For more than two centuries, the University of South Carolina has contributed to the greater good of society, improving the lives of individuals in the state and across the world.

- The International Master of Business Administration (IMBA) program in the Moore School of Business is the nation’s top-ranked public university MBA program for international business and No. 2 among all institutions in that specialty, according to U.S. News & World Report. This marks the 19th-consecutive year that Moore’s IMBA program has been ranked either No. 1 or No. 2.

- A team of University researchers led by Dr. Frank Berger has received a $10.7 million, five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue building a comprehensive research center for colorectal cancer, which claims the lives of nearly 900 South Carolinians annually.

- Thomas Cooper Library and the Athletics Department recently unveiled the renovated Athletics Academic Center at the library. Used primarily as an academic area for football and men’s basketball teams, the center features a computer lab, tutorial space and a large multi-purpose room.

- Research funding at the University of South Carolina reached a record $185.2 million in fiscal year 2007, a 6.7-percent increase from the previous year. Several areas of the University achieved significant funding increases, including geography, psychology and health.

- South Carolina has long been a national leader in assisting with students’ transition to campus and is, in fact, home to the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. The pioneering University 101 program helps students adjust to campus life and has consistently been recognized in U.S. News & World Report as a “Program to Look For.”

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**The University has launched Gamecock Guarantee, the first need-based scholarship program of its kind for any college or university in South Carolina.**

• The University has launched Gamecock Guarantee, the first need-based scholarship program of its kind for any college or university in South Carolina. Available to qualified freshmen entering in fall 2008, Gamecock Guarantee promises that each eligible student’s tuition and technology fee will be covered for up to four years of study.

• The School of Medicine has been awarded a $6 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to create a Center of Excellence for Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research on Autoimmune and Inflammatory Disease.

• The University of South Carolina and the Technical College System of South Carolina have signed a historic agreement to create the statewide Bridge Program. The agreement aims to expand access and enhance transfer of students from all of the state’s 16 technical colleges.

• Since the Office of Fellowships and Scholar Programs was established in 1994, University students have won 349 national awards, earning more than $9.6 million for advanced academic study.

• The University of South Carolina ranked 19th among 155 comprehensive universities nationally and 14th among public universities for the number of startup companies created in 2006, according to the latest national technology-transfer survey from the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM).

• The department of exercise science in the Arnold School of Public Health, which consistently ranks among 155 comprehensive universities nationally and 14th among public universities for the number of startup companies created in 2006, according to the latest national technology-transfer survey from the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM).

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• The school of education in the College of Education and Computing has been named a national leader in fuel-cell research and is the site of the nation’s only Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for Fuel Cells.

• Dr. Ken Reifsnyder, an international leader in solid oxide fuel research, has been named director of the University’s Future Fuels Center. The center will serve as an umbrella for all of the University’s programs on energy research.

• Through its Modern Political Collections, the University is collecting the papers and memorabilia of some of the state’s legendary political leaders. Sen. Ernest F. “Fritz” Hollings helped launch the Modern Political Collections when he donated his political papers to the university in 1989.

• The University libraries house many comprehensive, valuable collections, including the papers and letters of Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, John Milton, and the literary archive of writer Joseph Heller.

• Carolina’s historic Horseshoe is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

• The world’s largest “green” dorm, the Green Quadrangle Living and Learning Center, is located on the University’s campus.

• In April, the University launched an Institute for African American Research, which will enhance the scholarly study and public understanding of race and black life in South Carolina and the Southeast as well as the United States and broader African Diaspora.

• In 2006, the Wachovia Foundation gave $1 million to the Moore School of Business to create the Wachovia Undergraduate Scholars Program, which funds a residential summer camp and scholarships to attend the University’s Moore School of Business. This fall, 15 of South Carolina’s brightest students from minority populations who attended the first summer camp in 2007 will enter the university; 10 will be business majors.

