Halfway there: Gamecocks open final 6 games against Furman

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PG 4

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PG 11
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It shouldn’t have happened.”
— Anthony Fauci, director of the Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health, on Ebola in the U.S.

“Please remove Mr. Hawes from society.”
— Pat Wilson, whose daughter, USC professor Jennifer Wilson, was stabbed to death in her home by Hank Hawes

“Even as we celebrate their achievements, we must recom- mit ourselves to the world that they seek — one in which our daughters have the right and opportunity to get an education and in which all children are treated equally.”
— Barack Obama’s response to Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi sharing the Nobel Peace Prize
Behind Enemy Lines: 5 questions with Paladin sports editor Forest Stulting

Q: What do you think the Paladins have to do in order to stay in this game and have a shot to pull off an upset?
A: The biggest thing in my opinion is going to be ball control. Furman has one of the better defenses in the SoCon and possibly the FCS, so if we are able to keep our offense on the field I think we will have a great shot at winning.

Q: What's the excitement level around campus when Furman plays big schools like South Carolina? Do fans see it as a chance to get national exposure or just a bad beating waiting to happen?
A: The students get really excited when we play a big school like South Carolina. Especially with recent history of us traveling to other SEC and ACC schools and giving them a run for their money. (Pun intended.)

Q: Which Furman players should South Carolina fans be on the lookout for Saturday?
A: On the defensive side, the Gamecock offense should be aware of defensive end Gary Wilkins (the SoCon defensive player of the month) and linebacker Marcus McMorris. These two seniors are the two leaders of the Paladin defense. On the offensive side, I've already mentioned one and that is true freshman quarterback P.J. Blazejowski. He has really taken hold of the Paladins offense. The other is his throwing mate Jordan Snellings. With a big frame, look for Blazejowski to try to find the Paladins' leading receiver.

Prediction:
I think it will be a lot closer than the experts think. And maybe even a different outcome. With the Paladins surging and the Gamecocks doing anything but that, I predict that the Paladins will win 27-24. The difference is going to be the play calling of the Head Ball Coach, Steve Spurrier. He will not let Mike Davis and the supporting cast of running backs take control of the line and the game. Instead, he is going to try to beat the Gamecocks through the air. But it will be ineffective against the pass rush of the Paladins. This is going to be the game that Bruce Fowler and the Paladins turn the season around and make a push for the SoCon title.
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Saturday’s tilt with Furman was a mere afterthought a couple of months ago, if not a couple of weeks ago. Leading up to the opener against Texas A&M, fans and media professionals alike checked off wins and losses on their paper schedules in an attempt to peek into the cloudy crystal ball of the upcoming college football season.

While the first six games required minimal debate, the “W” likely went next to the Paladins without hesitation for most. Following a crushing defeat at Kentucky that left South Carolina with three losses for the first time in four years, the Gamecocks have had two weeks to toss and turn over FCS opponent Furman.

Head coach Steve Spurrier said that serious improvements needed to come from within before they could even consider underestimating any opponent. “We need to really concern ourselves with how we play, just make sure that we get in the habit of playing sound, fundamental football,” Spurrier said. “We’re always looking to see if we can play the best we can.”

Nothing seems certain in Gamecock Country these days as buzz continues over inconsistent production on both sides of the ball as well as the sidelines. Despite entering Saturday’s contest in the middle of a four-game losing streak, the Paladins currently boast the top passing defense in the FCS, allowing just 132 yards per game through the air, compared to over 170 on the ground. Given these numbers, South Carolina’s play-calling will be in the spotlight early and often Saturday, even though the Gamecocks figure to be a higher-caliber opponent than those that Furman has faced thus far.

After compiling 183 yards in three and a half quarters against Kentucky two weeks ago, junior tailback Mike Davis did not receive a single carry on the final two drives of the game — both ending in interceptions. This came just one week after Spurrier elected not to go for two in an eventual one-point loss to Missouri.

The way this season has gone, it’s easy to forget that the Gamecocks had three losses when they went to the SEC Championship in 2010. However, this team has a remarkably different feel to it.

With a road test against Auburn looming next week, South Carolina has the chance to shake up the college football landscape once more. The lowest of stepping stones needs to be accomplished Saturday, something Spurrier feels his team is prepared to do. One has to wonder what the current mental makeup of a team that knows it will fall short of preseason expectations with half of its schedule still remaining.

But, according to redshirt senior offensive guard A.J. Cann, in terms of confidence, the Gamecocks are fine. “We go out with the same mentality,” he said. “We’re looking to win, play the best we can and go out and execute. We don’t look at who we’re playing.”

Although Saturday’s contest may be looked upon as a no-win situation, its mental implications go far beyond any tactical discoveries the Gamecocks may find. But if South Carolina comes out and clicks on all cylinders after what Spurrier identified as two good weeks of practice, the Missouri and Kentucky losses may become just a little easier to forget.

