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THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007

VOL. 100, NO. 139 ● SINCE 1908

Relay For Life raises over \$35K in marathon

Students walk for 12 hours in annual fundraiser against cancer

> Rebecca Wilson THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC students raised more than \$35,000 by staying up all night Friday in Relay For Life: a 12-hour walk-athon to raise money for the American Cancer Society, a member of the executive committee said.

Gwyn Pauley, a third-year math student and part of Relay for Life's executive committee, said the final total hasn't been announced

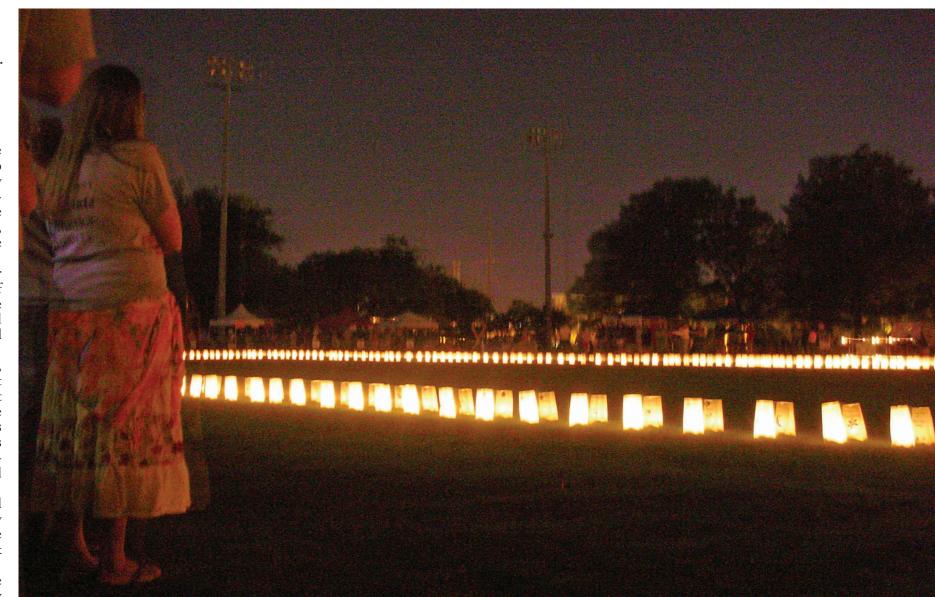
From 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., teams lapped the track at Blatt Field, but the event started months in advance as leaders organized teams and planned fundraisers that included postermaking, sheet-stamping and cake-baking.

The Survivors Lap kicked off the event with a lap by cancer survivors. People cheered as survivors took their lap around the course.

This was followed by the Luminary Ceremony, a key part of the relay. Each team raised money for luminaries, paper bags decorated with the names of those who have died from or been diagnosed with cancer. All the lights were turned off and a candle in each bag was lit as the names on the luminaries were read aloud. Then participants took a silent lap around the track, reading the decorated bags.

After the silent lap, the walking began. Each team had at least one person on the track at all times, and everyone was encouraged to stay awake and support the walkers.

The night was ushered along by various bands



all photos by Rebecca Wilson / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

To remember deceased cancer victims or those with the disease, participants decorated luminaries, which were lit in a dusk ceremony.

and singers to entertain on-site fundraiser. There all the walkers.

such as scavenger hunts, in heels, dresses, bright trivia questions and the newlywed game. In dance laps, entire teams took to the track.

up their own activities to keep people entertained and for seven messy minutes. awake and to do some onsite fundraising.

magic show by the "Magic raised \$112 for the American Cock," which won best Cancer Society.

participants throughout the was also a flag football night, as well as a DJ who tournament and a Mr./Miss kept the rhythms going for Relay competition, where entrants pranced and There were also games sprinted around the track red lipstick and five o'clock shadows.

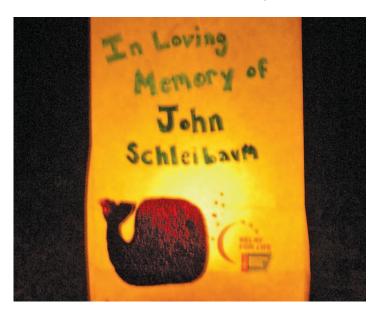
One of the big fundraisers of the night was the cake-Many teams also made eating competition. Eaters dug their faces into cakes Chocolate and vanilla cake night. ended up all over faces, up One team sponsored a noses and on the tables, but

Another event was Red Bull Pong. It started around 3 a.m. and battles ensued for about two hours.

As the sun came up on the group of tired people Saturday morning, the Newman Club walked away with the Spirit award.

It went to the team with the most involvement throughout the fundraising as well as the team that kept its spirits up throughout the

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu



Student lobbying group focuses on textbook prices

Brad Maxwell THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The South Carolina State Student Association held elections and discussed textbook affordability and student representation at its spring conference Saturday

in the Russell House.

SCSSA is a student organization composed primarily of student body presidents from various South Carolina universities. The nonprofit organization was created in 2003 by Clemson students pushing for more student representation in higher education and state and national affairs.

USC Student Body President Nick Payne, a fourth-year economics student, attended and affirmed the purpose of SCSSA.

"I will make sure the voice of USC students are heard," Payne said.

Payne is a member of the organization's most influential body, the board of presidents.

Brad Setzler, a secondyear philosophy student and the association's previous vice chairman, was elected the new chairman of the association, the highest position in SCSSA.

Setzler ran unopposed and hopes to increase the size of the organization's cabinet and release a weekly cabinet report to the board of presidents on its undertakings.

"I'm very proud of Brad," Payne said. "I can't speak highly enough of him, and I know he will do an outstanding job."

Setzler is only the second chairman of the organization, and the first to represent USC.

SENATE • 3



Speakers at the NAACP forum represented colleges from across the state at USC.

NAACP talks race on campus

S.C. students discuss Imus firing, apathy during summit

Kathleen Kemp

The South Carolina chapter of the NAACP held a "town hall" style summit for South Carolina college students at the BA building's Belk Auditorium Saturday.

Students from schools such as USC, Furman and Clemson discussed issues such as "gangsta parties," the n-word and apathy.

Quintin Lewis, president of USC's branch of the NAACP and a third-year criminal justice student, was in attendance at the summit.

"[We] want to keep up awareness of the issues that are important for

the student generation," Lewis said. "A lot of times our generation doesn't care; it's time we get more

Ashley Singleton, a second-year biology student, said she was looking forward to discussing current events that affect blacks, such as double standards in the hiphop community and CBS' recent firing of Don Imus

NAACP ● 3

NEW 'MIC MAN'

Rebecca Wilson

Football season will be here before you know it, and with it comes tailgating, cheerleaders and the "Mic Man," a position that has been around for years and is open this fall.

The Mic Man announces at USC football games, leads cheers, starts the Gamecocks chant and keeps the crowd going throughout the game.

Now, USC athletics, Student Life and head cheerleading coach Erika Goodwin are looking for a student to fill that role.

The previous Mic Man, Mark Easler, is no longer a Carolina student, Goodwin

"[Mark's] been doing it for years and did a great

MIC MAN ● 3



Sports

USC finished its spring workouts with the Garnet and Black Spring Game. See page 10 The Mix

The USC dance department entertains crowds of all ages with weekend performances. See page 5 Local News..... 2 *Opinion.....***4**

Classified......8



Tomorrow





Vista looks to become hot retail spot



This Starbucks at the corner of Gervais and Lincoln streets is one of the Vista's newest shops. The Columbia Development Corporation hopes the area will attract more retail stores.