• For more than 50 years, the College of Nursing has played a major role in training nurse leaders to serve the people in the Palmetto State and nation. The Center for Nursing Leadership is dedicated to developing leaders in healthcare.

• The Environmental Genomics Core Facility (EnGenCore) at the Arnold School is collaborating with Harvard University on a study that could lead to a better understanding of diseases and solutions to pollution problems.
Located in the heart of South Carolina, Columbia combines the graces of a rich past with the vibrance of the emerging Southeast. The city serves as center for education and government as the State Capital and offers something for everyone.

- Columbia’s Population: 116,287
- Metro Area Population: 664,229
  (Source: Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau – columbiavb.com)

- Columbia is the largest city in the state of South Carolina, which provides University of South Carolina student-athletes with an array of opportunities for internships and networking while in college.

- In addition, Expansion Management magazine ranked Columbia among its “50 Hottest Cities for 2007.”

- In June 2006, Richland County, which encompasses the majority of Columbia, was one of 10 cities to earn an All-America City award from the National Civic League.

- In 2008, Forbes Magazine listed Columbia No. 56 of 200 “Best Places for Business and Careers.”

- The area is often cited for its high quality of life offerings, with its many cultural amenities, parks and recreational features. The city is at the confluence of two major rivers, which makes it one of the best destinations in the country for kayak and canoe enthusiasts.

COLUMBIA CLIMATE
(Average Monthly Temperatures from National Weather Service)

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Known for its friendly people and hospitality, The Palmetto State is also filled with beauty and history. South Carolina is one of the most scenic states in all of America.

South Carolina features everything: More than 60 miles of wide, white beaches stretching from Georgetown to the North Carolina border, which includes the popular resort of Myrtle Beach; foothills and mountains of the northwestern part of the state; and historic Charleston and vacation hot spot Hilton Head Island in the Lowcountry.

Columbia is located in the geographical center of the state and is just a short drive from all points.
Harris Pastides, the University of South Carolina’s 28th president, was previously vice president for research and health sciences at South Carolina. He is also executive director of the university’s Research Foundation.

Under Pastides’ leadership, research funding and sponsored programs at South Carolina have increased 69.2 percent since 2002, reaching a record $185.2 million for fiscal year 2007.

Pastides served as dean of the University’s Arnold School of Public Health from 1998-2003. He was instrumental in helping to secure a $10 million gift from Norman and Gerry Sue Arnold for the naming rights to the school in 2002. The new $22 million Arnold School of Public Health Research Center opened in October 2006.

Before joining the South Carolina faculty, Pastides served as a professor of epidemiology and chairman of the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He received his Master’s of Public Health and his Ph.D. in Epidemiology from Yale University.

Pastides is charged with accomplishing major growth in federal and industrially sponsored research. The following have been chosen as focus areas that have the potential to be recognized as among the top programs nationally: nanotechnology, Future Fuels™ (including fuel cell and hydrogen research), and several targeted areas of biomedical research.

Pastides manages the university’s research budget and directs investments toward faculty hiring, enhancing research infrastructure, and developing the Innovista research and innovation district.

In his economic development role, Pastides is the university’s chief contact with business, industry, and the state’s Department of Commerce. The economic development office includes intellectual property and technology transfer programs, a small-business incubator, and consultative services for small manufacturers and start-up businesses.

The Division of Health Sciences comprises approximately 450 faculty and 3,400 undergraduate, graduate and professional students enrolled in some 52 degree programs. Because biomedical research has been selected as one of the university’s major research priorities, he has established a major faculty hiring emphasis and a master plan for major new research facilities to support this research area.

Pastides has overall responsibility for academic affairs in the five health sciences colleges, including curricular matters; student welfare; and faculty recruitment, promotion and tenure, and retention.

The University of South Carolina has affiliate agreements with the two largest health systems in the state, as well as with the Dorn Veterans Administration Hospital, with which the university operates residencies and other educational and research programs.

