GAMECOCK ATHLETICS
SOUTH CAROLINA

2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT
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YEAR IN REVIEW

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The women’s basketball program’s national title was the seventh overall in the athletic department’s history. Four South Carolina programs now boast a National Championship, as the women join women’s outdoor track and field (2002), baseball (2010, 2011) and equestrian (2005, 2007, 2015) on the list of Gamecock teams to win a national title.

South Carolina is the only Division I athletics program this decade to have at least one Top 4 national finish (championships and/or polls) each in football, men’s and women’s basketball and baseball.

FINAL FOUR

South Carolina’s double Final Four this year in men’s and women’s basketball is only the 13th time in NCAA history and the third time in SEC history that this feat has been accomplished.

Five South Carolina athletics teams have made the Elite 8 in NCAA Championships during the last 12 months: men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s golf and women’s soccer.

Sindarius Thornwell (men’s basketball), A’ja Wilson (women’s basketball), Savannah McCaskill (women’s soccer-offensive) and Kaleigh Kurtz (women’s soccer-defensive) earned SEC Player of the Year honors in their sports.

South Carolina won its 16th and 17th SEC Championships this year. The women’s soccer team clinched the title on Oct. 23 and women’s basketball followed that up on Feb. 26. Women’s basketball won its 4th straight SEC Championship and 3rd straight SEC Tournament title.

South Carolina finished in 21st place in the Learfield Directors’ Cup Standings, the highest since the 2002-03 campaign and the third-highest finish in school history.

South Carolina won the Palmetto Series for the second straight year, edging intra-state rival Clemson, 8-7. The Certified SC Grown Palmetto Series is sponsored by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA) and is a year-long competition between the two schools in which points are awarded for the winners of head-to-head meetings in each sport. Points were also awarded for highest team GPA and for a food drive during the fall aimed at tackling hunger in their communities.
GAMECOCK ATHLETICS MISSION STATEMENT
Gamecock Athletics develops our student-athletes intellectually, athletically, socially, and culturally to relentlessly compete for championships and high levels of achievement at the University and throughout life in harmony with our University’s mission and vision.

GAMECOCK ATHLETICS VISION STATEMENT
We serve as a source of pride and inspiration to our University, our state, our nation and the world by relentlessly competing for championships with integrity, character, and passion.

GAMECOCK ATHLETICS CORE VALUES
Integrity: We expect and consistently demonstrate the highest standards of honesty, sportsmanship and character.

Respect: We hold each other mutually accountable for upholding our values. We honor all people while celebrating each individual’s culture, beliefs and ideas.

Positive Student-Athlete Experience: We provide an environment that supports each student-athlete’s well-being and success by encouraging personal, academic, and athletic development while at USC and beyond.

Pursuit of Excellence: We passionately and relentlessly pursue the achievement of excellence throughout every aspect of our lives.

Stewardship: We are trustworthy stewards of the reputation of the University, our resources, our relationships, and the experiences of our stakeholders and will demonstrate stewardship through service to our community.
Male New Student-Athlete of the Year:
Jake Bentley (football)

Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year:
Bailey Mierzejewski (equestrian)

Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year:
Jonathan Boland (swimming and diving)

Community Outreach Team of the Year:
Indoor Volleyball

Female New Student-Athletes of the Year:
Tyasha Harris (women’s basketball)
Mikayla Krzeczowski (women’s soccer)

Male New Student-Athlete of the Year:
Jake Bentley (football)

Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year:
Bailey Mierzejewski (equestrian)

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Bailey Mierzejewski (equestrian)

Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year:
Jonathan Boland (swimming and diving)

Community Outreach Team of the Year:
Indoor Volleyball

Female Athlete of the Year:
A’ja Wilson (women’s basketball)

Male Athlete of the Year:
Sindarius Thornwell (men’s basketball)

Gamecock Inspiration Award:
Elliott Fry (football)

President’s Award:
Chelsea Drennan (women’s soccer)
TEAM MVPs

Baseball:
Gene Cone

Women's Basketball:
A'ja Wilson

Men's Basketball:
Sindarius Thornwell

Beach Volleyball:
Adrianna Culbert and Katie Zimmerman

Cheerleading:
Caroline Rietkovich

Carolina Girls Dance Team:
Addison Lewis

Cross Country:
Mary Reiser

Equestrian:
Bailey Mierzejewski

Football:
Jake Bentley and Deebo Samuel

Women's Golf:
Katelyn Dambaugh

Men's Golf:
Keenan Huskey

Women's Soccer:
Chelsea Drennan

Men's Soccer:
Julian Veen Uldal

Softball:
Kaylea Snaer

Women's Swimming and Diving:
Emma Barksdale

Men's Swimming and Diving:
Akram Mahmoud

Women's Tennis:
Brigit Folland

Men's Tennis:
Harrison O'Keefe

Women's Outdoor Track and Field:
Natasha Dicks

Women's Indoor Track and Field:
Rougui Sow

Men's Outdoor Track and Field:
Dondre Echols

Men's Indoor Track and Field:
Josh Awotunde

Volleyball:
Mikayla Shields
South Carolina finished the season 35-25 with a 13-17 record in the SEC. Carolina advanced to the semifinals of the 2017 SEC Tournament, the school’s first appearance in the semifinals since the 2007 season.

• Junior third baseman Jonah Bride and freshman outfielder Carlos Cortes were named to the 2017 SEC All-Tournament Team.

• Outfielder Carlos Cortes was named a member of the 2017 Perfect Game, d1Baseball.com and National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Freshman All-America Team.

• The following Gamecocks were taken in the 2017 MLB Draft: Clark Schmidt (1st Round-New York Yankees), Wil Crowe (2nd Round-Washington Nationals), Tyler Johnson (5th Round-Chicago White Sox), Alex Destino (14th Round-Chicago White Sox), Josh Reagan (15th Round-Oakland A’s) and John Parke (21st Round-Chicago White Sox).

• On June 30, Mark Kingston was named the 30th head coach in the history of South Carolina baseball. Kingston comes to Carolina following a three-year stint as head coach at South Florida. He was also the head coach at Illinois State for five seasons. He has also been an assistant at Miami, Tulane and Purdue. Kingston owns a career mark of 253-180-1 in eight seasons as a head coach, with three NCAA appearances in that eight-year span.

**COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF**

Chad Holbrook: Head Coach  
Jerry Meyers: Associate Head Coach  
Sammy Esposito: Assistant Coach  
Brian Buscher: Volunteer Coach  
Tyson Lusk: Director of Operations  
Blake Cooper: Student Assistant  
Katherine Brown: Administrative Assistant  
Billy Anderson: Director of Sport Performance  
Ryan Fischer: Director of Equipment  
Brainard Cooper: Athletic Trainer  
Katie Ethridge: Academic Advisor  
Andrew Kitick: Media Relations Contact
HIGHLIGHTS

• After making its first NCAA tournament appearance since 2004, the No. 7-seeded Gamecocks upset two-seed Duke, three-seed Baylor and four-seed Florida in the East Region to make the Final Four for the first time in school history.

• South Carolina’s 93-73 win over Marquette in the first round of the tournament marked the Gamecocks’ first NCAA Tournament win since 1973.

• Frank Martin was named the Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year.

• After the Cinderella run to the Final Four, the Gamecocks ended the season ranked No. 6 in the USA Today Coaches Poll.

• Sindarius Thornwell was selected as the 48th pick in the 2017 NBA draft, and will begin his professional career with the Los Angeles Clippers.

• PJ Dozier signed as a free agent with the Los Angeles Lakers.

• Thornwell was named the SEC Player of the Year by the conference’s coaches and was a unanimous selection to the All-SEC first team and the All-Defensive team.

OVERALL RECORD: 26-11
CONFERENCE: 12-6 (T-3RD)

The Gamecocks broke the school record with 26 victories, and made the program’s first-ever Final Four appearance.

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Frank Martin: Head Coach
Matt Figger: Associate Head Coach/Recruiting Coordinator
Perry Clark: Assistant Coach
Bruce Shingler: Assistant Coach
Andy Assaley: Director of Basketball Operations
Scott Greenawalt: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Doug Edwards: Student-Athlete Development
Mark Rodger: Athletic Trainer
Jay Gibbons: Director of Men’s Basketball Video Services
Dushawn Davis: Director of Social Media
Jarett Gerald: Special Assistant to Head Men’s Basketball Coach
Brian Steele: Student Assistant Coach
Ryan McIntyre: Graduate Student Manager
Mac Credille: Equipment Manager
Rochelle Robinson: Academic Advisor
Susan Hook: Administrative Assistant
Chris Leevy Johnson: Life Coach
Emily Miles: Media Relations Contact
• Junior A’ja Wilson earned Final Four Most Outstanding Player honors and junior Allisha Gray made the Final Four All-Tournament Team.

• South Carolina won the SEC regular-season championship for the fourth straight year and the SEC Tournament for the third consecutive year. Only one other program (Tennessee) has won that many consecutive league titles of either type.

• Two-time SEC Player of the Year A’ja Wilson was a finalist for all three major national player of the year awards – Wooden Award, Wade Trophy and Naismith Trophy - and a unanimous First-Team All-American. Wilson is just the fourth woman to be named SEC Player of the Year and Final Four MOP in the same season, joining Candace Parker, Chamique Holdsclaw and Bridgette Gordon (all of Tennessee).

• Alaina Coates joined Wilson on the All-SEC First Team, becoming the first Gamecock to earn All-SEC honors all four years of her career.

• Three Gamecocks were among the first 10 picks in the 2017 WNBA Draft, led by a pair of top-five picks. Alaina Coates became the program’s highest ever selection at No. 2 (Chicago Sky) with Allisha Gray taken at No. 4 (Dallas Wings) and Kaela Davis going at No. 10 (Dallas Wings).

• The Gamecocks had a SEC-best 12 wins against top-25-ranked teams, including eight top-10 wins – just three coming at home.
The team’s 23 wins this season are the most in program history.

Ali Denney and Katie Smith earned CCSA All-Freshman Team honors.

After upsetting No. 11 FIU on March 4, the Gamecocks entered the AVCA Coaches Top-15 poll for the first time in program history.

South Carolina had five wins over AVCA Top-15 teams this season; it had just one in the program’s first three seasons combined.

Senior Jade Vitt and junior Macie Tendrich eclipsed 60 career wins this season, making them the first two student-athletes to break 60 in program history.

Junior Julia Mannisto and freshman Carly Schnieder became the third pair in program history to reach 20 dual wins in a single season.

Ten different Gamecock individuals won at least 20 matches in 2017. Just seven Gamecocks won 20 or more matches in a season in the program’s first three years combined.

The team finished the season ranked 8th in the AVCA Coaches Poll and was ranked in the poll for 11 straight weeks.

Junior Macie Tendrich represented the United States at the Maccabiah Games in Israel, and won the bronze medal.


COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Moritz Moritz: Head Coach
RJ Abella: Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator
Luke Higgs: Volunteer Assistant Coach
Alyssa Taylor: Director of Beach Volleyball Operations
Keith Scruggs: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Sydney Suppa: Athletic Trainer
Courtney Smith, Collin Wilson: Student Managers
Joe Kepler: Media Relations Contact
The Gamecocks earned the USTFCCCA All-Academic Team nod again for the 16th-straight season, ranking 16th in the country.

All 15 of the eligible students made the SEC Fall Academic Honor Roll.

The Gamecocks won the Gamecock Invitational on Oct. 4, the Winthrop/Adidas Invitational on Sept. 17 and the Carolina Challenge on Sept. 3.

Carolina finished 13th at the SEC Championships, Oct. 28, in Fayetteville, Ark. with Mary Reiser placing 61st with a time of 22:09.9, the top Gamecock finisher.

The Gamecocks finished 24th in the NCAA Southeast Regionals, held Nov. 11, in Earlysville, Va. Mary Reiser was Carolina’s top finisher, placing 74th with a time of 22:06.4.

CROSS COUNTRY
South Carolina won three meets and improved from its 2015 finish at the NCAA regional meet.

HIGHLIGHTS

- SEC: 13TH
- NCAA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL: 24TH

SUCCESS ON THE FIELD

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Curtis Frye: Head Coach
Andrew Allden: Assistant Coach/Cross Country, Distances
Scott Gardner: Athletic Trainer
Xavier Shannon: Academic Advisor
Keith Scruggs: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Koby Padgett: Media Relations Contact
Caroline Gute (reining) was named NCEA First Team All-America, while Chloe Schmidt (equitation on the flat) and Bridgett White (reining) were Honorable Mention All-America picks.

Bailey Mierzejewski was named SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the second consecutive season.

Caroline Gute was named SEC Reining Rider of the Year as a freshman.

Carolina led the nation with nine NCEA Academic First Team selections and 28 NCEA Honor Roll selections.

During the 2016-17 season, Carolina defeated 5th-ranked Baylor, 12-6, on Sept. 23, 2nd-ranked Georgia, 9-8, on Oct. 9, 10th-ranked New Mexico State, 11-8, on Oct. 21, 10th-ranked TCU, 9-8, on Feb. 12, and 7th-ranked SMU, 7-5, on March 4.