Shopping a growing part of historic Columbia neighborhood's makeup, in addition to booming restaurants, entertainment stops

Brandon Cooper

The Columbia Development Corporation, which promotes development of the Vista, is recruiting retail establishments for the Vista, said Director Fred Delk.

The Vista's many restaurants and bars have the entertainment sector covered, but its retail establishments are mostly art galleries or design and decor shops.

"Clearly the Vista needs additional retail," Delk said.

Most retail stores in Columbia are in suburban areas, but Delk hopes to "see quite a bit of this activity come back to the city

Some have already stepped up to

Gordana Gehlhausen, owner of You might not have to make the clothing retailer GOGA, which was attracted to the Vista because she "felt it was up and coming."

GOGA also has a store on King Street in Charleston, a popular downtown shopping area with a large number of retail establishments.

Even though most retail in Columbia is concentrated in suburbia, Gehlhausen does not fear being overlooked. Some days the Columbia location does better than the Charleston one, Gehlhausen

"Maybe standing out is not such a bad thing," she said.

Miguel McKelvey, who scouts locations for the American Apparel

clothing chain, also saw potential hope to be a part of," McKelvey in the Vista. "We want to be a part of cities returning to the urban, pedestrian atmosphere where there trek out to Harbison to go shopping opened its doors in March, said she are going to be a lot of people he said. walking around and a lot of culture ... this area seemed to have the most potential for that," McKelvey

> said. "We felt like it was inevitable that retail was the next step" for the Vista, McKelvey said.

> Like Gehlhausen, McKelvey is not intimidated by the grip suburban centers have on Columbia's retail market.

"If you look at urban trends in the U.S., the revitalization of the downtown is occurring in a lot of places, that's where the energy is," McKelvey said. "Mixed use, highdensity communities not based on commuting is the lifestyle we

919 Sumter St. • 803-255-0170

www.CBeech.com

said. "When we opened we knew we were pioneering a little bit, but we were willing to take that risk,"

The American Apparel store on Lady Street opened last year.

Others, like McKelvey, hope to see the Vista turn into a thriving center featuring a combination of residential, office, service, retail and entertainment uses.

"These things feed off of each other," said Steve Koewler of the development company Miller-Valentine Group. "Mixed use is the buzzword that is what is being successful right now," Koewler

The Miller-Valentine Group has preliminary plans for creating a mixed-use development on the site of the old Columbia

Supply Company building. The development would feature retail space on the ground level and office space on the upper floors.

The company has had several other ideas for the site, but "this is the only concept we've taken this far. We want to do something that fits well within the community," Koewler said.

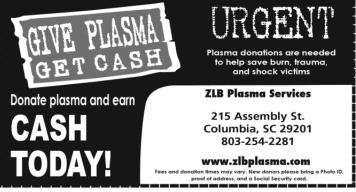
Though the Vista already has a great nighttime population, Koewler said daytime establishments such as a copy shop might be right for the

Delk said potential office space in the proposed development would likely increase daytime pedestrian traffic in the Vista, which would benefit area businesses.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockmetro@gwm.sc.edu







One killed, 4 injured as storms move across state

Page Ivey

One person was killed and four were seriously injured Sunday morning when a tornado touched down just outside Sumter, officials said.

It was one of two confirmed tornadoes in the central part of the state and two other possible twisters spawned by a line of thunderstorms that brought heavy rains and high winds to the East Coast. Thousands lost power in the lower part of the state and a PGA tournament was suspended because of high winds.

The National Weather Service said the tornado in Sumter County had wind speeds measured at 140 mph and was a magnitude three on the Enhanced Fujita scale that rates twisters from zero to five. The tornado touched down about 8:20 a.m. Sunday and traveled about 14 miles on the ground, cutting a 300yard swath of destruction, the weather service said.

Robert Baker Jr., director for the Sumter County Emergency Management Agency, said dozens of mobile homes in several areas of the county were destroyed or knocked off their foundations.

Dozens of stick-built homes also suffered serious damage,

"It's a mess out here," he said by phone Sunday afternoon from the scene, high winds still whipping around him. "It feels like we're getting ready to get something else.'

Janie Gregg, 53, was killed when she and her boyfriend were thrown from their mobile home, Sumter County Coroner Verna Moore. He was taken to a local hospital in critical condition.

Baker said several injured people drove themselves to the hospital.

A second confirmed tornado was in Lee County near the town of Lynchburg and was a magnitude one on the Enhanced Fujita scale. The tornado took down several trees, caused minor damage to a church roof and traveled about two miles before lifting off the ground, the weather service said.

SENATE • Continued from 1

Chenwei Zhang, a second-year political science student, was elected the organization's secretary.

In a proposal continued from last semester, SCSSA members will promote cheaper textbook prices on campus and talk to legislators so public policy can support lower prices.

"This clearly reaffirms the ideas of Tommy

Preston and the previous administration," Payne said. "I think it's great and it is letting other universities see what we are doing."

A second continued proposal authorized a campaign to contact Gov. Mark Sanford and members of the commission on higher education to discuss the possibility of allowing student representation on the commission.

Clemson student, was elected chairman of the board of presidents.

"He's a great guy," Payne said. "I look forward to seeing what he does, and he has the full support of

The organization holds about six meetings a year, most of which are by telephone. Typically, at Comments on this story? E-mail least two of these meetings gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

Josh Bell, a fourth-year are held in person in Columbia.

Other universities represented at the conference were Winthrop University, Clemson University, USC-Aiken and USC-Beaufort. There are about eight active universities and 14 general members.

MIC MAN ● Continued from 1

job," Goodwin said. But he stepped down to make room for a student to fulfill that role.

Goodwin said they are looking for a student to "close the gap between students and cheerleaders, and to get students excited about different events in general."

She said that having someone who is more a member of the student body would be more relatable to the crowd and would be more of a continuous visible representation of the Carolina spirit.

"We want someone the students can have fun with and relate to," she said.

Being a cheerleader

isn't required, but having experience in public speaking will help land the role, Goodwin said.

"We need someone who has a strong voice and is confident in being in front of a crowd," she said. "Someone who wants to be a dedicated part of the spirit program and who is ready to be excited about USC."

Getting a crowd of thousands of students pumped is not the smallest part of the job, but it is also not the only part of it.

"We are looking for someone to be a part of this from First Night Carolina through all the pep rallies and games throughout the year," Goodwin said. "I would love to find the

that people who focus on

individual scandals are

conversations from incidents

like the one at Clemson

and Imus to the political

disenfranchisement of

African-Americans," James

participated in "break-out"

sessions to discuss and plan

Comments on this story? E-mail

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for the future.

After the initial panel discussion, students

"We have to change the

missing the point.

perfect person that would be around for a couple of years."

Yelling may be easy for some, but is football knowledge necessary?

"It certainly does help to know and understand what is going on on the field to get the crowd involved," Goodwin said.

While this position will not be paid, Goodwin said the athletics department is looking into making it a scholarship opportunity.

"I think this is an that Student Life and the gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

athletics department are trying to boost the pep rally atmosphere, and I hope a student jumps on board," Goodwin said.

About a dozen applications have already come in, Goodwin said, but she is always ready to receive more.

"It's very exciting," she

Applications can be found on the Carolina Productions Web site: www.cp.sc.edu. The deadline is today.

exciting time. I know Comments on this story? E-mail

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after the radio personality called players the Rutgers' girls basketball team "nappy headed hos."

NAACP • Continued from 1

"For me, the NAACP means opportunity. It's a new way of living, to open up your mind to new subjects," Singleton said.

