

2-29-2008

The Daily Gamecock, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008

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The Daily Gamecock

dailygamecock.com

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008

VOL. 101, NO. 103 ● SINCE 1908

VAGINA

Talking away the taboo

Monologues aim to educate, embrace female sexuality

Katie Jones
STAFF WRITER

"The Vagina Monologues" is back in its seventh-annual performance at USC. The show will run Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Gambrell Hall auditorium.

Based on the award-winning play by Eve Ensler, "The Vagina Monologues" is part of the V-Day Campaign, which strives to end violence against women.

The proceeds from the production will benefit The Assessment Resource Center, which helps children that have been maltreated.

Karissa Lindsay, a fourth-year print journalism student, organized this year's production.

"It's for a good cause," she said. "It's dedicated to stopping violence against women and girls. I was involved with the play last year and I had a really good experience, and I thought it was an opportunity to get the word out about stopping violence against women."

Lindsay said her minor is in women's studies and that anything that has to do with the advancement of women interests her.

The play features a variety of monologues all centered on the vagina, in the form of rape, birth and mutilation, among others.

"It's kind of easy to say, 'OK, well, let's do 'Vagina Monologues'" because it's "vagina" and we're on a college campus and that's going to catch people's attention," Lindsay said of the play. "But at the same time, the play still has substance to it."

The V-Day campaign has occurred on a national scale for 10 years, Lindsay said.

Last year, the play raised \$6,000. This year, the organization is aiming higher.

In addition to the ticket proceeds, the group sold T-shirts and chocolate vaginas for the past three Wednesdays on Greene Street and held a "pink party" at Club Fusion.

"If you wore pink, you got a discount on admission," Lindsay said.

Fiona McDevitt, a social work graduate student, is narrating the play. She got involved for many of the same reasons as Lindsay.

"It's very much a woman's play and deals with women's issues that women face, not only in the United States but in the world; domestic violence, genital mutilation and discrimination against women, especially transgendered women."

McDevitt feels "The Vagina Monologues" and the V-Day Campaign aids in preventing and dealing with those issues.

"I think that the value [of "The Vagina Monologues"] is to raise awareness of women in a way that's a little bit shocking," she said. "I think the shock value does add to it. It's a way of women celebrating who they are and reclaiming themselves. I like the fact that it tends to be a lot of college that are putting it on and when women get to college, that's when you get to come into your own."

McDevitt also said "The Vagina Monologues" helps women's self-image.

"College women are exploring all side of themselves," she said. "They're not necessarily seeing themselves as virgins or whores. They're finding who they are and their own expression of who they are that does not necessarily fit into societal boundaries."

Tickets are \$7 for students and \$10 for non-students. They can be purchased at the door or at the Russell House information desk.

"If you want to do community service in an entertaining way, come to the play," McDevitt said.

Comments on this story? E-mail sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu

Feb. 29 babies get rare birthday today

'Leapling' group celebrates special day for first time in four years on Leap Day

Cassity Brewer
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

This morning, Leigh-Anna Moser woke up ready to celebrate. Today is her birthday, and she's now either 20 or five, depending on how you look at it.

To most USC students, today isn't any different from most other Fridays, but to a certain group known as "leaplings," born on Feb. 29, 1988, it's the first chance to actually celebrate their birthdays in four years.

"It's different from people who have it every year," said Cheri McClardy, a second-year Spanish student whose birthday is today. "Some people don't even know about Feb. 29. When they find out my birthday is on that day, they don't believe me."

Coleman Dorney, a second-year undecided student, has dealt with similar issues.

"Some people think it doesn't count," he said. "But my friends think it's pretty cool."

Leap year, which occurs once every four years, was created because it takes the Earth 365 days and six hours to rotate the sun each year. Every four years, 24 hours have accumulated, and an extra day must be added to make up for lost time.

Those with birthdays today will usually just choose a day during non-leap years to celebrate, either Feb. 28 or March 1. Some opt to celebrate it twice.

Dorney, McClardy and Moser said they usually choose when to celebrate.

"In a way I like it because I can celebrate it on both days," McClardy said.

However, having a birthday on Leap Day can be a drawback when an important age is being reached, such as being old enough to get a driver's license.

"In South Carolina, you can get your permit at 15, and there was no leap year, so

I had to wait until March 1," said Moser, a second-year fashion-merchandising student.

The same rules will apply when leaplings turning 20 this year turn 21 in 2009.

Despite the unusualness of the situation, leap-year babies have gotten used to their birth dates.

McClardy said she still would wait to celebrate her birthday until next weekend when she goes home.

"It's a big deal, but it's not a big deal," she said.

Moser agreed.

"It's a big deal since I haven't had one since I was 16," Moser said. But at the same time, she shrugged her shoulders and said, "It's not that weird."

Other students who don't have birthdays on Feb. 29 thought it would be a big deal if they were celebrating a birthday today.

Jeff Folk, a fourth-year finance student, thought it would be interesting.

"I'd probably do something out of the ordinary because, hey, I'm in college. I'm turning five," Folk said.

He said only having five birthdays by the time you are, in reality, 20 years old, should

warrant more recognition from friends and family.

Even though McClardy is not going home until next weekend, she is excited to have her birthday acknowledged this year.

"It will be cool to have people recognize that it is my birthday for once," McClardy said.

Moser is also excited to have some recognition and received an early birthday present Wednesday – a new car.

Other people born on Feb. 29 include Pope Paul III, actor Alex Rocco, writer Tony Robbins and rapper Ja Rule.



Historic Leap-year Events

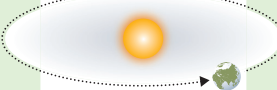
- **1288**- It became legal for a woman to propose to a man in Scotland.
- **1692**- The first accusations of the Salem Witch Trials occurred.
- **1916**- In South Carolina, the minimum working age for factory, mill and mine workers was raised from 12 to 14.
- **1940**- Hattie McDaniel became the first African-American to win an Oscar for her role in "Gone With the Wind."
- **1958**- The first "Walk, Don't Walk" signs were installed in New York City.
- **1960**- Hugh Hefner opened the first Playboy club in Chicago.
- **1972**- Hank Aaron became the first baseball player to sign for \$200,000 a year.

Leaping ahead

Every four years an extra day – Feb. 29 – is added to align the calendar year with the Earth's motion around the sun.

How long is a year?

- **Calendar year** 365 days
- **Solar year** Time it takes Earth to make one orbit around the sun



365 days 5 hr. 48 min. 46 sec.

Extra time, not in calendar year

- Every four years, the extra time adds up to an extra day
- Because the extra time isn't an exact six hours and to keep calendars on track, every hundredth year is **not a leap year** (1800, 1900), except for every four hundredth year, which is **a leap year** (1600, 2000)

Source: Encyclopaedia Britannica
Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2008 MCT



Ron Edmonds / The Associated Press

President Bush speaks during a news conference at the White House in Washington on Thursday.

Bush denounces talk of economic recession

President assures public he expects to see effects of pro-growth package

Terence Hunt
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Thursday the country is not recession-bound and, despite expressing concern about slowing economic growth, rejected for now any additional stimulus efforts. "We acted robustly," he said.

"We'll see the effects of this pro-growth package," Bush told reporters at a White House news conference, acknowledging that some lawmakers already are talking about a second stimulus package. "Why don't we let stimulus package 1, which seemed like a good idea at the time, have a chance to kick in?"

Bush's view of the economy was decidedly rosier than that of many economists, who say the

country is nearing recession territory or may already be there. "I'm concerned about the economy," he said. "I don't think we're headed to recession. But no question, we're in a slowdown."

The centerpiece of government efforts to brace the wobbly economy is a package Congress passed and Bush signed last month. It will rush rebates ranging from \$300 to \$1,200 to millions of people and give tax incentives to businesses.

On one issue particularly worrisome to American consumers, there are indications that paying \$4 for a gallon of gasoline is not out of the question once the summer driving season arrives. Asked about that, Bush said, "That's interesting. I hadn't heard that. ... I know it's high now."

Bush also telegraphed optimism about the U.S. dollar, which has been declining in value.

"I believe that our economy has got the

Crime Report

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27 *Jones*

Traffic collision, 9:10 a.m.
1312 Pendleton St.

The victim was driving his Toyota out of the C-1 parking lot. While stopped at the stop sign, someone on a bike did not stop and hit the front of the victim's car. The bicyclist left the scene before police arrived.

Estimated damage: \$500
Reporting officer: W.D. Jones

Burglary, petit larceny, 10:46 a.m.

Byrnes Building, 901 Sumter St.

Someone stole a red tapestry with yellow and green stripes.

Estimated value: \$200
Reporting officer: W.D. Jones

Vandalism, 11:47 a.m.

Bates House, 1423 Whaley St.

Someone wrote in pink marker on the third floor lobby wall and the men's bathroom door.

Estimated damage: \$50
Reporting officer: W.D. Jones

Breaking and entering, petit larceny, 5:52 p.m.

E-3 parking lot, 1316 Heyward St.

Someone stole the victims 80 gb iPod from his 2006 Chevy Impala. He was unsure if the car was locked.

Estimated value: \$250
Reporting officer: W.D. Jones

PIC OF THE DAY

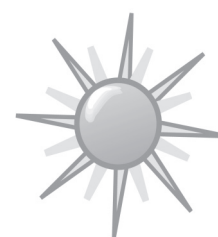


Tiffany Butler / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Moderator Beth Bayouth introduces the "Virgin Dialogues," sponsored by Students for Life, on Thursday evening.

[WEATHER]

TODAY



61 42

Saturday



67 40

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Today

2 p.m.

Robert C. McNair gives speech, "Bob McNair a la carte"

Russell House Theater

6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

The Vagina Monologues

Gambrell 153

Tomorrow

Noon – 6 p.m.

Honors Council Trivial Pursuit Tournament

6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

The Vagina Monologues

Gambrell 153

6:30 p.m.

World Night '08

RH Ballroom

Monday, March 2

5 p.m.