Paige Stopperich (horsemanship) earned SEC Rider of the Month honors for October.

Madison Butehorn (equitation over fences) and Madison Thiel (reining) earned SEC Rider of the Month honors for September.

Bailey Walters went 2-0 in reining at the SEC Championship, winning MOP honors in both competitions.

Junior Paige Stopperich won the American Quarter Horse Association’s Amateur Hunt Seat Equitation World Championship in November at Oklahoma City.

The Gamecocks won their NCEA Championship First Round match over No. 11 South Dakota State, 15-1, the most lopsided postseason win in school history, and advanced to the national quarterfinals for the third time in the last four years.

OVERALL RECORD: 7-9
CONFERENCE: 1-5

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF
Boo Major: Head Coach
Ruth Sorrel: Associate Head Coach/Western Coach
Hillary Dobbs: Assistant Coach/Hunt Seat
Maggie Barton: Barn Manager
Keith Scruggs: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Krista Burrows: Athletic Trainer
Bridgett Tabor: Academic Advisor
Rob Walden: Media Relations Contact
The Gamecocks finished the season with a 6-7 record, including a 3-5 mark in the SEC. The six wins doubled the win total from 2015 and the three SEC wins was a two-game improvement over 2015.

The Gamecocks played in the Birmingham Bowl. It marked the 12th time in the last 13 years that the squad was bowl-eligible.

13 true freshmen saw game action during the 2016 season, including seven who started, matching Maryland, Ole Miss and Texas for the most true freshmen starters in the country.

Deep snapper Drew Williams (Steele’s All-America Fourth Team); defensive end Darius English (AP All-SEC Second Team, Steele’s All-SEC Third Team); wide receiver Bryan Edwards (Athlon’s Second Team Freshman All-America and SEC All-Freshman First Team); running back Rico Dowdle (Athlon’s SEC All-Freshman Second Team); defensive lineman D.J. Wonnum (Athlon’s SEC All-Freshman Second Team); and kick return A.J. Turner (Athlon’s SEC All-Freshman Second Team) were postseason award winners.

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Will Muschamp: Head Coach
Bobby Bentley: Running Backs
Shawn Elliott: Offensive Line
Coleman Hutzler: Special Teams Coordinator/Linebackers
Bryan McClendon: Co-Offensive Coordinator/Wide Receivers
Mike Peterson: Outside Linebackers
Travaris Robinson: Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs
Kurt Roper: Co-Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks
Lance Thompson: Asst. Head Coach: Defense/Defensive Line
Pat Washington: Tight Ends
Jeff Dillman: Director of Strength & Conditioning
Jamie Speronis: Associate AD – Football Operations
Robbie Liles: Director of Player Personnel
Joey Blake: Director of Football Nutrition
Andre Goodman: Director – Player Development
Charles Jackson Jr: Director – Player Development
Joe Lisle: Assistant A.D. – Video Operations
Larry Waters: Director of Football Equipment Operations
Clyde Wrenn: Director of High School Relations
Jessica Jackson: Director of On-Campus Recruiting
Kristin Sheetz: Director of External Communications
Brian Turk: Assistant Director: Recruiting
Shaq Wilson: Assistant Director – Recruiting
Ellis Johnson: Analyst
Kyle Krantz: Analyst
Demarco McNeil: Analyst
Scott Spurrier: Analyst
Seth Strickland: Analyst
Omar Young: Analyst
David Feeley: Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach
Corey Jenkins: Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach
Roy Upchurch: Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach
Cedric Williams: Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach
Shuler Hayes: Assistant Director of Football Equipment Operations
Kim Fields: Assistant to Head Football Coach & Director of Operations
Charity Grady: Coordinator of Offensive Operations
Carina Hargreaves: Coordinator of Defensive Operations
Clint Haggard: Head Football Athletic Trainer
Daryl Faulkner: Assistant Football Athletic Trainer
Rachel Sharp: Assistant Football Athletic Trainer
Steve Fink: Assistant Athletics Director, Media Relations
Keenan Huskey and Scott Stevens had two of the finest seasons in school history. Huskey’s team-leading 70.63 scoring average was the third lowest in school history. Stevens’ 71.26 scoring average was the fifth lowest all-time at Carolina and the lowest ever by a sophomore. Both numbers ranked in the top-15 of the SEC, the nation’s premier collegiate golf conference.

The Gamecocks advanced to the first ever SEC Match Play with a fifth place finish in the stroke play portion of the SEC Championship on April 22. Huskey (T-9), Jamie Wilson (T-16) & Stevens (T-23) all finished in the top-25 individually in stroke play. Wilson shot a career-low 66 in the final round to propel Carolina to the match play quarterfinals.

Team made its 10th appearance in the last 11 seasons under McDonald in the postseason at the NCAA West Lafayette Regional. The Gamecocks finished ninth in what was ranked the hardest NCAA Regional by Golfweek. It snapped a program record four-straight trips to the NCAA Championship.

Huskey and Stevens were each Second Team All-SEC selections, the 13 and 14th all-league honors under McDonald. The duo was also named PING All-Southeast Region by the Golf Coaches Association of America.

Team won the Hootie At Bulls Bay Intercollegiate for the third consecutive season. The win marked McDonald’s 20th as head coach, adding to his program record for tournament victories.

Huskey was named an Honorable Mention All-American by Golfweek, marking the 37th All-America laurels in program history. He’s the 22nd different player all-time to be deemed one of the nation’s best. He’s the seventh different All-American under McDonald, whose student-athletes have produced 15 All-America honors in his 10 seasons as head coach.

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Bill McDonald: Head Coach
Jake Amos: Associate Head Coach
Ryan Holroyd: Volunteer Assistant Coach
Marci Saltzman: Administrative Assistant
Alex Buchman: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Tim Bailey: Athletic Trainer
Al Daniel: Academic Advisor
Michael DeBates: Media Relations Contact
Carolina’s three All-Americans this season marked the most in one season in program history. Senior Katelyn Dambaugh collected First-Team honors from Golfweek and Second Team laurels from the WGCA, while junior Ainhoa Olarra was tabbed an All-American Honorable Mention by both publications. Newcomer Ana Pelaez, the first freshman in school history to receive All-America honors, was named a Golfweek All-American Honorable Mention.

The Gamecocks have boasted multiple All-Americans in each of the last four years.

Carolina captured a share of the 2017 NCAA Columbus Regional – The Gamecocks have won five regional championships (2010, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017) in the last eight years, and this spring’s victory was the 10th tournament win for Carolina under coach Kalen Anderson.

