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USC hosts green panel

**British official visits, discusses ways businesses can succeed**

An esteemed group of political and business leaders — including the United Kingdom’s Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change Gregory Barker, U.S. Senate Lindsey Graham and Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin — discussed the green economy during a Friday forum inside the Darla Moore School of Business.

Graham had just returned from a visit to the U.K., hosted by Barker, to examine its energy policy. Barker is No. 2 in the U.K.’s Department of Energy and Climate Change and the department’s leading conservative.

“By the boldest, most business-friendly, aggressive energy climate policy anywhere on the planet, and there is a lot to learn on our side of the pond about what they are doing,” Graham said.

Graham said that the Conservatives’ success in recent elections was due to their appealing to youth voters through green energy policies.

“One of the big changes the Conservative Party made was its energy policy,” Graham said in his introduction to Barker. “I think the slogan was ‘no one is going to out-green us.’”

With heavy overtones of the special relationship between the two nations, Graham praised his fellow conservative politician for his country’s free-market-friendly green strategy.

Barker began his speech by outlining Britain’s budget crisis and expressing the Conservative commitment to austerity.

**Students compete in fitness, bodybuilding contest**

Annual Mr. and Miss USC competition

You can’t spell “muscle” without “USC.”

The USC Bodybuilding and Fitness Club sponsored the 113th annual Mr. and Miss USC Competition on Saturday, April 2.

James Jeffcoat (bottom, fourth from right) won the title of Mr. USC, and Christie Shell (top, second from left) won Ms. USC on Saturday.

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Delta Zeta held its annual Turtle Tug tug-of-war competition and charity event Sunday afternoon on the Strom field. The competition pitied 45 teams of eight against each other with a kiddie pool filled with Jell-O between them. Winners advanced to the next round, and losers were pulled face first into the sticky gelatin.

Keeping with the shellied reptilian theme, teams gave themselves names such as the Tuggernauts, the Toxic Turtles, Tug My Tort and Heroes in a Halfshell. Last year, the event, Delta Zeta's main charity event, raised $22,000 for the sorority's national and local philanthropies, and this year the goal was $30,000. Teams each paid $80 to register, donations were taken at the event and a percent night was held at the Carolina Ale House. Numbers weren't available Sunday to confirm whether the sorority met its goal.

Cera Kroenke, the Delta Zeta member and third-year exercise student who organized the event, said half of the money will go toward The Painted Turtle, a camp for seriously ill children in California. The other half will be divided between the local school Brennen Elementary, which has a hearing-impaired class where the sorority volunteers every week, and Washington D.C.'s Gallaudet University, the only university in the world devoted exclusively to the deaf and hearing impaired.

Event organizer Cera Kroenke stood in the tub of Jell-O and served as referee. There were brackets for men, women and co-ed teams, and 45 teams competed for $80 each.

The event benefited The Painted Turtle, a camp for seriously ill children, and deaf and hearing-impaired students at Brennen Elementary and Gallaudet University.

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Four contestants competed in the heavyweight class. Jeffcoat, an instructor in the nursing college, took first place in the category. First-year business student Jarad Craven placed second; third-year computer science student Colin Edwards took third place, and third-year exercise science student Keith Henning took fourth place. While several of the contestants in the competition had never taken part in a bodybuilding competition before, Henning competed in Mr. USC last year.

“I did the Mr. USC competition last year, and posing on stage and in front of the judges was so much fun that I knew I wanted to do it again this year,” Henning said. Henning decided on the night of last year’s competition that he would enter again this year and has been training all year in preparation.

UK Minister of State for Climate Change Gregory Barker spoke on his plans to fix the U.K.’s current budget crisis. Green measures as a solution, saying his colleagues plan to cut spending by 75 percent.

“We are making cuts that Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s could only have dreamed of,” Barker said. Barker said the U.K.’s deficit is higher than that of Greece, Portugal, Ireland and Spain and that the country currently spends 150 billion pounds ($240.6 billion) annually just paying interest. Barker said that is more than the entire budget of his country’s Ministry of Defense, Foreign Office and International Development Program combined. Barker described the U.K.’s loss of fossil fuel sources, aging nuclear plants and obsolete electrical grid as “the perfect energy storm” and said that any competitive global economy has to reduce its dependence on expensive foreign fossil fuels to survive. A gallon of gas in the U.K. is currently around $9.20.