Students for Life meeting

RH 305

6:30 p.m.

Indian Cultural Exchange meeting

RH 203

6:30 p.m.

American Red Cross Club meeting

RH 304

7 p.m.

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance meeting

RH 348

7 p.m.

Mountaineering and Whitewater Club meeting

Currell 107

8 p.m.

BGLSA meeting

BA Building 008

8 p.m.

Amnesty International Student Chapter meeting

RH 348

NEWSBRIEFS

Local

NEW YORK — A South Carolina gun dealer who sued New York's mayor for saying that his shop engaged in "criminal behavior" has asked judges in two states to put his case on hold so he can fight an unrelated criminal charge.

Licensed firearms dealer Larry Mickalis was indicted earlier this month on a charge that he illegally sold a rifle to an ex-convict two years ago at his pawn shop in Summerville.

The charge was a surprise development in the embattled merchant's ongoing legal battle with New York City, and his attorneys have now asked courts to freeze the civil litigation until the criminal case is resolved.

One of the gun dealer's lawyers, Scott Allan, argued in court papers filed Wednesday in New York that the stays are necessary "to avoid undermining Mr. Mickalis' Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination."

A similar request has been made to a judge in South Carolina regarding parallel litigation there.

The legal fight between the two sides began in 2006, when New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg sued more than two dozen out-of-state gun dealers.

National

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A student injured in a shooting at the University of Arkansas was recovering in a hospital Thursday and campus police said they have a suspect.

James Earl Matthews, 33, a junior studying radio, television and theater, suffered gunshot wounds to his midriff and buttocks and underwent surgery Wednesday.

"The outlook is good" for Matthews, UALR Chancellor Joel Anderson said at a news conference.

Matthews, of North Little Rock, was shot about 2:10 p.m. Wednesday on a sidewalk at the university and witnesses saw two men flee in a car.

University Police Chief Brad King said he hoped to have a warrant for one suspect later Thursday. The man, who was not identified, has a criminal record with the Little Rock police, but King would not disclose the criminal history.

King said detectives held their first in-depth interview with Matthews on Thursday afternoon.

King said police were still trying to identify the second man, but stressed that the 12,000-student urban campus would remain open and faced no further threat.

World

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenya's feuding politicians shook hands, smiled for the cameras, and finally agreed to share power. But two months after a disputed presidential election unleashed ethnic violence that killed more than 1,000 people, the real test is whether the reluctant partners can heal a deeply divided nation.

Much depends on how President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga work together in the days ahead.

"For the last two months, Kenyans have known nothing but sadness," said Odinga, who won a powerful prime minister's post in Thursday's agreement.

He referred to his rival as "my countryman, President Mwai Kibaki" — one clear sign of acceptance after having denounced Kibaki's re-election as a sham.

Kibaki added, "This process has reminded us that as a nation there are more issues that unite than that divide us."

Under the agreement, the opposition leader will become prime minister and have the power to "coordinate and supervise" the government — more authority than Kibaki wanted to yield.

The bitterness between them runs deep, however, and both men have been lashing out at each other since the Dec. 27 election. They have traded accusations about inciting violence, stealing the vote and destroying the nation. They had not even been in the same room for weeks before Thursday.

Kofi Annan, the mediator, had to prompt them to shake hands as the cameras rolled.

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BUSH • Continued from 1

fundamentals in place for us to ... grow and continue growing, more robustly hopefully than we're growing now," he said. "So we're still for a strong dollar."

Bush also used his news conference to press Congress to give telecommunications companies legal immunity for helping the government eavesdrop after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

He continued a near-daily effort to prod lawmakers into passing his version of a law to make it easier for the government to conduct domestic eavesdropping on suspected terrorists' phone calls and e-mails. He says the country is in more danger now that a temporary surveillance law has expired.

The president and Congress are in a showdown over Bush's demand on the immunity issue.

Bush said the companies helped the government after being told "that their assistance was legal and vital to national security."

"Allowing these lawsuits to proceed would be unfair," he said.

More important, Bush added, "the litigation process could lead to the disclosure of information about how we conduct surveillance and it would give al-Qaida and others a roadmap as to how to avoid the surveillance."

The Senate passed its version of the surveillance bill earlier this month, and it provides retroactive legal protection for telecommunications companies that wiretapped U.S. phone and computer lines at the government's request and without court permission. The House version, approved in October, does not include telecom immunity.

Telecom companies face around 40 lawsuits for their alleged role in wiretapping their American customers.

Senate Democrats appeared unwilling to budge.

As Bush began speaking, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., cast the president's position as a "tiresome campaign...to avoid accountability for the unlawful surveillance of Americans."

"The president once again is misusing his bully pulpit," Leahy said. "Once again, they are showing they are not above fear-mongering if that's what it takes to get their way."

Bush criticized the Democratic presidential candidates over their attempts to disassociate themselves from the North American Free Trade Agreement, a free-trade pact between the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Bush said the deal is contributing to more and better-paying jobs for Americans.

"The idea of just unilaterally withdrawing from a trade treaty because of, you know, trying to score political points is not good policy," he said. "It's not good policy on the merits and it's not good policy as a message to send to people who have in good faith signed a treaty and worked with us on a treaty."

Democratic Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama are feuding over NAFTA as they compete for their party's presidential nomination, as

the pact is deeply unpopular with blue-collar workers. Though neither has said they were ready to pull the United States out of the agreement, both say they would use the threat of doing so to pressure Mexico to renegotiate tougher labor, environmental and enforcement provisions.

Bush fended off a question about why he has yet to replace Fran Townsend, his White House-based terrorism adviser, who announced her resignation more than three months ago. He said the job is being ably filled by her former deputy, Joel Bagnal.

On another issue, Bush said that Turkey's offensive against Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq should be limited — and should end as soon as possible. The ongoing fighting has put the United States in a touchy position, as it is close allies with both Iraq and Turkey. A long offensive along their border could jeopardize security in Iraq just as the U.S. is trying to stabilize the war-racked country.

"The Turks need to move, move quickly, achieve their objective and get out," he said.

On Russia, Bush said he does not know much about Dmitry Medvedev, the handpicked successor to President Vladimir Putin who is coasting to the job. Bush said it will be interesting to see who represents Russia — presumably either Medvedev or Putin — at the Group of Eight meeting later this year in Japan.

The president advised his own successor to develop a personal relationship with whomever is in charge in Moscow.

"As you know, Putin's a straightforward, pretty tough character when it comes to his interests — well so am I," Bush said. He said that he and Putin have "had some diplomatic head butts."

Bush also said, however, that the pair have "a cordial enough relationship to be able to deal with common threats and opportunities, and that's going to be important for the next president to maintain."

Bush also defended his stance of not talking directly with leaders of adversaries such as Iran and Cuba without setting preconditions. In doing so, he offered some of his strongest criticism yet of Raul Castro, who assumed Cuba's presidency on Sunday after his ailing brother Fidel, who ruled for decades, stepped aside.

"Sitting down at the table, having your picture taken with a tyrant such as Raul Castro, for example, lends the status of the office and the status of our country to him," Bush said.

He said that Raul Castro is "nothing more than an extension of what his brother did, which is ruin an island."

Following his news conference, Bush traveled to the Labor Department to meet with his economic advisers.

Afterward, he expressed confidence in the nation's ability to weather the economic downturn.

"We'll make it through this period just like we made it through other periods of uncertainty during my presidency," Bush said.

Leaked video reveals prince serving in Afghanistan

Harry of Wales shown with fellow British soldiers

Tariq Panja
The Associated Press

LONDON — The secret is out: Prince Harry has been serving on the front line with his British army unit in one of Afghanistan's most lawless and barren provinces.

Harry is the first royal to serve in a combat zone since his uncle Prince Andrew flew helicopters during Britain's war with Argentina over the Falkland Islands in 1982.

British officials had hoped to keep the 23-year-old's deployment secret until he had safely returned, but they released video of Harry serving in Helmand Province after a leak appeared on the U.S. Web site the Drudge Report.

The planned deployment had been disclosed to reporters, with no specific date, but was not reported previously under a pool agreement between the Ministry of Defense and all major news organizations operating in Britain, including The Associated Press. The news blackout was intended to reduce the risk to the prince and his regiment.

"I got here on Christmas Eve. And going from bullet magnet to anti-bullet magnet, most of the guys were pretty bummed that I was here because nothing was happening for the first few days that I was here. But things are picking up again now because it's obviously quite boring when nothing is happening," Harry said in one video.

Although he is still in Afghanistan, military chiefs are angry over the leak and are considering if he should be moved. Tours to Afghanistan usually last six months, but Harry has served just 10 weeks.

"I will take advice from the operational commanders about whether his deployment can continue," said the army's commander, Gen. Richard Dannatt.

Harry, the third in line to the British throne, was supposed to go to Iraq with the Blues and Royals regiment last May, but the assignment was scrapped at the last minute because of security fears. Iraqi insurgents made threats on Internet chat rooms, saying he would not make it home alive.

Putting aside his usual life of privilege in Afghanistan, the prince spoke of going without showers for days, eating corned beef and hash and drinking nonalcoholic drinks. He noted he had also escaped the relentless

paparazzi in London.

Harry trained at Sandhurst military academy and joined the Blues and Royals as a cornet, the cavalry regiment's equivalent of a second lieutenant. After being held back from his Iraq assignment, the prince threatened to quit the army if he wasn't given the chance to see combat.

He said the news of his Afghan assignment was delivered by his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth II.