Pastides serves as executive director of the S.C. Research Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. In this capacity, he oversees the distribution of indirect cost recovered funds, directs faculty research policies, and manages research administrative services. He also supervises university federal relations staff who reside in the Washington, D.C., area.

William O. Bearden is in his second year as the University of South Carolina’s Faculty Athletics Representative. Bearden is The Bank of America Chaired Professor of Marketing in USC’s Moore School of Business.

As Faculty Athletics Representative, Bearden’s duties include advising University President Dr. Harris Pastides on matters related to the athletics program and working with Dr. Sorensen to determine the University’s position on NCAA legislation. Bearden will also review the eligibility, admission and progress of student-athletes. He also assists in evaluating compliance with NCAA regulations and attends SEC and NCAA meetings, serving as the university’s voting delegate at the NCAA’s annual meeting and participates in the organization’s certification program.

Bearden received his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina in 1975. Before returning to South Carolina, he served on the faculties of Western Kentucky and the University of Alabama from 1976-1978.
Eric Hyman serves as the Director of Athletics at the University of South Carolina. Regarded as an architect of championship programs, an advocate for academic success and a skilled administrator, Hyman began his duties at South Carolina on July 1, 2005.

Hyman has developed an outstanding reputation as a leader among his peers. He was named the 2003-04 Street and Smith’s Business Journal National Athletics Director of the Year and was also selected as the Division I-A West Regional Athletics Director of the Year by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA). In September 2008, he will assume the duties as President of the Division 1A Athletic Directors’ Association.

Under Hyman’s leadership, the USC Athletics Department has made tremendous strides in becoming a nationally prominent program with the goal of competing for championships. His $200 million master plan of facilities and the school’s first athletics capital campaign is well underway with the construction of a state-of-the-art baseball stadium scheduled to open in 2009, and the groundbreaking for the Darius Anderson Academic Enrichment Center, which is slated to be completed by the Fall of 2009. In addition, a new athletic training center will be completed at Williams-Brice Stadium in the Fall of 2008.

During Hyman’s tenure, the Gamecocks have enjoyed their share of success on the field of competition. Over the past two years South Carolina has competed in the post season in football, women’s basketball, baseball, softball, men’s and women’s soccer, indoor and outdoor men’s and women’s track and field, men’s and women’s golf, women’s tennis and men’s and women’s swimming & diving, and captured a national championship in equestrian. Off the field, South Carolina student-athletes have combined to surpass the 3.0 grade point average plateau for the first time in department history and have topped the SEC in Academic Honor Roll for four consecutive semesters from 2007-08.

During 2005-06, Carolina was one of only 11 schools in the country and the only school in the SEC to have its football team participate in a bowl game, have both its men’s and women’s basketball programs play in post-season tournaments and have its baseball squad reach the regionals. In addition, the women’s outdoor track & field team finished third in the country while crowning a pair of individual national champions, and the equestrian hunt seat claimed a national title. Men’s soccer earned a conference title while both men’s & women’s golf and tennis teams advanced to postseason action.

Hyman came to South Carolina from TCU, where he served as the athletics director for over seven years. Under his leadership, TCU teams recorded 32 conference titles and consistently posted a graduation percentage rate higher than that of the overall student body. Hyman was instrumental in orchestrating TCU’s invitation to join Conference USA in July 2001 and spearheaded the effort for the Horned Frogs to join the Mountain West Conference in July 2005, moving the program from the Western Athletic Conference it was in when Hyman arrived.

During Hyman’s tenure, the TCU football team went to six bowl games in seven seasons, boasted a Heisman Trophy candidate in LaDainian Tomlinson and was ranked as high as sixth in the BCS polls; the women’s basketball team went to five straight NCAA Tournaments; the baseball team earned back-to-back regional appearances for the first time in school history; and the men’s indoor and outdoor track and field and men’s tennis teams finished seasons ranked among the top five in the nation.

As TCU’s Athletics Director, Hyman worked diligently to improve athletic facilities. He helped raise over $30 million in facility improvements and directed a three-phase building plan that completely renovated the athletic departments facilities.

