



## MEDIA RELEASE

Contact:  
Derek Phillips  
School Communications Specialist  
1201 Main Street, Suite 300  
Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 849-2463

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### **Gray Collegiate Academy football to kickoff 2018 season in televised game on WACH Fox**

**WEST COLUMBIA** – Head coach Adam Holmes and the Gray Collegiate Academy War Eagles have one motto for the 2018 season: “Next Step.”

Plenty of eyes will be on GCA and their next step when they travel to take on Gilbert August 17. The game is WACH Fox’s Sonic Friday Night Rivals game of the week and will be televised live on WACH channel 57.2 or 1250 on Spectrum cable. The game will also be streamed live on [www.wach.com](http://www.wach.com). GCA is the only traditional public charter school that will be televised on WACH this season.

“We’re extremely excited about the opportunity to play on tv. It’s something the kids definitely will enjoy,” said Holmes, who enters his fifth season at GCA. “Gilbert is a great opponent for us... one of the top teams in 3A and we’re looking forward to the challenge.”

The War Eagles will try and build off of last year where they finished 7-3 in the regular season, but fell short in the first round of the playoffs.

“That’s where the motto of ‘Next Step’ comes into play,” Holmes said. “We fell short in the first round and fell short of winning the region. We want to win the region and be a number one seed that gives us a better chance at making a run in the postseason. We feel good about the offseason our kids have had. They have really bought in.”

Junior quarterback Hunter Helms has emerged in the offseason as one of the team’s leaders. While the excitement of the season is in the air, Helms and many of the upperclassmen have reminded their teammates about staying focused on each week.

“It’s really cool that we are getting to play on tv, but our goal this season is to take things one day at a time,” Helms said. “We don’t want to experience the disappointment again like last year. We’re just trying to lock in each day.”

The matchup between GCA and Gilbert is set for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff.

180-year-old Erskine College established the Charter Institute at Erskine in mid-2017, to improve education in public charter schools across the state of South Carolina. The Institute currently serves as the Sponsor for 13 schools with an additional seven schools currently scheduled to open in the fall of 2019. For more information, please visit [www.erskinecharters.org](http://www.erskinecharters.org).

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