The first step to restoring a seemingly lost identity, Cann said, is harnessing the passion he and his teammates have during this tough stretch. “Once we get fired up, it’s football.” Cann said. “Everybody loves to play this game, so once you step out on this field, you’re going to be prepared and ready to go.”
Week 8

Schedule highlighted by battles to stay alive in title conversation

No. 21 Texas A&M at No. 7 Alabama

While it’s technically true to say Alabama is Alabama in a geographical and literal sense, Alabama is not Alabama. Head coach Nick Saban’s bunch has put together an uncharacteristic 5-1 record in which the Tide narrowly escaped a loss to Arkansas and fell to an Ole Miss defense that should be locked up for assault. Alabama has certainly not looked nearly as dominant as the fighting A.J. McCarrons of days past. All this should point to an upset-in-the-making for Texas A&M, but the Aggies are in the throngs of a two-game losing streak at the hands of the pair of bulldozers from the state of Mississippi. But regardless of the downward trend, A&M quarterback and resident “trill” person, Kenny Hill, leads the SEC with 2,511 passing yards and 23 touchdown tosses. As Phyllis from Mulga, Alabama would have you believe, the Crimson Tide’s dynasty isn’t quite over. But the Aggies should give Bama a run for its money this weekend, and a loss could certainly put a bow on the Tide’s reign of terror.

Missouri at Florida

If the absurdity of the 2014 SEC East could be summarized in one game, it’d probably be this matchup between Missouri and Florida. In the Tigers’ (4-2, 1-1 SEC) last three games, they’ve lost to Indiana, mounted an improbable comeback win against South Carolina and been shut out 14-0 by Georgia. The Gators (3-2, 2-2 SEC) look highly uninterested in winning games and quarterback Jeff Driskel has flat-out forgotten how to play football. These two programs are both very much alive in the division title, with one conference loss for Mizzou and two for Florida. The SEC East is a strange land, perhaps the strangest of all the birds. Regardless, someone has to win this game because this isn’t the NHL where you can tie. The winner can keep relative pace with Georgia for a spot at the SEC championship game. As for the loser, well, you can’t really count anything out with this division, so maybe they can win, too.

Kentucky at LSU

LSU head coach Les Miles calls the Tigers’ Death Valley the place “where dreams go to die.” But the dream-death ratio has been 50/50 in two SEC games there this year, and Kentucky will look to put another dent in that Saturday. The Wildcats are sitting at 5-1 and could very well break into the top-25 and the SEC championship conversation with a win over the Tigers. Stop laughing — it’s true. By LSU’s standards, this season has been a disappointment so far, but you can never count out a program as established as the one from Baton Rouge. And it doesn’t hurt that true freshman running back Leonard Fournette has been as terrifying for opponents as advertised. Despite the various storylines, one of two things can happen Saturday: either Kentucky wins, propelling the Wildcats to a program-defining win and devastating LSU, or the Tigers win and everyone outside the state of Louisiana goes home disappointed.
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Week Eight Predictions
from the staff of

Notre Dame (5) at Florida State (2)

Kansas State (14) at Oklahoma (11)

Texas A&M (21) at Alabama (7)

Oklahoma State (15) at TCU (12)

Stanford (23) at Arizona State (17)

Kentucky at LSU

Missouri at Florida

Tennessee at Ole Miss (3)

Georgia (10) at Arkansas

Furman at South Carolina

Notre Dame Notre Dame

Kansas State Oklahoma

Texas A&M Texas A&M

TCU TCU

Arizona State Stanford

LSU LSU

Missouri Florida

Ole Miss Ole Miss

Arkansas Georgia

S. Carolina 48 Furman 24

S. Carolina 50 Furman 21

S. Carolina 42 Furman 20

S. Carolina 48 Furman 17

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Sports Editor

David Roberts
Asst. Sports Editor

Tanner Abel
Asst. Sports Editor

Dalton Abel
Senior Writer

Tanner Abel
Asst. Sports Editor

Dalton Abel
Senior Writer

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Texas A&M Texas A&M

TCU TCU

Arizona State Stanford

LSU LSU

Missouri Florida

Ole Miss Ole Miss

Arkansas Georgia
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- 24 Hour Cardio Center
- Basketball Court
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WEEKENDER

Ask Dailey
@askdailey

My parents live in Columbia and they’re always pestering me to come home for the weekend. I’m all for free food, but I want to experience college. How do I break it to them that I’m just not interested?

You have to tell them directly. If your parents are like most, they’ll understand that you need space to do your own thing. If you’re an only child, their feeling of detachment from their kid is magnified. Hard as it may be, give them a call and explain what you’re feeling. They’ll understand.

My boyfriend just broke up with me. I have a class with him during the week, and the thought of seeing him day after day paralyzes me. Do you have any advice?

Listen: life is going to suck for a while. Maybe even a long while. That’s a given. There’s no way of getting back in him, and if you think there is, you shouldn’t. Revenge can take some seriously hurtful forms and isn’t worth thinking about. If he says it’s over, it’s over. That’s the first thing.

The second thing: If you physically cannot go to class with him there, then you should drop the class. I’m serious. You shouldn’t have to sacrifice your mental health for something you can finish up some other time.

Lastly: You have to get through this yourself. It’s important to have someone to talk to, and if you can find someone willing to help you deal with the first few days, fantastic. But doing this too much turns others into a crutch. They will get bored with you. If every conversation is about the ex — by the way you are both “ex’s” now — they will start to tune you out. Handing off your misery onto others is excusable, but not for long. Find help where you can, but keep in mind that this is your personal sorrow and no one else’s. The only one who can deal with it is you.