“Last year, when the rest of the economy was struggling to reemerge from recession, the clean tech sector in the U.K. grew by a staggering 4.9 percent,” Barker said. “That’s real growth, creating real jobs, powered by real investment.” He closed his speech and opened up discussion to the panel by advocating increased partnership between the U.S. and the U.K. in the green sector. After the panel, Benjamin awarded the minister the key to the city.

Bill Rumble, a panel member and commercial director of Mark Group, a U.K. business that retrofits existing homes to make them more energy efficient, said he had absolutely no doubt that the green economy presents huge opportunities on both sides of the Atlantic.

“How often do we see the birth of a new industry? Not a virtual industry, a real one,” Rumble said. “I think we are at birth and that probably makes many of us in this room expecting parents.”

Rumble said that green technologies would eventually impact every career field. “Over time we’ll stop calling it the green economy because it will just be the economy,” Rumble said.
Guest column: Citizens must be active to save Earth

Making changes now will protect planet for future generations

It’s been a while since I graduated from USC. When I left, the president and provost were both active in getting the university to do things. I’m dismayed by the lack of activity on the part of USC. I just don’t know what’s going on there.

I have no desire to be active in the level of detail that the university needs to do to make its power sources more sustainable. That is not within my realm of expertise. I hope there is someone on campus who has the knowledge to do this. However, I think there is a lot of advantage of many of the extracurricular opportunities that are available to us that events of interest to me still take place. I have no knowledge ofthem. It is a major reason why I would not attend events a day or two hours prior to taking place, providing little opportunities. In our university-wide calendar including dates for changes to have occurred. The only activities that will phase out later notice than early to allow students to engage on many different levels.

The DG and posters in Russell House serve to make that progress. The DG and posters in Russell House provide the awareness of student opportunities. Opinions expressed in this manner in our government are the same as ours.

The true danger of this concept of patriotism is that it remains isolated and unconscious. We often say things like “we are great,” but not those who see no one else as a patriot. We are a country, but those who choose to be active citizens. By choosing to be a patriot is to be a critical, often unconscious, and sometimes contrary to public policy. We have to develop a respect of our leaders every few years, even if it means admitting that we have been wrong. Our government needs to be made again, and we have to do the same thing.

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I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen. I’m excited to be an active citizen.
Emotion prevails in ‘Somewhere’

Coppola’s latest draws on filmmaker’s best characteristics, experiences

Jenny Gillmore

“Somewhere”

NOW IN THEATERS

Director: Sofia Coppola
Starring: Stephen Dorff, Elle Fanning, Chris Pontius
Rating: R for sexual content, language

In her films, Sofia Coppola exposes a loneliness that is both overwhelmingly personal and transcendentally universal.

“The writer/director’s Oscar-winning “The Godfather (1972),” “Apocalypse Now (1979)” in her childhood. In many ways, it’s a film without a traditional story and sets more as a gliding meditation on loneliness and existence.

Some may call the film confounding for its lengthy pauses and extended camera takes, but that’s part of what makes “Somewhere” seem so pure. Its camera lingers and pans, soaking in its atmosphere.

It’s hard not to imagine Coppola taking it, well, somewhere else.

The arrival of his 11-year-old daughter Cleo (Elle Fanning) prompts a gradual rediscovery. As Johnny and Cleo embark on a publicity tour for Johnny’s new film, their transient existence is compounded by the quest for material wealth.

That’s not to say it’s a naturalist film. Even though Dorff and Fanning establish stunning chemistry and make their interactions feel bred from a real relationship, Coppola’s work is highly constructed. Her compositions are alternately intimate and dynamic, filling the frame with swells of details that seem inconsequential until you let yourself become absorbed in the film.

There are no big revelations, no lengthy speeches or teary breakdowns in “Somewhere.” There’s no real sense of resolution, but that’s perfectly alright because of the sense of fulfillment Coppola provides.

In the tradition of the best filmmakers, the word doesn’t hold a kind of personalized filmmaking is something that’s becoming more and more a relic in contemporary American cinema.

Coppola’s films are small in budget and scope, but vast and sprawling canyons of human experience. That kind of effect isn’t just special, it’s beautiful.

America criticized in Lab Theater play

Book adaptation condemns destruction caused by discovery of North American continent

Mikelle Street

Adapted from Barry Lopez’s book of the same name, “The Rediscovery of North America,” is a condemning story of the history of the Americas.

