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University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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President Harris Pastides, the southeastern conference's representative on the 18-member executive committee, quickly said USC would give its athletes more. Schools could also offer scholarships for multiple years of the traditional one-year scholarship, according to the changes proposed.

"Give all the money that's being spent on scholarships and coaches, it's a good thing to remember the student," Pastides said.

But South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier, who has been vocal in recent months about the reforms, said he wasn't surprised by the news.

"They're the guys that bring in all the X-factors," Spurrier said, "but most of those guys are in their first year with us." USC will receive $2,000 per scholarship, Spurrier said.

"It's always a fun night for everyone," Baker said, "but most importantly, it's the event where whether you're LGBT or straight, you can be yourself.

A panel of judges including last year's Ms. Gaymecock, Veronica la Blank, determined the winners by their performance in formal wear, interview and talent categories.

"Generally, the talent portion consists of a lip-syncing to a song and judges either on dancing ability or connection with audience," said second-year biology and sociology student Mason Branham, also Ms. Diagnosed's daytime alter ego.

"It's a great way to showcase the talents of USC students, as both of our contestants go to USC," explains BGLSA President and fourth-year criminal justice student Tyler Murphy.

"The show also allows straight and gay students to see their fellow students in a different light. Ultimately, it helps lead to a more accepting environment and promotes diversity."

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"I've been vocal in recent months about greater financial support for student-athletes and the debate surrounding scholarship terms, so he doesn't agree with either of the reforms," Spurrier said.

"They're the guys that bring in all the USC veteran reflects on end of Iraq conflict Marine worries about stability Kathryn Krause
dailymail.com

Precisely a week ago, President Barack Obama announced that the U.S. would remove all remaining troops from Iraq by the end of the year, bringing Operation Iraqi Freedom to a palpable end after nine years, 4,400 U.S. military deaths and an estimate of nearly 100,000 civilian casualties (according to the Iraq Body Count).

Across the nation, some citizens and news networks have criticized the move as either premature, forgetting the original plan to leave at least 4,000 stabilizer troops, or nine years and thousands of deaths too late. But either way, the announcement means that 40,000 servicemen and servicewomen will be back home for the new year.

The move now sets a paradoxical mood of individual relief and devoted anxiety for many soon-to-be Iraq veterans.

Third-year political science student John Latferriere certainly understands the feeling. It's the feeling he had when he came home from Iraq six years ago after 13 months at the Al-Taqaddum air base west of Baghdad, where he and his comrades in the eighth communication regiment attached to 2nd CLR-17 were given the mission "to do everything we could to build relations with the people."

In an interview with The Daily Gamecock, Latferriere recalled the duties of the regiment — the security patrols, the police training of the occasional shoot-outs, where he thankfully never had to fire back.

Those memories resonate less than those of the people of the small town where he was stationed — the children, the business owners, the children who he remembers "just wanted to have fun."

The Daily Gamecock remembers the excitement of the community during the IRAQ A2

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The annual event is BGLSA's main fall fundraiser.

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Visit: dailygamecock.com/news
Greeks remember tragedy

Students, alumni observe anniversary of Ocean Isle Beach fire
Ryan Quincey
Daily Gamecock

Around 7 p.m. Thursday night, members of Delta Delta Delta emerged from their sorority house, each holding a candle. Meanwhile, other Greek organizations joined them on the grassy knoll. As members lit one another's candles, a few alumni attended. Greeks have gathered every year since the tragedy to remember those lost.

The group of about 100 formed a large circle and then came together to hear the words of a campus minister. With scriptures and vows, he conveyed to them a lesson of the tragedy. Life is brief, and one should live every day well.

Several in the crowd did not need the reminder. Though many of Greeks Thursday were too young to personally know the victims, others are.

"It still affects us now," said Kate Menzer, a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon University and one a Clemson student. Greeks have gathered every year to remember the tragedy and to remember those lost.

The ceremony was held in remembrance of seven students who died on the 2007 Ocean Isle Beach house fire. Three were members of Delta Delta Delta, three were members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon University and one was a Clemson student. Greeks have gathered every year to remember the tragedy. Life is brief, and one should live every day well.

The Left Bank Big Band, a student ensemble and the University of North Carolina, presented research proposing ways to generate stories and target those stories to audiences more efficiently.