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This Week the Carolina Band brings the sounds of Swing and “Jump-Blues” to Williams-Brice, Featuring:

In The Mood
(Glenn Miller)

Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy
(Popularized by the Andrews’ Sisters)

It Don’t Mean a Thing If It Ain’t Got That Swing
(Duke Ellington)

Rock This Town
(Popularized by the Brian Setzer Orchestra)

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Home is where the heart is

Alumnus Julie Horton talks USC's homecoming, what makes university great

Horton recounted her days in the classroom and on the football field, noting the value of the connections made there. "I want her to think USC is just as wonderful, just as magical as it was for me when I was there," she said. "You want to make sure that places that changed their lives.

It's been quite a ride so far this season for the South Carolina defense, as it has to miss four quarters of a game, so Smith won't be allowed to play until the second half against the Paladins. Since Smith is one of the many players that exemplify the Gamecock defense's inexperience, simplifying the play-calling stands to reason. "I think now what we're doing is trying to play a little bit more base defense from our three-deep, and that's the way the kids will have," defensive line coach Deke Adams said. "We have some younger kids in certain situations that don't have a lot of game experience. The easier we can make it for them, the faster they play.

Linebackers coach Kirk Botten said the changes will help the players to not think as much, which is a good thing because according to him, "There are people that I met as an undergrad that I am still friends with." Horton said. "If I need something I can call."

Horton also explained how many new academic opportunities are available to students now that wasn't back in her day. "Academically, [USC] can teach you a lot, but it is one of those opportunities, preparing students to enter the professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to table manners proper for a professional world by teaching them networking skills to
Cock Pit Barbeque only opened last April, but it’s already on the South Carolina Barbecue Association’s “100 Mile BBQ List,” an honor that only 23 pits in the state claim. It’s located in the shadow of Williams-Brice Stadium and in less than 24 months, the restaurant has built a reputation with sports fans so strong that it begs to remain tradition.

For the Herring family, owners and operators of Cock Pit, barbecue is in their blood. According to head chef and patriarch, Ralph Herring, the tradition started with his grandfather. “There was no work after the war,” he said. “So grandaddy went to a heavily trafficked area and he dug a hole.”

It was there that Herring’s grandaddy smoked whole pigs “low and slow” all morning and when people left work in the afternoons for lunch, he would open for business.

It was from him that Herring learned the formula for vinegar-based pork, a Midlands staple. For those of you unfamiliar with South Carolina barbecue geography, let me lay it out for you. First of all, “barbecue” here means pulled pork. Second, there are three types of bases. In the lower part of the state, they use a tomato base. In the midlands, they use vinegar. And in the upstate, mustard-based barbecue reigns supreme.

As a barbecue fan from the Blueridge foothills, I am a born and bred lover of mustard-based pulled pork. It takes a lot for me to say that vinegar makes for the best barbecue. But I have to say, the vinegar and citrus base at Cock Pit is good. I’d even go so far as to say it’s damned good — so good that I ate an entire sandwich basket in less than a minute and a half.

It’s no wonder that on game days, the line snakes out around the parking lot. On those special Saturdays in South Carolina, Cock Pit serves up over five hundred pounds of barbecue. And they’ve been known to run out.

“We make everything fresh and serve it fast, but we want people to know that this isn’t fast food,” said Brooks Herring, administrator and Ralph’s son. And he’s not kidding. Barbecue is about as slow a food as you can get. It takes over ten hours to smoke a pig. Multiply that by how much meat it takes to feed the crowd and you have a serious food undertaking.

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Cock Pit Barbeque
Real barbecue comes from the heart at local vinegar-based pork joint

Lois Carlisle
@LOISCARLISLE

WEEKENDER
11
spend the game day crowd, and you’re looking at the slowest food you’ve ever seen.

And the Herrings don’t believe in gas or electric when it comes to cooking. They fill all of their pork in a competition-grade, custom-built smoker, fueled with hickory wood. The Friday nights during football season, the Herrings cook all throughout the night. Brooks sleeps on a cot next to the bar so that he can keep a close watch on the smoker.

“I had season football tickets, but it’s hard to get out of that place,” Brooks said.

His father laughed. “I’ve been to one football game,” he said. “I won in ’69. We’re not gonna talk about that.”

I ask if they’ve ever thought about participating on the competitive barbecue circuit, to which Ralph says, “I compete everyday. When somebody walks in here, I win.”

And with Brooks working 80 to 100 hours per week, it’s hard to imagine either one of them spending the weekend away from the pit.

But next year, Brooks will begin his career as a student at USC. A military man and weapons expert, he has been looking forward to this day for six years. “I’ve wanted to go to Carolina for a long time,” he said. It’s a kind of homecoming for Brooks Herring. He admits that he’s unsure how it will affect Cock Pit, but he remains optimistic.

“They’ve recently added a delivery service for which Brooks looks to hire more drivers. “Right now it’s just me and a part-time guy,” he said.

And he’s looking to expand, as well. Ralph is looking to open a second location, and customers keep showing up.

“You have to serve the local area to keep both open,” he explained.

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And despite a few too many untimely turnovers, Thompson has thrown for 1,577 yards, and has been forced to set its high-octane offense to impossible. “An erratic, yet high-octane offensive led by Thompson has had high-octane offense to impossible.

South Carolina, and Georgia have gone in opposite directions since the Gamecocks took the Sept. 13 matchup, as well as the SEC East title. South Carolina has held in his tenure at South Carolina and Georgia has gone in opposite directions since the Gamecocks took the Sept. 13 matchup, as well as the SEC East title.

One of the Gamecocks’ four running backs are averaging at least four yards per carry, and will take on Ole Miss with 57 yards on the ground.