About 10 students made the almost 2-hour trip from Clemson's NAACP chapter to Columbia for the

Alice Burns, a first-year psychology student, who came with the Clemson group, said her chapter started in response to a much-publicized incident in January at Clemson. A group of students held a "gangsta party" where attendees mocked black stereotypes the night before Martin Luther King Jr. day. Photos from popular Web site Facebook. com and garnered national attention.

"It's because of that that

students on campus feel offended in any way, they can get involved."

Third-year chemical engineering student president of the Clemson University NAACP.

"This is not only about racism at Clemson — it's about racism across the state of South Carolina," McDonald said. "We want to set some more plans in action and see what the rest of the state is doing.'

Burns said she was offended by the incident, but was glad to know she wasn't

"I was upset, but then I knew it was something that the whole campus would have to deal with," Burns

The summit kicked off with a panel discussion at 10 a.m. moderated by Ouentin the party surfaced on the James, a first-year political science student at Furman University. James organized the event.

One debate centered on we started," Burns said. "If the "n-word" and its uses.

Lauren Ferguson, a fourthyear political science student at Furman, questioned the term's necessity.

"If it's going to conjure Ranniece McDonald is up those [negative] feelings, then why are we using the term if it has a negative impact?" Ferguson asked.

Another issue that came up was political apathy among college students.

Crystal Felima, a thirdyear African-American and Latin American studies student, brought up road blocks she's faced as a USC

"When we face these issues, what are we supposed

The panelists encouraged students to vote, get educated, read newspapers and give

James said he is happy with

"It's a complex conversation," James said. "Just because the majority all have the same opinion."

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Wednesday, April 11

Indecent exposure, minor in possession of liquor, resisting arrest; 10:40 p.m.

1328 Wheat St.

Subject Alexander Lucas was reported to be urinating in public. When confronted, Lucas allegedly began to run until an officer confronted him again. Lucas was then arrested and searched, and officers found a flask of liquor, officers said.

Responding officer: M. Winnington

Simple possession of marijuana; 4:35 p.m. **Roost Dorm** 147 S. Marion St.

Jerrod Smith and Andre McCray were arrested and charged with possession of marijuana after officers to their dorm room because of odor complaints.

Responding officer: S. Wilcox

Tuesday, April 10

Auto break-in, petit larceny; 3:38 p.m.

1501 Pendleton St. Complainant said her vehicle was broken into by unknown person(s), who removed eight CDs and \$5 worth of change.

Estimated value: \$45 Responding officer: A. Mitchell

Second-degree burglary, grand larceny of laptop; 11:41 a.m.

Victim said his Dell laptop was removed from his room. Victim was unsure if his room was secure.

Responding officer: 7. Simmons

Monday, April 9

Auto break-ins; 5:46

Thirteen victims reported that each of their vehicles was broken into by unknown person(s), removing and damaging

Estimated damage:

Husbands Larceny of clothes;

West Quad Dorm

Victim said someone removed two pink Lacoste campus activist.

to do?" she asked.

back to the community.

the result of his work. of people here are African-American doesn't mean we

However, James said

Crime Report

509 Lincoln St.

Estimated Value: \$1,800

300 Bull St., S-23 lot

than \$7,000 of property.

Responding officer: N.

11:10 p.m. 1216-A Wheat St.

serene atmosphere. Estimated Value: \$8 Responding officer: N. Husbands

polos, a Ralph Lauren hoodie, and two pink plaid pillowcases from the unattended laundry room. Estimated value: \$240

Responding officer: N. Peter

Simple possession of marijuana; 4:43 p.m. **South Quad Dorm** 500 Sumter St.

Complaint reported a strange odor coming from a room. When the room was searched, Barnes Duffin was reported to have a container in his desk filled with a green leafy material. Duffin was placed under arrest.

Responding officer: W. Guyon

Thursday, April 5

Defrauding an innkeeper/restdisturbing school; 10:53

Grand Market Place 1400 Greene St. Complaint said the

subject carried away two trays of food without paying and disturbed the

Daily

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IN OUR OPINION

Spurrier should keep politics out of game

USC football coach Steve Spurrier stepped off the Gamecock sideline and into the political arena when he expressed his stance on the Confederate flag at a banquet in Columbia on Friday night.

Spurrier, who was receiving the statesman of the year award from City Year, told those in attendance that no one had ever asked for his opinion on the subject he wished they would get rid of "that damn Confederate flag." Coach, there's a reason no one has ever asked

one has ever asked him for his opinion on the issue.

you for your opinion on There's a reason no the issue- in the grand scheme of things, it really doesn't matter.

Spurrier is paid to win football games. He is paid to try to get Carolina football to a national

championship. He isn't being paid to play politician. As the Ol' Ball Coach pointed out, South Carolina ranks near the bottom in many categories states don't want to be associated with. Be it smoking, high school

dropout rates or domestic violence, there are many areas in the state that need to be focused on for the safety and welfare of all in the Palmetto State.

But the flag isn't one of them. It's not going to kill anyone. No one's getting cancer from it. And it certainly isn't going to keep Carolina from winning a national championship.

Spurrier is a great spokesman for the state and everyone knows the flag is an issue that needs to be dealt with. But that's not his job.

So until that title is added to your contract, focus on winning that elusive crystal football, coach. Let the political noisemakers focus on the rest.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

Voice your opinion on message boards at www.dailygamecock.com or send letters to the editor at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

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The Daily Gamecock is



STRAIGHT OUT OF RIGHT FIELD

Firing Imus won't solve race problems

Punishing talk show host for inappropriate remarks doesn't equate to victory

Pardon me, but what is Don Imus doing commenting on sports anyway?

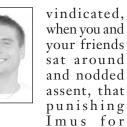
Didn't the people at CBS learn anything from ABC and the Dennis Miller Monday Night Football fiasco? Imus is an idiot, and he's an idiot in a crappy cowboy hat to boot.

His firing is a perfect example of how we in America should deal with the fools in public life that we have to suffer on a daily basis, by going after their wallets.

After the deluge of calls to his sponsors, there isn't a company that would give him an advertising dollar on a 10-foot pole.

But at the end of the day, what did all the crying over Imus really accomplish?

Did you really think getting Imus dropped from his radio show has Jackson and Al Sharpton another pulpit? Did you feel good, like you had been



JACOB DAVIS Fourth-year print journalism

student

if you did, you're a part of the problem, just as sure as Imus is. In fact, with all the hoopla surrounding the case, I bet you didn't even know that Tennessee, another predominantly black team, beat Rutgers and won its seventh NCAA Women's Championship.

what he said

is a victory

for equality?

Because

About the same time everyone was dog-piling on Imus last week, USA Today ran a story in its sport's section about the horrendous crime rate among NFL players. Players who, like the Rutgers women's basketball team, are predominantly

"Pacman" Jones.

My guess is that if being called a "ho."

vindicated, anyone ever called Jones "nappy headed" or a "ho" they'd end up like one of the footballs he spikes at your friends sat around the end of his touchdown and nodded assent, that dances.

But Jones' police record includes being arrested or questioned in connection with no less than 10 criminal investigations in the past year.

The latest was in regards to a fight and shooting at a strip club during February's NBA All-Star weekend in Las Vegas that left one man paralyzed.

Last week, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Jones for the entire upcoming 2007-2008 season. Jones' actions aren't caused by the fading ignorance of people like Imus.

They're engrained deeper, in a culture that too many of us look to only for entertainment value. Time wasted on jerks like Imus is time lost focusing on the real problem.