Carolina placed 10th at the 2017 NCAA Championship, earning a top-10 finish at the event for the fourth time in program history.

Pelaez captured medalist honors at the NCAA Columbus Regional, earning her first collegiate victory.

South Carolina finished the season ranked No. 12 in the final Golfstat Rankings (May 25). Three Gamecocks finished in the top 50 individually – Dambaugh (No. 9), Pelaez (No. 33) and Olarra (No. 38)
HIGHLIGHTS

• Carolina advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, falling at #3 Clemson, 2-1 in overtime. The Gamecocks defeated Mercer, 1-0, in the first round of the tournament.

• The Gamecocks were 35th in the final NCAA RPI (Nov. 14) and received votes in the final NSCAA Coaches Poll.

• The team broke the single-game attendance record at Stone Stadium on Aug. 26, when 6,892 fans attended the home opener vs. Clemson.

• Nine Gamecocks earned all-conference recognition from Conference USA led by senior Danny Deakin, who was named First Team All-C-USA for the second straight season. The nine all-conference laurels were the most in program history.

• Deakin finished the regular season tied for third in the league with 20 points (7G, 6A). He was one of only two players in the top-10 of the individual points lists for goals and assists. He tied for the league lead with five game-winning goals.

• Deakin and senior Kurtis Turner were named NSCAA All-Southeast Region. Deakin earned first team honors for the second straight season, while Turner was on the third team.

• Senior Ive Burnett was the recipient of the SEC Brad Davis Community Service Award.

• Deakin was selected in the 2017 MLS SuperDraft by Orlando City SC with the 20th overall pick in the third round on Jan. 17. It was the club’s only pick in the draft. Deakin signed his contract with the team on March 3 and is currently playing for their USL team, Orlando City B.

OVERALL RECORD: 11-8-2
CONFERENCE: 5-2-1 (3RD)

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Mark Berson: Head Coach
Justin Cook: Assistant Coach
Tyler Kettering: Assistant Coach
Denny Sago: Volunteer Assistant
Keith Scruggs: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Brainard Cooper: Athletic Trainer
Bridgette Tabor: Academic Advisor
Michael DeBates: Media Relations Contact
Carolina finished with the top winning percentage (.896) in Division I.

The Gamecocks went 17-0-1 in the regular season, becoming the first team in SEC soccer history to go unbeaten in the regular season.

South Carolina was listed at No. 5 in the final NSCAA Poll. The ranking marked the team’s best finish in school history.

South Carolina’s undefeated SEC record earned it the program’s second regular-season league title and first conference championship since 2011.

Carolina reached the NCAA Elite Eight for the second time in the last three seasons. The Gamecocks have reached the NCAA Tournament in nine of the last 10 seasons.

In a voting of SEC coaches, Shelley Smith was named the league’s Coach of the Year while Forward Savannah McCaskill was voted the SEC Offensive Player of the Year and Defender Kaleigh Kurtz was the SEC Defensive Player of the Year. Midfielder Chelsea Drennan, Defender Paige Bendell and Goalkeeper Mikayla Krzeczowski joined McCaskill and Kurtz on the first-team All-SEC team. Forward Sophie Groff was named second-team All-SEC and Krzeczowski earned SEC All-Freshman honors.

**OVERALL RECORD: 21-2-1 • CONFERENCE: 11-0-0 (1ST)**

The Gamecocks set program records for wins and wins over ranked opponents, and advanced to the Elite Eight round of the NCAA tournament.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Carolina finished with the top winning percentage (.896) in Division I.
- The Gamecocks went 17-0-1 in the regular season, becoming the first team in SEC soccer history to go unbeaten in the regular season.
- South Carolina was listed at No. 5 in the final NSCAA Poll. The ranking marked the team’s best finish in school history.
- South Carolina’s undefeated SEC record earned it the program’s second regular-season league title and first conference championship since 2011.
- Carolina reached the NCAA Elite Eight for the second time in the last three seasons. The Gamecocks have reached the NCAA Tournament in nine of the last 10 seasons.

**COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF**

Shelley Smith: Head Coach
Jamie Smith: Associate Head Coach
Clark McCarty: Assistant Coach
Alex Buchman: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Stephanie Rosehart: Athletic Trainer
Bridgett Tabor: Academic Advisor
Scott Waggoner: Media Relations Contact
• South Carolina finished 22nd in the final NCAA RPI rankings.
• The Gamecocks finished the season tied for 25th in the final NFCA Coaches Poll, the first time the program has finished the season ranked in the final poll since 2007.
• South Carolina advanced to its third regional final in five years under Beverly Smith.
• Freshman Mackenzie Boesel made the SEC All-Freshman Team and led the Gamecocks in 11 offensive categories. She’s the first Gamecock freshman to lead the team in the Triple Crown categories of batting average, home runs and RBI. She set new freshman records with her 10 home runs and .441 on-base percentage.
• Senior Jessica Elliott tossed the first solo no-hitter in seven years with her five-inning blanking of Winthrop in the first game of Feb. 28’s doubleheader.
• Senior Nickie Blue finished her Carolina career 3rd in NCAA history and second in the SEC in career saves with 22.
• Senior Kaylea Snaer set new standards at South Carolina in doubles per game (0.25), walks (116) and walks per game (0.51). She also garnered the first-base spot on the SEC All-Defensive Team.
• The Gamecocks defeated top-ranked Florida State, 7-2, on April 14. It was the program’s fourth win since 1995 against the nation’s top-ranked team.

The Gamecocks reached the NCAA Tournament for the fifth consecutive season.

OVERALL RECORD: 34-25
CONFERENCE: 8-15 (10TH)
The Gamecocks finished with five different student-athletes earning All-America status: **Cody Bekemeyer** (800 free relay, 1650 free), **Nils Wich-Glasen** (100 breast, 200 breast), **Akram Mahmoud** (800 free relay, 500 free, 1650 free), **Fynn Minuth** (800 free relay, 500 free, 200 fly) and **Tomas Peribonio** (800 free relay, 500 free, 400 IM, 1650 free).

- **Jordan Gotro** (1-meter, platform) also qualified for the NCAA Division I Swimming and Diving Championships.
- South Carolina finished 8th at the SEC Championships. **Akram Mahmoud** successfully defended his SEC title in the 1650 freestyle and became the first male to win an individual title for Carolina in consecutive years since 2000-01. **Cody Bekemeyer** placed 3rd in the 1650 free as well. **Nils Wich-Glasen** placed second and won the silver medal in the 100 and 200 breaststroke. **Fynn Minuth** won the gold in the 500 freestyle and won the bronze in the 200 freestyle.
- **Akram Mahmoud** and **Fynn Minuth** were first-team All-SEC selections while Cody Bekemeyer and Nils Wich-Glasen were second-team All-SEC picks.
- South Carolina set a total of 21 school records and 81 personal records during the SEC Championships, for both men’s and women’s teams.
- Freshman **Will Riggs** earned USA Swimming 18 & Under World 100 recognition for his time in the 200 butterfly.

**COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF**

- **McGee Moody**: Head Men’s and Women’s Swimming Coach
- **Todd Sherritt**: Head Diving Coach
- **Mark Bernardino**: Associate Head Coach
- **Kevin Swander**: Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator
- **Erin Mullins**: Assistant Coach
- **Josh Morgan**: Director of Aquatic Strength
- **Breanna Reyes**: Athletic Trainer
- **Jewel May**: Academic Advisor
- **Baley Murphy**: Media Relations Contact
South Carolina placed 38th at the NCAA Championships, buoyed by a 13th place All-American finish by Allyson Nied in platform diving. Emma Barksdale received All-American honors in the 400 IM, placing 13th, and also set a school record in the 200 IM.

The Gamecocks placed 9th at the SEC Championships, in Knoxville, Tenn. The team posted its highest finish since placing 8th in 2012.

Todd Sherritt was named the SEC Women’s Diving Coach of the Year by his peers. Divers Julia Vincent and Allyson Nied were also named first-team All-SEC. Albury Higgs was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team (400 IM, 100 Breast, 200 Breast).

South Carolina set a total of 21 school records and 81 personal records during the SEC Championships, for both men’s and women’s teams.

Three Gamecock women’s divers qualified for the NCAA Division I Swimming and Diving Championships – Julia Vincent (1-meter, 3-meter), Mikaela Lujan (1-meter, 3-meter) and Allyson Nied (platform). Vincent won the 1-meter and set a new school record at the NCAA Diving Zone Championships. Nied won the platform and also set a new school record at Zones.

Sophomore Emma Barksdale earned USA Swimming 18 & Under World 100 recognition for her time in the 400 IM. The list of 50 men and 50 women was selected according to their highest 18 & under world ranking in an individual Olympic event. Barksdale holds a world ranking of 22.

With the Gamecocks’ 177-123 win at Arkansas on Nov. 4, head coach McGee Moody notched his 100th victory as South Carolina’s head coach.
The team finished 9-3 in SEC play, tying a program-best regular season SEC finish at third place.

The Gamecocks earned an NCAA bid for the first time since 2013-14 and advanced to the second round, defeating East Tennessee in the first round and falling to North Carolina in the second round.

Carolina finished 21st in the final ITA rankings.

The Gamecocks had two top-25 wins, defeating #17-ranked Mississippi State, 4-3, and #23 Kentucky, 4-3.

Junior Harrison O'Keefe was named to the first-team All-SEC squad while junior Gabriel Friedrich was named second-team All-SEC.

Junior Harrison O'Keefe was named SEC Athlete of the Week three times, including two weeks in a row (March 22-29).

Friedrich finished the season ranked 46th in the final Oracle ITA Division I Rankings. He was 26-14 in singles play this year, 14-8 in dual matches, notching six wins over ranked opponents in the spring.

Harrison O'Keefe finished the season ranked 70th in the ITA Rankings, with a 27-15 overall record, 18-10 in the SEC.

The doubles team of Harrison O'Keefe and Yancy Dennis finished the season ranked 16th nationally.

Harrison O'Keefe and Gabriel Friedrich earned NCAA bids in the singles competition while O'Keefe and Yancy Dennis earned a berth into the NCAA doubles field.
The Gamecocks finished the season with a 20-8 overall record, and ranked 15th in the final ITA rankings.

Freshman Mia Horvit was named to the ITA All-America Singles Team. She is the first Gamecock singles All-American under the direction of head coach Kevin Epley. The freshman was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team and the All-SEC Second Team, becoming the first Gamecock rookie to be named to the All-SEC Second Team since Ana Marija Zubori received the honor in 2007.

Horvit finished the season ranked 46th in the final ITA Rankings while sophomore Ingrid Gamarra Martins was ranked 48th. Horvit had a 27-12 overall record, and Martins was 18-17 overall and made the second round of the NCAA singles championship.

The doubles pairing of Paige Cline and Hadley Berg finished the season ranked 27th nationally and made the second round of the NCAA double championship.

The Gamecocks won nine matches against teams ranked in the top 40. Top wins included defeating #22 Texas in the 2nd round of the NCAA Tournament, wins over Kentucky when it was ranked #13 and #19, #16 Mississippi State, #18 Arkansas, #19 Tennessee, and #20 Texas A&M.

South Carolina reached the NCAA Round of 16 for the first time since 2009.

Kevin Epley: Head Coach
Jeff Nevolo: Assistant Coach
Alex Martin: Volunteer Assistant Coach
Arulram Sriram: Director of Operations
Brittany Williams: Athletic Trainer
David Terry: Stringer
Katie Ethridge: Academic Advisor
Tyson Blanton: Media Relations Contact
Josh Awotunde (shot put), Ben Bonhurst (shot put), Markus Leemet (decathlon), Isaiah Moore (110mH), and Tye Williams (high jump) were all first-team All-SEC at the outdoor meet.

The Carolina men finished eighth at the SEC Outdoor Championships, their highest finish since 2010.

At the indoor SEC championships, Michael Wamer was 5th in the triple jump, Eric Favors was 5th in the shot put, Tye Williams was 6th in the high jump, Josh Awotunde 7th in the shot put, Markus Leemet was 7th in the heptathlon and Ben Bonhurst was 8th in the shot put.

Eric Favors earned a spot on the Freshman All-SEC Team.

Ncincilili Titi ran a school-record 200m time of 20.14 at the Gamecock Invitational April 15 at Cregger Track. For his efforts, he was named the SEC Athlete of the Week.

Leemet broke a 27-year-old school record in the decathlon, totaling 7,720 points at the SEC Championships.

Williams broke a 29-year-old school record in the high jump, leaping 7-4 1/2 at the Penn Relays on April 29.

Josh Awotunde (shot put) and Ncincilili Titi (200m) earned first-team All-America honors indoors, and Isaiah Moore (110m hurdles) and Tye Williams (high jump) made the first team in the outdoor season.

