

I hail from Connecticut, a land that boasts five good months of what a warm-blooded person would simply refer to as “indoor weather.” For the past 10 years, I have spent those months avidly following the University of Connecticut basketball team, which won its fourth national championship in April.

I grew up watching Big East basketball — the old one, that is — filled with historic rivalries between the likes of Syracuse, Georgetown, Villanova, St. Johns and many more. For years, the Big East consistently put the most teams in the NCAA Tournament field. It was high-quality college basketball.

But then, the Big East as we knew it broke up, and I left the Nutmeg State for school. I feared the impending void in my winters. I knew Frank Martin had taken the head-coaching gig at South Carolina, but come on, who wanted to go play at South Carolina?

I wanted to be a direct part of the madness. I wanted to conveniently be sick at 12:15 on a Thursday afternoon along with the rest of my buddies to watch our school compete. When I first arrived here, I had my doubts.

However, it became apparent from watching the team last season that Martin had supplied himself with a coachable, young nucleus. Sindarius Thornwell authoritatively took the final shot against Baylor in his second collegiate game, and continuously did so in tight contests throughout the year. Duane Notice continued to be aggressive and make plays even when he seemed to be in Martin’s doghouse.

The casual fan saw a 14-20 record and brushed it off to the mediocrity that has enveloped this program since the Frank McGuire days. After all, the Gamecocks have made the NCAA Tournament just four times since 1974.

But what shone through in the SEC Tournament was the impressive growth the team underwent throughout the season. The team that burst Arkansas’s bubble in the SEC Tournament in March did not resemble the team that lost to Manhattan and USC Upstate in December.

The first two years of Martin’s tenure were essentially spent wiping the slate clean and laying a new foundation. Now, Martin has his team ready to ascend to new heights.

For anyone who has ever attended a Frank Martin press conference or listened to him speak, his emphasis on the culture in the locker room is impossible to ignore. When asked after the Benedict exhibition about the likelihood of bringing in walk-ons for practice help due to amassing injuries, Martin said he would rather practice with six guys than bring someone in who doesn’t fully understand his role.

The priority Martin places on attitude, work ethic and structure is the fundamental reason he has his players believing in this year’s team and this program moving forward.

Because lasting success comes from a lasting culture. Tom Brady may be a great quarterback, but if he didn’t take his linemen out for nice steak dinners after a hard-fought win, the incentive and the bond might not last. Culture.

That is why the team believes. And that is why you should believe, too.
After Steve Spurrier announced his resignation as football coach of the Florida Gators in 2002, he offered a voice of reassurance to those who watched him lead a program into prominence.

“I am a Gator,” he said, “and will be for the rest of my life.”

—Steve Spurrier
Spurrier was the first Gator to win a Heisman Trophy, the first Gator coach to win an SEC title and the first coach to escort Florida to a national title.

He was the one who initially pegged Ben Hill Griffin Stadium as “The Swamp” in the early 1990s.

And on Saturday afternoon, when he returns to his former home, he will walk past a bronze statue of his 1966 Heisman Trophy-winning self, throwing arm cocked back and an “F” on the side of his helmet, for he remains a fixture in Florida football history.

But this time when he visits his alma mater, he’ll do so clad in garnet and black.

“As far as me going down there again,” Spurrier said, “I’ll look around the stadium during warmups, and then when the game starts, hopefully [we’ll] get the plays in there, get the defense and special teams guys ready to go and try to do whatever I can to help us win the game.”

Saturday will mark the fifth time Spurrier has coached against the Gators in The Swamp, winning only once. That win came in 2010 when the Gamecocks clinched the SEC East with a 36-14 win. Running back Marcus Lattimore was a true freshman and rushed for 212 yards in the victory.

This time is different.

The underachieving Gamecocks need two wins in their final three games just to be bowl eligible, something they’ve accomplished every year so far under Spurrier.

And with a struggling defense set to face freshman quarterback Treon Harris and a surging Gators offense, limiting big plays has become a focal point for South Carolina this week in practice.