I just hope the members There were more than of the Rutger's women's done anything other than 40 NFL players arrested basketball team have the give race hustlers like Jesse in 2006. Consider, for a sense to stay away from moment, the case of Adam him, so they don't suffer something worse than

Club revival piacularly promoting promiscuity

Planned Parenthood puts moneymaking, loose sex before welfare promise

Last Tuesday's edition of The Daily Gamecock featured an article that heralded the return of VOX (Voices



BRAD LEAKE Third-year political science

Parenthood) o u r campus. The organization's goal is to educate students on their sexual health, safety precautions and decisions on planning to become a

for Planned

student

parent." The truth is that the "sexual health" education presented by Planned Parenthood serves only to promote an increase in sexual activity, because this will create more customers for them. The more sex there is on campus, the more need there will be for contraceptives, testing and treatment for STDs and

Planned Parenthood seeks to change the philosophies of our time so that abortion and loose sex are accepted norms. It seeks the destruction of any moral code and any inhibitions about sexual

It actively teaches teens about sex and how to master it. Its Teen Wire department helps these potential future customers become "sex savvy" and encourage them to enjoy life by experimenting with sex.

One article it links to is called "Be Prepared for Prom," which advises girls on what products and contraceptives they will need for after the prom, while another article gives advice on the latest condom fashions and flavors.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm not advocating that we make sex illegal or that we ban contraceptives, but Planned Parenthood goes beyond its stated goal of "promoting sexual health" into the realm of actively encouraging sexual behavior and the breaking down of whatever morality is left in today's society.

The big money maker for Planned Parenthood is abortion, and it is the largest abortion provider in the country. Its stated goal concerning this gruesome procedure is as follows.

"Every child a wanted child" is the slogan it uses to lure so many to its movement. Such intentional deception ignores the thousands of families waiting in long lines for the opportunity to adopt a newborn baby. Despite its efforts to dehumanize the defenseless in society, every child is in fact a wanted

The return of Planned Parenthood to our campus should not be celebrated. This is an organization that goes far beyond simply promoting sexual health.

It actively preys on students, aka potential customers, to engage in sexual activity to its hearts content because Planned Parenthood has eliminated every negative consequence.

Education needed in alcohol solution

Lowering legal drinking age, requiring class could cure teen, adult accidents

Lawmakers believe that drinking is a huge problem on college campuses. So much so that the Senate feels it is necessary to pass a bill that would require colleges to have specific plans in place to deal with alcohol and drug abuse.

Underage drinking is a big problem now because the current laws encourage it indirectly.

In countries such as France and Germany, where the drinking age is not 21, alcoholism and underage drinking is not as much of a problem because it is not a forbidden fruit. In Germany, someone has to be 16 to drink beer and 18 to drink hard liquor. Notice the drinking age starts at a time when most young people are still living at home with their parents.

They can learn safe drinking habits and get all the craziness associated with a new privilege out of the way while there are still boundaries in place.

In the nearly two years that I have been living on campus, I have known or heard of people who got into bad situations while drinking — if they'd



CUNIN Third-year print journalism student

happened. Telling someone that they are mature enough to consume

alcohol just

moderation

at an earlier

age it would

not have ever

because they are 21 is absurd. There are many students 21 and older who are worse at controlling their alcohol

intake than some of the

students under 21. Yes, I'll concede that one's brain stops developing around the age of 21, so that's why the drinking age is so high. The key word most people miss, though, is ARÔUND.

Just because someone has a 21st birthday does not mean their brain stops developing at midnight, nor does it mean that their brain isn't already fully developed.

Drunken driving accidents among teenagers were higher when the drinking age was 18 briefly during the Vietnam War era. They are still higher than they should be among teenagers. This is because, regardless of laws, people are going to make bad

been taught decisions and not take into account how those decisions affect other people.

The government's solution to this problem was to increase the drinking age to 21. They, in effect, did nothing to help prevent drunken driving. The wise solution would have been stricter enforcement for anyone caught drinking and driving, and everyone in high school should take mandatory classes on how irresponsible drinking behaviors affect everyone.

Instead, despite the high drinking age today, people still drive drunk and keep doing it because the penalties are too lenient.

The solution to the underage drinking problem isn't more rules and a plan in place to deal with such incidents; it's education. This education can't start the minute someone turns 18 and is released into the world as an adult.

South Carolina won't let anyone under 17 get their drivers license without having taken some form of driver's education.

Why not include taking a class on the effects of drinking and driving with that and make the class mandatory for anyone who wants to obtain a drivers license in the United

'Disturbia' mixes teen life, mystery

Suspense movie revisits murderous neighbor plot, bored voyeurism

Tyler Mobley
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

"Disturbia" ★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

"Disturbia," starring Shia LaBeouf, Carrie-Anne Moss and David Morse, is a suspense movie that's way better than it has any right

LaBeouf plays a generally good kid who in the wake of losing his father in a car accident goes slightly delinquent. After an incident with his Spanish teacher, LaBeouf gets put on house arrest for the summer. An attractive girl moves in next door and, around the same time, a suspicious neighbor starts acting creepy.

As with any old suburban town, the creepy neighbor is actually a serial killing sociopath who has set his sights on our hero and everyone around him.

Nothing too unusual, right?

What's different about "Disturbia" is that, for a "scary movie," it doesn't spend that much time being scary. The first hour of the film is only vaguely concerned with the murderous neighbor, instead opting to focus on LaBeouf's bored voyeurism and his love

While it sounds like you're not getting what you paid for, the method actually works really well. Seriously, it's a PG-13 movie starring teen actors, one of whom used to be on the Disney Channel. If it aimed for high terror and non-stop gore, the audience would never buy it.

Instead, the charming little subplots and bored teenage antics get you nice and comfortable until Morse's character starts getting violent and dead bodies start popping up.

The actual murderous end. "Disturbia" seems self-



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Shia LaBeouf and Carrie-Ann Moss walk past a police car parked in their neighborhood while checking out a murder.

neighbor plot is always lurking in the background, so don't think it never gets acknowledged until people randomly start dying at the

aware enough to know that with pretty typical stuff, regular teenage kids aren't going obsess over murder mysteries single-mindedly.

like building towers out of Twinkies.

For those of you who Rather, they'll probably get know horror movies and distracted now and then are pretty good at guessing

plot twists, don't expect too much. "Disturbia" is a fun movie, but it by no means rewrites the horror genre.

DISTURBIA ● 6

'Dancing's' Mills receives attention from producers

Ex-wife of Beatles' star offered spots on various shows

Chris Rovzar

Whether or not America is growing to love Heather Mills, television producers certainly are.

The one-legged "Dancing with the Stars" contestant's acrobatic moves have succeeded in putting her in the headlines for something other than her messy divorce from Paul McCartney — and the new attention has drawn waves of e-mails and phone calls from TV hitmakers.

The famous-for-beingfamous Mills, 39, never got a major television role in her homeland of the United Kingdom, but sources say the buzz around her on "Stars" has finally gotten her dozens of inquiries a week from producers all over the world.

"I think she'd want to be on TV again," said Mills London rep Phil Hall, though he declined to comment on any offers. The London Daily Mail listed "I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here" and "Larry King Live" as among the shows that have expressed interest in Heather playing a

While the activist and sometimes nude model may be portrayed as the bully in her divorce from McCartney, that's not likely to be an issue in the casting room.

"I don't think it matters if people like her or not. You look at so many famous reality TV icons like ("Survivor" winner) Richard Hatch and ("Apprentice" contestant) Omarosa, they don't have huge fan bases," says Entertainment Weekly television expert Tim Stack. "Villainous characters often become more famous and more successful. They're just more interesting."

But Stack says her fame isn't enough to carry her own program in America.

