Students are presented with free promotional items from the Retreat during Monday’s Off-Campus Housing Fair.

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SG leaders: New system to be more convenient for students

According to USC men’s basketball coach Frank Martin, parenthood is “the most

As a business major myself, I

Business advisement sign-up now online

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Martin takes part in charity challenge

SG leaders: New system to be

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SG leaders: New system to be
Harrison runs for state Democratic Party chair

South Carolina’s Democratic Party may have its first African-American state chairman in 2013, according to Jaime Harrison, who announced that he is running for the position.

In an announcement that surprised the world Monday, Pope Benedict XVI became the first pope to resign in some six centuries. Multiple media outlets reported Benedict’s unexpected decision, which he announced in the Vatican this morning, citing his advanced age and infirm health.

In light of last fall’s embarrassing computer security breach, the South Carolina Department of Revenue Monday that this year’s state tax returns will undergo new security measures to make them more secure.

Tax returns will pass through a new security system that will have to pay for the changes and in the system, the SCDOR will mail the taxpayer a letter requesting additional information in order to complete the processing of the return, the State said.

Outgoing Democratic Chairman Dick Harpootlian, who said Monday that he will run for the position, The State Democratic Caucus, announced Monday his former executive director of the U.S. House Democratic Caucus, for the first time.

The 37-year-old previously worked for USC, South Carolina’s Democratic Party, and the State, and now he plans to run for the state Democratic party during two stints, said he will voice his support for Harrison.

“I think the new pope to the next level,” said Jaime Harrison, a Washington lobbyist and Jaime Harrison represents USC, South Carolina’s Democratic Party chair.

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Instead of starting their days with a regular Mountain Dew, soda junkies will soon have a new option.

PepsiCo announced Monday the launch of its new Kickstart breakfast beverage, a combination of fruit juice and Mountain Dew that will be available starting Feb. 25, USA Today reported.

“Our consumers told us they are looking for an alternative to traditional morning beverages — one that tastes great, includes real fruit juice and has just the right amount of kick to help them start their days,” said Greg Lyons, Mountain Dew’s vice president of marketing, in a statement.

The drink, which will come in citrus orange and fruit punch flavors, contains 92 milligrams of caffeine and 80 calories per 16-ounce can. Comparably, a regular Mountain Dew has 72 milligrams of caffeine per 16-ounce can, a 16-ounce Amp energy drink has 162 milligrams of caffeine and a 16-ounce Starbucks coffee has 350 milligrams of caffeine, according to USA Today.

—Sarah Ellis, Assistant News Editor

South Carolina is showing no progress on improving reading proficiency in its schools, according to a new report by the state’s Education Oversight Committee.

Released Monday, the report shows that 80 percent of the state’s third-grade students and 76 percent of eighth-grade students tested as reading on grade level, according to The State.

The committee’s goal had been to have 95 percent of students reading on grade level by 2020, but the percentage of students meeting grade-level proficiency has stagnated for the past four years, The State said.

Committee chairman Neil Robinson told The State that “students are struggling,” and he expressed concern for their readiness to enter a job market where “the demand for low-skilled labor is weakening.”

Students’ reading levels are based on their performance on the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards test.

—Sarah Ellis, Assistant News Editor

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—Sarah Ellis, Assistant News Editor

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The BOOK Dispensary

A Place to Buy and Trade Books

One of our main concerns is for men whose only offense is related to child support can go through one of its programs instead of going to prison.

Martin is helping plan an even where 40 fathers and their children will attend a USC basketball game.

“Although different things to try to connect whatever I can do with their needs,” Martin said. As a father of three, Martin has not only given the center additional publicity, but he has been a figure that parents can relate to.

“He doesn’t want to be just a name,” Butler said. “He really cares about fatherhood. It’s deeply rooted within him.”

Voting for the Coaches’ Challenge is open through Feb. 27.

—Sarah Ellis, Assistant News Editor

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all printed with logos and contact information, were handed out to students, who had to give no more than their names and email addresses in exchange.