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South Carolina, and Georgia have gone in opposite directions since the Gamecocks took the Sept. 13 matchup, as well as the SEC East title.
Homecoming royalty: meet this year’s winners

HOMECOMING KING
Riley Brady, Beta Theta Pi
Third-year marine science student
Hometown: Midlothian, Virginia
Favorite board game: Yahtzee

HOMECOMING QUEEN
Leslie Knight, Phi Mu
Fourth-year public relations student
Hometown: Clover, South Carolina
Bucket list goal: Become Miss South Carolina

HOMECOMING PRINCESS
Stephanie Youngblood, Chi Omega
Third-year broadcast journalism student
Hometown: Camden, South Carolina
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HOMECOMING PRINCE
Hunter Hegmann, Phi Sigma Kappa
Fourth-year marketing and management student
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What do you love about USC? My favorite thing about USC is the opportunities it gives every student from the moment you become a Gamecock. Since freshman year, I have had various roles on our campus, my favorites being a Phi Mu sister, Dance Marathon’s Executive Director and President of The Cocktails, USC’s all female a cappella group. My involvement in all three of these organizations has left a lasting impact on my life and has given me some of my best college experiences. I will be forever thankful to the University of South Carolina for these experiences, life lessons and relationships I have made along the way.

Monday, Oct. 14
Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens, 500 Wildlife Parkway
Fri Oct. 17, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., $9
Costume and head to Riverbanks’ spookiest event of the year. This year, the zoo will feature Frankenstein’s Foam Zone and a DJ dance party.

Columbia Classical Ballet brings Shakespeare’s great tragedy to life for a limited run. Music by Sergei Prokofiev.
Fri Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m., $5 to $32 (show student ID)

Friday, Oct. 17
Boo at the Zoo
Columbia Classical Ballet Presents: Romeo & Juliet
Happiness Bomb: Meat Me at Tapps
Parker Quartet Concert

Saturday, Oct. 18
Columbia Museum of Art, 1515 Main St.
Sun Oct. 19, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Free
Called a “fancy a--” art show rummage sale, Happiness Bomb features rock ‘n’ roll, barbecue, dinner and puppet theatre. The show runs until Nov. 2.

Columbia Classical Ballet
Fri Oct. 17, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., $9
What do you love about USC? I love the countless opportunities Carolina provides students in order to discover their passion through personalized classes and dedicated professors, funds to study and volunteer abroad, as well as plenty of service and networking opportunities in the community. These past two years have been an incredible time of personal growth for me, and I am forever grateful for all the experiences and relationships I’ve gained here.

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Weekend Calendar:
Oct. 17 to 19

Friday

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THE SATURDAY RITUAL

#saturdayritual
THE CARNET WAY
WEAR YOUR OFFICIALLY LICENSED SOUTH CAROLINA MERCHANDISE.
CARNET PRIDE
Homecoming royalty: meet this year’s winners

HOMECOMING KING
Riley Brady, Beta Theta Pi
Third-year marine science student
Hometown: Midlothian, Virginia
Favorite board game: Yahtzee

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT USC? I know it is cliché, but I love the community. Coming from Virginia, I wanted to go far away to somewhere new. This is definitely a very different place. The hype about Gamecock football, my experiences with Greek Life, a student body diverse in interests, hometowns, backgrounds, ethnicities and religions and an overwhelming amount of supportive faculty from marine science to undergraduate research, from study abroad to the Honors College — I absolutely love it here.

HOMECOMING QUEEN
Leslie Knight, Phi Mu
Fourth-year public relations student
Hometown: Clover, South Carolina
Bucket list goal: Become Miss South Carolina

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT USC? My favorite thing about USC is the opportunities it gives every student from the moment you become a Gamecock. Since freshman year, I have had various roles on our campus, my favorites being a Phi Mu sister, Dance Marathon Executive Director and President of The Cocktails. USC’s all female a cappella group. My involvement in all three of these organizations has left a lasting impact on my life and has given me some of my best college experiences. I will be forever thankful to the University of South Carolina for these experiences, life lessons and relationships I have made along the way.

HOMECOMING PRINCESS
Stephanie Youngblood, Chi Omega
Third-year broadcast journalism student
Hometown: Camden, South Carolina
Favorite Food: Fettuccine Alfredo

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HOMECOMING PRINCE
Hunter Hegmann, Phi Sigma Kappa
Fourth-year marketing and management student
Hometown: Poolesville, Maryland
Favorite Food: Ice cream, Thai and Mediterranean cuisine

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT USC? USC operates as a large school but on a personal level. I’ve been able to take advantage of rewarding opportunities such as studying abroad, leading my fraternity, serving on interfraternity council and the personalized academics of the honors college. All while surrounded by great friends and SEC football.

Photo by Jessica Reinsel | Weekender

Weekend Calendar:
Oct. 17 to 19

Friday

BOO AT THE ZOO
Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens, 100 Wildlife Parkway
Fri Oct. 17, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., $9 to $32 (show student ID)

COLUMBIA CLASSICAL BALLET PRESENTS: ROMEO & JULIET
Columbia Classical Ballet brings Shakespeare’s great tragedy to life for a limited run. Music by Sergei Prokofiev.
Fri Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m., $5 to $32 (show student ID)
Koger Center for the Arts
COLUMBIA CLASSICAL BALLET

Saturday

HOME MOVIE DAY
The USC Libraries’ Moving Image Research Collections is working in conjunction with the Nick in order to preserve, present and promote home movies. There will be a screening of “amateur” films, as well as an expert on-site to talk more about the preservation of home movies.
Sat Oct. 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Free
The Nickelodeon Theatre, 1607 Main St.