Rob Curley from the Las Vegas Sun newspaper discussed on changes in media sustainability in journalism, media regeneration and credibility through user profile, he said.

"But that's just my opinion. They won't agree with me. People are driven by individual ideology," he said. Twitter tends to be divisive with opinions.

"But sometimes that's just rub of the green, that you have to deal with," Spurrier said. "I think you have to get rid of those guys under the new rules they're proposing." A scholarship is equivalent to hiring a place, Spurrier said. An individual must produce in order to keep the place, a student-athlete should be able to produce in order to stay on scholarship.

"I don't look at it that way. When you sign up for a job, very few times do you get guaranteed four years.Partly because there are injuries, some teams don't have scholarship policies.Athletes are sometimes there, injuries are there, it doesn't work out for the team," Patioll said. "It's your responsibility to manufacture your own policies and make a good decision in that regard." Some believe schools with lesser resources may offer four-year scholarships as a way of competing more directly for elite prospects. While the six major conferences should almost immediately pass no- translatability and guaranteed multiyear scholarships, some programs have begun to do so and offer greater scholarship security in order to compete. Spurrier said he thinks the new rules will make it tougher on the schools that evaluate talent and offer scholarships to prospective recruits.

"You better make sure he's a ballplayer," Spurrier said. "You better make sure he's a player, not a guy that he may develop." Let's make sure he's a good high school player before you sign the kid; "then he'll be a much larger and stronger." You need to check their backgrounds better too. Spurrier said he doesn't expect the NCAA to agree with him, nor for his opinions to become law. To steal a quote: "Well, we think he may get bigger and stronger.'"
Comments on this story?

day."

Looking back on his work as an aid to the Iraq police force, Laferriere learned what the removal of supplemental U.S. forces will mean for the safety of the people surrounding the area.

"I feel like we still need to be there for the sake of numbers, because we were definitely an influential force. These guys (the Iraqi police) didn’t look ready. They were confused, disorganized, sometimes trigger-happy when they weren’t supposed to be," Laferriere said.

"They simply didn’t have the equipment or the organization that we do here. Granted, that was in 2006, but from the current reports I’ve read, that’s the state they’re still in, and I’m not surprised. And I don’t blame them — a lot of them had been threatened into joining the force by a government that was corrupted."

Laferriere’s greatest concern is for the children he met and what type of influence they will fall under after U.S. support has left. Most of them would be 16 to 18 by now — around the age when they could be easily influenced by money and threats against their families.

"I think we’ll definitely see in the near future how good the training is and how well the people put to govern and prevent corruption," Laferriere said. "They’re sitting in foundation, there will be a lot of terrorist activities resurfacing — if not totally, then to a point of concern."

Despite his concerns as an officer, Laferriere shares in the hope and even the rationality, felt by the 40,000 returning officers and their families in the same transition to American life.

"When you’re over there for so long, you learn to live without all the things people are attached to — your iPhone, satellites, big old rims that take up half your trunk," Laferriere said. "People here can get so lost in translation. The people in Iraq have so much dust to live on, but know what’s important is long for freedom, for their families, for a democratic life."

"Being over there, I learned how to appreciate family — that has to be the first thing, followed closely by a bed with springs to sleep on and just the quietness to sit and read on a beautiful day."
NCAA reforms step in positive direction

College athletes finally took a necessary step forward with the reforms approved Thursday by the NCAA executive committee and its councils.

The board, which includes USC President6, said the new guidelines would support the “athletes’ right to compete in the NCAA and still be able to benefit from their own success and performance in their sport.”

Steve Spurrier does have a point. The athletes who compete in the most lucrative sports deserve more of the pie.

The reforms are quite the opposite, though: they are likely to ensure that most student-athletes will ultimately benefit student-athletes. The reforms place the emphasis on front and corner.

The reforms perfect? No. The stipulated amount likely still isn’t enough for student-athletes to make the most of the new rules. But the reforms are a step in the right direction.

The main objective is to educate, but the secondary one is still to win. South Carolina, together with most other Southeastern Conference schools, cut the number of athletes in its athletic department by 15 percent last year to save money.

The bottom line is this: College sports have been spun out of control for a while now. The NCAA has done a tremendous job of bringing them back to reality, it only actually uses about 25,000 cars a day. Getting St. handles more cars per day, so Assembly could definitely avoid standing to lose some lines.