Prior to his stint in Fort Worth, Hyman was the athletics director at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. During his tenure, Miami had the fifth-highest student-athlete graduation rate among all NCAA Division I schools in the country. His last two years at Miami brought home 10 conference championships. Hyman also served as athletics director at VMI in Lexington, Virginia, in the 1980s.

No stranger to the Carolinas, Hyman coached football at Furman University for nine years under Art Baker and Dick Sheridan, and was an associate athletics director for two years. He began his career as an assistant football coach at University of North Carolina in Tigerville, S.C., leading the team to national rankings in the ‘70s.

Hyman played football at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he was an All-ACC football player, on the Dean’s list and selected for the Hula Bowl. He also served as the Executive Associate Athletics Director at North Carolina State University in Raleigh in the early 1990s.

His wife, Pauline, is a native of North Carolina and also has her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She did some post-graduate work at South Carolina in the early eighties. She played and later coached women’s college basketball, taught sociology and psychology and served as a college administrator. Pauline developed and taught the NCAA CHAMPS Life Skills course and various seminars for student-athletes at both Miami University and TCU. Since coming to South Carolina, she has taught the Etiquette Seminar in the Gamecocks’ CHAMPS Life Skills course and assists with other seminars in preparing the student-athletes for their futures, such as the Dress for Success Networking and Interviewing seminars.

The Hymans have a daughter and son-in-law. Corrine and Michael Quast, and a son, Ryan. Corrine is a realtor in Fort Worth, Texas; Michael is a financial analyst and Ryan, is in the property and casualty insurance business, also in Fort Worth.
BASEBALL
South Carolina reached the postseason for the ninth-consecutive year as the Gamecocks earned a berth in the 2008 NCAA Regional. Carolina’s nine consecutive appearances is the longest current streak among SEC schools with the Gamecocks reaching the NCAA Super Regional in seven of the nine seasons as well as earning three trips to the College World Series. The 2008 Gamecock baseball team also featured two players that were drafted in the first round of the MLB Draft, Justin Smoak (Texas Rangers) and Reese Havens (New York Mets).

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Men’s basketball begins the Darrin Horn Era in 2008-09. Horn’s first Gamecock edition features first-team All-SEC performer Devan Downey, who broke both the school and the conference single-season steals records a year ago. The 5-9 guard was one of only two sophomores to earn first-team All-SEC recognition in 2007-08.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
The program advanced to the second round of the WNIT in 2007-08, reaching the postseason for the fifth time in the last seven seasons. Demetress Adams earned second-team All-SEC honors and finished the season fourth in the league in rebounding. Adams broke a 33-year-old school record with 26 rebounds against Arkansas, the highest single-game total of the season in the NCAA.

EQUESTRIAN
The South Carolina equestrian team has cemented its place as an elite program in the country, having won the overall national championship two of the last four years and three Hunter Seat national championships during that span. Senior Kristen Terebesi won two individual national championships in 2008 to become the only individual to ever win two championships in a season.

FOOTBALL
The Gamecocks climbed to as high as sixth in the BCS rankings during the 2007 season. They have had a player selected in either the first or second round of the NFL Draft in four of the past five years. Head coach Steve Spurrier has posted more wins in his first three seasons than any other football coach in Carolina history.

MEN’S GOLF
Senior Mark Anderson and sophomore George Bryan IV earned first-team All-SEC honors in 2007-08, the first Gamecock duo on the all-conference first team since 1999. Anderson went on to collect All-America honors as well. The team took second place at the SEC Championship, the program’s best finish in a decade, as one of eight top-five finishes on the season.

WOMEN’S GOLF
Finishing sixth in the 2008 NCAA East Regional, the Gamecocks advanced to the NCAA Championship for the first time in five years. Sophomore Bénédicte Toumpsin picked up her first collegiate victory at the East Regional, becoming the Gamecocks’ first regional winner since 1995. A first-team All-SEC selection, she went on to collect All-America honors from both Golfweek and the National Golf Coaches Association.