PARKER QUARTET CONCERT
The Parker Quartet will perform a selection of Mendelssohn.
Sun Oct. 19, 5 p.m., Free
The Darla Moore School of Business, 1014 Greene St.

Sunday

NEST AND PUNCH BOOK LAUNCHES
Columbia Museum of Art, 1515 Main St.
Sun Oct. 19, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Free
Poes Ed Madden and Ray McManus will read from their respective collections in the CMA’s art space. The informal reading will be followed by a book signing and reception.

SANDSTORM
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See us for an encore performance of the plasma donation process at the USC cheer and dance team’s Fan Fest on Friday, Oct. 17 at 5 p.m. at Carolina Stadium.

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boots & bows on dailygamecock.com

Sponsorches today and earn up to $300 a month!
www.csiiplasma.com

Best plasma donors today earn up to $300 a month!
For those donors who have qualified.
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University Test Prep

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LSAT Prep Course
October 27 - December 1
(Weekend) 6:30-9:30 pm

SAT Prep Course
Recommended for students currently in high school
November 2-23
(Sundays) 1:00-5:00 pm

GMAT Prep Course
February 9 - March 4, 2015
(Weekend) 6:30-9:30 pm

GRE Prep Course
January 24 - February 28, 2015
(Saturdays) 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Free Strategy/Informational Workshops for GRE, GMAT, and LSAT:
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View our website for a full course schedule
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Save 10% on a class by entering online promo code “USCStud”

Cock Pit BBQ
9015 Ball Road – Across from Williams-Brice Stadium
803-746-0236

Fri: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sat: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

See you there!

Offense looks to regain momentum against Furman

Costly errors mask impressive stats for South Carolina
David Roberts

Six games into the regular season and the tone of head coach Steve Spurrier’s publicly upbeat voice has less changed.

It has systemically improved so far in conference, and his words now seem to favor reassurance instead of fearlessness.

“I really do believe we have something to build on,” Spurrier said at his weekly press conference.

But things just don’t feel the same.

Every time South Carolina has taken the field this season, it has been hoping for more. Right now, it’s just now it’s just me and my truck,” he said.

And he’s looking to expand, as well. Ralph says he plans to bring in at least 30 more drivers right now. “We’ve got the customer. They can keep coming up to 200.”

“Not to move, but to build on,” he said.

And they’re really ready to expand.

With Brooks working 80 to 100 hours per week, it’s hard to imagine him being able to do more. “Not to move, but to build on,” he said.

“Where will it all end?“

So they’re certainly not going to stop anytime soon.

“Where will it all end?“

To see more, visit the Furman Paladins website at Furman.edu.

Closed Sundays and Mondays

What you want:
The sandwich lunch with slow and free - $7.99
Basket plate with fried pickles and mac-and-cheese - $16.99
Cock Pit Barbeque only opened last April, but it’s already on the South Carolina Barbecue Association’s “100 Mile BBQ List,” an honor that only 23 pits in the state claim. It’s located in the shadow of Williams-Brice Stadium and in less than 24 months, the restaurant has built a reputation with sports fans so strong that it begs to remain tradition.

For the Herring family, owners and operators of Cock Pit, barbecue is in their blood. According to head chef and patriarch, Ralph Herring, the tradition started with his grandfather. “There was no work after the war,” he said. “So grandaddy went to a heavily trafficked area and he dug a hole.”

It was there that Herring’s grandaddy smoked whole pigs “low and slow” all morning and when people left work in the afternoons for lunch, he would open for business.

It was from him that Herring learned the formula for vinegar-based pork, a Midlands staple. For those of you unfamiliar with South Carolina barbecue geography, let me lay it out for you. First of all, “barbecue” here means pulled pork. Second, there are three types of bases. In the lower part of the state, they use a tomato base. In the midlands, they use vinegar. And in the upstate, mustard-based barbecue reigns supreme.

As a barbecue fan from the Blueridge foothills, I am a born and bred lover of mustard-based pulled pork. It takes a lot for me to say that vinegar makes for the best barbecue. But I have to say, the vinegar and citrus base at Cock Pit is good. I’d even go so far as to say it’s damned good — so good that I ate an entire sandwich basket in less than a minute and a half.

It’s no wonder that on game days, the line snakes out around the parking lot. On those special Saturdays in South Carolina, Cock Pit serves up over five hundred pounds of barbecue. And they’ve been known to run out.

“We make everything fresh and serve it fast, but we want people to know that this isn’t fast food,” said Brooks Herring, administrator and Ralph’s son. And he’s not kidding. Barbecue is about as slow a food as you can get. It takes over ten hours to smoke a pig. Multiply that by how much meat it takes to feed a crowd, and you have a recipe for success.

See us on Saluda Street in Five Points for a Free Ride. We now take VISA, Master Card & American Express!
Ward hopes simplified scheme will bolster defense in weeks to come

South Carolina looks to atone for consecutive 4th-quarter collapses

Tanner Abel @TABELABEL

It’s been quite a ride so far this season for the South Carolina defense and all of the injuries they have had to deal with. It’s been more like one that they thought was going to be smooth with a few bumps, but they didn’t expect there would be a few 50-foot drops in the middle.