As for us fans, we can’t say we can’t design a city around a few hours of game time. It needs to be feasible for the other 365 days of the year. USC is making a good first step, but Assembly will have to take a few more.

— @kmarchant

Letter to the editor: Ambassadors

The Visitor Center’s mobile ambassadors are a point of pride for the university, Ambassadors help educate prospective students and their families about what Columbia has to offer. The purpose of this event was to expose them to the multitude of attractions in Columbia.

The event was organized after the Visitor Center staff realized that the student volunteers, who intern personally with more than 120,000 visitors each year, included the prospective students and their families. The event was designed to set up those same restaurants after their visit to USC.

Visitors, students, and parents may not have many opportunities to try a variety of restaurants and visit area attractions.

The event, which featured six tables and seven area attractions, was not organized to “wine and dine” the Ambassadors, but to provide new venues for visitors to check out.

In their role promoting the university, Ambassadors are able to highlight the unique and interesting aspects of its growing capital city.

The article failed to mention that 50 restaurants and 25 attractions in Columbia were contacted and participated in the event.

It also didn’t mention that the Ambassadors spent even more time talking with the staff from the South Carolina Military Museum, the Columbia Museum of Art, the Columbia City Ballet, the Hargis Theatre and the Historic Columbia Foundation, and asking about what they offer other than the restaurants and their visitors that they spent eating food from.

They even spent time talking about the Visitor Center and learning more about the city and its attractions.

The Visitor Center’s mobile applications were also promoted at the event.

An Ambassador met with each venue during the event in partnership between the university and its businesses and attractions and to encourage those particular businesses to offer the mobile applications.

This piece belonged on the opinion page, not the front page, as a news story. I would have gladly answered a reporter’s questions, had any been asked.

The focus of “Setting the City on the Map” was to help deliver the Ambassador brand to businesses and attractions and to encourage those particular businesses to offer the mobile applications.

Yes, there was free food and a few seconds to cross ... that’s all. Students and parents on the streets of Columbia and its visitors might have been surprised.

— Denise Wellman is the director of USC’s Visitor Center.

Collegiate athletics finally took a necessary step forward with the reforms approved Thursday by the NCAA executive committee and its councils.
Get spooked: Halloween films to enjoy this weekend

It’s Friday, and you know what that means — Halloween weekend is finally here! If you have downtime between party hopping, stay in the Halloween spirit by watching one of these movies.

**“Beetlejuice”**

While this film was released before many USC students were born, it’s likely you saw the 1988 film at least once during your childhood. Michael Keaton, Alec Baldwin, Geena Davis and Winona Ryder star in this madcap adventure filled with laughs and spooks.

**“Hocus Pocus”**

It’s hard to make a list of Halloween movies without including 1993’s “Hocus Pocus.” Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker and Kathy Najimy play kooky witches who return after 300 years to wreak havoc on trick-or-treaters. And these witches fly on vacuum cleaners; how cool is that?

**“The Nightmare Before Christmas”**

Tim Burton has a talent for creating macabre stories that still contain lovable characters and 1993’s “The Nightmare Before Christmas” is no exception. While the tale of Jack Skellington is a bit spooky, it has a happy ending (and a delightful Danny Elfman soundtrack to accompany the entire film).

**“It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!”**

Watching this classic Charles Schultz TV special, which first premiered in 1966, has become an American Halloween tradition. While Charlie Brown, Linus, Snoopy and friends are anything but scary, this cute story will bring back memories of your trick-or-treating days.

**“It’s Friday, and you know what that means — Halloween weekend is finally here! If you have downtime between party hopping, stay in the Halloween spirit by watching one of these movies.”**

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**News flash: 50 Cent is still relevant. Who knew?**

Steven Spielberg admits he nuked the fridge in “Indiana Jones 4.” Wait, that scene wasn’t George Lucas’ fault too? It’s a Hollywood miracle! Actually, the real miracle would be the ability to erase that film from our memories.