"I'm sure she could be on the 'Surreal Life' or a show like that. I don't think it's a very discriminating casting environment," he added. "I don't think there's a place for her in scripted TV. She'd probably do better overseas,

where she's better known." That's fine by Mills.

"Obviously her mind is very occupied with looking after (her 3-year-old daughter) Beatrice," added Hall. "She won't want to be away from home too much."

Mills' home is in the United Kingdom, but she's been living in Los Angeles since last month while filming "Dancing With the Stars."



Jonathan Roberts and Heather Mills show off their "jive dancing" skills on a recent episode of "Dancing with the Stars." Mills was dancing with a new prosthetic leg.

Dance company, choir join for performance

Untraditional pieces, narrative soundtrack work well at Koger

Laquetta Smalls
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

"USC Dance Company" ★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

People flooded the Koger Center Friday night to watch the USC Dance Company.

The first piece of the night was Giancarlo Menotti's "The Unicorn, The Gorgon and The Manticore," and was set in a castle. The piece was performed with the USC Concert Choir

on stage, which gave it an stretch while the crew untraditional flair. The singing helped the audience follow the story, but it occasionally stole the show from the dancers.

The unicorn, manticore and gorgon dances were immaculate. The "animals" were breathtaking, leaving the audience begging for more once they left the

Third-year public relations student Jamie Milan said it was nice to see such an untraditional piece. "I thought the narrative choir and the unicorn was really creative."

Usually during an intermission the audience

prepares for the next piece. Instead, three poets recited original poetry inspired by Menotti's piece. First-year MFA poetry student Julia Koets, third-year English student Zach Mueller and first-year MFA poetry student Bhavin Tailor each read four pieces.

"Spanish Rhapsody" was the most compelling piece of the night. The simple set and the red light emphasized the dancers and evoked the emotion and passion portrayed in the piece.

The only thing on the stage was a circular platform. The leading couple stood on the platform in black is given a few minutes to costumes as the corps de audience in awe at times.

ballet circled the platform. The Spanish music and dance combined with the simplistic set created a

surreal and graceful aura. The male lead was Serguei Chtyrkov. The female lead and choreographer was Miriam Barbosa. The most powerful moments were when Chtyrkov's character seemed powerless over Barbosa's character. Unlike the first piece, the corps de ballet performance was magnificent. The movement was fluid and effortless. The red dresses they wore combined with the spotless dancing, gave the dancers

an aesthetic appeal. The choreography left the The dancers performed with conviction and passion. The difficulty of the dances and the emotion made this piece the highlight of the night.

The third and final ballet of the night was "Les Sylphides," a short work in which a poet dances with ghostly sylphs. The corps de ballet was on stage almost throughout. They were in decorative groups when they were not actually dancing.

The entire show was beautifully put together, and was one of those "once-ina-lifetime" opportunities to see a fusion of the arts.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

Young cast of dancers shine during 'fairy tale' performance

Teens, younger students taste sweet success in "12 Dancing Princesses"

> Christine Scarpelli THE DAILY GAMECOCK

"12 Dancing Princesses" ★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

The Koger Center was packed Friday evening with an audience excited to watch young ballet students of Columbia perform "The 12 Dancing Princesses." Girls and boys of high school age and under performed a sequence of dances to tell the story of a king, a queen and their 12 dancing daughters.

The performance began with the classic "once upon a time" fairy tale beginning where a king and queen lived happily with their 11 daughters. Upon the twelfth daughter's birth, the queen became very ill and died, leaving all of the children under the king's care.

The dancers portraying the 12 dancing princesses were in middle and high school and were the oldest children in the production. They sported white tutus and maroon leotards that looked as if they were made of sequins.

After the queen died, the king felt dancing was unnecessary and refused to dance with his daughters. At night, the princesses would sneak out of the castle and go dance in a secret ballroom through a magical forest, or so the story goes.

The older princesses went to bed and the younger dancers took the stage. Coming out in separate age groups, the young girls and boys danced in several pieces called Fireflies, Moonbeams, Fairies and Nightwinds. Each group's costumes complemented

BALLET ● 6

Lifetime's 'The Staircase Murders' brings Peterson case back into view

Movie takes inspiration from documentary about convicted wife killer

Martha Waggoner

Michael Peterson had everything to lose when his wife's body was found at the bottom of a staircase, but he wanted the world to believe he had nothing to hide.

That's the point in the "The Staircase Murders," the made-for-TV movie airing Sunday in Lifetime Television about Peterson's conviction in the death of his wife, Kathleen.

Director Tom McLoughlin attempts to put a fresh take on the story — already the subject of a six-hour documentary — by making a fictional film crew part of his movie. He also includes Peterson's account of the night his wife died and the memories of Kathleen Peterson's daughter, Caitlin

McLoughlin, a veteran of other true-crime movies such as "Murder in Greenwich,"

resulted in the conviction of Kennedy relative Michael Skakel, said he had never seen a movie like this.

"If there's a camera and a crew there, things are done in such a way because you're aware you're being photographed," he said this week in a telephone interview.

Treat Williams "Everwood") plays Peterson, a novelist, newspaper columnist and mayoral candidate who was sentenced to life in prison in 2003 for the murder of his wife two years earlier.

In "The Staircase Murders," Peterson agrees to a film crew's presence, saying he's an innocent man with nothing to hide. As the movie progresses, viewers find out that in fact, he had had more to hide than he let on.

His family also didn't know that Peterson had an interest in male porn, which investigators found on his computer, and male prostitutes, one of whom testified at his trial about an aborted get-together.

And in 1999, while a

about the murder that mayoral candidate, he admitted that an injury he said was a battle wound from the Vietnam War was actually caused by a car wreck in Japan. And Marine Corps files showed no record that he received two Purple Hearts, as he claimed.

"Now, either he was innocent or he was incredibly narcissistic," Williams said in a phone interview this week from Hawthorne, Calif., where he's a filming a new TNT series "Heartlands."

After watching the documentary titled "The Staircase" by filmmaker Jean-Xavier de Lestrade, Williams concluded that he saw nothing villainous in

"I didn't sense this guy had rage," he said. "Yet, when you saw the scene of the crime, the violence was so horrific that that dichotomy was what fascinated me. And I think the only thing that I came up with is that everyone has moments where you become so enraged that vou lose consciousness to a degree. I wonder if that makes someone feel that they actually did not commit the crime."

DISTURBIA • Continued from 5

Most plot twists can be seen from a mile away, so if you really want to be surprised, this isn't your movie.

However, if you can look past a few clichés and realize that "Disturbia" isn't trying to be anything but quick entertainment, you've got yourself a movie well worth watching.

LaBeouf, as usual, plays a perfectly regular kid. His character is just a good guy charms in a second.