MEN’S SOCCER
Under the direction of head coach Mark Berson, the men’s soccer program has advanced to 18 NCAA Tournaments, including two trips to the College Cup, in its 30-year history. In 2007, the program celebrated its 30th year as a varsity sport and inked its first-ever top 10 recruiting class. The Gamecocks won the 2005 Conference USA Championship, and in 2006, Berson became the 11th Division I coach to reach the 400-victory milestone.
WOMEN’S SOCCER
Head coach Shelley Smith led the women’s soccer team to arguably the best season in program history, setting 22 program firsts, including school records of 14 wins and 12 shutouts to advance to the NCAA Tournament for the second time. Blakely Mattern became the first sophomore in conference history to earn SEC Defensive Player of the Year honors while also becoming Carolina’s first All-American.

SOFTBALL
The Gamecock softball program stands as one of the most historic in the nation and the oldest in the Southeastern Conference. The program has advanced to 15 NCAA Tournaments, which includes one Super Regional appearance in 2007 and three Women’s College World Series berths. National Fast-pitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame member Joyce Compton has led the program for the last 22 years, compiling a 919-422-3 record during that time at South Carolina and has led the program to four SEC Eastern Division crowns, two SEC Tournament championships and one SEC title in the 12 years the league has sponsored the sport.

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING
First-year head swimming coach McGee Moody joined forces with veteran diving coach Todd Sherritt during the 2007-08 campaign. Four swimmers advanced to the NCAA Championship, while Sherritt guided freshman standout Taryn Zack to All-America honors on the boards.

MEN’S TENNIS
South Carolina head coach Kent DeMars, who was selected as the 1989 National Coach of the Year, has guided his men’s tennis program to 17 NCAA Tournaments, including a stretch of 13 straight from 1993 to 2006.

WOMEN’S TENNIS
The Gamecock women’s tennis team advanced to its 14th-consecutive NCAA Tournament in 2008, which stands as the 11th-longest active streak in the country. South Carolina defeated VCU in the first round for its 12th first-round victory during its 14 straight appearances. Gira Schofield advanced to the round of 32 at the NCAA Singles Championship before narrowly losing in three sets to Amanda McDowell from Georgia Tech, who went on to win the tournament. South Carolina also had a doubles team qualify for the NCAA Doubles Championship, giving the school qualifiers in each NCAA event.

MEN’S TRACK AND FIELD
The Gamecock men’s track and field team used solid senior leadership en route to the first SEC and NCAA Individual titles for the program in five years. The 4x400m relay team ran the nation’s third-fastest time to take home the SEC Indoor title while hurdler Johnny Dutch was named SEC Freshman of the Year for the outdoor season. Jason Richardson hit an outdoor hat trick with the SEC, NCAA East Region and NCAA titles in the 110-meter hurdles.

WOMEN’S TRACK AND FIELD
Saddled with youth, the women’s track and field team showed that the future is bright with strong performances from a group of freshmen and sophomores at the SEC and NCAA level. The Gamecock women finished 22nd at the NCAA Championships, marking its 14th-straight top-25 finish. Carolina collected 14 All-America honors on the year with only three coming from a senior.

VOLLEYBALL
The Gamecocks have advanced to seven NCAA Tournaments in the program’s history. The 2007 squad finished with a 14-15 mark, the best record for the program in five years. Megan Laughlin earned SEC All-Freshman accolades, becoming just the second Gamecock to pick up the award in its three-year existence.
NEW BASEBALL STADIUM