**Limited edition of 50 Cent’s ‘Tha Carter IV’ has sold over 400,000 copies.**

50 Cent goes after Lil Wayne, questions “Tha Carter IV” sales figures. News flash: 50 Cent is still relevant. Who knew?

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After the ending of the first season of "The Walking Dead," certain concerns were brought to light, such as how the writers would advance the story without sacrificing suspense. One particular character we gain more insight from is Shane, who seems to be more complicated than depicted in the first season. Because of the jealousy that stems from seeing Rick reunited with his wife, he considers leaving the group. The redneck of the group, Dale (Jeffery DeMunn), becomes more character than caricature as he turns out to be an asset to the group. Andrea (Laurie Holden) is so grief-stricken over the loss of her sister Amy in the first season that she is practically suicidal. She makes the decision to leave the group whenever Shane decides to go. There's also more interaction between her and the wise, old veteran of the group, Dale (Jeffery DeMunn), providing more character depth without sacrificing suspense.

Among the terror and chaos, one of the children goes missing, and the second season seems to revolve around finding the missing child. But that isn't even where the most tension and shock come from within the second season. I can say what, for fear of ruining the shock behind this event and AMC sending its walkers my way. But I will say that this moment involves a tragedy among the Grimes family and will leave your jaw dropped.

The characterization, the suspense and the gore are what make "The Walking Dead" a gripping drama television has to offer. Sitting down and enjoying the most gut-churning, terrifying or convincing to watch. In fact, the effects behind the making of the walkers are so grueling, terrifying or convincing to watch. Though "The Walking Dead" may be a postapocalyptic horror show, the real terrors within the show don't come from the massive hordes of walkers or the supernatural situations that the group finds themselves in. The real terrors are the worst-case scenario subjects that families could possibly face, such as losing a child or a secret affair occurring between married couples.

That's not to say that the walker hordes aren't grueling, terrifying or convincing to watch. In fact, the effects behind the making of the walkers are so convincing that you get scared just watching this flick. The Wayans brothers have turned poking fun at horror movies into a money machine with "Scary Movie" and "Scary Movie" (or rewatch) the 2000 original. "The Birds" is one of the most horrifying films the movie king ever released, even though the so-called "special effects" are far from state-of-the-art. Warning: You may duck and cover at the sight of any flying creatures after watching this flick.

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Join The Festival and enjoy free samples of... Birds Eye®

HUNGRY-MAN

Celeste

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www.sc.edu/hsf 803.777.4890

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House Party
Capstone Scholars & Carolina Dining invite you to come have a Spook-tacular Time!

Monday, October 31, 2011
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Gibbes Court Bistro, in Capstone House
Costume Contest (with Prizes of $25 - $50 giftcards!), Candy & Pumpkin Painting!

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10.29.2011  Football at Tennessee @ 7:15 pm
11.3.2011   Men’s Basketball vs. Kentucky Wesleyan @ 7pm (Exhibition)
11.4.2011   Equestrian vs. Georgia @ 1 pm
11.4.2011   Swimming & Diving vs. Tennessee @ 2 pm
11.4.2011   Men’s Soccer vs. Kentucky @ 6 pm
11.4.2011   Volleyball vs. Ole Miss @ 7 pm
11.4.2011   Women’s Basketball vs. Limestone 7pm
11.6.2011   Volleyball vs. Alabama @ 1pm

GARNET ON GAMEDAY
If an alphabetized list of cities with names ending in “ville” that host Southeastern Conference football games every fall were to be constructed, Knoxville, Tenn., would come before Knoxville, Tenn. But if South Carolina drafted its own list of the various metropolises, ranking them in terms of importance, Knoxville would undoubtedly come before Jacksonville. In fact, Knoxville would be the only name on the list, because that’s the city hosting the only game this weekend the No. 14 Gamecocks are concerned with.

Thurs. USC understands where it stands in the race for the Southeastern Conference’s Eastern Division championship. At 4-1 in the SEC, the Gamecocks are the Southeastern Conference’s Eastern Division thanks to a 45-42 win on Sept. 10 in Athens, Ga., holds a head-to-head tiebreaker over the Bulldogs the only game this weekend the No. 14 Gamecocks are only name on the list, because that’s the city hosting before Jacksonville. In fact, Knoxville would be the

No. 14 Gamecocks are the only team knowing it controls its own destiny makes it easier for USC to have such tunnel vision of the task at hand. If we come to play our game and we come to do what we’re supposed to do at the ballpark, then we’re not worried about them. No worries at all.”

The best way to accomplish that, Quarles said, is to stress only what USC can control, and nothing more as it finishes the season on the “big stretch,” as Campbell called it. Graham echoed that sentiment. “When you go in, you control your own destiny, the most important thing is to go out there and play as well as you can, every game, and play as hard as you can,” Graham said.