"She told me I'm off to Afghanistan so that was the way it was supposed to be," he said in an interview in Afghanistan, his hair

PRINCE • 5



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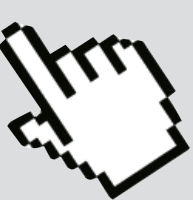
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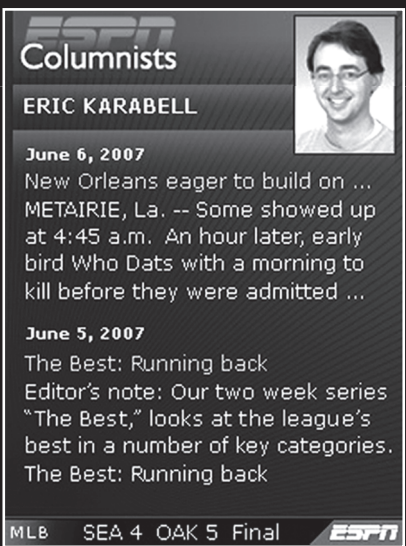
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TOL:3	3RD	TOL:2			
4TH AND 6, BALL ON PHI 14					
PLAYS	BOX	MEDIA			
	1	2	3	4	T
PHI	7	0	17	0	23
STL	10	7	3	0	20
RECEIVING					
NAME	REC	YDS	TD		
Nicholas Hent	5	110	0		
Jamie Ryerson	3	89	0		
Dean Miles	3	43	1		
Jon Winters	2	54	0		
AJ Hammel	5	80	0		
Steve Dele	1	165	1		
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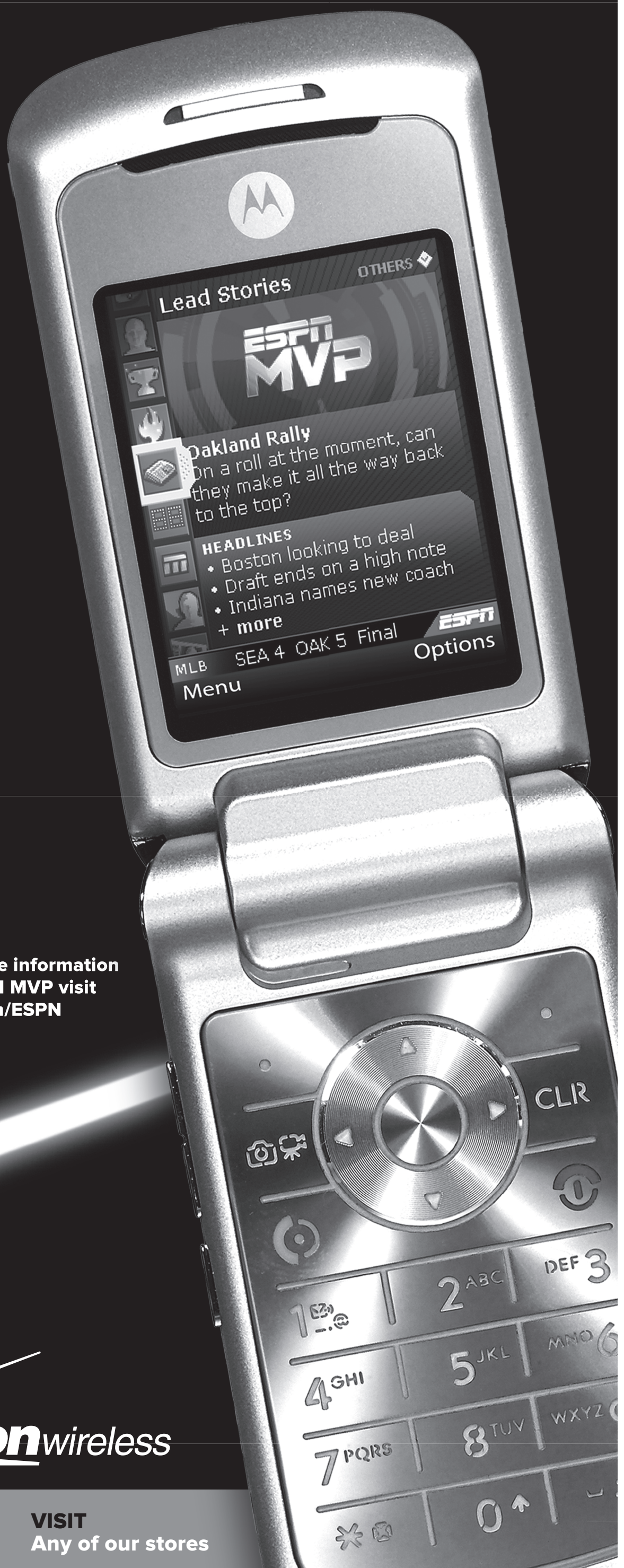
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Report: 1 of 100 adults in U.S. jails or prisons

David Crar
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — For the first time in U.S. history, more than one of every 100 adults is in jail or prison, according to a new report documenting America's rank as the world's No. 1 incarcerator. It urges states to curtail corrections spending by placing fewer low-risk offenders behind bars.

Using state-by-state data, the report says 2,319,258 Americans were in jail or prison at the start of 2008 — one out of every 99.1 adults. Whether per capita or in raw numbers, it's more than any other nation.

The report, released Thursday by the Pew Center on the States, said the 50 states spent more than \$49 billion on corrections last year, up from less than \$11 billion 20 years earlier. The rate of increase for prison costs was six times greater than for higher education spending, the report said.

The steadily growing inmate population "is saddling cash-strapped states with soaring costs they can ill afford and failing to have a clear impact either on recidivism or overall crime," the report said.

Susan Urahn, managing director of the Pew Center on the States, said budget woes are pressuring many states to consider new, cost-saving corrections policies that might have been shunned in the recent past for fear of appearing soft on crime.

"We're seeing more and more states being creative because of tight budgets," she said in an interview. "They want to be tough on crime. They want to be a law-and-order state. But they also want to save money, and they want to be effective."

The report cited Kansas and Texas as states that have acted decisively to slow the growth of their inmate population. They are making greater use of community supervision for low-risk offenders and employing sanctions other than re-imprisonment for offenders who commit technical violations of parole and probation rules.

"The new approach, born of bipartisan leadership, is allowing the two states to ensure they have enough prison beds for violent offenders while helping less dangerous lawbreakers become productive, taxpaying citizens," the report said.

While many state governments have shown bipartisan interest in curbing prison growth, there also are persistent calls to proceed cautiously.

"We need to be smarter," said David Muhlhausen, a criminal justice expert with the conservative Heritage Foundation. "We're not incarcerating all the people who commit serious crimes. But we're also probably incarcerating people who don't need to be."

According to the report, the inmate population increased last year in 36 states and the federal prison system.

The largest percentage increase — 12 percent — was in Kentucky, where Gov. Steve Beshear highlighted the cost of corrections in his budget speech last month. He noted that the state's crime rate had increased only about 3 percent in the past 30 years, while the state's inmate population has increased by 600 percent.

The report was compiled by the Pew Center's Public Safety Performance Project, which is working with 13 states on developing

programs to divert offenders from prison without jeopardizing public safety.

"Getting tough on criminals has gotten tough on taxpayers," said the project's director, Adam Gelb.

According to the report, the average annual cost per prisoner was \$23,876, with Rhode Island spending the most (\$44,860) and Louisiana the least (\$13,009). It said California — which faces a \$16 billion budget shortfall — spent \$8.8 billion on corrections last year, while Texas, which has slightly more inmates, was a distant second with spending of \$3.3 billion.

On average, states spend 6.8 percent of their general fund dollars on corrections, the report said. Oregon had the highest spending rate, at 10.9 percent; Alabama the lowest at 2.6 percent.

Four states — Vermont, Michigan, Oregon and Connecticut — now spend more on corrections than they do on higher education, the report said.

"These sad facts reflect a very distorted set of national priorities," said Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent from Vermont, referring to

PRINCE ● Continued from 3

coated with dust and his face in stubble.

"She was very 'pro' me going then, so I think she's relieved that I get the chance to do what I want to do," he added. He said he tries to phone home once a week.

Harry said his older brother, William, who also graduated from Sandhurst and is training as a military pilot, is jealous of his deployment. As second in line for the throne, William is unlikely to ever see combat.

Harry has been in Helmand Province, where most of the 7,800 British soldiers in Afghanistan are based. It has seen some of the country's fiercest combat in recent years, with NATO-led forces fighting the Taliban and al-Qaida militants.

The close-quarter combat has been described as the most challenging British troops have faced since the Korean War, with their positions sometimes just a few yards from those held by insurgents. Since the U.S.-led invasion ousted Afghanistan's Taliban regime in late 2001, 89 British soldiers have been killed.

Harry's work in Afghanistan has involved



John Stillwell / The Associated Press

Britain's Prince Harry mans a 50mm machinegun, at an observation post close to Forward Operating Base Delhi, while serving on the front line in Afghanistan.

calling in airstrikes on Taliban positions as well as going out on foot patrols. He spent part of his deployment at an operating base just 500 yards from Taliban positions, the military said.