As a result of the recent two-game losing streak, where the Gamecocks had chances to make late stands, defensive coordinator Lorenzo Ward has received a lot of heat for the unit’s poor performance for the week.

But leadership from the defense’s upperclassmen stepped up and shouldered the blame away from Ward for the fourth quarter collapses, saying the recent failures are on the players. “It wasn’t about the coaches. It was about us,” junior safety T.J. Gurley said. “We had to look ourselves in the eye. We were missing a lot of tackles, blocking some assignments.”

That’s why he said the focus in practice to make things simpler for his defense, in terms of schemes with more emphasis on the fundamentals, like tackling.

In Gurley’s opinion, his coach shouldn’t have to simplify the schemes, as the team has had a good bit of success with them the past couple of seasons. Yet, it’s clear there aren’t past superstars like Jadeveon Clowney and Kelly Quattlebaum that can change the game instantly in this year’s group.

Ward is changing up some other things as well, including where he will be during the games — he’ll now be up in the coaching box instead of on the sidelines. He said if he had been able to see the Kentucky offense from up top, the Gamecocks would have had better preparation and formation that lit them up for five touchdowns.

Kentucky is coming off a lost South Carolina in that mobile quarterback spot two weeks ago, which means the Gamecocks may not have a cakewalk Saturday with another dual-threat player in Furman’s true freshman quarterback, P.J. Blazejowski.

“Definitely [the losses] were heartbreakers, but I think you can get better from every situation,” Redshirt senior spur Sharrod Golightly didn’t back out there.”

And when you’re giving up 35 points per game like the Gamecocks are, a matchup against a lower division team like Furman is expected to lower that average. But it turns into another high-scoring affair with the Paladins winning or nearly winning, all bets are off regarding playing time and job security.

Defensive coordinator Kirk Bolckin said the changes will help the players to not think as much, which is a good thing because according to him, “Anytime you’re thinking, you’re playing slow.”

Maybe these adjustments can finally maximize the potential of a South Carolina defense that ranks 103rd in passing yards allowed per game (264.3).

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Maybe these adjustments can finally maximize the potential of a South Carolina defense that ranks 103rd in passing yards allowed per game (264.3).
This Week the Carolina Band brings the sounds of SWING and “JUMP-BLUES” to Williams-Brice, Featuring:

In The Mood
( Glenn Miller)

Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy
(Popularized by the Andrews’ Sisters)

It Don’t Mean a Thing If It Ain’t Got That Swing
( Duke Ellington)

Rock This Town
(popularized by the Brian Setzer Orchestra)

My parents live in Columbia and they’re always pestering me to come home for the weekend. I’m all for free food, but I want to experience college. How do I break it to them that I’m just not interested?

You have to tell them directly. If your parents are like most, they’ll understand that you need space to do your own thing. If you’re an only child, their feeling of detachment from their kid is magnified. Hard as it may be, give them a call and explain what you’re feeling. They’ll understand.

My boyfriend just broke up with me. I have a class with him during the week, and the thought of seeing him day after day paralyzes me. Do you have any advice?

Listen: life is going to suck for a while. Maybe even a long while. That’s a given. There’s no way of getting back in him, and if you think there is, you shouldn’t. Revenge can take some seriously hurtful forms and isn’t worth thinking about. If he says it’s over, it’s over. That’s the first thing.

The second thing: If you physically cannot go to class with him there, then you should drop the class. I’m serious. You shouldn’t have to sacrifice your mental health for something you can finish up some other time.

Lastly: You have to get through this yourself. It’s important to have someone to talk to, and if you can find someone willing to help you deal with the first few days, fantastic. But doing this too much turns others into a crutch. They will get bored with you. If every conversation is about the ex — by the way you are both “ex’s” now — they will start to tune you out. Handing off your misery onto others is excusable, but not for long. Find help where you can, but keep in mind that this is your personal sorrow and no one else’s. The only one who can deal with it is you.
Week Eight Predictions
from the staff of

Danny Garrison
Sports Editor

David Roberts
Asst. Sports Editor

Tanner Abel
Asst. Sports Editor

Dalton Abel
Senior Writer

Notre Dame (5) at Florida State (2)
Kansas State (14) at Oklahoma (11)
Texas A&M (21) at Alabama (7)
Oklahoma State (15) at TCU (12)
Stanford (23) at Arizona State (17)
Kentucky at LSU
Missouri at Florida
Tennessee at Ole Miss (3)
Georgia (10) at Arkansas
Furman at South Carolina

Notre Dame
Notre Dame
Florida State
Florida State

Kansas State
Oklahoma
Oklahoma
Kansas State

Texas A&M
Alabama
Texas A&M
Alabama

TCU
TCU
TCU

Arizona State
Stanford
Stanford

LSU
LSU
LSU

Missouri
Florida
Florida

Ole Miss
Ole Miss
Ole Miss

Arkansas
Georgia
Arkansas

S. Carolina 48
Furman 24
S. Carolina 50
Furman 21
S. Carolina 42
Furman 20
S. Carolina 48
Furman 17
No. 21 Texas A&M at No. 7 Alabama
While it’s technically true to say Alabama is Alabama in a geographical and literal sense, Alabama is not Alabama. Head coach Nick Saban’s bunch has put together an uncharacteristic 5-1 record in which the Tide narrowly escaped a loss to Arkansas and fell to an Ole Miss defense that should be locked up for assault. While the McCarrons of days past, Alabama has certainly not looked nearly as dominant as the fighting A.J. McCarrons of days past. All this should point to an upset-in-the-making for Texas A&M, but the Aggies are in the throngs of a two-game losing streak at the hands of the pair of bulldozers from the state of Mississippi. But regardless of the downward trend, A&M quarterback and resident “trill” person, Kenny Hill, leads the SEC with 2,511 passing yards and 23 touchdown tosses. As Phyllis from Mulga, Alabama would have you believe, the Crimson Tide’s dynasty isn’t quite over. But the Aggies should give Bama a run for its money this weekend, and a loss could certainly put a bow on the Tide’s reign of terror.