The Gamecocks have endured a tremendous amount of disappointments and frustration this season, a potential crucial tiebreaker in hand and a potentially crucial second wind after a well-timed open week. For all the disappointments and headaches, Carolina is choosing to focus on that fact, and that fact alone. There’s only one city and one football game that matters to the Gamecocks at the moment. “We have no control over that game down in Jacksonville,” Spurrier said. “We need to worry about our game in Knoxville. That’s the one we have some control over.”

ONE GAME, AND ONE GAME ONLY

The Gamecocks are adamant they are focused on nothing but Tennessee.
GAMEDAY 411:

Tennessee vs. South Carolina

WHERE: Shadwell-Watkins Field at Neyland Stadium in Knoxville, Tenn. (capacity of 102,455)

WHEN: Kickoff is scheduled for 7:15 p.m.

THE LINE: South Carolina by 6.5 points

TELEVISION: The game will be televised on ESPN2. Mark Jones will handle play-by-play duties. Ed Cunningham is the color analyst. Jessica Mendoza is the sideline reporter. A replay will be shown Sunday at 8 p.m. on SportsSouth. Andy Muelle is the analyst on the replay.

RADIO: Locally, the game will be broadcast on 107.5 FM. Todd Ellis will handle play-by-play duties. Tommy Suggs is the color analyst. Terry Cousin is the digit reporter. Additionally, a simulcast of the Gamecock Radio Network broadcast will be simulcast on Sirius XM Satellite Radio. The game will be on Sirius channel 220 and XM channel 200.

IF YOU'RE GOING: Stadium gates will open to the public at 5:15 p.m. All items, including purses, are subject to search at the gates. Prohibited items include alcoholic beverages, cans, bottles or coolers, radios without headphones, open umbrellas, video cameras, stadium seats with arms, large bags or parcels, including backpacks and large purses, and weapons of any kind, including pocketknives. Bags can not be larger than 12 inches by 12 inches by 12 inches. No smoking is permitted. Fans cannot leave the stadium and re-enter.

HALLOWEEN GUIDELINES: Fans wearing costumes will be admitted after a search. However, no masks are allowed and will be confiscated per a Knoxville city ordinance that prevents masks in public places. Face painting is permissible. Masks can't be stored at any gate. In addition, no props (including toy guns, swords or any simulated weapon) or artificial noisemakers are allowed in the stadium. Last, no banners, posters or signs larger than standard letter-size paper are allowed.

WEATHER: The forecast for the Knoxville area on Saturday calls for sunny with a 10-percent chance of precipitation. The high temperature is supposed to be 61 degrees with a low of 36.

SERIES: Tennessee leads 22-5-2.

LAST MEETING: South Carolina 38-24 in 2010 at Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia.

Follow us on Twitter @TDG_Gameday for gameday updates.

RECORD WATCH

Career Receiving Yards
1. Kenny McKinley 2,781
2. Alshon Jeffery 2,731
3. Sterling Sharpe 2,497

Career Receiving Touchdowns
1. Sidney Rice 23
2. Alshon Jeffery 20
T3. R. Brooks / J. Kelly / K. McKinley 19

Career Receptions
1. Kenny McKinley 207
2. Sterling Sharpe 169
T3. Alshon Jeffery 164

Photos: USC Media Relations, Richard Pearce / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

SEC Standings

SEC East

Tennessee 4-0 --
South Carolina 4-0 --
LSU 5-0 --
Vanderbilt 1-3 2.5 GB
Auburn 3-2 2 GB
Kentucky 0-3 3 GB
Mississippi State 0-4 1 GB
Georgia 4-1 --
Florida 5-0 --

SEC West

Arkansas 2-1 2 GB
Ole Miss 0-4 4.5 GB
LSU 5-0 --
Vanderbilt 1-1 2.5 GB
Mississippi State 0-4 1 GB
Kentucky 0-3 3 GB

GAMEDAY 411: Tennessee vs. South Carolina
Worley to make first career start against Carolina's nation-leading pass defense

By James Kratch, Sports Editor

Though South Carolina's nation-leading pass defense faces a favorable matchup this week, the Gamecocks will be starting quarterback Tyler Bray injured and backup Matt Simms ineffective, Tennessee will look to freshman Justin Worley to lead its offense on Saturday. Worley, a Rock Hill native, has appeared in five games and just 110 yards through the air.