Since Harry's arrival, his battle group has been responsible for around 30 enemy deaths, a Ministry of Defense official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

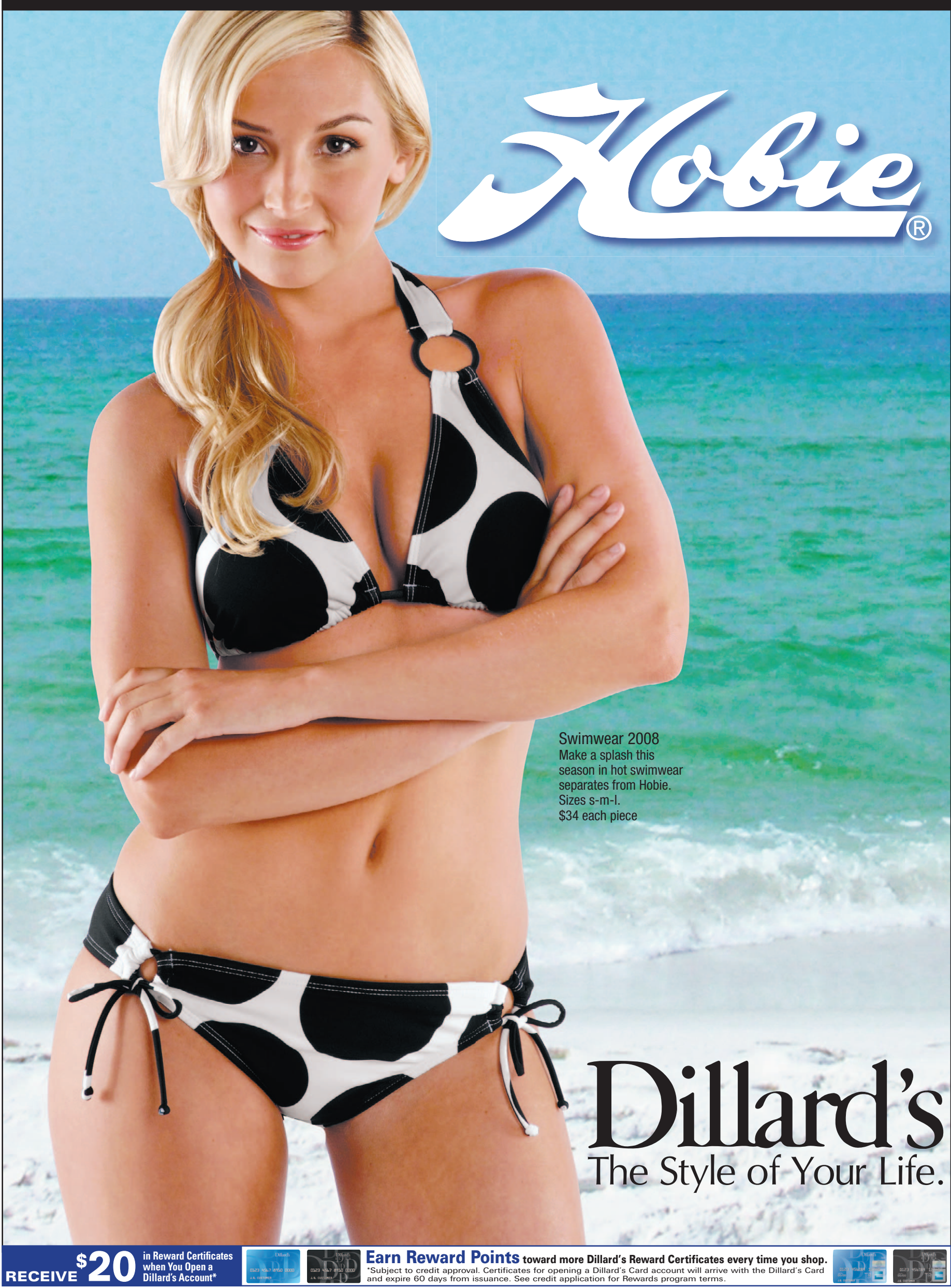
Video showed the prince in camouflage fatigues walking across arid and

dusty terrain, calling in air support, firing a machine gun and patrolling the streets of Garmsir, the southernmost part of the province. He has since left Garmsir, but his current whereabouts are being kept secret.

"It's bizarre," he said in an interview. "I'm out here now, haven't really had a shower for four days, haven't washed my clothes for a week and everything seems completely normal. .. It's nice just to be here with all the guys and just mucking in as one of the lads."

Before his posting, Harry had been better known in the British tabloids for his love of the nightclub dance floors and was pictured more than once scuffling with photographers waiting for his often boozy exit.

But the army commander described Harry's performance on the battlefield as exemplary. "He has been fully involved in operations and has run the same risks as everyone else in his battle group," Dannatt said.




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The Daily Gamecock

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IN OUR OPINION

‘Prison Break’ should not be reality in U.S.

According to a new report released by the Pew Center on the States, one in every 100 adults in America is behind bars. Funding for correctional facilities shot up almost \$40 billion in the last 20 years.

Obviously, something is wrong with our system if the U.S. is the country with the highest incarceration. A country founded on hope for the future and opportunity for growth should not be putting away 1 percent of its population.

The billions of dollars spent housing inmates could help young kids in low-income homes

We believe that the funding that went to prisons and jails, which do not rehabilitate prisoners like the original intent, should be refocused on stopping crime where it starts.

The billions of dollars spent housing inmates could help young kids at low-performing schools and in low-income homes learn a skill or find a passion for learning. Without the education afforded for us, almost 300 USC students would be locked up right now.

Instead of trying to stamp out the people who commit crimes we should take more pre-emptive measures in schools and communities across the country.

Of course this won’t be the complete solution. Some people have no regard for the law and no respect for authority.

But they are the ones that deserve to be in jail, not the scores of those put there because they had no chance to go anywhere else.

CORRECTIONS

In Feb. 20’s News section, the Birdcage had 600 attendees.

The Daily Gamecock regrets the error.

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

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

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

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HORS-CATEGORIE

Closed borders may threaten farmers

Fence jeopardizes locals’ livelihoods, might not even accomplish goals

underreported. It can take these farming families lifetimes to be able to buy their own land, and for some who live and work along the banks of the Rio Grande, the fence threatens to destroy their livelihood.

For those who would find their land on the southern side of the fence, life may become much more dangerous very quickly. These people would be at the mercy of all kinds of shady behavior, such as drug trafficking and smuggling.

The farmers in the areas affected by the fence have a right to keep the property they have spent their lives toiling to earn. Eminent domain may exist, but it should not be utilized on such a pointless project as a border fence. Chances are that the fence will not be able to stem the flow of illegal immigrants anyway.

The farmers also should be able to continue to make a living without their lives or property being threatened. Considering the current economic



CAIT COSTELLO
First-year public relations student

situation, it is completely ridiculous to believe that the influenced people can just pick up and move, or that they will be able to survive on half their former land and produce, maybe less.

And farmers are not the only ones affected. The University of Texas at Brownsville will find part of its campus on the other side of the fence if it goes up.

With the presidential campaigns fast approaching the March 4 Texas primaries, border fencing has become a top issue. Clinton, Obama and McCain all voted for about 700 miles of border fencing in 2006, and now their presidential bids require that they own up to those who, unlike the candidates, must survive along the border. Hopefully they will keep the promises made to this particular audience.

There are alternative ways to protect the border that do not require throwing funds down the drain. A physical barrier is not practical in this day in age. Those living on the border cannot be forgotten and we can’t let ourselves be pushed into destroying their way of life.

Lack of security leaves drivers exposed

Vandalism cases might persuade officials to tighten campus safety



MICHAEL WUNDERLICH
First-year print journalism student

Students pay a high price to attend college with money going towards tuition, housing and meal plans, among other things.

One thing this money doesn’t seem to cover is security in the various parking lots around campus.

Numerous break-ins have been reported this year, with students finding their cars vandalized, windows shattered and valuables stolen. Week after week it’s the same story — another student losing something valuable in their car, left only to file a police report and hope for the best that the thieves will be apprehended soon, if ever.

I was walking by a high school senior tour group recently and overheard the guide praising Columbia and the campus for its low crime rate.

While it is a tragically rare case that a student

should come into harm’s way, vandalism and burglary seem to be quite prevalent, at least in select areas around campus.

Parking alone is \$60 per year and \$45 per semester, but those fees only allow you to park in the areas designated for students with a permit.

With the funds being shelled out by students, why is there not even a hint of parking lot security at residence halls and in parking garages?

Some residence halls have unbelievable security, such as Bates House, which requires you to scan your card to get to the front desk, and then scan AGAIN to get by the front desk to go to your rooms.

If security was as tight in parking lots as it was in some residence halls, petty

theft would be nothing more than an unwanted memory.

In the parking garages the cars are virtually unattended, which could lead to a number of dangers.

Late-night students studying in the library may encounter an intruder in the garage on their way back to their cars and risk confrontation.

The security wouldn’t have to be a full scale war against the common thugs of Columbia looking for an easy steal either.

What I would like to see is at least some attention being paid to the tempting lots full of cars — maybe a mobilized night patrolman for each lot, aided by some sort of convenient transportation.

Cameras in the lots might also be an option, at least having an eye on the lots and garages at all times.

It seems only essential for some security measure taken to protect the vehicles as well as those students who park there.

Americans constantly take rights for granted

Freedom of speech, right to assemble kept from others in foreign countries

In America we have grown accustomed to the idea that we are entitled to certain rights. This includes the right to peacefully assemble and behave in any manner that does not endanger the lives of other people.

In other countries this is not a freedom, or even a right. It is an excuse for jail time.

Last week in Saudi Arabia a group of young men were



MONIQUE CUNIN
Third-year print journalism student

arrested for gathering in a mall and flirting with young women. They will end up in jail, unless they can prove that they weren’t flirting.

We also have freedom of speech. This right is one that many people use to the extreme. Yet people have been arrested for exercising that right. On Feb. 6, a Florida teenager was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was singing a song with profanity in it on a public street as he walked by children. Our Constitution may say that he can do that, but the Hernando County police department disagrees.

This is not the first time that someone’s right to freedom of speech and society’s desire to keep the world a PG-rated place has clashed.

In the 2004 documentary “This Divided State,” directed by Steven Greenstreet, this struggle is shown at its best.

Controversial film maker Michael Moore was invited to speak at Utah Valley State College. People protested, threatened to pull money from the school and complained that if Moore was allowed to speak he’d be destroying their society. They felt that Moore would undermine the morals of the town the college is in.

Shouldn’t his right, to speak freely as an American, be respected?

According to school donors, students and townspeople it should not.

Sean Hannity was allowed to speak at the school without any protests. He was allowed to share his belief system with the students. His right to freedom of speech was respected — Moore’s right was not.

Even on this campus, many are intolerant for certain peoples’ and groups’ right to speak. Last spring, a popular campus evangelist, Brother Micah came to USC and said many unpopular things. He condemned people and was insensitive.

Students began circulating a petition to have him banned because they did not agree with his point of view. Because his opinion was unpopular, they did not feel he had the right to freedom of speech.

I haven’t seen him back on campus since.

Freedom is something that everyone takes for granted. Think about that next time you go to a movie with your friends, hit on a girl or choose to express an unpopular opinion.

Want to be heard? E-mail Viewpoints at sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu.

