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The Greenville News

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026 | GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

McMaster vetoes changes to NIL rules

Bella Carpentier

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster vetoed a bill that keeps details of a student athlete's contract out of the public record saying it creates a transparency

issue with the flow of state funding.

He stopped the name, image and likeness bill in its tracks on March 11, despite concerns from university athletics programs that the state's current policy of public disclosure puts the schools at a recruiting disadvantage.

House Bill 4902 would have made the

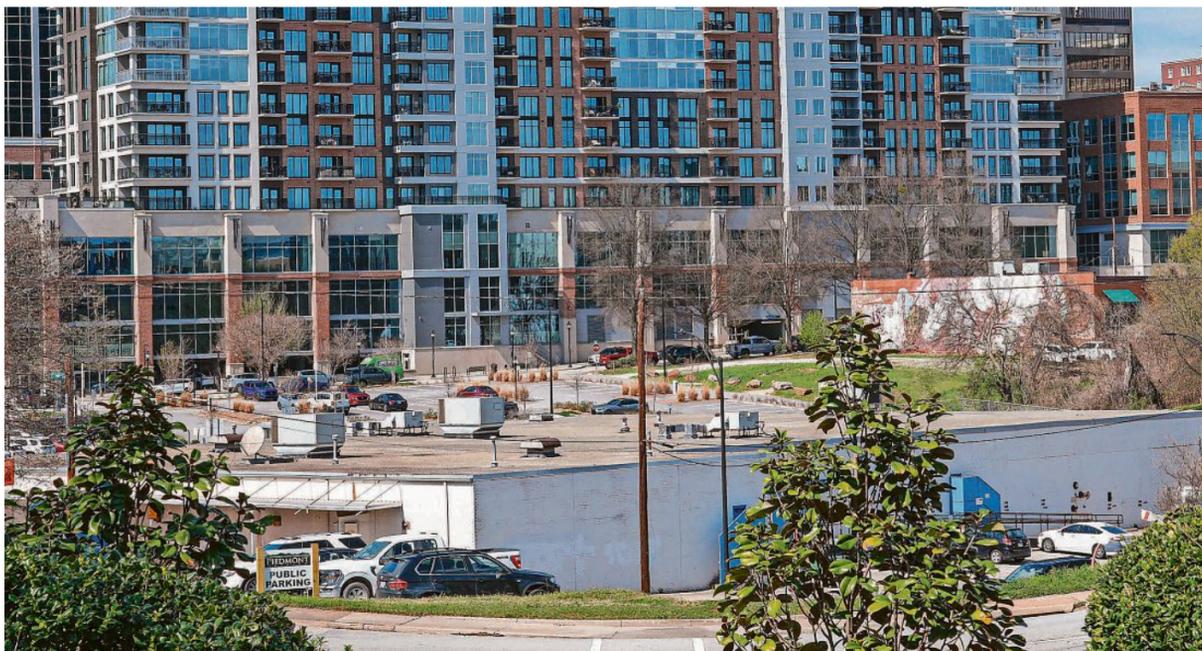
details of a college athlete's NIL contract with the school private, meaning the contracts would not have to be publicly released under South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act laws. The bill moved quickly through the General Assembly, in part due to a lawsuit against the University of South Carolina.

na.

USC is being sued by Frank Heindell who wanted access to the school's athlete contracts, but the school denied his request. A ruling in that case has been postponed as the General Assembly

See NIL, Page 2A

Two projects are key to growing tourism



The City of Greenville received approval to purchase six acres of land for a new conference center project. Plans for the Falls Park Conference District include a hotel, housing, green space, and underground parking. The project is a public-private partnership estimated to cost over \$500 million. City officials believe the new center will attract business conventions and support local businesses. KEN RUINARD/USA TODAY NETWORK-SOUTH CAROLINA

Wellness arena update, conference district construction are focuses

Bella Carpentier

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Project leaders for two large scale developments hope to make Greenville a strong host city for events ranging from concerts to business conferences.

The Bon Secours Wellness Arena, located between North Academy Street, Beattie Place and North Church Street, is set to undergo a \$282 million renovations. Meanwhile, the City of Greenville is launching a more than \$500 million Falls Park Conference District project to

construct a mixed-use conference center complex along Falls Street.

Each project is tailored to attract a different visitor base to the city, with the hopes of also boosting tourism revenue.

The Greenville Arena District, a political subdivision of the state, wants to give the Bon Secours Wellness Arena a face lift to attract and host major entertainment acts. The Greenville County Council approved three ordinances related to the nearly \$300 million project in February.

Meanwhile, the City of Greenville wants to host more business conferences which is the motivation behind the Falls Park Conference District.

According to Mayor Knox White,

See PROJECTS, Page 2A



Greenville Mayor Knox White and The Furman Co. CEO Steve Navarro talk about developments in the Falls Park Business District on March 12.

BELLA CARPENTIER/USA TODAY NETWORK-SOUTH CAROLINA

Greenville Drive's Fluor Field adds new experiences

Nina Tran

Greenville News

USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

Here are events and activities fans can expect at the Drive's Fluor Field this season.

Fluor Field's luxury seats transformed

To provide guests with a premium hospitality experience, Fluor Field's luxury suites have been renovated to feature a modern design. The next time you step into one of the suites, you'll notice the floor-to-ceiling glass facing the field, new cabinetry, countertops, and high end-finishes. Suites will also come equipped with 75" HD TVs, induction cooking surfaces, and new refrigerators. Availability will range from season-long, multi-year leases, or nightly rentals for special occasions.

The Shortstop: A self-serve market

The Shortstop Self-Serve Market was "designed for the fan who doesn't want to miss a single pitch." At the grab-and-go market, there's a variety of hot and cold food, snacks, and alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages. AI self-checkouts with a "15-second average transaction time" have also been implemented so fans can stay up to speed on games, allowing them to return to their seats quickly. Fans who want to remain seated will still have access to sEATz, featuring in-app ordering with direct-to-seat delivery.

The Shortstop is located behind the home plate, formerly known as the Subway stand.

Upgraded IT infrastructure, secure guest Wi-Fi

The Drive has upgraded its wireless

See DRIVE, Page 2A

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