Tennessee's inexperienced signal caller.

In the absence of Lattimore's injury, right after losing Lattimore," Spurrier said.

A favorable matchup this week. Tennessee's pass defense has risen to the top of the country by building opponents to an average of just more than 85 passing yards in the past five games and just 110 yards per game.

The Gamecocks will look to continue their success against the Volunteers by spotting collegiate start.

"The young man is obviously a good football player," defensive coordinator Lorenzo Ward said of Worley. "He was the Pinhead (Magnum) Player of the Year at Northwestern and won a state championship. I don't know if you know he's in high school, so we're going to take it a little personal."

"We've got to go out and play to get better as the Gamecocks, Tennessee's defensive coordinator has already offered the loss to Alabama last week. The Gamecocks have not taken it for granted that Worley will struggle in his first collegiate start.

The Volunteers' receiving corps has already suffered from the loss of Justin Hunter, who tore his ACL on Sept. 17 and will miss the rest of this season. Hunter was averaging 104 receiving yards in three games prior to the injury.

While Lattimore expects to see limited action in Knoxville for No. 14 South Carolina's game against Tennessee, he likely will expect to be on the sideline instead of on the field.

With Lattimore out for the rest of the season with a torn cartilage damage in his left knee, the Gamecocks will take several steps toward completing their goals for the season without him playing at Neyland Stadium.

"Hopefully our guys can play one or two more games," said head coach Steve Spurrier. "It will be difficult without Marcus, although he is still around on the top. He intended to be there this week for team meetings. He will be with us; I'm assuming he's a super teammate on the sideline.""

The Gamecocks will be starting the walk-on Brandon Wilds at tailback.

"I like Brandon," said center T.J. Johnson. "I think Brandon's coming in here since day one or done everything Coach Spurrier has supposed to do. I'm excited to see what he can do this week. He's come out looking to do his business down in position to make a play on the ball. He's a great football player."

The Gamecock defense will have a familiar face to some Gamecock defenders, as a leading offensive team, keeping its focus on preparations for Saturday's matchup instead.

"He's a really good player," Ward said. "He's been consistent all season long, and he's a receiver earlier in the season. He's been the guy that the Volunteers have had the most success against.

"If things go the way USC wants, they'll be celebrating Lattimore's birthday. If it is a motivational thing. We want to win it for him just as bad as he would like to win it. Anybody can throw it if you give them time to throw. He took it for granted that Worley will struggle in his first collegiate start.

As the Gamecocks prepare to move on without Lattimore, he likely will expect to be on the sideline instead of on the field.

"I think we're trying to rebuild and put everything back together the way it needs to be, but I think we're about where we need to be," Johnson said. "I think we're getting there."

With the number of injuries the Gamecocks have suffered recently, the bye week was also important for the offense to rest before having to play three straight games with major implications in the SEC East race, two of which are on the road.

"You never know how a young man reacts from that loss to Alabama, but he didn't throw it. Anybody can throw it if you give them time to throw it and if you get them open. We're going to continue to try to do what we've been doing, and we'll see how the ball falls on Saturday."
Commodores to host high-flying Razorbacks
Isabelle Khurshudyan
SEC Network

No. 8 Arkansas at Vanderbilt (Saturday at 12:21 p.m. on SEC Network)

After having to come back from a 17-point deficit to defeat lowly Ole Miss, the Razorbacks have something to prove against Vanderbilt. The Commodores snapped a three-game losing skid last week with a 24-21 defeat of Army but are still looking for a signature Southeastern Conference victory. Arkansas has the win in hopes of becoming bowl eligible.

"I really have no idea," said Vanderbilt coach James Franklin on the Commodores' position in the SEC East standings. "It's funny because I come in here in the morning and wear the meet sheet before anyone else gets here and just try to figure out what's going on. And it's funny because I don't even know who's playing right now. It's a moody world. I read something and I was shocked by it. All those things outside of our world, we're ranked and all those things and we're continuing to win. We've really spent very little time talking or thinking about that. Our focus right now is on Arkansas."

No. 22 Georgia vs. Florida (Saturday at 1:30 p.m. on CBS)

This year's Swampomp Outback Cocktail Party, er, Florida–Georgia Classic, played in Jacksonville, Fla., has proven to be a big challenge for both programs. The Gators held the Bulldogs scoreless in the third quarter we just got 21-0. "I felt that through the second quarter and the opening series of the third quarter we just got our offense going," said MSU coach Mark Dantonio.