“It just so happens that a lot of the apartments give out a lot of free stuff, but I think it helps students know better what options there are,” Cain said.

Games and contests only added to the frenzy to collect free stuff. By the time they left, many students walked out with one or two bags full of products the apartments passed out.

In the end, though, housing was what mattered most to representatives and students looking for a new home.

“We’re just trying to get information out to as many people as possible. We’re trying to get people to visit the properties,” Riverside Apartments representative Justin Johnson said.

As the demand for housing near campus grows, more apartments are coming to the fair. Though the fair has been held for many years, several complexes, such as Stadium Suites and Aspyre, made their first appearances this school year.

Representatives from housing complexes were intent on promoting desirable prices and living environments. Passing out brochures and packets, they ensured that ultimately, besides the free swag, students would get the housing information they needed.
Infringing on freedoms un-American

Justice Department’s memo disregards rights

Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the U.S. government has grown in both size and authority, justifying its claims by it’s supposed efforts to protect Americans from terrorism. One such tactic employed by the government to eliminate terrorism is the policy of un anunci n u m n a r m . 9 1 1 . T h e s e t o o l s a r e 4 t r i k s v e r y u s e f u l i n c a t i o n . b u t m a y i f o r t h e s e u s e s i s t a l l e r . w h e n i t i s c e r t a i n t y i m p o r t a n t t o m a n y . t h a t t h e U . S . J u s t i c e D e p a r t m e n t b o t t o n s e l e c t i o n a . w e s h o u l d v i e w t h i s e x p a n s i o n o f p o w e r w i t h c r i t i c a l e y .

Letters: The Justice Department recently provided memos to 9/11 agencies that detailed the legal case for drone strikes in Pakistan. It states the government has the authority to target and kill Americans believed to be senior leaders of a terrorist group.

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Assistant Viewpoints Editor

SARAH ELLIS

Assistant News Editors

GEORGE HINCHLIFFE, AUSTIN ANDERSEN COOK, SARAH GENAY SYDNEY PATTERSON

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Senior Photographer

Assistant Photo Editor

BRIAN ALMOND

Assistant Sports Editor

MARY CATHRYN ARMSTRONG

Assistant Mix Editor

ERIK COLLINS
Columbia restaurants, businesses offer special deals to celebrate

Ladies and gentlemen, it’s February 12. And we all know what that means. Valentine’s Day will soon be upon us.

For some, it’s time to dig out those casual khakis or the single lifestyle, Columbia has plenty to offer for those who are feeling the love.

breaks to dig into your eighth box of Russell Stover
cry softly into your body pillow with intermittent
dust off those old Tom Hanks/Meg Ryan DVDs and
about Valentine’s Day. For others, it’s an evening to
following the brief panic that you actually forgot
rose-scented, candy-coated holiday of hearts is
all know what that means. That’s right — the great
Columbia restaurants, businesses
language fi lm .

(Released Haneke) and best original screenplay

is nominated for best actress , making the 85-year-
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it only the ninth foreign-language film  to be
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films. It has been nominated this year for five

about what love truly means than most romantic

early in the fi lm, and the next two hours follow

Johansson) and a middle-aged actor (Bill Murray),
who become friends while staying in Tokyo.

relationship until they realize they have a deep


For the ... Foodie

Valentine’s Dinner in Yesteryears
Cost: $39.95

As if any of us needed another excuse to dine at local favorite Yesteryears in Five Points, now the famous fancy topped with the sin in the tub is offering a special Valentine’s Day menu for two. Diners can choose from three appetizers, including spinach artichoke dip, Boom Boom shrimp and spicy quashadilla rolls. The main dish menu serves up a hearty Black Angus rib-eye steak, spicy Cajun Tasso shrimp over a fried grit cake, a London broil, grilled Swiss chicken and mushrooms, blackened mahi-mahi or chipotle barbecue ribs — all served with two sides or a salad. To satisfy the final sweetooth cravings, you and your date can split the key lime pie or strawberry chocolate cheesecake.