NOW SHOWING

Once upon a pig

'Penelope' sweeps audience away with classic fairy tale elements

Rick Bentley
MCT Campus

The one thing every good fairy tale has taught us is that nothing is as it seems. A frog is a prince. A cat can talk. Living with seven vertically challenged men can be dangerous. "Penelope," a family-friendly film fairy tale, does not break with that tradition.

At face value — and what a face — this is the story of a young woman (Christina Ricci) who is the unfortunate victim of a family curse. Because of an indiscretion by one of her blueblood relatives, she has what can only be called the world's most prominent birth mark.

Penelope's nose looks like a pig's snout. Only the love of "one of her kind" will reverse this condition.

Her loving but misguided parents (Catherine O'Hara, Richard E. Grant) have built a sanctuary for Penelope full of everything but human contact. If she ever

hopes to end the curse, Penelope will have to find a suitor. That is easier said than done: One glimpse of Penelope sends potential husbands running like vegetarians at a pig roast.

They all bolt except for Max (James McAvoy). His gambling debts have put him a financial bind. That's when he agrees to pretend to be a potential hubby to help a bitter newspaper writer (Peter Dinklage) get a photo of Penelope.

Even pretend love comes with all kinds of complications. And that sends Penelope, her face half hidden by a giant scarf, into the world to find her freedom.

Director Mark Palansky finds a quiet tone to present this engaging script by Leslie Caveny. That means the moral of this story (and all good fairy tales have a moral) is delivered with a light embrace instead of an emotional slap.

The real credit goes to Ricci. Whether it is the pig snout or the scarf, a large part of her face is hidden throughout most of the movie. Ricci manages to show with just her eyes the emotional pain, the joyful awakening of her senses and the innocent hope that exists



Courtesy of Summit Entertainment

Christina Ricci, right, who portrays the title role of Penelope, is shown in a scene with James McAvoy in the film, "Penelope."

inside this character.

There are other strong elements in the film, but revealing too much detail might jeopardize the discovery of all of the elements that aren't what they seem.

"Penelope" deals with a host of issues, the most obvious about learning to deal with something that might set a person apart from the crowd. It is the kind of movie that should stimulate conversations. When a movie does that, then everyone lives happily ever after.

About the Flick

Running Time: 1 hour 29 mins

Director: Mark Palansky

Actors: Christina Ricci, James McAvoy, Catherine O'Hara, & Reese Witherspoon

Penelope

Rated: PG



Video game is fun to play, but enjoyment is lessened by constant rush for points against the clock

Billy O'Keefe
MCT Campus

"The Club" is a fun game stuck in an obnoxious game's body. And if you can will yourself into ignoring the obnoxious part — which, incidentally, is also the game's purported selling point — you might find a way to enjoy what's left.

At its base, "The Club" is a typical third-person shooter with a typical premise: stay alive and reach the end of a level — in some cases, before time runs out.

The hook, in this case, is that in addition to being shot at, you're being scored as well. "The Club" rewards you points for stylish and impressive kills, and rewards you exponentially more for stringing those kills together. Achieving a target score is as paramount as staying alive. Total mastery means constantly sprinting

through the levels, taking down enemies as quickly as possible without any thought to taking cover, finding secret areas or doing other things that come naturally in other shooters.

Unfortunately, this mastery comes with a price, and that price's name is fun. "The Club" is made well, with better-than-average controls, fun level designs and enough weaponry to make an army blush. But when excelling at the game means mindlessly scrambling through that well-made level, ignoring most of that weaponry and doing more to appease a combo meter that fades entirely too quickly while your character all-too-slowly reloads his gun, it goes mostly to waste. "The Club" would have been far better off prioritizing shooting proficiency over simple recklessness instead of vice versa. (See "Stranglehold" for an example of how much better that reverse balance works.)

Fortunately, though it's obnoxiously noisy, the combo system can be ignored if you'd rather play at a more intellectually engaging pace. Achieving target scores is practically automatic if you play well enough to

survive, so you can brush the whole system aside unless you're bent on topping the leaderboards. Given the complete lack of back story in the tournament mode, it's not clear why you'd even want that top score, though the pursuit does add some replay value to an otherwise short experience.

Things are a little more familiar on the multiplayer front, where a host of traditional modes join a mode that prioritizes the combo system over all else. "The Club's" sound technical design translates well to the online arena, though only time will tell if the niche concept prevents it from achieving the level of community needed to give the multiplayer any lasting value.

"THE CLUB"

For: Xbox 360, PlayStation 3 and PC

From: Bizarre Creations/Sega

ESRB Rating: Mature (blood, strong language, violence)

Top 10 spots to see before they vanish

With the environment in flux there may not be many chances to visit some nature areas

Judy Wiley
MCT Campus

That dream vacation — diving along the Great Barrier Reef, skiing in the Swiss Alps — could remain a dream forever if you don't get a move on.

The attention lately focused on these changes, and the overall issue of global warming, has already prompted one latter-day oracle to predict we will travel differently in 2008 and beyond.

"Let's face it, Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" and the time-lapse photography were not lost on a number of people," says Ann Mack, director of trendspotting for JWT, the nation's largest advertising agency. "And increasingly, people are wanting to see these sights of the world before they change shape or change form. As global warming is rising up the world's agenda, ecotourists are flocking to previously ignored places."

Here is a short list of places that scientists and key reports say are feeling the effects of global

warming today — places to consider as you put together your travel plans.

U.S.
Glacier National Park, Montana

Scientists say the glaciers will all be gone by 2030.

Photos from the early 1900s up to today show glaciers receding for decades — and the weather there is on a wild ride, with record droughts, near-record summer temperatures and near-record snowfall. Though it's unclear whether this decade's changes are speeding up the glaciers' decline, there's no doubt they're receding.

Alaska
Most of the many glaciers here are also receding, with a few minor exceptions, and have been for 15-20 years, says Ron Peck, president of the Alaska Travel Industry Association.

Travel to Alaska has changed dramatically during the past 20 years, says Steve Cosgrove, owner of Dynamic Travel in Southlake. "The average tour was a salmon bake and a totem pole tour. Now there's river rafting, scuba diving — it's a completely different experience now."

Western pine forests

Already, Henson says he sees

big stretches around Aspen and Glenwood, Colo., on U.S. 70 west of Denver, where the trees' pine needles are red. This isn't a normal change. The trees are dying, and they won't regrow for decades. Henson says that aspen trees will seize the opportunity to flourish. Visually speaking, it's not a bad thing to see dazzling displays of aspen in the fall, but a lot of Coloradans and visitors are partial to pine trees, especially North and West Texans who don't get to see too many of them. The pines will probably return, but 10 to 20 years after they die off.

New England
Henson says a "fair amount" of research shows the sugar maples so beloved for their brilliant foliage and maple syrup are in some danger during the next few decades. On the other hand, a report in July by scientists in Cambridge and the Union of Concerned Scientists says the hardwoods that make up the classic New England forest scenery "may be able" to last the century. Spruce and fir trees are in more danger of going away over time.

Either way, the forests themselves would change "dramatically" as temperatures rise and different trees become dominant, the report

says.

New Orleans

It's been sitting on a swamp for years, and that's not going to get any better. Henson also worries about the impact of recovery from Hurricane Katrina: "The Netherlands is already kind of resigned to the fact they're going to have to build giant dikes around the country," he notes. "New Orleans is more in the classic rebuilding mode."

Without getting into the political problems that may have hindered the city's recovery, suffice to say climate change is going to pick up the pace of any encroaching water. The French Quarter has been fine to visit since shortly after Katrina, with plenty of the renowned, great restaurants and hotels open. Henson was in the Crescent City in late January and said a two-hour Gray Line tour is a great way to see what's happened and how recovery is progressing. Travelers who like to give back to their destinations still have plenty of voluntourism opportunities — city residents still need help rebuilding homes, for example.

The Florida Everglades

According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, an environmental action group, at

www.nrdc.org, "the anticipated 2-to 3-foot rise in sea level over the next 100 years will cause salt water to flow 10 miles or more inland — right into the Everglades." Researchers also are predicting more tropical storms, which is more bad news for Florida.

Outside the U.S.:
Polar regions

There's no doubt change is afoot at opposite ends of Earth — to the north, the Greenland ice cap is melting faster than expected. "Depending on who you ask," Henson says, the entire Arctic Ocean could be open water in the summers in 100 years or so. A complete lack of sea ice would mean big problems for polar bears, not to mention, well, probably the rest of us. The polar bear cause became popular after former Vice President Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" was released, and tours are common.

In Antarctica, some penguin species have declined for the same reason, but whether the temperature increases are human-caused is still being debated. At any rate, between Gore's movie and a spate of penguin films in the last few years, trips to Greenland, Norway and Antarctica have

Top 5

1. U.S. Glacier National Park, Montana
2. Alaska
3. New England
4. New Orleans
5. Polar Regions

VACATIONS • Continued from 7

become all the rage.

Low-lying islands

A tiny Polynesian island nation called Tuvalu already has discussed evacuation plans if the sea continues to rise. The attraction, beyond seeing possibly the world's most endangered island, is snorkeling and scuba diving. Also the wrecks of American aircraft and other detritus are visible in the waters — troops were stationed there during World War II.

The Great Barrier Reef, and coral reefs in general

Warmer oceans mean stressed coral, which results in bleaching and death. This isn't news to anyone who dives or snorkels regularly. A 2007 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

shows it's likely to continue as temperatures keep rising.

The Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia is the world's largest, and many reports a few years ago warned of its death within a few decades. The 2007 report suggests the reef could be dominated by "non-coral organisms" by 2050.

The Alps

The Swiss Alps are already less snowy; and malaria is reappearing in Spain and could become more prevalent as warmer temperatures create a better habitat for certain mosquitoes, according to a 1999 Wildlife Fund report on climate and tourism.

Glaciers there are melting as well, so both the ski scene and the scenery will be changing in the next several decades.

