Students ‘kick off’ sexual assault awareness fundraiser

Omega Phi Alpha’s kickball tournament for “It’s On Us” is just one of many events on USC’s campus in April in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

During the tournament, which took place on April 11, members of the sorority, along with Student Health Services’ Project S.T.A.M.P.S., encouraged college students to have a discussion about bystander accountability — understanding consent and acting in situations when consent is not possible — and its importance in preventing sexual assault.

“Basically it’s about the little things every individual can do to keep each other safe, it says it’s all of us to prevent sexual assaults,” event organizer Cassie Coleman said.

Coleman, a fourth-year political science student, decided to organize the “It’s On Us” kickball tournament after hearing about their national Week of Action, which encourages campuses to host events. Omega Phi Alpha worked with Student Government to promote the event. Tradeflavor also sponsored the event, donating $1 to Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands for each app download. Coleman saw firsthand the positive impact STSM can have after bringing a close friend who had been sexually assaulted to the hospital last semester.

“An advocate from Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands and another from USC’s Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention and Prevention came and sat with us the whole day while we waited for a forensic nurse. The only one on call that day was with another survivor when we arrived, so we had to wait over five hours for my friend to be seen,” Coleman said.

“She probably would not have stayed that long if the advocates hadn’t been there, and I think the intensity of the reporting process is something so many people don’t understand. So this April, this Sexual Assault Awareness Month, I was determined to do my part in talking to people about what consent is, what assault is, and what to find resources in the community for survivors.”

The tournament included two brackets, and the lift teams raised approximately $400 for STSM. Coleman and Omega Phi Alpha were very excited about the turnout and could see it becoming an annual project.

“There’s so much potential for growth and we can only spread more awareness! I’m graduating this semester, but some sisters already asked me for thoughts on making it a better next year,” Coleman said.

Project Condom encourages open communication

Students at USC have a chance to learn about sexual topics on Saturday.

The event, which included a fashion show of condom outfits, a “Chat Before You Chill” question panel to spread information about sexual topics on Saturday. While most of the event was dedicated to a question panel of “sexperts,” the event also included a fashion show of condom outfits, a race to see which volunteer could put on a condom properly the quickest and several demonstrations on how to use female condoms.

The panel was made up of Frank W. Anderson, pastor at Lutheran Campus Ministry; Sarah Wright, a counselor and sex therapist at USC’s Counseling and Psychiatric Center; Quinnya Brown, a graduate student who frequently works in sex-related topics; and Shannon Nix, associate director of Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention and Prevention.

Members of the audience submitted questions anonymously, and the “sexperts” took turns reading questions aloud and giving answers.

What are symptoms of HIV?

Anderson: Generally speaking, it’s not 100 percent noticeable, but about six weeks after transmission, you will have flu-like or cold-like symptoms, possibly, possibly not. You may not even notice them, but that really is the only way that anybody knows that they might have gotten an HIV infection. The only way to know for sure of you’re HIV positive is to be tested.

Does birth control protect against STDs?

Anderson: Depends on what birth control you’re using. Basically anything that’s a barrier method will protect you from STDS. Back in my own mind, even with barrier methods, there are STDs that are virulent and sometimes not detected when you’re involved in the sexual act.

From the intimidated boyfriend:

“I’ve tried to have sex with my significant other multiple times, but because she’s a virgin and complains of low pain tolerance, it’s difficult for us to physically complete the act of penetration. Suggestions?”

Wright: Sexual pain is actually really, really common in women. Partly it’s when we get nervous, one of the things we do is we tense up … We don’t have this external cue that men have, and so with foreplay, a lot of times, the more relaxed I am, the more I am able for penetration. Suggestions?