COACHES/SUPPORT STAFF

Curtis Frye: Head Coach (Sprints/Hurdles)
Delethea Quarles: Assistant Head Coach (Jumps/Multis)
Kevin Brown: Assistant Coach (Sprints/Relays/Pole Vault);
Recruiting Coordinator
Mike Sergent: Assistant Coach (Throws)
Andrew Allden: Assistant Coach (Cross Country/Distances)
Hadrien Choukroun: Assistant Coach (Sprints/Hurdles/XC)
Raylene Ross: Director of Track & Field Operations
Scott Gardner: Athletic Trainer
Xavier Shannon: Academic Advisor
Dan Austin: Strength and Conditioning Coach
Rob Walden: Media Relations Contact
Two Gamecocks earned First-Team All-America honors at the NCAA Indoor Championships: Natasha Dicks (triple jump) and Rougui Sow (long jump).

Redshirt senior Tyler Brockington won the 400m hurdles at the SEC Championships, Carolina’s first win in the event since 2005.

Carolina’s 4x400m relay team earned second-team All-America status indoors, while the 4x100m relay team earned second-team All-America laurels outdoors.

Brockington, Natasha Dicks (triple jump) and Rougui Sow (long jump) were All-SEC first-team members at the conference’s outdoor meet.

Sow recorded a school-record long jump of 6.72 meters April 7 at the Spec Towns Invitational in Athens, Ga. That stood as the best outdoor long jump mark in the entire world this season for three weeks.

Senior Maya Evans was named the SEC Brad Davis Community Service Leader of the Year. During her collegiate career, Evans accumulated over 700 hours of community service.

Junior Rougui Sow earned first-team All-America honors in the long jump at the indoor and outdoor national championships.

**SUCCESS ON THE TRACK**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

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The Gamecocks finished the season 18-12 overall, 6-12 in the SEC. The 18 wins are the most for Carolina since 2012 and the .600 winning percentage is the highest for the program since 2008.

Outside hitter Mikayla Shields was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team, as voted by the league’s coaches. She led the team in kills and hitting percentage and also made the AVCA All-Region Honorable Mention team.

South Carolina won four tournament titles in 2016 – the College of Charleston Invitational (Aug. 26-27), the Carolina Classic (Sept. 3-4) and Gamecock Invitational (Sept. 16-17) at the Carolina Volleyball Center and the Springhill Suites Invitational, Sept. 9-10, in Statesboro, Ga.

The team secured its first win at LSU in 13 years after earning a 3-1 decision on Oct. 16.

Mikayla Shields was named to the USA Women’s Junior National Team in April. The Orlando, Fla. native is the first member of the program since Shonda Cole in 2006 to make an American national team. She went on to win gold at the Pan American Cup, and will now try out for the U20 World Championship squad.
The Gamecocks led the SEC for the fourth consecutive year with 9,298 hours of community service.

2016-17 Gamecock SEC Community Service Team Representatives

BASEBALL – Wil Crowe, Jr., Sevierville, Tenn.
MEN’S BASKETBALL – PJ Dozier, So., Columbia, S.C.
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL – Alaina Coates, Irmo, S.C.
FOOTBALL – Elliott Fry, Sr., Frisco, Texas
MEN’S GOLF – Ben Dietrich, Jr., Bluffton, S.C.
WOMEN’S GOLF – Marianna Monaco, Sr., Yonkers, N.Y.
MEN’S S&D – Bryce Kananowicz, Jr., Coeur d’Alene, Idaho
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A total of 379 South Carolina student-athletes made the 2016-17 SEC Academic Honor Rolls, top among league schools (90-Fall, 78-Winter, 118-Spring, 93-First Year). Carolina student-athletes posted a combined 3.23 GPA for the Spring 2017 semester, marking the 21st consecutive semester of more than a 3.0 GPA for Gamecock student-athletes.

Fourteen of the eighteen South Carolina athletics teams earned a 3.0 or better GPA this past spring. Women’s swimming and diving (3.705) earned its second highest GPA to date, which not only led all of the Gamecock programs this spring, but also ranked second nationally. Equestrian (3.488), Women’s Track (3.567), Men’s Track & Field (3.265) and Volleyball (3.673) also earned its second-highest GPAs ever recorded.

A total of 104 Gamecock student-athletes earned their degree following the 2017 spring semester while 33 graduated following the 2016 fall semester. Another 23 expected to graduate in August.

South Carolina named 66 student-athletes to the President’s List (4.0 GPA) this spring, 164 to the Dean’s List (3.5 for sophomores and higher/3.25 for freshmen), and 353 to the Athletic Director’s Honor Roll (3.0).

The Gamecock cross country team earned the USTFCCCA All-Academic Team nod for the 16th-straight season, ranking 16th overall in the country. The men’s and women’s track programs earned All-Academic team distinction for the ninth-straight year, and were one of just three SEC schools to have both programs collect the award.

South Carolina equestrian led the nation with nine NCEA Academic First Team selections and 28 NCEA Honor Roll selections. Senior Bailey Mierzejewski was named SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year for the second consecutive season.

The Gamecock softball senior Victoria Williams made the Academic All-America third team, and the team as a whole had 14 of its student-athletes make the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Easton Scholar-Athlete Listing.

South Carolina beach volleyball was one of just 19 beach programs to earn the AVCA Team Academic Award, and the Gamecocks are one of just three beach programs in the country to make the AVCA’s list for three-consecutive seasons. The indoor program also made the AVCA’s list, marking the sixth-straight school year earning the distinction.

The men’s tennis team was named ITA All-Academic honorees for the sixth-consecutive season and had two earn individual scholar athlete honors. The women’s tennis program made the list for the fourth-straight season, and had a program-record eight individuals honored by the ITA as scholar athletes.

Basketball junior TeMarcus Blanton was named to the NABC Honors Court.

The men’s golf team recorded a team GPA of 3.536, earning President’s Special Recognition from the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) for having a team GPA of 3.5 or higher. Juniors Keenan Huskey and Ben Dietrich were each named Sirixon/Cleveland Golf All-American Scholars by the Golf Coaches Association of America.
• In the 8 sports in which South Carolina competes that the NCAA keeps attendance statistics, South Carolina finished in the Top 25 in seven sports (average attendance), most of any school in the country. South Carolina led the nation in women’s basketball and was 3rd in women’s soccer, 5th in baseball, 8th in men’s soccer, 11th in softball, 17th in football and 21st in men’s basketball. Kentucky, Nebraska and Texas A&M placed in the Top 25 in six of the eight sports.

• South Carolina was the only school to have men’s (13,396) and women’s (12,853) basketball programs each average more than 10,000 attendance per game.

• South Carolina men’s basketball set school records for overall attendance (241,126) and average attendance (13,396) in a single season.

• South Carolina is one of 10 schools, and only three in the SEC, to be ranked in the Top 25 in the nation for both men’s (21st) and women’s basketball attendance (1st).