Guys write, act out their own routines with silly off-the-wall antics

Rich Macialek
MCT Campus

Ensemble sketch comedy is truly one the greatest achievements of Western Civilization. Take a handful of talented and funny people (usually guys), allow them the freedom to write their own material, and then let them act it out on TV. When it works, it's brilliant.

"The Whitest Kids U'Know" is the latest example of this type of show and, true to form, it's brilliantly funny.

The main difference between an ensemble sketch comedy show and, say, a sitcom is the fact the actors are also the writers. That's why "Saturday Night Live" really doesn't qualify since its ensemble is always changing and they have a separate writing staff.

"Monty Python's Flying Circus" unwittingly combined all the elements that seem to make a great ensemble sketch comedy show: surrealism, intelligence masquerading as eccentric idiocy, unusual plot structure, strange and unique characters — and cross-dressing.

Started by Trevor Moore at the School of Visual Arts in New York City, "The Whitest Kids U'Know" consists of Moore, Sam Brown, Zach Cregger, Timothy Williams and



Courtesy of MCT Campus

'The Whitest Kids U'Know' proudece random material in the spirit of 'Monty Python's Flying Circus.' They often have suprise endings and oddball props, such as breast prosthetics.

Darren Trumeter. They started as an SVA club performing on campus, but then went independent of the university to branch out to clubs and eventually to TV.

FUSE broadcast the first season, but the shows were heavily edited for profanity. Now for the second season, the Independent Film Channel is televising the shows uncut and uninterrupted. What you get is about twenty minutes of totally weird humor.

Even though the show is mining familiar comedic territory, it has had at least two TV comedy firsts: a half-naked man wearing very realistic breast prosthetics and a rap song about getting high with

dinosaurs. Fortunately not in the same show. That would be too much.

The first one was in a sketch about a stripper who had a price for everything. Unfortunately for her prospective customers most of the things she offered were more weird than arousing. For \$300 she would write you a speech and for \$100 she'd staple her hands together.

Probably their strangest sketches are about presidential assassination. According to them Lincoln was actually beaten to death with a hammer while watching "Hamlet." Of course their version of Lincoln talks like a gangsta-wannabe and "Hamlet" is about vampires for some

reason.

Now their version of the events surrounding the assassination of JFK includes a potato chip-eating Vice-President Lyndon Johnson hassling Lee Harvey Oswald like he was his teenage son, and has Jackie Kennedy wanting to sing along to the radio. The sketch then morphs into a duet between Oswald and JFK about wanting to be free or something.

That's one thing this show gets right — surprising the audience with either a nice twist or an oddball ending. You rarely know where a sketch is going to lead.

Maybe that's the best to way to describe this show: Unexpected, obscene and childishly funny.

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st-pat's in five points
March 15th, 2008
Columbia, SC

GET TO THE GREEN
5K RUN & 1 mile WALK • 8:30 am

FIRST CITIZENS PARADE
FREE VIEWING ON DEVINE ST • 10 am

STRONGMAN FREE ON FRIDAY @ 6 PM
CHALLENGE SATURDAY • SANTEE AVE @ 11 am

WACHOVIA CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL
FREE @ MLK PARK • 10 am-6 pm

LIVE MUSIC
ALL DAY ON FIVE STAGES:

AVETT BROTHERS
EDWIN MCCAIN
THEORY OF A DEADMAN
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the billboard top 10

- 1 Flo Rida featuring T-Pain — Low
- 2 Chris Brown — With You
- 3 Rihanna — Don't Stop The Music
- 4 Sara Bareilles — Love Song
- 5 Alicia Keys — No One
- 6 Timbaland featuring OneRepublic — Apologize
- 7 Snoop Dogg — Sensual Seduction
- 8 Sean Kingston — Take You There
- 9 Webbie, Lil' Phat & Lil' Boosie — Independent
- 10 Buckcherry — Sorry

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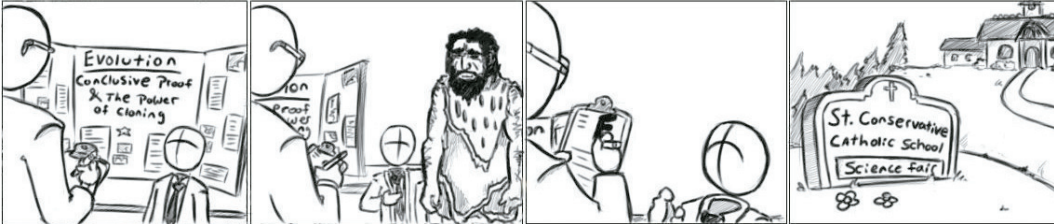
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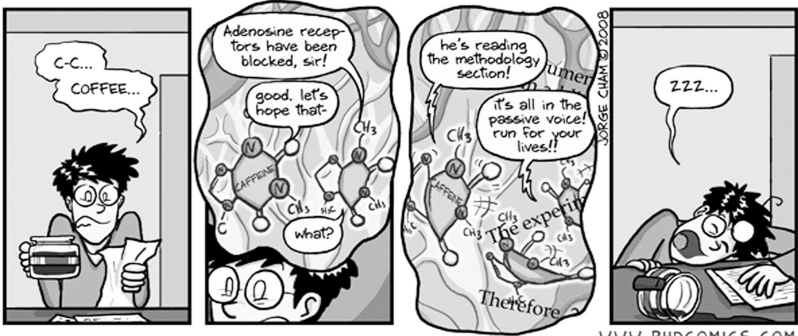
Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock



The Whiteboard ♦ By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock



PhD ♦ By Jorge Chan



Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams 2/29/08

Brought to you by:

ACROSS

1 Drugstore chain

5 Ford Clinic, e.g.

10 Ship's tiller

14 Chess castle

15 Goddess of peace

16 Out of the wind

17 Where to join a queue

20 Teamster boss of the past

21 Solid as a rock

22 Inarticulate sounds

24 Doberman doc

25 Brigand's command

34 Italian river

35 "Unfaithful" star Richard

36 "Auntie ___"

37 Twilight

38 Talia of "Rocky"

40 Isle of exile

41 What to be suited to

42 Marsh plant

43 Regretted

44 One for all and all for one trio

48 Grp. for mom- &-pop stores

49 ___ and tuck

50 Hair sprayprotection

56 Forget about it!

60 Praetor

62 Car of mine?

63 S-shaped moldings

64 Jog

65 Modern Maturity org.

66 Quizzes

67 Formal introduction?

DOWN

1 Correction: pref.

2 London district

3 Math fig.

4 Pogo's sticks?

5 Purged

6 Son of Aphrodite

7 Determine weight by lifting

8 Pay to play

9 Act properly

10 Mid-game recaps

11 Charles Lamb

12 Camera part

13 Come together

18 Fragrant ointment

19 Biographer of Henry James

23 Becomes slack

25 Mubarak's predecessor

26 Veracity

27 Goose classification

28 Former Indian

Solutions from 2/28/08

G	L	A	C	E	S	T	O	P	C	R	E	E	
R	I	G	O	R	A	O	N	E	O	H	M	S	
A	R	I	N	G	O	N	T	H	E	C	O	B	S
D	A	N	G	I	D	E	A	L	K	N	E	E	
A	M	A	T	L	S	N	E	E	R	E	R	S	
A	M	A	H	E	W	D	R	N	O				
F	I	N	G	E	R	I	S	S	T	A	P	L	E
A	S	N	E	R	T	O	T	I	C	I	E	R	
R	O	A	M	E	R	W	O	R	T	H	T	W	O
			S	T	A	R	E	E	L	A	D	S	
B	U	T	T	O	N	E	D	L	E	M			
O	L	I	O	S	N	I	P	E	A	G	E	S	
O	N	A	N	O	N	T	H	E	P	H	O	N	E
R	A	R	E	M	E	T	E	G	A	B	O	N	
S	R	A	S	S	T	O	W	A	L	I	S	T	

leader

29 Helps with the dishes

30 Shortstop Jeter

31 Appraise

32 Fireplace fragment

33 Enjoys a novel

39 Adam's apple location?

45 Scrooge, to friends

46 Western woodchuck

47 Dye

50 Mlle. from Madrid

51 Romanian round dance

52 Bradley or Sharif

53 Bird enclosure

54 Many years

55 Artist Mondrian

57 Hard or soft ending?

58 Particle

59 Himalayan Bigfoot

61 Sound of a leak

the scene at USC



THE WALKER
Today
6 and 8:15 p.m., \$5.50
Nickelodeon Theater, 937 Main St.

TODAY
KRIS ROE OF THE ATARIS PLAYS "BLUE SKIES, BROKEN HEARS," DIGNAN, VERSUS THE ROBOT
6:30 p.m., \$10
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

93.5 PRESENTS FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE: DEEPFIELD, LESLIE, INFINITE
8 p.m., \$5
Headliners, 700 Gervais St.

ROYAL HANNEFORD CIRCUS
7 p.m., \$15
Jamil Shrine Auditorium, 206 Jamil Rd.

TOMORROW
USC DANCE

7:30 p.m., \$16 for general public, \$10 for students
Koger Center, 1051 Greene St.

THE WORKING TITLE, OWEN BEVERLEY, THE DEVIL AND THE LION
8 p.m., \$10 advance, \$12 at the door
Headliners, 700 Gervais St.