- Approximately 5,400 permanent chair-back seats with total capacity of 8,000-plus fans
- Picnic Terrace down the left field line - Dining deck will hold approximately 120 fans
- Suite & Club Level premium seating available (five suites and two clubs)
- ADA accessibility for handicap and wheelchair patrons
- Larger concession stand menu with satellite portable setups on the Plaza and concourses
- Cup holders at each permanent seat
- State-of-the-art video scoreboard and sound system from Daktronics. The top of the scoreboard is 86 feet above the field. The scoreboard measures 47 feet high x 44 feet wide. The video portion is 16 feet high x 28 feet wide
- A wide concourse that runs completely around the stadium
- TV-ready for live television coverage, including six camera locations for television and video streaming
- A first-class lighting system by Musco with 125 foot-candles in the infield and 100-foot candles in the outfield
- Sand-based field meeting USGA specs/draining system with 419 Bermuda Turf Grass
- Field Dimensions - 325 down the lines, 390 to center field. Walls in the outfield vary from eight-to-10 feet in height. Batter’s eye is 80 feet wide and stretches 40 feet above the field
- Press Box with wireless internet capability and four TV/radio booths

Additional features for the baseball team are:
- 3,900 square-foot weight room
- (Four) Indoor batting tunnels
- Home team locker room
- Sports Medicine/Athletic Training Room
- Classroom/Media Room adjacent to locker room
- Coaches offices
When University of South Carolina Athletics Director Eric Hyman talks about "the Dodie," the $13 million state-of-the-art facility set to open in the fall of 2009, he enthusiastically refers to it as, "the heart of the athletics department and the place where the ebb and flow of student-athletes' days will be centered."

"The Dodie" is named for Dolores F. Anderson of Greer, S.C., whose philanthropic gift is helping to fund the center for University of South Carolina student-athletes. Anderson is the widow of Robert Anderson, the former president and chairman of Anderson Hardwood Floors, the largest privately-owned hardwood floor manufacturer in the United States. A 1981 graduate of USC Upstate with a degree in interdisciplinary studies, Dodie Anderson is co-owner of Anderson Hardwood Floors and a longtime supporter of USC Upstate's athletic programs.

The three-story, 40,000-square foot center will be located across Heyward Street from Stone Stadium, the Gamecocks' soccer facility, in the 41-acre footprint known as "the Roost." It will be the focal point of and the first piece in the re-developed area that eventually will include an athletics administration building, a sports-medicine facility, a volleyball facility, a Gamecock Club building, improvements to the tennis courts, soccer practice fields and outdoor track and a new multi-purpose playing field for women's lacrosse.

Student-athletes are expected to be in and out of the AEC throughout the day as they use computers and study areas, receive tutoring, counseling and advising and even eat their meals.

Some other features of the building include:
- Full-service cafeteria
- Nutritionist office
- Audio/visual multi-purpose room
- 20 tutoring rooms (accommodates 2-4 people)
- 15 seminar rooms (accommodates 6-8 people)
- Math and English labs
- Special needs learning lab
- One large quiet study room
- One small quiet study room
- One large computer lab containing 58 computers
- Two small computer labs containing 16 computers
- Student-athlete lounge
- Academic support staff offices
- Full wireless capabilities throughout the facility
- Academic Hall of Fame

"Almost all major universities have a free-standing building for academics. It is crucial that we build ours. Thanks to Dodie and her family, this is going to happen."
- Head Football Coach Steve Spurrier

"With the plans we have in place, we believe this will be if not the best, then certainly one of the best facilities of its kind in the country, and it will be the cornerstone of our Athletics footprint and something in which the Gamecock Nation can take great pride."
- Athletics Director Eric Hyman
The Carolina Academic Resources and Enrichment Services program employs a team of dedicated staff and tutors to work collaborating to assist student-athletes with day-to-day activities. It is the mission of the C.A.R.E.S. staff to help all student-athletes realize their personal, academic and athletics potentials. The Athletics Department is dedicated to developing the total student-athlete.