After the simple pouring of a glass of water, Victor Holtcamp — an assistant professor in the Theatre and Dance Department— launched into a monologue indicting the American people as a whole on charges of reckless abandonment, rape, murder and theft. The play ran on Friday and Saturday at USC’s Lab Theatre.

The play began with Christopher Columbus, played by Holtcamp — sitting behind a covered desk, reading from one sheet of paper and explaining how the conquistadors pillaged villages, ransacked the lands and destroyed more than 1,000 cultures all in the quest for material wealth.

“The only wealth [the Conquistadors] could imagine is what they took,” Holtcamp said, pointing an accusing finger at the audience.

As he made his way around the stage with the lights changing color and refocusing, the monologue wore its way into the present. Holtcamp made it perfectly clear that the reckless disregard for the Earth shown by the Conquistadors was not an isolated incident, but, in fact, set a precedent for an entire nation of people.

“Everyone in my family is in the film business; I knew I wanted to be creative and it was important in my family to be artistic.” — Sofia Coppola

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Carolina comes out ahead in three-game series against SEC foes

By Ryan Velazquez

One of the few bumps in the road for South Carolina last season was a series defeat at Kentucky.

Facing the Wildcats in a three-game homestand this weekend, it made sure that didn’t happen again.

After clinching the series on a walk-off single in game one, the Gamecocks completed their first SEC sweep of the year with a 5-3 victory Sunday.

“I was very happy about being able to win both of the weekend,” said coach Ray Tanner. “It doesn’t happen much in this conference. All three games were in the balance and could’ve gone either way. They had an opportunity today and game three came down to a good job at the mound and keep our team in the game to win.”

Carolina wanted no time getting offensive in game three, leading the way with seven savers for pitcher-changer Christian Walker.

On a 1-1 pitch, the first baseman satisfied an USC’s win over Kentucky field and was followed shortly by an Adrian Morales double play that allowed South Carolina to score a 3-0 lead. Wingo to score from third, giving the Gamecocks an early 2-0 lead.

The hits were few and far between from that point on. The Gamecocks combined for just two hits for the first three innings combined.

“I was impressed with his outing,” Tanner said of Morales. “He was very calm and quiet and he was going in to today’s game. He’s been more than I thought he could give. He probably felt like he could stay longer, but I just didn’t think there could be a lot of performance.”

Walker added another RBIs in the seventh on a fielder’s choice, but the Wildcats started a rally of their own in the eighth. After getting on the board with an RBI single off reliever John Taylor, Kentucky proceeded to load the bases on a four-pitch walk. Taylor kept his composure; however, Ray Tanner continued to maintain the two-out advantage.

Carolina scored one more in the eighth inning and just enough to hold off a late rally from Kentucky to secure another SEC win.

“You can’t say enough good things about that (pitching coach Jerry Meyers) team and our pitching staff,” Tanner said.

“You can only win if your pitchers allow you the opportunity. We had some great hits, but didn’t score a whole lot of runs. We still had opportunities to win because these guys did a good job for us.”

The Gamecocks took game one of the series behind another impressive outing (from lefty Michael Roth). A week after shutting down then-No. 1 Florida, Roth allowed just two hits and no runs while striking out nine.

The other side of the tale, shortened.

Tuesday afternoon, the Gamecocks managed to get runners to the corners for catcher Brady Thomas. With a full count, the stricken shortstop of a single off lefty Thomas McCarthy to maintain the two-out advantage.

“Thomas has a reputation of being that kind of guy,” Tanner said. “He seems to have his better at-bats when the chips are down.”

College baseball lacks the urgency of college football on a Friday night, but the Gamecocks can’t be late with their due.

Just like last season, they have done that. “We’ve got to go out and do it,” Walker said. “I definitely feel good about it and hopefully our pitchers can do what they’re supposed to do.”

South Carolina has an almost identical record today to that it had 9 years ago at this point on its way to the nation’s top tournament.

Kratch Déjà vu all over again for USC

Halfway through regular season, Gamecocks in almost identical position as 2010

By James Kratch

College baseball lacks the urgency of college football on a Friday night, but there are no excuses to be made here. Teams focus on milestones to evaluate where they stand. South Carolina, for all intents and purposes, hit two of those milestones Sunday. The Gamecocks won both the first game of the three-game series to the one-third point of the schedule (9-6) and the half-way point of the regular season (USC has played 27 games, with its lone loss coming April 5)

The results — USC is 22-5 overall, 7-2 in league play and tied for first place in the East and tied for first in the league last season, which ended with USC winning the national championship.