For the ... Classic Romantic
Valentines’ Day in Casablanca
Cost: $22 admission

There’s almost no better love story told than the one that plays out between fateful Bergman and Humphrey Bogart in 1942’s classic film “Casablanca.” Now, that romance is making the leap from the silver screen to V-Day. The Harbison Theatre in Irmo will host the Bogey-themed evening, complete with the film’s famed “Rick’s” café serving up luxurious treats like complimentary champagne and desserts in the lobby. There will even be an opportunity to snap a few frame-worthy portraits before the film’s screening at 8 p.m. Extra points if you love by airplane.

For the ... Beer Lover
Valentine’s Day Sweet Pairing
at World of Beer

Another classic love story on Valentine’s Day? Cupcakes and wine. Perfect for the single lady or a gaggle of gals, World of Beer will be offering Valentine’s-appropriate libations including Young’s Double Chocolate Stout and Sweetwater Happy Ending. Not to mention the half-off wines for ladies’ night and cupcakes provided courtesy of Cupcake bakery on Lincoln Street. You may be alone, but at least you’ll have wine and reality, what else do we need? Besides the cupcakes.

For the ... A-LIST

Affection: Love on Screen

Valentine’s Day is Thursday, and what better time to reflect on the best romance films in recent years that have shown the spotlight on love?

1. Amour

“Amour” (2012) is a devastating meditation on love, aging and death. Anne (Emmanuelle Riva) and George (Jean-Louis Trintignant), a French couple their 70s. Anne has a stroke early in the film, and the next two hours follow her painful decline in health. This film says more about what love truly means than most romantic films. It has been nominated this year for Best Academy Awards, including best picture, making it only the ninth foreign-language film to be nominated in this category in Oscar history. Riva is nominated for best actress, making the 85-year-old actress the oldest nominee the category has ever seen. “Amour” is also up for best director (Michael Haneke) and best original screenplay (Haneke), and it’s a shoo-in for best foreign language film.

2. Lost in Translation

“Lost in Translation” (2003) is a comedy/drama about a young, recently married woman (Scarlett Johansson) and a middle-aged actor (Bill Murray), who become friends while staying in Tokyo. Writer and director Sofia Coppola, who directed much of the film simply capturing the two characters passing time together. All of these small moments help build their relationship until they realize they have a deep connection. Murray gives the performance of his career in this quiet and funny film, and the final scene is extraordinary.

3. Brokeback Mountain

“Brokeback Mountain” (2005) is one of the most tragic love stories in recent years, beautifully brought to the screen by director Ang Lee and actors Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal. This drama, based on the short story by Annie Proulx,....

For the ... Drink

Henderson Bros. Burlesque Show
Cost: $15 to $500

Combining the sensual with the musical, the Henderson Bros. Burlesque show will be making a special appearance at 701 Whaley for a special Valentine’s Day performance. Taking cues from the tantalizingly subtle exhibitions of old, the show features both male and female performers in costume with rousing camp, enticing dance and acrobatic routines making the audience gasp. Tickets cost a mere $15, but if you’ve been saving for the big day, child’s tickets for a private course meal in Loft 201 by Rosso, prepared by Executive Chef Katie Scott, are only $99. Additional tickets, $150 will get you show tickets, dinner for two, a special song, private grounds. Extra views of the zoo creatures celebrating their very own Valentine’s Day provided at no extra charge.

For the ... Classic Romantic

Riverbanks Zoo

For the... Beer Lover

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Clinically depressed Emily (Rooney Mara, right) must cope with a series of mysterious side effects after husband Martin (Channing Tatum, left) is convicted of trader fraud.

‘Side Effects’ delivers doses of thrills

With Mara and Tatum, Soderbergh creates fresh psychological chiller

Tyler Simpson
TSIMPSON@DAILYGAMECOCK.COM

“Side Effects”
NOW IN THEATERS

Director: Steven Soderbergh
Starring: Jude Law, Rooney Mara, Catherine Zeta-Jones
Rating: R for sexuality, nudity, violence and language

‘Side Effects’ delivers doses of thrills

‘Side Effects’ delivers doses of thrills

'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo’ plays depressive Manhattante Emily Taylor, whose husband Martin (Channing Tatum) was convicted of insider trading following a stellar Wall Street career. However, Emily’s depression transcends into a string of suicide attempts, placing her into the care of ambitious psychiatrist Dr. Jonathan Banks (Jude Law).