Missouri at Florida
If the absurdity of the 2014 SEC East could be summarized in one game, it’d probably be this matchup between Missouri and Florida. In the Tigers’ (4-2, 1-1 SEC) last three games, they’ve lost to Indiana, mounted an improbable comeback win against South Carolina and been shut out 14-0 by Georgia. The Gators (1-1-2, 2-2 SEC) look highly uninterested in winning games and quarterback Jeff Driskel has flat-out forgotten how to play football. These two programs are both very much alive in the hunt for the division title, with one conference loss for Mizzou and two for Florida. The SEC East is a strange land, perhaps the strangest of all the birds. Regardless, someone has to win this game because this isn’t the NFL where you can tie. The winner can keep relative pace with Georgia for a spot in the SEC championship game. As for the loser, well, you can’t really count anything out with this division, so maybe they can win, too.

Kentucky at LSU
LSU head coach Les Miles calls the Tigers’ Death Valley the place “where dreams go to die.” But the dream-death rains have been 10/10 in two SEC games there this year, and Kentucky will look to put another dent in that Saturday. The Wildcats are sitting at 5-1 and could very well break into the top-25 with a win over the Tigers. Stop laughing — it’s true. By LSU’s standards, this season has been a disappointment so far, but you can never count out a program as established as the one from Baton Rouge. And it doesn’t hurt that true freshman running back Leonard Fournette has been as terrifying for opponents as advertised. Despite the various storylines, one of two things can happen Saturday: either Kentucky wins, propelling the Wildcats to a program-defining win and devastating LSU, or the Tiger win and everyone outside the state of Louisiana goes home disappointed.
Saturday's tilt with Furman was a mere afterthought a couple of months ago, if not a couple of weeks ago. Leading up to the opener against Texas A&M, fans and media professionals alike checked off wins and losses on their paper schedules in an attempt to peek into the cloudy crystal ball of the upcoming college football season.

While the first six games required minimal debate, the "W" likely went next to the Paladins without hesitation for most. Following a crushing defeat at Kentucky that left South Carolina with three losses for the first time in four years, the Gamecocks have had two weeks to toss and turn over FCS opponent Furman.

Head coach Steve Spurrier said that serious improvements needed to come from within before they could even consider underestimating any opponent. "We need to really concern ourselves with how we play, just make sure that we get in the habit of playing sound, fundamental football," Spurrier said. "We're always looking to see if we can play the best we can."

Nothing seems certain in Gamecock Country these days as buzz continues over inconsistent production on both sides of the ball as well as the sidelines. Despite entering Saturday's contest in the middle of a four-game losing streak, the Paladins currently boast the top passing defense in the FCS, allowing just 132 yards per game through the air, compared to over 170 on the ground. Given these numbers, South Carolina's play-calling will be in the spotlight early and often Saturday, even though the Gamecocks figure to be a higher-caliber opponent than those that Furman has faced thus far.

After compiling 183 yards in three and a half quarters against Kentucky two weeks ago, junior tailback Mike Davis did not receive a single carry on the final two drives of the game — both ending in interceptions. This came just one week after Spurrier elected not to go for two in an eventual one-point loss to Missouri.

The way this season has gone, it's easy to forget that the Gamecocks had three losses when they went to the SEC Championship in 2010. However, this team has a remarkably different feel to it. With a road test against Auburn looming next week, South Carolina has the chance to shake up the college football landscape once more. The lowest of stepping stones needs to be accomplished Saturday, something Spurrier feels his team is prepared to do.

One has to wonder what the current mental makeup is of a team that knows it will fall short of preseason expectations with half of its schedule still remaining. But, according to redshirt senior offensive guard A.J. Cann, the Gamecocks are fine. "We go out with the same mentality," he said. "We’re looking to win, play the best we can and go out and execute. We don’t look at who we’re playing."

Although Saturday's contest may be looked upon as a no-win situation, its mental implications go far beyond any tactical discoveries the Gamecocks may find. But if South Carolina comes out and clicks on all cylinders after what Spurrier identified as two good weeks of practice, the Missouri and Kentucky losses may become just a little easier to forget.

The first step to restoring a seemingly lost identity, Cann said, is harnessing the passion he and his teammates have during this tough stretch. "Once we get fired up, it’s football," Cann said. "Everybody loves to play this game, so once you step out on this field, you’re going to be prepared and ready to go."

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Behind Enemy Lines: 5 questions with Paladin sports editor Forest Stulting

Q. It’s no secret that South Carolina has struggled in the last few weeks. What is Furman’s confidence level going in to this game?
A. Furman is coming off a double OT loss at the hands of the third-ranked team in the FCS, Coastal Carolina. The Paladins had a chance at winning the game but fell short on a trick play in the first OT. I think our confidence will be higher than ever. Our third-string quarterback has had a few weeks to get used to the system and be comfortable in it. Since we are not playing for much besides pride, I think that we will play with a looseness that will allow us to stay in the game.