• South Carolina is one of 5 schools, and only two in the SEC, to be ranked in the Top 25 in the nation in attendance for men’s basketball (21st), women’s basketball (1st) and football (17th).

• South Carolina and Portland were the only schools in the nation to be ranked in the Top 10 in attendance for both men’s and women’s soccer. The Gamecocks were 3rd in the nation in women’s soccer average attendance (2,729 average) and were 8th in men’s soccer average attendance (2,458 average).

• The men’s soccer team broke the single-game attendance record at Stone Stadium on Aug. 26, when 6,892 fans attended the home opener vs. Clemson.

• The Gamecock indoor volleyball team drew the largest crowd in the gym’s history on Sept. 4, 2016, when the team’s match against rival Clemson was witnessed by a standing-room-only crowd of 2,041. In fact, during the 2016 season alone, South Carolina welcomed in three of the top five crowds in the Carolina Volleyball Center’s history.
COMPLETED FACILITIES

Baseball Recruiting Lounge and Media Room
Completed: March 2017 / Cost: $975,000

The 1,400-sf addition provides three tiers of stadium seating facing a press-table/stage with a retractable backdrop for press conferences and a projection screen for team meetings and film study for the team.

PLAYER LOUNGE
The room includes a flat screen display with connections for video games, recreational movie viewing and film study. Additional seating, video game stations, and a ping-pong table are included in this space.

MEDIA ROOM

Cregger Track Facility
Completed: January 2017 / Cost: $10,539,500
This project included the creation of a new Men’s Basketball office suite, the reconfiguration of the Women’s Basketball locker room, lounge areas, and restrooms/showers, and the addition of a Volleyball training room and office. New shared spaces included Men’s and Women’s Training Rooms and offices, Hydrotherapy, and Rehab rooms with direct access to practice courts. Additionally, a new 3,500-sf Weight/Cardio Room and strength training offices were incorporated for use by all three programs.

CLA Basketball Graphics Event Level
Completed: January 2017 / Cost: $305,000

The new graphics in the main corridor at Colonial Life Arena present South Carolina student-athletes and recruits with a beautiful and exciting look at Gamecock basketball. From highlighting Final Four head coach Frank Martin and national champion head coach Dawn Staley, to the SEC and Under Armour panels, the graphics showcase the excitement and passion surrounding the programs.

Golf Practice Facility
Completed: October 2016 / Cost: $1,500,000

Gamecock Park (Bojangles) Site Development
Completed: September 2016 / Cost: $800,000
FUTURE FACILITIES

Football Operations Building
Anticipated Completion Date: November 2018
Approximate Cost: $50,000,000
CLÁ Video & Ribbon Boards  
Anticipated Completion Date: August 2017  
Approximate Cost: $4.2M

WBS Gamecock Sculpture for the Heisman Plaza  
Anticipated Completion Date: Spring 2018  
Approximate Cost: $995,000

Indoor Track and Field Facility  
Anticipated Completion Date: January 2018  
Approximate Cost: $4,237,300
ATHLETICS DEVELOPMENT REPORT

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR’S CABINET

PURPOSE
• To provide vision and advice for the direction of the athletics department and athletics programs.
• To serve as the primary prospecting and fundraising advisory group for South Carolina Athletics.
• To function as the ambassadors for South Carolina Athletics among key South Carolina constituencies, stating our case and potentially making joint visits.
• To assist with the implementation of the Master Plan for Athletics Facilities, campaign case statement and marketing strategy.
• To serve as a trusted sounding board for the Athletics Director on important issues.

MEMBERS

Dan Adams
President, CEO & Founder of Capital Corporation

Dodie Anderson
Former Co-owner of Anderson Hardwood Floors

Jeff Archie
Senior VP & Chief Nuclear Officer of SCANA Corporation

Joe Blanchard
President and CEO of Blanchard Machinery Company

Mark Buyck
Partner, Willcox, Buyck & Williams, P.A.

Sheila Cregger
Secretary-Treasurer, Cregger Company, Inc.

Harris DeLoach
Chairman, President & CEO, Sonoco Products, Co.

Benjy Hardee
President of A.O. Hardee & Son Inc.

Bill Horton
Retired Vice President of BlueCross BlueShield

Alton Hyatt
Attorney, Title Agent & Owner, Alton Hyatt Law Firm
Licensed Pharmacist, Good Pharmacy Inc.

Faye Jeffcoat
Russell and Jeffcoat Real Estate, Inc.

Lou Kennedy
President & CEO, Nephron Pharmaceuticals, Corp.

Ken Long
President, Long’s Drugstore of SC Inc.

Glen Lott
Chairman of the Board, Infrastructure Consulting and Engineering

Charlie Mitchell
President and Owner of Company Star Foodservice, Inc.

Billy Moore
Attorney, Moore & Van Allen PLLC

Glenn Mosack
President & CEO of Conbraco Industries Inc.

Michael Roth
Founder, MTR Enterprises
Cleveland Indians organization

Vic Roof
President of Sea Hunt Boat Manufacturing Co. Inc.

Darius Rucker
Recording Artist, Capital Records

Joel Smith
Dean Emeritus at the Darla Moore School of Business

Tara Snyder
Attorney

Joe Walker
Owner of JH Development

Travelle Wharton
Former member, Carolina Panthers franchise

Ken Wheat
President of Boyd Management, Inc.

Kim Wheeler
Co-Owner of Wheeler Interests
### Giving Level

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<td>Roost</td>
<td>1,605</td>
<td>2,443</td>
<td>2,586</td>
<td>1,688</td>
<td>2,368</td>
<td>2,392</td>
<td>1,650</td>
<td>1,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>1,046</td>
<td>1,046</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>992</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>2,830</td>
<td>1,929</td>
<td>1,929</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,113</td>
<td>13,896</td>
<td>15,430</td>
<td>16,931</td>
<td>19,120</td>
<td>19,269</td>
<td>17,299</td>
<td>14,219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of 7/13/17. Please note: each giving year is from January to January.

### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$12.2M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$11.7M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$13.2M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$13.1M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$14.01M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$14.1M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$14.5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$14.1M</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Game Day Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Home Total</th>
<th>Home Games</th>
<th>Home Avg.</th>
<th>NCAA Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
<td>258,407</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>7,178</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBB</td>
<td>241,126</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13,396</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>WBB</td>
<td>196,431</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12,277</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>538,441</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>76,920</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSOC</td>
<td>29,493</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2,458</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSOC</td>
<td>38,209</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2,729</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>37,686</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1,216</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBALL</td>
<td>16,414</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1,094</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1.37 MILLION** fans attend Gamecock athletics events this year.
Cumulative Giving
The donors listed below have given $1,000,000 or more to Gamecock Athletics. This includes cash gifts only – pledges and planned gifts are not included in this listing.