PROGNOSIS, DJ SPIDER, EVELPHERY, D
Until 2 a.m. , \$3
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

JOSH ROBERTS & THE HINGES, HOOTS & HELLMOUTH, GIANT BEAR, WARM IN THE WAKE
7 p.m., \$10 21 and up
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

HOROSCOPES

Aries Travel carefully today; if you can't, postpone the trip. Unexpected delays are, actually, to be expected. Take along a toothbrush in your pocket, just in case, and a hidden credit card. **Taurus** Money continues to be a subject worthy of interest. Getting more interest and paying less is your next assignment. If you don't know how, start by reading the fine print. **Gemini** Hold out for the most important items on your agenda. You may have to give up some of the others to make the deal. Set it up so you can live with that. **Cancer** Luckily, you have an extra day in the month to get things right. Unfortunately, conditions now indicate conflict. Wait until Sunday to make requests. **Leo** What's needed is a logical plan upon which all can agree. Your partner comes up with one. Now it's up to you to sell it. **Virgo** Sometimes you have to make a bigger mess in order to get things clean. Don't be afraid; this could be fun. Rip and tear. **Libra** Travel is complicated. Odds are pretty good you'll leave something you need at home. If you must go, double-check all the important stuff on your list. **Scorpio** Resist the temptation to buy toys and lottery tickets. Pay the bills first and then see if there's enough left for a treat. Get one the whole family enjoys. **Sagittarius** Some of the others are edgy. Don't let them knock you off stride. You're the one who knows what to do. Don't be surprised if they follow. **Capricorn** Disruptions at your workplace increase the chances for making errors. Don't get caught up in the petty squabbles. Maintain objectivity. **Aquarius** You're an excellent planner. You don't let passions interfere with achieving the results you're after. Coach your team to do likewise. **Pisces** Others may disagree, but you'll cast the deciding vote. Don't let them bully you around; stand up for what you think is right. They'll get used to it.

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Sudoku By The Mephram Group 2/29/08

						8	
4			7			9	1
			8	4	2	6	
		8	6		5		3
	6					4	
2			4		1	5	
		6	5	8	7		
8	1				4		6
	3						

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 2/28/08

4	2	3	8	7	9	1	5	6
1	5	7	6	2	3	8	4	9
9	6	8	4	1	5	7	3	2
6	9	5	7	8	1	3	2	4
3	1	2	9	5	4	6	7	8
8	7	4	2	3	6	9	1	5
2	4	6	3	9	7	5	8	1
5	3	9	1	4	8	2	6	7
7	8	1	5	6	2	4	9	3

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State bragging rights on the line

Gamecocks, Tigers square off on diamond in battle of nationally elite team

Michael Aguilar
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

By the time that the first pitch was thrown out last Saturday in the USC baseball season opener, all 700 student tickets to the Carolina/Clemson game were already gone. There was already a buzz among Carolina fans about the series this weekend against Clemson before the season even started.

Over the last two seasons the Carolina-Clemson baseball games have been hotly contested, thrilling games to watch. Last season Carolina immediately avenged losing three straight to Clemson during the 2006 season by crushing the Tigers 12-0.

However, after two games decided by a total of four runs, both in favor of USC, Clemson paid the Gamecocks back in full by whipping USC 14-5 in Clemson for the final meeting of the season.

Those games and more will be on the minds of many of the Carolina players as the Tigers visit Columbia on Saturday and the Gamecocks travel to Clemson on Sunday.

Both of the teams have found early success this season. Carolina comes into Saturday's game ranked No.



Sam Bennett / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Freshman infielder Scott Wingo and No. 2 South Carolina will play a two-game set against in-state rival No. 13 Clemson this weekend. USC is 3-1.

2 in the nation with a 3-1 record and has outscored its opponents 45-24 thus far in the season. The undefeated Tigers are ranked No. 13. They too, have been taking opponents to the woodshed with an average margin of victory of 6 runs per game.

The most consistent part of Carolina's game four games into a long season has been its offense. In three of their games so far, the Gamecocks have hit double-digit runs. With hitting as high as it is Carolina finds itself ranked in the top three

in the conference of every offensive statistical category the SEC keeps.

At the forefront of that offensive explosion is junior shortstop Reese Havens. Havens finished last season with a bad taste in his mouth, tallying six errors in the Super Regional loss to UNC, and has come back with a vengeance.

Formerly known for his stifling defense Havens has entirely changed his stance and batting style and that has led to an increased production. Havens leads

the Gamecocks in batting average (.533), runs scored (9), runs batted in (9) and home runs (3).

Havens and the Gamecocks will have to keep that pace to stay in front of Clemson. The Tigers boast a team ERA of 3.5 and a team batting average of .357.

Carolina has an ERA of 4.74, which prior to Wednesday's game, had the team ranked tenth in the SEC.

So far in the schedule the Gamecocks have not faced the top tier opponents that

teams like Clemson and future SEC competition present. An ERA of 4.74 may not be too dangerous against a team that cannot keep up with the hitting that the Carolina lineup has but when facing a team like the Tigers, giving up nearly 5 runs a game could be devastating.

Strong performances from pitchers like senior Nick Godwin, who pitched six shutout innings against UNC Asheville but may not be ready for Clemson, and junior Mike Cisco, who after

five innings of work has an 1.80 ERA, will be what the Gamecocks need to keep up with a strong team like Clemson.

The Tigers lead the series 163-114-2 but USC has been closing the gap in recent years. The Gamecocks will look to draw a little bit closer this weekend with games at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday at Sarge Frye Field and 2 p.m. on Sunday in Clemson.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu

Dawgs crush USC

Senior Day festivities not enough mojo as USC falls to No. 22 Georgia 55-41

Chris Cox
STAFF WRITER

The South Carolina women's basketball team lost at the hands of the No. 22 Georgia Bulldogs 55-41 Thursday night at the Colonial Center on Senior Night.

The Gamecocks (14-14, 3-10) came out riding an emotional high from their first conference road victory last weekend, and with their recent momentum and the strong play of three seniors starting their final home game, USC found themselves on top early.

With seniors Lakesha Tolliver and Ilona Burgrova playing solidly, USC jumped out on the Bulldogs 8-4 at the 15-minute mark of the first half.

However, the Bulldogs (21-7, 8-5) quickly found their rhythm, as a 3-pointer by senior guard Megan Darrah cut the USC lead to

one, and UGA finished off the remainder of the half on a stunning 30-9 run.

"Outside of about a 12-minute period, I thought our team played pretty well," said USC coach Susan Walvius. "But those 12 minutes hurt us."

Tolliver knew that the struggles were solely on the players.

"We just had some emotional breakdowns. We were probably turning the ball over too much," Tolliver said. "We just knew that those things are going to happen."

Leading the way in the decisive run was Darrah with 11 points and forward Angel Robinson with nine points and four rebounds in the first half.

The scoring didn't come easily for the Gamecocks in the first, as the top scorers were Jordan Jones with five points and Brionna Dickerson with four.

The second half started just as slowly as the first for both teams as the first points, a jumper by Dickerson, weren't scored until the 17 minute mark.

Megan Darrah finally got the Bulldogs on the board in

the second half with a short jumper at the 16 minute mark.

Darrah became the 29th Lady Bulldog to reach the 1,000 point club in the UGA victory.

"I told someone on the way in here that I thought defensively, we played very good. South Carolina played very good," Georgia coach Andy Landers. "It probably wasn't the prettiest game to watch at times, but I thought both teams played good defensively."

Georgia would continue to coast in the second half, as South Carolina never seriously threatened.

With timely jumpers and making the most of their trips to the free throw line, Georgia was able to slowly put the game out of reach as time inevitably ran out on USC.

South Carolina had an opportunity to cut the lead to ten with just above three minutes to play, but Jordan Jones missed a critical three-pointer attempt.

On the other end of the floor, Tasha Humphrey of Georgia drained an 18-footer, and the game was all but over for the Gamecocks.

Carolina's blowout loss could be attributed to their poor performances offensively, as USC made only two of 11 three-point attempts, while going just 11 of 17 from the charity spot, a mark just about 60 percent.

Brionna Dickerson led the Gamecocks with 11 points. Demetress Adams led the way with seven rebounds off the glass.

Robinson and Darrah paced the Lady Bulldogs with 16 and 13 points, respectively.



Hye Eun Park / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC honored the three seniors prior to the Georgia game.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu

Softball looks to rebound

Compton, Gamecocks host Carolina Classic with Bucknell and Gardner-Webb at Beckham Field this weekend

Keith Locklear
STAFF WRITER

The Carolina softball team will play host to Bucknell and Gardner-Webb as part of the Carolina Classic this weekend at Beckham Field.

The Gamecocks have an overall record of 7-8 heading into their final weekend before SEC play starts next weekend. So far this season, Carolina has been led by the bats of junior Ashton Payne and freshman Jill Semento, and by the arm of senior Melissa Hendon. Payne and Semento are tied for the team lead with .400 batting averages, and have combined for 10 runs, 34 hits and 8 RBI already this season. Hendon has already thrown 5 complete games for a 2-4 record and 2 saves with a 1.35

season.

Although USC is currently below .500, head coach Joyce Compton knows that improvements will come one game at a time.

"Of course we want to win all four games," Compton said. "But we have to start out by winning the first one."

That first game is against the Bucknell Bison, who enter the Classic with a record of 1-4 on the season. The Bison have struggled on offense so far this season, only coming up with 14 runs off of 22 hits. A lack of run support has wasted excellent pitching by senior Christie Wiest, who has a 1.29 ERA and has thrown 3 complete games already.

The Gamecocks other opponent this weekend will be the Bulldogs from Gardner-Webb, who currently have a record of 6-8.

Gardner-Webb has already faced a SEC opponent this season, dropping two games to the nationally ranked Florida Gators.

On offense, the Bulldogs are led by sophomore catcher Mandy Ward who currently leads her team with 14 hits, 3 doubles, 9 RBI and a .561 slugging percentage.

Compton knows that it is important for all of her players to step up and perform well this weekend.