CHAMPS/LIFE SKILLS
South Carolina was selected by the NCAA to begin a CHAMPS/Life Skills Program in 2000. CHAMPS is an acronym meaning CHallenging Athletes’ Minds for Personal Success. The Life Skills Program addresses commitment to five areas: academic excellence, athletic excellence, personal development, career development and service. Additionally, in 2003, South Carolina was recognized by the Division I-A Athletics Directors’ Association as a CHAMPS/Life Skills “Program of Excellence.”

ETIQUETTE SEMINARS: “MANNERS MATTER”
The Etiquette Seminar prepares student-athletes for internships and job hunting by emphasizing table manners and other etiquette appropriate for interview situations in an interactive, formal dinner setting.

GAMECOCK ATHLETICS CAREER NETWORK
It is essential for student-athletes to plan for the future and to prepare for life outside college athletics. A component of the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program, the Gamecock Athletics Career Network has resources available for identifying practicum and internship experiences to enhance the career development process. Other programs include mentoring, assistance with resume development and job interviewing skills, resume books, student-athlete networking seminars and collaborations with the University Career Center.

THE STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
South Carolina has a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) made up of student-athlete representatives from each sport team within the Athletics Department. SAAC has been active in promoting department-wide community service projects and student-athlete camaraderie, and is a means for student-athletes to communicate with administration about issues that affect student-athletes.

GAMECOCK NETWORKING SEMINARS
In the fall of each year, the Athletics Department invites South Carolina lettermen and members of the career network to assist the department staff in training student-athletes in the skills needed to begin their professional careers. These seminars include topics such as interviewing, resume and cover letter writing, networking skills, dress and presentation.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS
In the spring of each year, the Athletics Department invites local business partners and South Carolina lettermen to assist the department staff in training student-athletes in the skills needed to appropriately present themselves in all professional settings. This seminar has a male and female presentation and covers all current trends of what is acceptable proper business attire.

SENIOR RING CEREMONY
In April of each year, the Athletics Department presents each of its graduating seniors with a South Carolina class ring. At a dessert reception, individual recognitions and presentations are made to each senior by his/her head coach.

MEDIA TRAINING
Through the Life Skills program and the Media Relations Office, Carolina student-athletes participate in media training sessions that are designed to make them more comfortable in dealing with members of the media. The sessions include tips on dealing with the media and give student-athletes the opportunity to practice interviewing and speaking publicly.
The Athletics Department’s community service program, “Team Gamecocks,” represents a continuing commitment by Gamecock student-athletes, coaches and staff to respond with both time and effort to the needs of their local communities.

TEAM GAMECOCKS
- In 2007-08, South Carolina student-athletes participated in over 130 community service projects, logging more than 4,000 hours of service.
- The Equestrian team won the Athletics Department’s 2007-08 Life Skills Team of the Year award.
- Team Gamecocks annually participates in a variety of service projects, including Pigskin Poets, Camp Kemo, Children’s Chance, hospital and elementary school visits, and various food drives.
SPORTS NUTRITION
Healthy eating can be challenging for busy student-athletes attempting to excel both in their sport and in the classroom. The University of South Carolina Athletics Department recognizes the importance that proper diet and hydration play in sport, as well as in academics. To help student-athletes minimize nutritional challenges and optimize their performances, our sports dietician serves as an involved member of the sports medicine team by providing education and counseling to student-athletes, coaches and athletic training staff. Proper food choices and meal timing enhance the performance gains obtained during training. The sports dietician is also involved in planning training table.

SPORTS MEDICINE
Injuries are unfortunately a common part of participation in intercollegiate athletics. The University of South Carolina is strongly committed to providing its student-athletes with the best medical care possible in order to maximize performance in the athletic arena and the classroom. Gamecock student-athletes are provided medical care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This includes daily medical clinics in the athletic training room by team physicians, including specialists in family and preventative medicine and orthopedic surgery. In addition, numerous consultants are available to Carolina student-athletes, including optometry, dentistry, cardiology, sports psychiatry and sports nutrition.

Health care for University of South Carolina student-athletes is provided by the USC Sports Medicine Center, a collaboration between the USC Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Department of Family and Preventative Medicine.