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Aiken/Edgefield WKSX-FM 92.7
Allendale WDOG-FM 93.5
Camden WCAM-AM 1590
Charleston WWIK-FM 98.9
Chesterfield WVSZ-FM 107.3
Columbia WISW-AM 1320
Columbia WNKJ-FM 107.5
Florence WHYM-AM 1260

Florence/Lamar WFRK-FM 95.3
Gaffney WZZQ-FM
(FM translator) 104.3
Gaffney WZZQ-AM 1500
Greenville WR00-FM 104.9
Hilton Head WVGB-AM 1490
Hilton Head WVGB-FM 94.5
Lake City WHYM-AM 1260
Myrtle Beach WSYN-FM 103.1

Newberry WKDK-AM 1240
Rock Hill/Lancaster WRHM-FM/
WVSZ-FM 107.1/107.3
Seneca WSNW-AM 1150
Seneca WSNW-FM 94.1
(translator) 94.1
Sumter WIBZ-FM 95.5
Union WBCU-AM 1460

RADIO SHOWS

107.5 The Game - Flagship station of the Gamecocks
• “Inside the Roost” at Hilton Columbia Center in the Vista (Mondays at 7:00pm)
• Carolina Calls on the Gamecock Radio Network (Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.)

FS South
Coaches TV Shows Fox Sportsouth
The Will Muschamp Show & Gamecocks Insider (Sundays at 11:30am/6:30pm)

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Summary/Highlights

South Carolina has one of the largest social media followings among NCAA programs, ranking among the Top 20 in followers on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. South Carolina is one of only eight schools to be ranked in the Top 20 on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube, joined by Auburn, Florida, North Carolina, Kentucky, Oregon, Texas, and Wisconsin. Beyond just following, Gamecock fans are highly engaged on social media, sharing photos, videos, commenting and cheering on their team.

Fans may view all the ways to connect with Gamecock Athletics online at http://GamecocksOnline.com/Connect

Platforms

FACEBOOK
Facebook.com/GamecocksOnline
602,999 likes,
Ranked 14th nationally and 6th in SEC

Facebook continues to have the largest following of any social media platform and is a place for Gamecock fans to gather and engage, both during events and throughout the year, as well as to find our can’t-miss content. We post videos, high quality photos and graphics, feature videos and stories from GamecocksOnline.com, and questions to spark discussion. Our fans are the focus, highlighted by our fan photo features and several themed fan photo albums. Facebook is the place to see the best videos and catch Facebook Live streams from football games and more.

TWITTER
@GamecocksOnline
234,630 followers,
Ranked 11th nationally and 5th in SEC

From July 2016 to June 2017 the main @GamecocksOnline Twitter account earned 73,078 new followers, a 45% increase and larger cumulative growth year-over-year compared to 2015-16.

Twitter continues to be the go-to source for breaking news and information. We use it to release news, post in-game updates, share photos and behind-the-scenes action, answer questions, provide customer service, and engage with fans on a daily basis. Fans join us in widely using the #Gamecocks, #SpursUp, and #ForeverToThee hashtags to track and join conversations about South Carolina teams.

In addition to the main athletics department account, every South Carolina team has an individual team Twitter account. Among college baseball programs the @GamecockBasebll team account has the 2nd most followers in the country (163,921) behind only LSU. With the success of the team, including this year’s National Championship run, exclusive content, and inside access through photos and videos, the women’s basketball team account (@GamecockWBB) has grown to 41,524 followers, the third-largest follower count in the country.

Among coaches who are tracked, women’s basketball head coach Dawn Staley is the most-followed head coach in her sport in the country with 56,817 followers. Football head coach Will Muschamp is ranked No. 5 in college football with over 253,000 followers, an increase of over 100,000 followers since last year. Men’s Basketball head coach Frank Martin is also in the top 10 at No. 7 in college basketball with 77,979 followers. New Baseball coach Mark Kingston is already in the top 25 at No. 22.

Also ranked in the Top 25 for followers in their sports are Equestrian (@GamecockEQ, No. 4), Football (@GamecockFB, No. 12), Men’s Golf (@GamecockMGolf, No. 19), Women’s Golf (No. 22, @GamecockWGolf), Men’s Soccer (@GamecockMSoccer, No. 19), Women’s Soccer (@GamecockWSoccer, No. 18), Men’s Tennis (@GamecockMTennis, No. 22), Women’s Tennis (@GamecockWTennis, No. 23) and Swimming & Diving (@GamecockSwim, No. 25). The Gamecocks’ beloved mascot, Cocky (@Cocky2001), is No. 5 in the country with over 37,100 Twitter followers.

Most of the Gamecocks’ head coaches as well as Athletics Director Ray Tanner have individual Twitter accounts. A full directory may be found at http://GamecocksOnline.com/Connect.

YOUTUBE
YouTube.com/GamecocksOnline
22,259 subscribers,
Ranked 15th nationally and 5th in SEC

Our YouTube channel generated 4,264,325 views from July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017. The staying power of high quality videos on YouTube is evidenced by several videos remaining in the Top 10 for views despite being online for multiple years.

INSTAGRAM
instagram.com/GamecocksOnline
77,601 followers, 20th nationally and 8th in SEC

On Instagram we focus on posting high quality photos from our events, fans, and our archives. New this year we also often use the Instagram Story feature to post content in real time. Several Gamecock squads also have team-specific Instagram accounts. Fans can find all of them at http://GamecocksOnline.com/Connect.

SNAPCHAT

Several of our Gamecock teams have joined the fun on Snapchat, posting quick video clips and funny photos to their stories. Our Snapchat accounts give an inside look at practices, games, and student-athlete personalities. We also regularly add custom geofilters for our events and venues, such as the Carolina Baseball pennant at Founders Park and stadium silhouette at Williams-Brice Stadium. Find teams to add on Snapchat at http://GamecocksOnline.com/connect

*All numbers and data current as of June 14, 2017. Rankings data maintained by Auburn University and University of Tennessee.
Ryan Bordenick - Baseball (1995-98)
Shonda Cole - Volleyball (2003-2006)
Bo Davies - Football (1969-71)
Jimmy Mitchell - Football (1969-71)
Sidney Rice - Football (2005-06)
David Seawell - Golf (1993-96)
Justin Smoak - Baseball (2006-2008)

Jim Carlen, Head Football Coach and Athletics Director (1975-81)
Billy Laval, Head Football Coach (1928-34), Head Baseball Coach (1928-34),
Head Men’s Basketball Coach (1932-33)