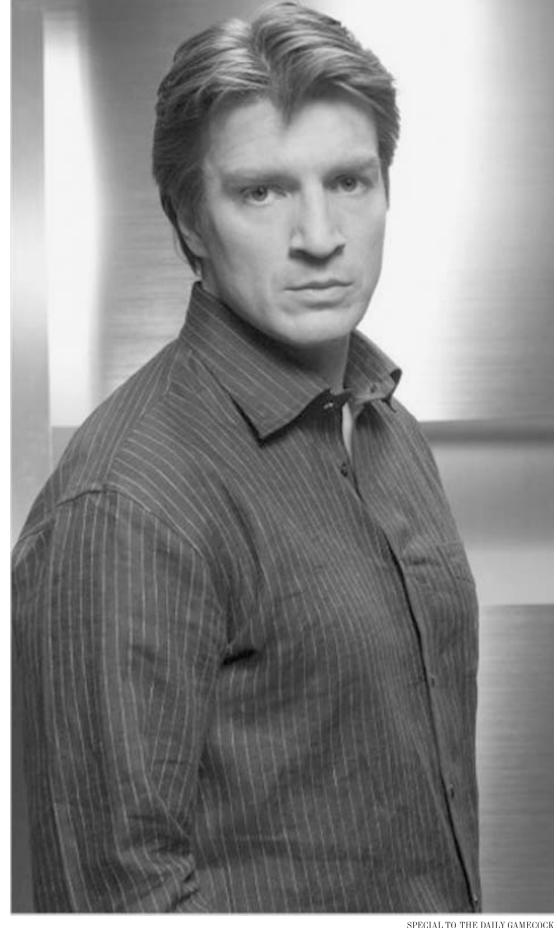
Props go to Aaron Yoo, LaBeouf's comic-relief friend, for being maybe the first "funny" best friend in a horror movie whom you didn't want to kill by yourself. Also, LaBeouf's love interest, played by Sarah Roemer, is commendable for being believably attractive for a teenage neighbor.

that's more of a suspense

BETHANY CAN HELP.

with some problems, and he drama than a horror film. It charms the audience instantly with a cast of believable characters who won't make you roll your eyes every time they speak, and it doesn't over-reach. "Disturbia" could have been another slaughterhouse of idiots, but thankfully its roots in Hitchcock's "Rear Window" keep it smart and entertaining.

"Disturbia" is a fun movie Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The characters in "Drive" race to save loved ones, win money and solve a mystery.

'Drive' rehashes survival concept, adds car chases, mysterious clues

Cross-country automobile race gives characters opportunity to win \$32 million, discover identity of kidnappers, people behind conspiracy

Rick Kushman

The one sure thing about Fox's new drama, "Drive," which premiered Sunday, is that it's not your usual show. After that, I'm not sure what to say.

It's clever, sometimes. Thoroughly ridiculous, sometimes. It's lame, witty, cliche, original, and, maybe, all in all not bad. Maybe. Mostly because of one guy, though you need to get past the premise first.

There's this cross-country car race, see, and it's a secret and run by mysterious people who've forced some racers into the game for secret, mysterious reasons. They lured others in with the prize of \$32 million. Think "Lost" meets "The Amazing Race," but with boring car chases.

That's the first downside to "Drive." It's got those standard TV-style car races and chases — which are so 1970s to begin with — where the guy in the hot know what's going on.

Firebird can't outrun three women driving a minivan.

Underneath the "fun" of the racing is a more ominous tone. One man's wife has been kidnapped to get him to race. One woman seems to be racing to save her baby. Someone's supposed to kill someone. That doesn't fit with the goofy "Cannonball Run" sense among some other racers.

Plus, there's that mystery imbedded in this — because in the past year of TV development, you were nothing without a rolling mystery — about who is organizing the race and why

some people are in it. More than anything through the first half of the two-hour preview, which was all that was available by press time, it feels like an "Amazing Race" remake with scripts. We meet a bunch of contestants, don't really have a feel for them, watch them frown at obscure clues, and get bounced from scene to scene too quickly to signal, just drive to work.

It would all be a big yawn if not for two things. First, it's created by Tim Minear, whose writing and producing credits include "The X-Files," "Angel" and "Firefly," the exceedingly smart space Western from Joss Whedon. Space Western. You had to be there. Minear knows how to mix drama and wit, and he can tell tangled tales with some quirky grace.

But the major plus is that the star, if there is one star, is Nathan Fillion, a ironictiming-endowed, alwaysappealing actor who starred in "Firefly" and the movie follow-up, "Serenity." He's the guy trying to find his kidnapped wife, yet he gives the show a subtle charm when he's on screen.

But overall — at least until we get to know the racers better — there's too little charm, too much confusion and way too many car races. And, honestly, if you need more whackos who don't

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BALLET • Continued from 5

their characters as well.

The performance became more enjoyable once the younger dancers began. There is nothing more adorable than seeing tiny little girls in bright colored tulle falling over each other, sprinting and springing across the stage.

First-year psychology student Mark Stroupe agreed. "The kids were so

cute."

The king was not clueless to the dancers' escape in the night. After the ladies in waiting finished their dance, one of the ladies leaves their shoe only to be found by the father after they exit.

would be mad; however, he confronts his children coming to grips with the loss of his queen. As the curtain closes, he danced with his daughters one by one, and

the audience is left with a fulfilling fairy tale ending, just as expected.

The ballet was a success and a lot of fun for the kids to perform.

Thirteen-year-old Ashley Craig who played One would expect he Princess Natalia said, "I think the performance went wonderfully ... I had a really great time."

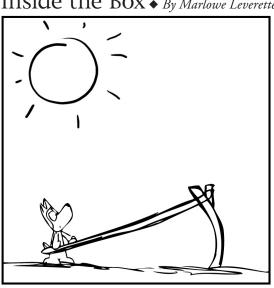
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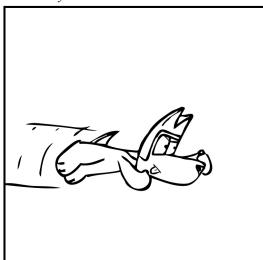
PIC OF THE DAY



Darius Rucker of Hootie and the Blowfish sings during halftime of the Garnet and Black game at Williams-Brice Stadium on Saturday. Over 35,000 people attended.

Inside the Box ◆ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock









Whiteboard ◆ By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock





Sudoku By The Mepham Group

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the scene at USC

"The Host"



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4/16/07

Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams Brought to you by: Now broadcasting in | HD) Radio ACRUSS 1 Hatteras or Canaveral 5 Piece of broken pottery 10 Crowds gone wild 14 Caspian feeder 15 Vietnam's capital 16 In a frenzy 17 Hit where one lives? 19 Punjabi princess 20 Surfer's inhalations 21 Talked idly 23 Letter opening, often 25 CNN word 26 Tease 29 Pindar works 31 Of the teeth

lead-in 4 Disney's middle name 5 Union general 6 Expression of derision 7 Shortly 8 Word before candle or numeral

2 Comic Johnson

3 Medic or normal

9 Counted calories 10 Hugger-mugger 11 Actor Sharif 12 Treat for Rover

26 Mutineer

27 Baghdad resident

28 Round mass

30 Swiftness

32 Positioned

33 Felt unwell

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63 Declare 64 Certain female 13 Lose traction 18 Metric wt. dancers 66 Country road 22 Twixt's partner 67 Cream of the crop 24 Office subs

68 Iditarod terminus 69 Ran away 70 Title documents

35 God of love

39 Spooky

43 Outfit

45 PGA pegs

46 Lend an ear

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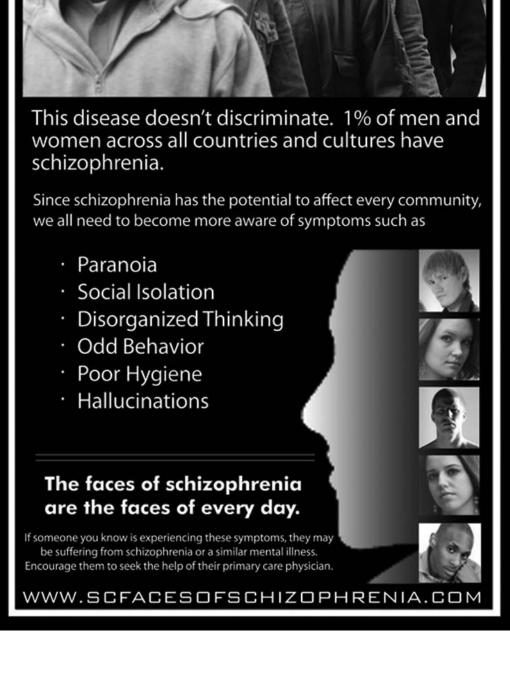


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This is the watch Stephen Hollingshead, Jr. was wearing when he encountered a drunk driver.







Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Carolina dropped the first game against Auburn 16-1 but bounced back with lopsided victories of 10-1 and 18-4.

Gamecocks pound Tigers after slow start to series

USC lights up Auburn over weekend after 15-run loss in critical SEC matchup

> Austin Collins THE DAILY GAMECOCK

After starting the threegame series against Auburn with a dismal 16-1 loss on Friday, the Gamecock offense came alive on Saturday and Sunday, winning the second two games 10-1 and 18-4 respectively.

The starting pitcher for Carolina on Friday, junior Harris Honeycutt, entered the game with a perfect record in his career on campus (15-0). Auburn pounded out eight runs on eight hits in the first four the bases loaded and junior the loss and dropping his record to 7-1 this season.

The Auburn hitters totaled 15 hits and six walks while scoring 16 runs, the most Carolina had surrendered all season. The Gamecocks' lone run in the contest came by way of a sixth-inning solo home run by sophomore first baseman Justin Smoak, his 11th of the year.

In the second game of the series, Carolina pitchers Arik Hempy and Alex Farotto combined to hold the Tigers to just four hits and one run. Hempy, who was starting his first SEC game of the season, picked up his third win of the year (3-0), while pitching a season-high 6.2 scoreless innings.

Offensively, the E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

Gamecocks were propelled to the win behind two firstinning three-run homers from third baseman James Darnell and second baseman Travis Jones. The six runs scored in the first would be more than enough for Carolina to earn the win.

In the rubber game on Sunday, Carolina's bats were on fire for the second straight day, scoring 18 runs on 16 hits to give Carolina the series win. The Gamecocks have now won four of the five SEC series' they have played this season.

Darnell and Jones both had solid games again, each recording four RBIs in the

Carolina took a slim 5-4 lead heading into the bottom of the fifth inning. With innings, handing Honeycutt catcher Phil Disher at the plate, Darnell scored on a wild pitch from Auburn's Brett Butts. Then Disher singled to center, scoring both center fielder Steven Reinhold and Smoak to put the Gamecocks up 8-4.

Carolina scored four more runs in the inning, four in the sixth and two in the eighth on the way to scoring the game's final 13 runs.

With the win, the Gamecocks improved to 28-8 (9-6 SEC), while the loss dropped Auburn to 25-14 (4-11 SEC). Sophomore Justin Smoak had a hit in all three games of the series, extending his hitting streak to 17 games.

Comments on this story?

DEFENSE • Continued from 10

positions."

Norwood, a sophomore from Acworth, Ga., said his defensive teammates played consistent and that he was impressed with the Black squad's defense

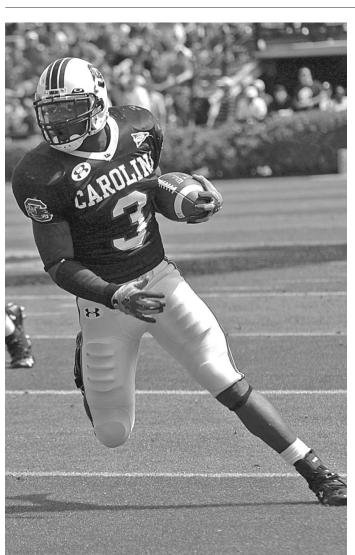
He also said the play of cornerback Stoney Woodson has been the most impressive for the defense this spring. "He's improved a lot to me," Norwood, who had two tackles behind the line of scrimmage for a total loss of 10 yards, said. "He brings experience and play-making ability, and all of our guys have that, but he's the one that showed it the most."

As for the defense as a whole, Norwood knows that there is still room for improvement. "We're coming around and we're going to get to where we need to be."

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu



Sophomore safety Emanuel Cook had an interception in Saturday's game for the Black.



Cory Boyd scored the only two touchdowns for the Black team, which was enough for a 14-7 victory.

OFFENSE • Continued from 10

runs here and there. Chris Smelley was 10-for-22 (passing), better than the other quarterback," Spurrier said.

Boyd's strong play was a continuation of the numbers he put up last year as a running back. During the 2006 season, he led the team with 823 rushing yards and scored a team-high eight rushing touchdowns.

While this game consisted of a friendly team rivalry to cap off the Comments on this story? squad's spring training, E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

Boyd is still constantly looking ahead to his team's capability for fall. He sees the importance of leadership, and he's encouraging younger players to step up.

"It's never about me, and what I do," Boyd said. "It's about the team effort. I just want to install some good things in their [younger players] heads so that when I come back, they can say he was a good guy. He had his ups and downs, but he was a team player."

RECAP • Continued from 10

real cool deal."

Of course, the main attraction was the game, and the show put on by the Carolina defense. The Garnet and Black defenses limited the two offenses to just 21 total points and less than 210 yards on either side. The Black team was able to hold on for a 14-7 victory.

Junior cornerback Stoney Woodson led the Garnet defense as he tallied seven tackles and a pass breakup.

Also chipping in was sophomore defensive end Eric Norwood, who collected two tackles for a loss, one for a sack.

The Black defense worked together to stop the Garnet offense, as no player collected more than three tackles.

Sophomore safeties Emanuel Cook and Darian Stewart stepped up, each grabbing an interception.

"It appeared the defense got the best of the offense on both sides," Spurrier said. "Our offensive line got steamrolled by the D-line a little bit. Maybe we tried to throw a little too much."

Quarterbacks Blake Mitchell and Chris Smelley combined for only 23 completions on 61 passing attempts amounting to 233 yards, one touchdown and three interceptions.

"It was not the best game I've played," Mitchell said. "We have a ways to go, obviously. That's why we have an off-season. I need to throw a lot this summer. I need to still make better decisions and know where to go with the ball. I will use this game to motivate myself this summer."

The ground game was a different story, as running backs Cory Boyd, Bobby Wallace, and Taylor Rank combined for 152 yards on 27 carries and two touchdowns, both by

"It seems like every time we have a pretty good defensive performance around here, we go bad after that," Spurrier said. "We need to do it against Louisiana-Lafayette and Georgia when the real games start."

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

BROOM • Continued from 10

If all other things were equal, why would anyone want to go to class in the shadow of the flag when other Southern states have accepted that "we" lost the war years ago and keep personal heritage just that - personal.

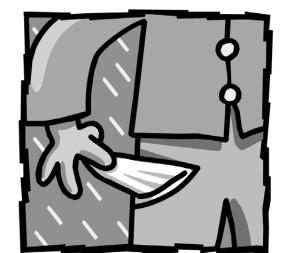
There is no doubt in my mind that on some level, at some point in the process, the Confederate flag and the feelings and associations that come with it has affected recruiting. If it makes even a

single student or prospective student uncomfortable, it affects USC.

If your personal heritage and self-image is dependent on the Confederate flag, wrap yourself up in it like a blanket and sleep with it at night.