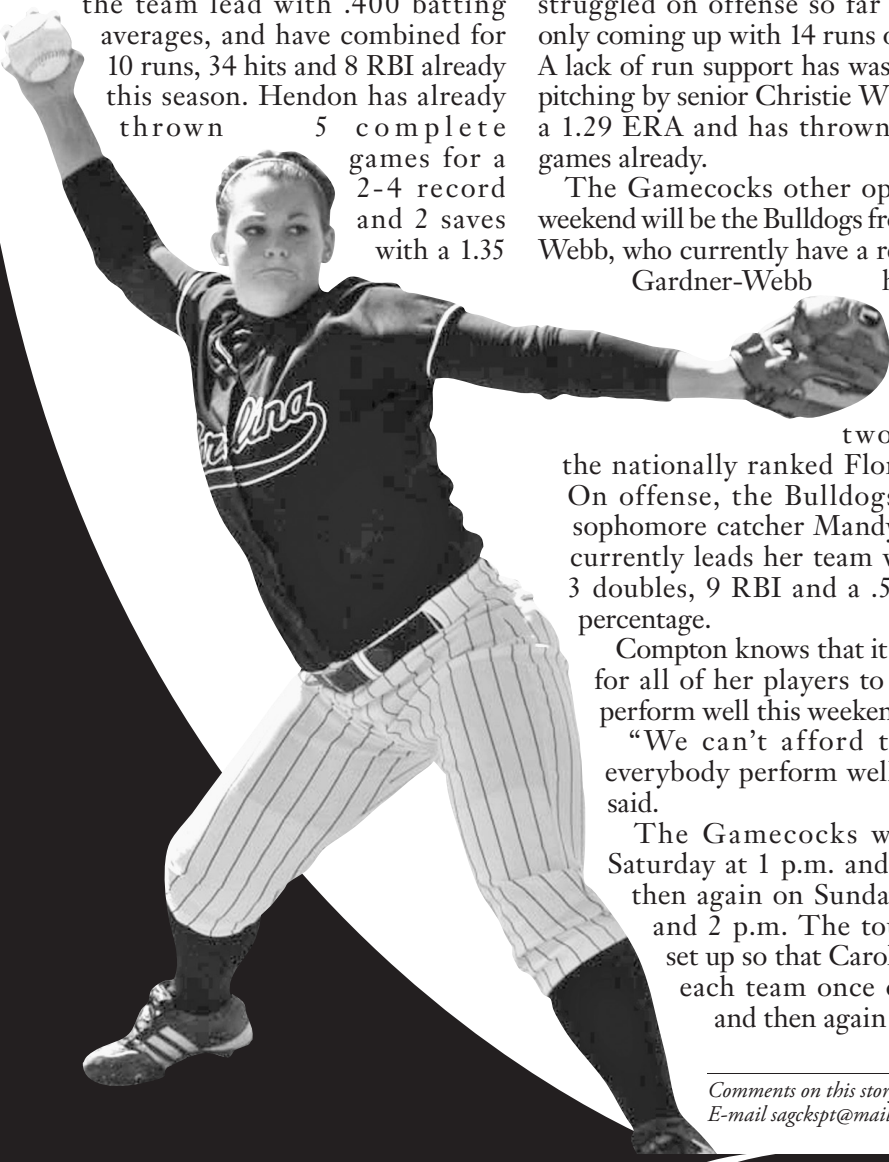
"We can't afford to not have everybody perform well," Compton said.

The Gamecocks will play on Saturday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., and then again on Sunday at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. The tournament is set up so that Carolina will play each team once on Saturday and then again on Sunday.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu

Courtesy of USC Media Relations
USC's Melissa Hendon

www.dailygamecock.com



Palmetto Classic tips off this weekend

*USC Intramurals
host statewide
basketball tourney*

Austin Collins
STAFF WRITER

Intramural basketball teams from eight colleges across the state of South Carolina will duke it out on the hardwood of the Strom Thurmond Center this weekend in the fourth annual Palmetto Classic.

Officially titled the South Carolina Intramural Recreational Sports Association Extramural Basketball Tournament, the Palmetto Classic will tip off on Saturday at 10 a.m., with play continuing again on Sunday at the same time. Staff preparations and captains meetings will be held on Friday.

Tournament director Rip Ripley, a USC student from Charleston, is overseeing the Palmetto Classic as an internship for his sports management degree. The 22-year-old senior said the tournament, which has an entry fee of \$160, gives intramural teams an opportunity to play for more than just campus recreation.

"Intramurals at USC are played on campus, but some people have a desire to play more than that," Ripley said. "So there are regionals that they can play in, and if they do well enough, they can go on to nationals."

Our tournament gives the winner a free bid to go a regional tournament, and

then from regionals they can go to nationals."

Ripley said that SCIRSA, which has also formed extramural flag football and softball tournaments for the state, wanted to create statewide tournaments so teams from smaller schools could compete at a higher level.

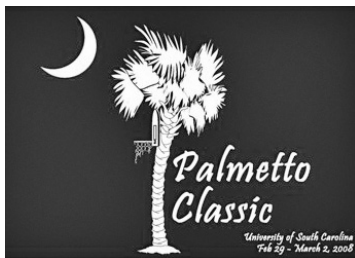
"They got together and said this (forming the Palmetto Classic) would be a good way to promote going to the regional and national tournaments with the state," Ripley said. "We'd like to get some of the smaller schools involved, like Allen University, USC Upstate and USC Aiken; some of those schools might not know about the opportunity

"We are really excited to be hosting the tournament this year."

*Palmetto Classic Coordinator
Rip Ripley*

you have to play at a higher level."

This year, the Palmetto Classic will provide trophies to those selected to the All-Tournament team, as well as championship T-shirts for the winning team. The tournament field will only feature 12 teams this year, down from 16 a year ago, because a few smaller schools



we're unable to send teams.

"We've had kind of a conflict with smaller schools beginning their spring breaks this weekend," Ripley said. "Some of the smaller schools like Lander, Newberry and Charleston Southern that have participated in the past have not been able to send teams because they are on spring break. So right now we only have 12 teams signed up."

Despite the unfortunate scheduling, Ripley said that the Palmetto Classic field this year will be comprised of teams from USC, Clemson, Coastal Carolina, Allen, USC Upstate, USC Sumter, Winthrop and the College of Charleston.

"We are really excited to be hosting the tournament this year," Ripley said. "I've been involved with the Palmetto Classic the past couple years, but this is my first chance to run the tournament, so I'm pretty excited about that."

The deadline to register was last Friday, but because there's still plenty of space, Ripley said that the Palmetto Classic would still accept any teams that want to play.

Anyone interested in signing up, or who has any questions, can contact Ripley or tournament registration coordinator Ian Bossert at the intramural office at (803) 576-9387.

*Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu*

Men's team head to the Plains



Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Point guard Zam Fredrick and the USC men's basketball team head to Auburn for Saturday's game. Game time is set for 6 p.m. and it will be shown on FSN.

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KITCHEN HELP NEEDED Frankie's Fun Park is currently seeking first class individuals to work in our kitchen. Ideal applicants must have at least one year of experience in a Kitchen/grill setting Must have dependable transportation. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Frankie's offers above average starting pay for the selected individuals. Please apply in person to Frankie's Fun Park 140 Parkridge Drive (Exit 103 Harbison Blvd. off I-26 behind Lowe's) EOE

Help Wanted Restaurants

AL'S UPSTAIRS ITALIAN RESTAURANT Hiring for Waitstaff/Evening hours Apply 300 Meeting St. W. Cola M-F 1-5pm 920-9406

Help Wanted Runners

PT Office Asst. - 25-30/hrs/wk position is year round. Handle files, p/u deliveries general and misc. office work. Good driving record required. Email resume to steve@homepest.com fax to 794-1956 or call 794-8078.

Tutoring Services

MATH TUTORING . CALL THE EXPERT! 20 yrs. Exp. 256-6498

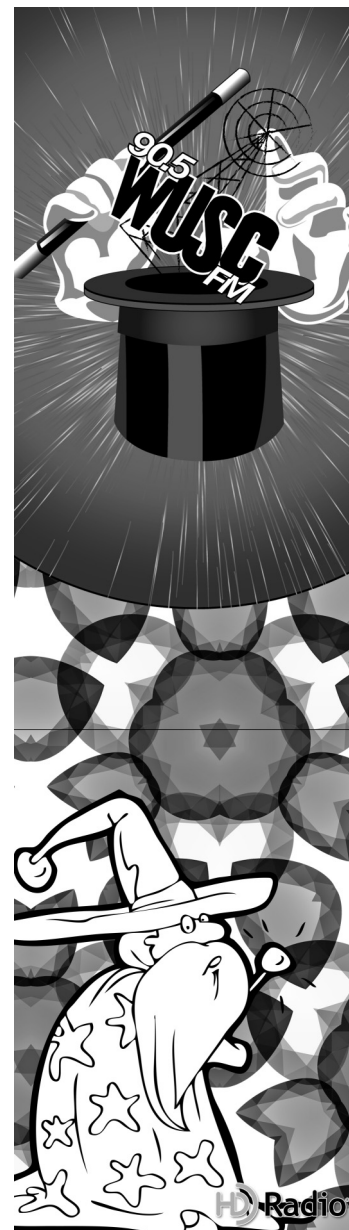
Opportunities

EARN \$800-\$3200/mo to drive brand new cars with ads placed on them. www.AdCarClub.com

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The University of South Carolina is an equal opportunity institution.

RECYCLE YOUR PHONE BOOKS!

Participate in the phone book recycling program. We will collect any of your old directories (USC, Bellsouth, Talking Directory, etc.)

WHO: Carolina Recycling

WHAT: Phone Book Recycling Program

WHEN: February 15 - March 15

HERE'S HOW:

- 1 Take your phone books to the corner of Gadsden & Greene & put them in the green dumpster
- 2 Neatly stack your phone books in the main office of your department
- 3 Call 777-WORK (9675) and place a work order to have your phone books picked up*
*10 or more books, please

BLUE MAN GROUP | HOW TO BE A **MEGA★R** TOUR 2.1

TICKET GIVEAWAY Win **2** tickets*
Thursday, March 6th at the Colonial Center
*Winners will be announced March 4th

Present your student I.D. at the box office to get up to 2 tickets for \$21.50 each (1/2 price off normal rate).

Visit **www.dailygamecock.com** to enter!

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1 Ex-Large 1 Topping Pizza
Delivery charge may apply.
Online Code: 507
EXPIRES: 3/15/08

BROOKLYN STYLE
1 Large Brooklyn-Style Pizza w/ XL Brooklyn-Style Pepperoni
Delivery charge may apply.
Online Code: 9125
EXPIRES: 3/15/08