Banks prescribes an antidepressant called Ablixa, recommended by Emily’s former therapist Dr. Erica Sidler (Catherine Zeta-Jones). For the sake of not revealing too much, let’s just say the drug’s side effects set the plot in motion.

Screenwriter Scott Z. Burns, a recent collaborator with Soderbergh, divides the story into two halves. The first half focuses wildly on Emily’s reaction to the drug as commentary on our society’s dependence on pharmaceutical drugs, while it transitions into Alfred Hitchcock territory in the second half. Then, the film focuses on Banks proving his non-involvement, which leads to a series of twists. Some are brilliant, but others feel contrived.

As usual with Soderbergh’s films, cinematography is everything. In an incredibly intimate manner, Soderbergh shoots the film to intensify the story’s ominousness. During the personal interactions, we see low angle shots depicting how each character has something to hide and is on the edge. Even the way Soderbergh sends his camera crawling down hallways hints at hidden intentions around every corner. I loved the opening zoom-in shot that established the film’s overall mood.

Both Soderbergh and Burns play the roles of rascally tricksters as they pile the twists and keep us thrilled, even among all of the commentary on psychiatry and the pharmaceutical industry. Like most of his films (with the possible exception of the somber, serious-minded “Traffic”), “Side Effects” isn’t meant to be enlightening and thought-provoking, no matter how many times Soderbergh has crossed that line between art house and blockbuster. The movie was made to entertain, period.

Playing the depressed Emily goes Rooney as an excellent first step out of the shadow of her role as Lisbeth Salander in “Dragon Tattoo,” a role that’s dangerously close to defining her career. In a performance that makes inexpressiveness look interesting, she has an oddly fascinating screen presence. What thoughts lie behind those blank eyes as Emily’s husband is released from prison?

Soderbergh fills the rest of the cast with veterans of his previous works. Both playing psychiatrists out to protect their own hides, Law (“Contagion”) and Zeta-Jones (“Traffic,” “Ocean’s Twelve”) are terrific. As for Tatum (“Haywire,” “Magic Mike”), I’ll say it — I take back everything I have said about the guy. He has really grown as a performer, realizing he can be more than the hunk. Soderbergh may have had a hand in that, since Tatum has appeared in his three most recent theatrical films.

It’s a real shame Soderbergh is leaving, though a focus on television has been considered. But with more than 30 films and an Academy Award for best director, Soderbergh surely has made his mark in cinema.
tells the story of Ennis and Jack, two sheepherders in 1960s Wyoming, who unexpectedly fall in love during a secluded camping trip. Due to pressure from society at the time, they struggle to hide their love and passion for each other. The simple power and beauty of the film should resonate with all audiences, gay or straight.

4. WALL-E

“WALL-E” (2008), arguably Pixar’s greatest film to date, features the most beautiful love story between two nonhumans in the past decade. The animators and storytellers at Pixar make your heart melt from the first frame of this computer animated wonder.

WALL-E, a dinky but adorable trash-compacting robot, works on a garbage-filled Earth when he finds a tiny sprig of plant life amid all of the debris. A sleek, high-tech robot named EVE swoops down to retrieve the plant. With only beeps and other mechanical noises, the two robots communicate and connect. WALL-E and EVE are more relatable and moving than any characters Matthew McConaughey and Kate Hudson have ever played.
Ask for more and get it. Produces high returns. A small investment now by working smarter. Find ways to save time and listen to your partners. Share discoveries and a commitment to going well of you. Accept your past work speaks flames by broadcasting your advice. Consult friends for feedback. An amazing discovery validates your work. Step forward for new information. Fan the flames by broadcasting it. Your past work speaks well of you. Accept your past work speaks.
“Everything’s about my teammates,” Carrera said. “Being able to feed me, getting an offensive rebound — they’re doing a really good job.”