Q. What do you think the Paladins have to do in order to stay in this game and have a shot to pull off an upset?
A. The biggest thing in my opinion is going to be ball control. Furman has one of the better defenses in the SoCon and possibly the FCS, so if we are able to keep our offense on the field I think we will have a great shot at winning.

Q. Furman is in the middle of a four-game losing streak, but they haven’t necessarily been blown out in all those losses. How close is this team to turning a corner and competing in the Southern Conference?
A. The Paladins are very close to turning around the season. With the loss of our starting quarterback in the first game, we have had to play a game of musical chairs at that position. And it seems that we have found a winner in P.J. Blazejowski.

Q. What’s the excitement level around campus when Furman plays big schools like South Carolina? Do fans see it as a chance to get national exposure or just a bad beating waiting to happen?
A. The students get really excited when we play a big school like South Carolina. Especially with recent history of us traveling to other SEC and ACC schools and giving them a run for their money (Pun intended.)

Q. Which Furman players should South Carolina fans be on the lookout for Saturday?
A. On the defensive side, the Gamecock offense should be aware of defensive end Gary Wilkins (the SoCon defensive player of the month) and linebacker Marcus McMorris. These two seniors are the two leaders of the Paladin defense. On the offensive side, I’ve already mentioned one and that is true freshman quarterback P.J. Blazejowski. He has really taken hold of the Paladin offense. The other is his throwing mate Jordan Snellings. With a big frame, look for Blazejowski to try to find the Paladins’ leading receiver.

Prediction:
I think it will be a lot closer than the experts think. And maybe even a different outcome. With the Paladins surging and the Gamecocks doing anything but that, I predict that the Paladins will win 27-24. The difference is going to be the play calling of the Head Ball Coach, Steve Spurrier. He will not let Mike Davis and the supporting cast of running backs take control of the line and the game. Instead, he is going to try to beat the ‘Dins through the air. But it will be ineffective against the pass rush of the Paladins. This is going to be the game that Bruce Fowler and the Paladins turn the season around and make a push for the SoCon title.
We show both college & NFL!

Join us for our Homecoming Party
Friday 10am – 7pm & Saturday 10am – 6pm

Welcome Home Southern Style

What happened [in Dallas], regardless of the reason, is not acceptable.
— Anthony Fauci, director of the Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health, on Ebola in the U.S.

“It was a terrible experience. It seemed that everything was fine. The weather was fine. The trail was not so hard. Until the storm.”
— Yakov Megreli, an Israeli medical student who was trapped in a Tibetan snowstorm that killed at least 27 hikers

“I’m fine. He was not arrested. He was not imprisoned,” Bierbauer said. “We’ll have to wait until he gets back and see what kind of stories he has to tell.”

“Even as we celebrate their achievements, we must recommit ourselves to the world that they seek — one in which our daughters have the right and opportunity to get an education and in which all children are treated equally.”
— Barack Obama’s response to Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi sharing the Nobel Peace Prize

“Please remove Mr. Hawes from society.”
— Pat Wilson, whose daughter, USC professor Jennifer Wilson, was stabbed to death in her home by Hank Hawes

“Hannah Jeffreys @HANNAHJEFFREY34

Randy Covington, a professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, was detained in Russia Thursday for teaching an investigative journalism seminar.

Covington and fellow journalist Joe Bergantino arrived in Russia earlier this week to conduct journalism training with Russian reporters. After a successful two-day workshop in Moscow, the pair headed to St. Petersburg to begin a second workshop but were stopped by Russian officials, who instructed them to stop teaching, according to Charles Bierbauer, dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

“This is an abrupt intervention,” Bierbauer said. “It was something we were trying to do to enhance journalism and enhance journalism education in Russia.”

Bierbauer said he spoke with Covington after he and Bergantino underwent a visa hearing, in which they were told their visas did not permit them to teach in Russia. The U.S. Embassy instructed them not to obtain a business visa, since those are harder to get.

“They were doing what they were supposed to do and then suddenly, the rules changed,” Bierbauer said.

According to Bierbauer, Covington has traveled to Russia four or five times in the past without issue.

“He’s fine. He was not arrested. He was not imprisoned,” Bierbauer said. “We’ll have to wait until he gets back and see what kind of stories he has to tell.”

Tuesday October 28

GSPOTS will take place in Russell House Room 303 at 6:30 p.m.

Free and open to all students
Questions about the event?
Chat up via social media:
Facebook: facebook.com/UofSCGots
Twitter: @UofSCGots

Opening: Counseling & Human Development Center
Student Health Services

Gamecocks Speaking Proactively On Topics of Sexuality

Let’s talk about sex

What will you ask?

Q&A session on everything sex and sexuality. Text 589250 and your question to the number 37607.

Questions texted before and during the session will be answered anonymously. No question is off-limits.

Brittons of Columbia

Welcome Home Southern Style

Join us for our Homecoming Party
Friday 10am – 7pm & Saturday 10am – 6pm

Welcome Alumni

Enjoy brunch or watch the game from the bar!
We show both college & NFL!
Cock Pit Barbeque serves up the best pulled pork for 100 miles.

Halfway there: Gamecocks open final 6 games against Furman.

Homecoming hopefuls Friday, October 17, 2014