Orthopedic care is provided by Dr. Jeffrey Guy, who serves as medical director for the Athletics Department, and Dr. Christopher Mazoue, both of whom are sports medicine fellowship trained orthopedic surgeons. Dr. Jason Stacy and Dr. Brian Keisler, who specialize in primary care sports medicine, work hand-in-hand with our surgeons to provide superior care for Gamecock student-athletes.

The day-to-day care of Gamecock student-athletes is provided by the South Carolina athletic training staff. The athletic training staff consists of nine full-time certified athletic trainers and 10 graduate assistant athletic trainers who are responsible for emergency care, initial evaluation and diagnosis of injuries and post-injury treatment and rehabilitation for South Carolina student-athletes.

TRAINING TABLE
In the spring of 2007, the Athletics Department opened a new training table for its student-athletes. The cafeteria offers a wide variety of healthy and delicious foods that student-athletes can enjoy for dinner Monday through Thursday and on other special occasions. The student-athlete training table meals offer a variety of delicious and balanced meal choices.

STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING
The University of South Carolina is dedicated to helping its student-athletes reach peak physical condition, allowing them to be at their best. Eight full-time strength and conditioning coaches are on staff at South Carolina and every athletic program is assigned one of those eight individuals. Strength coaches develop workout programs specific to each sport and provide guidance to assist student-athletes in reaching their full athletic potential.
**Alma Mater**

"We Hail Thee Carolina"

We hail thee, Carolina, and sing thy high praise
With loyal devotion, remembering the days
When proudly we sought thee, thy children to be:
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

Since pilgrims of learning, we entered thy walls
And found dearest comrades in thy classic halls
We’ve honored and loved thee as sons faithfully;
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

Generations of sons have rejoiced to proclaim
Thy watchword of service, thy beauty and fame;
For ages to come shall their rallying cry be:
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

Fair shrine of high honor and truth, thou shalt still
Blaze forth as a beacon, thy mission fulfill,
And crowned by all hearts in a new jubilee:
Here’s a health, Carolina, forever to thee!

**Fight Song**

"The Fighting Gamecocks Lead the Way"

Hey, Let’s give a cheer, Carolina is here, The Fighting Gamecocks lead the way.

Who gives a care, If the going gets tough, And when it is rough, that’s when the Cocks get going.

Hail to our colors of garnet and black, In Carolina pride have we.

So, Go Gamecocks Go - FIGHT! Drive for the goal - FIGHT! USC will win today - GO COCKS!

**Cocky, the South Carolina Mascot**

South Carolina’s official mascot, Cocky, appears at many Gamecock athletic events. Cocky is widely-recognized around the country and makes countless appearances at events throughout Columbia and The Palmetto State. Cocky first took action at Carolina events in 1980 when he came in to take his father’s (Big Spur) place. Cocky soon won the hearts of Gamecock fans all over and now is one of the most recognizable figures to young and old at Carolina. Cocky has also captured national attention in the UCA (Universal Cheerleading Association) Mascot Competitions. In 1986, Cocky brought home his first UCA Mascot Championship. Cocky was chosen National Mascot of the Year in 1986, 1994, and again in 2004 and is recognized as one of the most colorful mascots in collegiate athletics.

**The Cockaboose Railroad**

The Cockaboose Railroad is like no other tailgating tradition in the country. Twenty-two cabooses line a railroad track just outside of Williams-Brice Stadium - but these rail cars don't move and they certainly aren't something you would see passing by on the end of a train. Running water, cable television, air conditioning and heating, and a living room highlight each and every Cockaboose.

**2001**

The theme “2001” corresponds with the University’s Bicentennial, which was celebrated seven years ago. The theme song from “2001 - A Space Odyssey” is played at nearly all Gamecocks Athletics events and is most widely recognized for its use with the Carolina Football team’s pregame entrance, regarded as perhaps the most unique and electrifying in all of college football.

**Alma Mater**

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