Anderson: The more relaxed I am, the more I’m going to get, and the more able I would be for penetration. So I think the other thing, too, is to talk to people about what things we do is what? We tense up …

Date to know

Skill Builder Workshop: Effective Communication Leadership and Service Center 11 a.m. April 11

Deadline to apply for Leadership and Service team Leadership and Service Center

Deadline to apply for Alternative Break Cauldron or Tip Leader Leadership and Service Center

Skill Builder Workshop: TeamRoles Development Leadership and Service Center 11 a.m. April 12

Healthy Caregivers Market Greene Street 11 a.m. April 12

Colloquium: Festival of Faiths: Table Reading Greene Street 11 a.m. April 12

Skill Builder Workshop: Office Transitions Leadership and Service Center 11 a.m. April 14

Deadline to apply for Service Saturday Site Leader Leadership and Service Center 11 a.m. April 15

Gateway Project Suicide Prevention Training Leadership and Service Center

Skill Builder Workshop: Tips for Pets Retreat Hidden River 12 p.m. April 16

Deadline to apply for Impact Weekly Tip Leader or Jan Drus

Service Saturday Davis Field 2 p.m. April 16

SEEDCOM PAGE 3

The Daily Gamecock

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Emily Barber

@BRITTA_FRAM

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HAILEYEC
author spotlight: Gillian Flynn

In the spotlight today is the New York Times best-selling author, Gillian Flynn. Flynn is the author of three top-selling novels — “Sharp Objects,” “Dark Places,” and “Gone Girl” — and a short story. “Gone Girl” was released in 2012 as a standalone book. Her books have spent over 200 weeks total on the New York Times best-seller list and have reached much acclaim. Read on to learn more about

Brendan is the artist behind the image of Olivia Pope.

Sarah Nichols:

Olivia Pope, the main character of ABC’s “Scandal,” is the quintessential power dressing woman. If you were to dress like Olivia Pope, you might gain the confidence to tackle the world on your own terms.

All about the white:

Classic hair and makeup:

Loose bottoms:

Pantsuits are common in Olivia Pope’s wardrobe, as they are typically a matching white set or a white blouse paired with a pair of black trousers. Her loose, flowing pants are her most common choice. Although Olivia Pope is lounging around her home, she does not wear typical loungewear. Rather, she wears loose, matching pants, which she often wears a similar version of those she wears for work, but with a more casual, professional look. Loose pants — in either white or black — are the perfect cross-over between comfortable, professional and flattering. These are common in Olivia Pope’s wardrobe, with either a white or black blouse. White is the defining feature of Olivia Pope’s wardrobe. Whether it’s with a pantsuit or just a white blouse, it allows her to frame your face in a professional and flattering way. These are common in Olivia Pope’s wardrobe, with either a white or black blouse. White is the defining feature of Olivia Pope’s wardrobe. Whether it’s with a pantsuit or just a white blouse, it allows her to frame your face in a professional and flattering way.
be sure you’re both ready for penetration. If she’s not ready, and she’s thinking, ‘Well, he really wants to and if I don’t, then —,’ that sentence shouldn’t be able to be finished. If I don’t, then we don’t, and we actually do just watch Netflix and chill.

So it takes a little bit of practice, it takes a little time, it takes a little patience. Make sure you’re both ready, and talk the whole time.

Can condoms ever be used to improve sex?

Brown: I would say without a doubt, yes ... There’s different materials. There’s different textures. There’s ribbed, there’s studded, so you definitely have a lot of options in regards to that, and they can definitely be used to improve the sexual act.

If me and my partner have sex all the time, how do I tell my partner I don’t want it tonight?

Nix: It’s pretty simple, and it’s not at the same time, right? ...

In order for sex to be great and awesome, and that’s what I want it to be for whoever’s having it with whoever, you have to talk. You have to have communication ... That’s going to make it even better. And I want you to be having these conversations before you even start having sex and going down that road. That’s why it’s so important.

Wright: One of the things I think about when couples say, “I don’t want sex tonight,” is then they assume we could do nothing. I don’t feel like having sex, therefore don’t touch me and stay 3 feet away. Well, that’s not very good either, right? If you’re wanting to be intimate, you want to be close, so it’s like couples don’t really get creative about what else can we do ... It doesn’t have to be all or nothing.