Florida seems to have found a spark in Harris, igniting a once-struggling offense. Despite passing for only 27 yards in a win against Georgia two weeks ago, Harris has led Florida to back-to-back wins, something the Gamecocks haven’t been able to do since September.

Harris racked up 264 yards of total offense against Vanderbilt last week and also rushed for two scores.

As poorly as South Carolina has performed as a collective unit this season, it’s hard to pin much of that on the team’s offense. Statistically, the Gamecocks have been stellar on that side of the ball.

Sophomore wide receiver Pharoh Cooper is second in the SEC in receiving yards, coming off a school-record 233-yard explosion through the air against Tennessee. On top of this, the only player in the conference who has passed for more yards than redshirt senior Dylan Thompson is Texas A&M’s Kenny Hill. Thompson will likely surpass Hill as the SEC’s leading passer after this game, as Hill has since been benched for freshman Kyle Allen.

But even though South Carolina’s offense has been able to keep the team in most games this season, assistant coach Steve Spurrier Jr. doesn’t want that to be the team’s mentality going into Saturday’s game.

“It’s a team sport. At the end of the day, we’re all one team. We all know that,” he said. “You win together, and you lose together. Some people get more attention than others, and certainly we’ve had a lot of that too, but at the end of the day, we’re all together.”
Hammond School is currently seeking Summer Program Instructors and Private Lesson Instructors for 2015 Hammond Summer Programs. For a complete job description and application please visit www.hammondschool.org, click “About”, then “Employment Opportunities” to access the Summer Program Instructor Packet. Applications will be accepted until Friday, December 5, 2014. Interested candidates should contact Kevin N. White, Director of Auxiliary Programs via email at kwhite@hammondschool.org. Questions? Summer Program Office: 803.776.0295, ext. 2002. Follow us on Twitter @Mr_KNWhite and like us on Facebook.com/HammondSummerPrograms.

**HAMPDEN SUMMERS 2015**

**BAMAHAS SPRING BREAK**

$189 for 5 Days. All prices include: Round-trip luxury party cruise. Accommodations on the island at your choice of thirteen resorts. Appalachia Travel. www.BahamaSun.com 800-867-5018

---

**ANNOYANCES**

Kennel assistant
Kennel Assistant Needed...
Work some weekdays and some weekends. Must be able to work on holidays. Serious inquires only. Apply in person.
Dog Daze 1241 Veterans Road 803.695.0091 Email dogdashelc@bellsouth.net

**SERVICES**

24/7 Doctor Access 2,300 U.S. based Board-certified Physicians who can Diagnose, Treat and Prescribe Medications for hundreds of non-emergency conditions over the phone and call you, on average, in 11 minutes or less! Up to 80% off Prescriptions at a pharmacy of your choice.
Email Jim@CarolinaTelehealth.com

---

Join the Capstone Conference Center Hospitality Team! Now Hiring Student Managers for Spring and Summer Conferences. 15 hours in Spring, Full-time in Summer. Rising Juniors, Seniors and Graduate Students. Summer benefits include complimentary housing and meal plan. For more information go to http://www.housing.sc.edu/capstoneconferences/jobs.html Deadline to apply is November 19.
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL BOOKSTORE EVENT

CAREER NOW

NOVEMBER 20, 4PM
BARNES & NOBLE-UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Jump-start your career – Find out how to:

- Build Your Own Personal Brand
- Network to Gain Your Dream Job
- Get Organized and Achieve Your Goals

PLUS, BRING YOUR RESUMÉ AND HAVE IT REVIEWED BY A CAREER EXPERT.

EVENT HOSTED BY JOAN KUHL

Joan is a millennial career expert with more than 16 years of mentoring, coaching, and corporate management experience. She has worked with students and young professionals helping them achieve their potential. Her advice focuses on maximizing college and early work experience to accelerate success.

The Russell House 1400 Greene Street Columbia, SC 29208 • 803-777-4160