"We know it's always a ruckus environment, so it will be exciting to play in that environment, so it will be exciting to play in that environment," said the Spartans' head coach. Both teams are struggling, but if you flip those schedules I'm not sure it wouldn't be a whole lot different story compared to last year as far as winning the SEC East. Ohio State is coming off a loss to Texas Tech. OU will try to break back into the win column at undefeated Kansas State, currently ranked No. 10.

Mississippi State at Kentucky (Saturday at 7 p.m. on ESPNU)

Both teams are looking for their first win in SEC play. MSU has been especially disappointing this season considering the expectations surrounding it heading into the season. The Bulldogs kept it close against USC, but the Spartans have been knocked off back-to-back weeks by Georgia and Alabama. It's good to get back home to Columbus and get back on the road in two hostile environments, at LSU and South Carolina, but the best

Oklahoma looks to bounce back from loss to Texas Tech
Ryan Verwilghen
ELLENS.GEORGIACONCORDIA.COM

No. 11 Oklahoma at No. 10 Kansas State (Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on ESPN2)

The Sooners' national title aspirations all but vanished in last weekend's loss to Texas Tech. With no room for error remaining in the quest to play in the Big 12 title game, Oklahoma will attempt to right the ship in a normally televised road matchup against resurgent Kansas State.

"I think that's the second quarter and the opening series of the third quarter we just got our offense going," said MSU coach Bob Stoops. "We've got to get our offense going out-of-performed in the field and outscored. It's our job to have our players ready to execute what we are trying to do.

"Going up to Kansas State this week is a major challenge. They are a bunch of young guys who are starting to play a lot better. We know it's always a ruckus environment going up there to Manhattan (Kan.). It will be a big challenge, but our players are excited about the opportunity."

KSU wasn't on many teams' radars entering the season, but the undefeated Wildcats find themselves in position to take a large step toward restoring themselves as a national power in this week's meeting with OU. In spite of the spotlight that will be shining on his team, KSU coach Bill Snyder doesn't expect his players' minds to change. They think they are a bunch of young guys who seemingly understand the value, kind of laying the foundation brick by brick and trying to make the effort to do some of the things we ask in regards to daily and weekly improvement," Snyder said. "I think they are a bunch of young guys who are right where they need to be, and not only rightfully they should be a varying degree of confidence, and yet not have gotten to that overconfident stage in regard to where they need to go to and what their place in football society is today."

No. 9 Michigan State at No. 13 Nebraska (Saturday at 12:00 p.m. on ESPN)

"It will be tough to draw up a more exciting finish than Michigan State's last-second, hail mary throw to beat MSU in its last game," said Rich Rodriguez. "I think that if you're going to have a special year you're going to have to play [play strong opponents] over and over and over. But I also think the

Coach Bob Stoops will try and get his Sooners back on track after a devastating home loss to Texas Tech. He's interested in seeing what his players see the opportunity and they try and rise to the occasion to get themselves ready to play.

"Last week we tried to create a perfect storm, and that's what you're talking about, building the team up Friday and Saturday. But this week is going to be something else. I think our players will be ready. It will be a different environment to play in because we are going away. They have not played in that environment, so it will be exciting for them."

The Cornhuskers have bounced back nicely from loss to Texas Tech. OU will try to break back into the win column at undefeated Kansas State, currently ranked No. 10.
The Daily Gamecock
Friday, October 28, 2011

Football Gridiron rating skewed after data error
Correction will improve NCAA academic measuring tool score
James Krats
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

South Carolina’s Graduate Success Rating in football is not as high as it seems.
An error made by the university resulted in NCAA distortion of data when the NCAA released the earlier number, but a correction will raise the score to a more respectable 15 percent.

“There was an error with the data submitted for the 2007 NCAA football cohort,” said Zach Kee, Vanderbilt’s football recruiting representative, in a release. “The NCAA’s Academic Progress Report is not complete, and we have assured that the published data will be updated within the next one to two weeks.”

The GSR is a measure of how many student-athletes who enter college in a given year (for this case, 2004) graduate within six years of attending. It’s a factor in NCAA penalties and not count student-athletes who transfer from a school.
Student-athletes who leave college after one year also don’t factor in as long as they were academically eligible when they left school.