How kinky is too kinky?

Anderson: First of all, nothing is too kinky if you both agree to it and it’s been communicated ... Kinky is really a matter of what you bring into the relationship and both people are communicating and looking at what that pleasure point is for them in terms of the sexual connection, then kinky takes on a whole different definition.

Sometimes I last too long, other times seemingly not long enough. What gives?

Wright: Part of it is practice and knowing your body and knowing also that muscular control ... For guys, if you learn to control them, when you tighten those muscles, it will actually build up your pleasure, and it gives you more control over orgasm ... For a guy who thinks he lasted too long, one really basic question of how long is too long, because that’s really a partner question.

What’s your go-to sex tip? Brown: My sex tip would be do you ... When it comes to sex, when you allow others to kind of determine what you do, what you desire, what you think is acceptable, it really kills it.

@thegamecock
Christians are not oppressed

Griffin Hobson
Second-year
Government and economics

This column is a response to the column "Freedom of religion under attack" that ran Wednesday.

Mr. Wilson

I ordinarily don't respond to columns. But I believe you might be in need of a quick lesson in law, a christification of my original point and some perspective on what your opposition might look like.

To start with, you claim that Christianity in America is under attack. You give several examples of this, including President Barack Obama, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Hollywood, universities and even sports leagues among them. Forget me if I haven't said this before, but businesses with different owners are denying service to people who are not members of their own churches.

In a second win, you also got your case law a little bit muddled. Yes, the Supreme Court has acknowledged various rights on the freedom of speech guaranteed in the First Amendment. You confuse the First Amendment, which protects freedom of religion as well as other freedoms, with the Fifth Amendment, which protects the Due Process Clause of the constitution if someone is arrested and held without bail.

Then Justice Scalia dramatically confused religious liberty in the majority opinion, prompting Congress and many states to pass laws that protect religious liberty and narrow protections. That was a big win for religious liberty.

Hillary Clinton approved of the court's decision saying that it overrules the "rights" that Christians in the religious liberties and the public schools do not have. You mention a group of nuns who are saying that they do not want to provide birth control to employees. That's actually a mischaracterization.

They already don't have to provide birth control under the Burwell v. Hobby Lobby ruling, namely that they simply have to file a form with the government that says they won't provide it, and another insurance company will pick up the tab and provide it. Church money does not pay for the birth control, it is the nuns' organization that has their right to health care restricted. Contrary to what you suggested, the government is not the party between those rights at all.

Moreover, the nuns believe that filing the form means they are complicit with their employees getting access to the contraception and that Christians want the right to stop their employees from gaining access to a medical service they find objectionable if it's provided by a third party with no money or involvement from them.

But what we're really talking about was the slow laws legitimizing discrimination against LGBT people or allowing trans people to live their lives in the subtlest way. According to your argument, those are states where Christians are not oppressed, or suffering to the rights of their lives.

But does it really hurt your life to be forced to sell a dress that you don't like to someone who is gay? And if your morals are more important than money, why are you working in a for-profit business to begin with?

You should not cry on a church that's already being protected by the First Amendment. Instead, the laws you are defending are meant to ensure that Christians can enjoy the same protections the government gives to them in the free market while vigorously protecting the others.

And make no mistake. People are getting hurt. Let's look at the trans community. A staggering percentage of trans people simply can't work full-time and part-time jobs because they are denied the laws you are defending.

When transgender people usually end up in a hospital, where men are kept in solitary confinement or in female facilities. When the law says that people end up with no other option (than illegal survival) because they are denied to be served, they have been arrested for no reason other than their identity, which some even more horrifyingly denied their right to have a say about their death. How about those who used to be served by uncontrolled spending. It's not enough that people were given to say about their death. How about those who were not served because they could not be served.