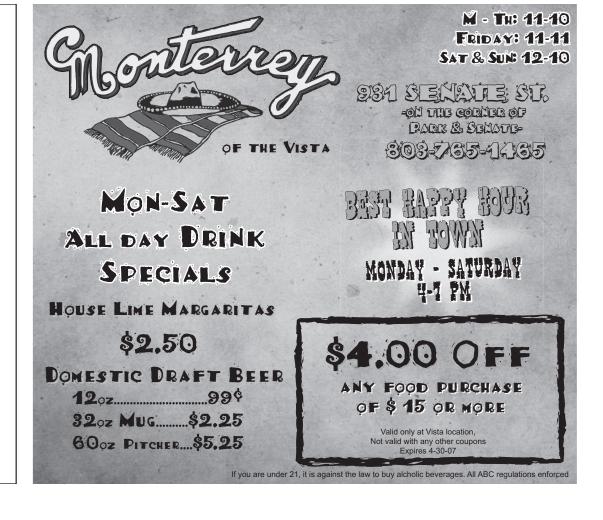
If you don't mind looking like an idiot (and obviously you don't), you could even run one up a flag pole in your front yard. Just keep it off public property and save me — and Steve Spurrier — the embarrassment.





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gamecocksPORTS

Defense dominates Saturday

Offense

Offense struggles with aerial dynamics, but ground game runs smoothly into endzone

> Savi Smith THE DAILY GAMECOCK

In a spring game plagued with mediocre offense, it was senior running back Cory Boyd who stood out as he ran for both of his team's touchdowns to lift the Black team over the Garnet.

With heated talk over the impressive play of the defense, the offense received very little positive feedback, especially after starting quarterback Blake Mitchell put up a poor performance.

"We didn't have many highlight plays," coach Steve Spurrier said. "It was tough for the offense. When you get dominated up front, it's hard to find a ball play or two."

It was a day for running backs, as both junior tailback Bobby Wallace of the Garnet team and Boyd managed to "find a ball play or two," Spurrier said. Wallace posted big numbers for

his team, running for a game-high 67 yards on 10 carries. Boyd, who led his team in rushing yards with 61, put all of his numbers up in the first half, with coaches giving other running backs a chance to play in the second half. His Black team's quarterback was redshirt freshman Chris Smelley, who connected on 10 of 22 passes and threw one interception. It was Boyd, however, who was the offensive star, making it difficult for Garnet's defense to

"I always feel like I always play to my full potential, any time I put on the pads and get on the field, I have to give it 110 percent," Boyd said. "I actually was surprised at how many plays I did get. I didn't expect to be out there that whole time."

At first Smelley started out throwing, but soon the Black team settled down to give more handoffs to Boyd, which ultimately led to the two short touchdown runs. The first touchdown came with 6:26 left in the first quarter on Boyd's 2-yard run, and the second came again in the first quarter with 1:46 left with a 1-yard run. It would end up being all the Black team had to score to beat out their teammates on the

"Cory Boyd has some good

OFFENSE • 9



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Above: Senior quarterback Blake Mitchell looks downfield during Saturday's Spring Game. Mitchell finished with 150 yards passing.

Right: Cory Boyd poses with Casper and Jasper Brinkley as they unveil the new **Under Armour** uniforms the team



Memories and melodies highlight charged halftime show

Chris Cox THE DAILY GAMECOCK

No April showers ruined Saturday's festivities during the nationally televised Garnet and Black Spring Game last weekend.

out in full force to refresh an old memory, and create a few new ones.

The return of Columbia's own Hootie and the Blowfish highlighted Saturday's pre-game the home and road uniforms

and halftime shows. The band performed several of its classics such as "Hold My Hand" and "Time," as well as songs from its newest album, "Looking for Lucky."

Of course, the "new memories" Gamecock fans More than 35,000 fans were came to see were the brand-new Under Armour jerseys that will be donned this coming season by the Gamecocks. Cory Boyd, the Brinkley twins and Kenny McKinley proudly modeled

during a special presentation at halftime.

"As head coach, I'm extremely happy that we are associated with Under Armour," said coach Steve Spurrier in his press release. "This is one of the fastest rising companies in the country and the leader in performance apparel and footwear. The players enjoy wearing Under Armour gear, and we look forward to showcasing the new uniforms in 2007. It's a

RECAP ● 9

Defense

Defense makes stand, statement with strong showing to close spring

Cory Burkarth STAFF WRITER

Steve Spurrier didn't have many great things to say about the performance of either the Garnet or Black's offensive team, but one thing is for sure: he liked what he saw on defense.

Cornerbacks from both teams stayed with the wide receivers all day, not giving them a chance to get free and make big receptions.

"Give our defensive kids credit," Spurrier said. "There wasn't a whole lot of wide open guys out there."

On the third play of the game, Garnet quarterback Blake Mitchell's pass was intercepted by sophomore safety Emanuel Cook, a native of Riviera Beach, Fla. Cook started five games last season as a freshman and earned All-SEC honors by the conference's coaches and by The Sporting News.

Mitchell, who was 13-for-33 on the day, threw his second interception of the game in the third quarter when sophomore safety Darian Stewart picked off the pass and had a 12-yard return. Stewart played in 12 of 13 games last season and is challenging senior Brandon Isaac for the starting free safety

Chris Smelley, quarterback for the Black team, threw his lone interception of the day in the third quarter. On a third and two, Smelley's pass was picked off by junior safety Doug Peterson, who played high school ball at Lexington.

While Spurrier praised his defense, he was cautiously optimistic. "I think we're a lot better on defense, but until we beat somebody in a real game, I don't need to be talking," said Spurrier, who compiled a 15-10 overall record in his first two seasons and an 8-8 SEC record.

The defensive lines for both teams also played well. For the Garnet squad, defensive ends Eric Norwood and Clifton Geathers pressured Smelley all day and sent the secondyear quarterback scrambling on several plays. "We're much improved on the defensive line, no question about it, probably more than any of the other

DEFENSE ● 9

Ol' Ball Coach tackles stars and bars during awards speech

Spurrier could be entering red-zone with statements against Confederate flag

Steve Spurrier has no idea what he just started. He just knows that when he



BROOM political science student

originally commented on the flag, which Fourth-year flies over a monument t h e

State House grounds, Friday night at an awards banquet for City Year Columbia. He was asked about his comments after Saturday's Garnet and Black Spring Game and didn't back down.

year when (Lee) Corso, (Chris) Fowler and (Kirk) Herbstreit were doing the GameDay and some dude was waving that Confederate flag behind the TV screen," Spurrier said. "It's just embarrassing to me, to our team, our school, our

Spurrier insisted crowd, he is repeatedly that his location of a square piece comments weren't a complaint about recruiting or any disadvantage that his team might have because of the flag. He just felt that the diverse audience would understand his comments and agree with his views.

"My opinion is we don't need the Confederate flag at our capitol," he said. "Most of them appreciated that."

Spurrier said that his much personal history and intentions were not to start an anti-flag campaign, but Civil War as anyone in

to make his opinion known this state could claim. But "It was embarrassing last to his team and recruits.

There are some people out there who won't appreciate Spurrier's comments. They'll claim removing the flag and putting it in a museum would somehow be forgetting their heritage or disrespecting their ancestors. This makes no sense.

Even if somehow the of cloth really is directly related to the personal heritage of many South Carolinians, while all of us share the State House, not all of us share that heritage.

I am a white male from South Carolina. My family is from South Carolina, and has been in the state forever as far as I know.

I probably have just as heritage invested in the

I, like Spurrier, shake my head in disgust each time some backwoods, mouthbreathing hick decides to bring their "heritage" to the fairgrounds.

Spurrier was clear that he wasn't making these comments as a way to complain about losing recruits who would have otherwise signed with

He was adamant that USC was not at any competitive disadvantage because of the flag, but Spurrier is not the kind of man to make excuses, even when they might be warranted.

If I was a young athlete trying to decide where I would spend the next four or five years of my life, the flag's presence would play a role in my decision.

BROOM ● 9



Coach Steve Spurrier has recently made comments about flying the Confederate flag on the State House grounds.