

SCSU defense dominates scrimmage  
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Superpower shakeup  
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Tuesday, March 31, 2026

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## 'A HEART FOR PEOPLE'



SPECIAL TO THE T&D

South Carolina State University students work on beds outside Belcher Hall.

### S.C. State students work on beds for children

SPECIAL TO THE T&D

The buzz of sanders and the pounding of hammers could be heard in front Belcher Hall last week as South Carolina State University students helped build beds for children and families in need.

The university's College of Business and Information Systems

observed Business Week 2026 under the theme "Next is Now: Building the Future of Business & Leadership." The bed-build service project was the second event in a weeklong series designed to engage students in professional development, wellness and community impact.

"I think the value of this project

is to help our students to realize that we all have a responsibility to look after one another in the community. There are people in Orangeburg and the surrounding cities who do need beds," said Dr. Matthew Guah, dean of the CBIS.

Please see **BEDS**, Page A4

## Man charged with murder

Victim's body found in Orangeburg County

MARTHA ROSE BROWN  
T&D Staff Writer

A Lady's Island man is accused of killing a man whose body was found in a culvert between Branchville and Rowesville.

Xavier Da'Quon Barnes, 23, is charged with murder and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime.

The Columbia Police Department, Richland County Sheriff's Department and S.C. Law Enforcement Division arrested Barnes on Thursday.



Barnes

Maurice "Mo" C. Green, 29, of Columbia was reported missing by his family on July 18, 2025. They had not heard from him since July 13.

He body was discovered in Orangeburg County on Aug. 19, 2025 in a culvert along Greywood Drive, which is off U.S. Highway 21.

"Initially, several family members reported Green missing on July 18, 2025, after they had not seen or heard from the victim since July 13, 2025," according to a joint press release issued by the CPD and Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office on Friday.

Barnes is accused of shooting Green at a Columbia College Drive home on July 14, 2025, and disposing of his body in Orangeburg County, a Columbia Police Department press release states.

Barnes appeared before Columbia Municipal Judge Gail B. Jabber.

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## Dogwood festival features music and fun

SPECIAL TO THE T&D

DENMARK - The 44th Annual Denmark Dogwood Festival will be held this weekend with plenty of music and fun.

Friday hours are 6 p.m. - 10 p.m., with Saturday's activities beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 10 p.m. The festival will be held in its new location, 6505 Carolina Highway in Denmark.

The festival parade will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 4. The parade will move down Carolina Highway from the Shuman Owens building through the City of Denmark, ending at the intersection of Highway 78 and Main Street.

Car clubs, bands, local queens, cowboys, motorcycle clubs, and dignitaries are scheduled to participate.

The new festival location offers expanded and new offerings. There will be carnival rides, food trucks and entertainment for people of all ages.

Magician C-Magic will grace the stage on Saturday and local musicians will include Gospel rappers GR8FL and Alisha Moore, a past gospel rap artist of Kirk Franklin's God's Property. Moore now serves Bamberg County as the director of

Please see **DOGWOOD**, Page A4



The 44th Annual Denmark Dogwood Festival will be held this weekend in Denmark.

FILE PHOTO

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### Tobin selected for Aspen Presidents Fellowship

SPECIAL TO THE T&D

Dr. Walt Tobin, president of Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, is one of 23 community college presidents selected to participate in the third cohort of the Aspen Presidents Fellowship, a unique year-long professional development experience supported by JPMorganChase.

During the program, presidents



Tobin

"We know

will develop a reform agenda that helps more of their students graduate into good jobs, either directly after community college or following transfer and bachelor's degree attainment.

from 15 years of

intensive research how the best community colleges equip students with the skills and credentials that lead to good jobs and flourishing lives," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "These 23 presidents have committed to strengthening

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As gas prices rise, some states mull tax holidays

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#### Weather

Partly sunny  
**High 81**  
**Low 58**  
Forecast • A10

#### COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER Curiosity