If you think those numbers look familiar, they are. The Gamecocks started 22-6 overall, 7-2 in league play and first in the East and tied for first in the league last season, which ended with USC winning the national championship.

Both teams share the same. Both teams faced off in the SEC.

Both teams lost in conference openers.

Both teams scored first.

Both teams have more than four series.

And both teams have a win over Kentucky.

“Every game’s important,” you’ve got to grind it out. They all add up at the end of the season. It’s a long season. It’s a long road. There’s a long way to go.”

There will be some difficult circumstances ahead, but in this league being able to win the first three games in a row is imperative.

Just like last season, they have done that. “We’ve got to go out and do it,” Walker said. “I definitely feel good about it and hopefully our pitchers can do what they’re supposed to do.”

Offense stymied as quarterbacks struggle at end

Play under center microcosm of scrimmage

James Kratch

The South Carolina offense went as its quarterbacks did in Saturday’s spring scrimmage — good at the beginning, poor at the end.

Behind sharp play from under center, the unit put together four straight scoring drives to start the season. From there, the Gamecocks were hit by injuries and the offense followed suit, only managing one more score.

The USC defense, in the words of coach Steve Spurrier, “completely stymied” the offense late in the day.

“It was typical of some of our guys,” Spurrier said. “You’ve got a little easy success, and then they can’t handle success. It’s a reality check for us. We’ve got to learn to control what we can learn from it and move on.”

Spurrier praised the early play of his quarterbacks but was critical of the way defensive coordinator Clay Hopson handled the situation, with a one-out intentional walk to start the 10th inning.

“The defense seems to have no idea what they’re doing,” Spurrier said. “Until we teach these quarterbacks to get back there and make a decision, we’re always going to struggle,” Spurrier said.

Inconsistent starter Stephen Garcia threw for 121 yards and two touchdowns, while backup Connor Shaw passed for a touchdown and 40 yards. Both were single out for poor throws at the end, however.

“Stephen did well early, didn’t do well late,” Spurrier said, “Connor, I think, struggled a bit but there isn’t one, it was disappointing but not surprising — put it that way.”

When asked if he was planning on naming a starting quarterback at the completion of warm-ups on Saturday, Spurrier said he was not.

“We’re not putting them in categories that they have to play a certain way. We’ll cast them all play and we’ll go from there.”

As for poor results at the start of the series, the starting position to be decided based on what each quarterback does during the summer and is prepared once summer camp rolls around.

“We go to the fall and the guy that has the best summer, the guy that can trust the system and the offense, turns out to be the starting quarterback.”

For both Garcia and Shaw, the first games of the year were a microcosm of scrimmage. Self-inflicted wounds were found in almost identical position as 2010.

For each, it was almost like he was trying to do too much.

“I was trying to do too much,” Shaw said after the loss. “You can’t do that in this league. You’ve got to be fundamentally sound and know what to do.”

Spurrier and the USC staff held their annual coaching clinic over the weekend, with the highlight being a Friday night dinner inside Williams-Brice Stadium featuring former Gamecock coach Ralph Friedgen as keynote speaker. Spurrier, who in last game of the year, has given Friedgen a few headaches, said the former Terps coach at the end.

“At length about how behind every great team he coached in his career was a great quarterback.

That message, Spurrier said, is one he hopes gets through to his quarterbacks, Garcia in particular.

“We’ve got to have a great quarterback around here if we’re going to have a real big year,” Spurrier said. “I think, by the end of August, you’ll see that.”

Spurrier said his bench will develop into one, and maybe the other,”
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APRIL IS NATIONAL CAR CARE MONTH
April 2011
Less than 5 minutes from campus!
(803) 256-2110 • www.suddethauto.com
The “It’s Not Like I’m Drunk” Cocktail
2 oz. tequila
1 oz. triple sec
1/2 ounce lime juice
Salt
1 too many
1 automobile
1 missed red light
1 false sense of security
1 lowered reaction time
Combine ingredients. Shake. Have another. And another.

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Save the Date!
ARMED SERVICES BLOOD DRIVE
Tuesday, April 5th from 9-4
ROTC Building-Drill Hall
Sponsored by the NROTC

...Or just settle for a water hose in the front yard.