You about a trans man who was killed by an officer of an Oregon police, after suffering an operation to change their sex were denied to be seen, or to know how they have a right to say about their death. How about those who have no other option (than illegal survival) because they are denied to be served

It's been said often enough by many that a trans woman is "nothing more than a male in drag" or that "trans women are free to be a free lunch" and that they are "not real women". You also propose to bar those who are determined that the government to poll dollars from this tax. That's why I'm proposing to make the rich pay their fair share and let the exchanges of stocks come. Because you in your position promises that this is an effective solution for paying the greedy of expanded government spending, the dazzled masses can rest in the assurance that surely whatever it actually breaks even. But during this period in which that his proposed policies have been revealed to be, to, at the very least, a $2 trillion deficit over these 11 years and roughly up to a $15 trillion debt. To my mind, we are moving in the right direction. Democrats are moving in the right direction.

In the U.S, the Democratic Party has consistently and thoroughly thrown up the less than the union. Don't stop reading this because you think this is about abortion. That's not the point. The point is that you also do a disservice to those who aren't even thinking of it. Democratic Party gets into a trap that ignores those that will come after you. The story is not about religious freedom or reckoning to punish religious goals paid for with taxpayer money by the lives of those currently alive, but about freedom of religion in the next generation.

This failure of the left has brought into sharp focus by the rise of the Senate. Bernie Sanders, who is deeply rooted in the tradition of the "rights" that Christians want to enjoy the same protections the government gives to them in the free market while vigorously protecting the others.

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Aries

Avoid controversy and drama today. Get into a writing or research project, somewhere peaceful. File and organize documents. Play music to stimulate creativity. Realize your potential.

Libra

Get a second opinion before launching a project. Little mistakes can have big consequences. Accept constructive criticism and make recommended corrections. You’re gaining points with someone you admire.

Aquarius

Inquire friends over and get sucked into a fascinating game. Role play together. Don’t fall for a trick. Careful corners costs you. Keep your objective in mind. Discover hidden treasure.

Cancer

Keep a low profile. Something you try doesn’t work. Modify old rules for new work in a peaceful setting. Look for mutual gain. Keep a low profile.

Capricorn

Take a risk. Your attention could be worth more.  This is a good day to put your skills to work, especially if you can do it while being paid.  This is a good day to put your skills to work, especially if you can do it while being paid.

Sagittarius

Get together with your partner on a project. Make adjustments. Give and take. Don’t evade the tough questions. Reaffirm a commitment. Collarate on practical details and share the winnings.

Virgo

New professional opportunities and ideas percolate. Favor private settings over public. Someone who needs your advice could disrupt your schedule. Delegate nonessential tasks.

Scorpio

Play together without reservations. Bribe family on board funds. Make sure your first before you commit. Save money and pack a picnic rather than eating out.

Pisces

Give away stuff you no longer need and basic expenses. Make sure your partner on a project. Keep your objective in mind. Discover hidden treasure.

Taurus

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Brandon McIlwain, center, was the second-leading rusher on the Black team with 19 yards and a touchdown. Rod Talley led them with 29 yards on the ground.

McIlwain has something special on the first possession of the game, freshman Brandon McIlwain started at quarterback. And he played like a star. He commanded the offense down the field on his second possession, didn't try to force passes and made mature decisions that aren't expected from a true freshman.

McIlwain used his legs on a third-and-long in the first quarter. The defense put pressure on him, forcing him to step up and take off down field. About three defenders had a chance to tag him (quarterbacks only need to be touched to be down in spring games), but he juked them all out and picked up the first down.

The Gamecocks will now prepare for a big matchup on Tuesday against the No. 10 UNC Tar Heels. At 28-5, the Gamecocks have a 4-3 lead with a great piece of hitting. Despite his 35-14 season, the Gamecocks have picked up the win on Sunday with some timely hitting and a clutch.

Another possible area of improvement for Carolina is at catcher. Currently, the Gamecocks started smiling again.

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