USC submission to the NCAA failed to account for II former football players who graduated within the six-year period on the data. The mistake was revealed after the time it took for USC to pluck a heralded kid from Georgia or Florida. Tennessee are a bunch of great players.

There’s more movement, there’s more academic success, and a bunch of great players.

So it’ll be a heck of a challenge for the Gamecocks to do that — they have to play at a very high level in the nation and a defense that travels. They have to be the best in the nation.

An error made by the university resulted in NCAA distortion of data when the NCAA released the earlier number, but a correction will raise the score to a more respectable 15 percent.

“Worley in high school, said he is a ‘great’ player. DeVonte Holloman, another former opponent, echoed that sentiment. Clowney’s South Pointe team lost to Worley’s Trojan last year — something defensive coordinator Lorenzo Ward had reminded Worley of during the month.

Not that the Gamecocks likely should be able to do the same. In fact, Worley’s familiarity may actually benefit USC. A lot of people around here think the mark that USC would be to get the Gamecocks to do that — they would play at a very high level.

“Worley is a very high-achieving kid,” coach Joker Phillips told reporters. “His demeanor is the same, and Worley signed with USC, and he is a player who they are interested in en route to a 4A state championship.

We had a layer of unpredictability to it that gives signal callers nightmares. USC lost scholarships due to APR penalties under former coach Pete Carroll.

A rolling four-year measure, the APR is reformed to take the current score then the GSL. The 2004 GSL states that all PGs and President Harris Pawlak.

USC has no football concern in the-April average of the 2009-2010 academic year release is 99%, good for fourth best in the SEC and well above the three-year average of 96.1%. The program has experienced unprecedented success as a factor in late, recording team GPS rating of 96 in just the first two years.

The only other USC athletic program to receive a GSR score below 71 percent was the men’s basketball program, which received a 75 percent. The score was an improvement from the previous GSR releases.

USC will find itself no longer in the APR penalties with former coach Darin Horn.

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USC will find itself no longer in the APR penalties with former coach Darin Horn.
Tennessee has struggled mightily since star quarterback Tyler Bray (above) was knocked out of a loss to Georgia for at least six weeks with a broken thumb. 

BEHIND ENEMY LINES:

Five Questions with The Daily Beacon

How is the move to Justin Worley being received by Tennessee fans?

Worley is coming off a remarkably strong showing against Alabama's vaunted defense in last Saturday's game and many believe UT has a legitimate shot at winning.

What can be expected out of the Volunteer offense?

Tennessee's offense has been a little better than expected this year, especially after the dismissal of senior Matt Simms comes after a pass in a college game and only took two turnovers, rarely pressured opposing offenses — in the middle of an SEC football season — excluding Vanderbilt and LSU.

Prediction time — who you got?

Is Derek Dooley beginning to feel heat?

The majority of Tennessee fans knew when Dooley took the job that it would take at least three years for him to implement his philosophy and bring in enough players for the Vols to realistically compete for an SEC Championship. Unfortunately, as the losses mount this year, a small minority has become vocal in their displeasure about Dooley. Dooley is nowhere near being on the hot seat and wouldn't be until 2013 at the earliest. That said, he desperately needs to win a game against a team that, on paper, is better than UT. To do that, UT hasn't yet lost a game it shouldn't have, but it also hasn't given Dooley that signature win — although some fans want to count the USC and North Carolina games last season.

GAMEDAY CHALLENGE

The Gamecock sits down with UT student paper

Matt Dixon

How is the move to Justin Worley being received by UT student paper?

How much of a relief is it for UT to be playing Tennessee's defense has been a little better than expected this year, especially after the dismissal of safety Janzen Jackson a week before the season opener and the loss of linebacker Herman Lathers, who's been sidelined all year with a broken foot he suffered in the summer. UT ranks in the bottom half of the SEC in nearly every defensive category statistically. The Vols are the proverbial head-butdon't-break defense. They have forced just two turnovers, rarely pressed opposing quarterbacks and given up big plays, especially in the passing game. The Vols contain Georgia's Isaiah Crowell and Alabama's Trent Richardson on the ground for the most part, largely due to selling out to stop the run, leaving the secondary in one-on-one matchups where it’s vulnerable to giving up big plays, especially down the field. While South Carolina's Alshon Jeffery isn’t necessarily a deep threat at receiver, UT simply has no one who can cover him one-on-one.