Martin said Carrera makes “a ton of mistakes, which is part of being a freshman,” but that his energy allows the coach to leave him on the court at all against Tennessee.

“Michael plays with an unbelievable enthusiasm for the game,” Martin said. “He gives us a sense of toughness, that our team is always looking for.”

But Carrera has suffered from a lack of leadership from the team’s veterans. The team’s guards in particular struggled Sunday, with junior Bruce Ellington and sophomore D.J. Foreman combining for just 10 points in 74 minutes.

Martin said he has tried to run a simple offense to avoid bogging his players down, but his team still breaks down in the face of pressure.

“Passing is a problem on our team,” Martin said. “If you can’t pass, you can’t be a good offensive team.”

Freshman forward Laimonas Chatkevicius and junior guard Brenton Williams did not take to the court at all against Tennessee. Asked after the game if there was a reason they sat out, Martin responded, “Did you think I should have them out?”

The Gamecocks are preparing for another challenging week of conference play, hosting LSU Thursday night before facing Alabama on the road Saturday.

Martin said the Crimson Tide, one of the top defensive teams in the conference, will be a particularly difficult opponent for his team, which he called “offensively challenged at times.”

But the coach said short-term challenges will not affect his long-term goals for improving the team.

“We’re not here to run a 50-yard dash. We’re here to run a long race,” Martin said. “If you can’t step on a pebble, or whatever it might be, interfere with our focus of finishing the race.”

— Coach Frank Martin

While Carrera provides a much-needed spark, his scoring and rebounding are the Gamecocks’ only strengths.

South Carolina freshman forward Michael Carrera leads the Gamecocks in scoring and rebounding. He averages 11.1 points per game and 7.2 rebounds per game.

Gamecocks have made strides as a team, with 11.1 and 7.2 points and rebounds per game, respectively, after recording a lackluster 2.8 points per game last week, the coach said.

“The difference is, we had two first-round (NBA draft) picks in those three guys,” Martin said. “Adding that, those two players could save us on certain nights.”

South Carolina is 3-11 in the SEC so far this season.

“At halftime of South Carolina’s match against No. 14 North Carolina State, coach Josh Goffi told his team to lay it all on the line. The rest of the dual, doubles before the intermission, Goffi needed his team to respond with energy. The Gamecocks bounced back to defeat N.C. State 4-3.

“We needed to get out a tough win, and that is exactly what happened today,” Goffi said. “The Wolfpack swept the Gamecocks in doubles before South Carolina clinched four wins in singles. In light of South Carolina’s loss to Wake Forest on Friday, Goffi said the loss to the N.C. State match was “finishing.”

“We started out the match well against Wake, and we just didn’t finish,” he said. “That is a sign of lack of belief and maybe a little bit of toughness to be honest.”

Chip Cox, a junior from Myrtle Beach, felt the team took the coach’s message to heart.

“We met in the locker room and decided what we needed to do for singles [at come out with a ton of energy],” Cox said. “I feel like everyone on this team is personal.”

“Every year I played this team, we had to beat them,” Goffi said. “This time, really didn’t want to go away and we really wanted this win.”

As Cox fell in both his singles and doubles matches against N.C. State, Goffi recognized him as one of the key leaders of his team.

“With Chip playing so high and having a good year, he is going to be high in our lineup,” Goffi said. “And with that comes pressure and tough competition.”

Cox explained that he wanted to continue to improve throughout the season by staying committed to his style of play.

“Sometimes I kind of get away from it in the second set,” he said.

Cox has said he wants to focus on reading the tendencies of his opponent and applying pressure to him in “suffocating” fashion. Ultimately, it comes down to executing the details. He is committed to “finishing easy volleys at the net” and using his ground game to gain points.

Goffi is confident that despite the poor doubles showing, his team can compete with any opponent.

“We have got a very strong doubles point,” he said. “We are a little scared to lead right now against some of the better teams. They don’t realize that they are actually that good.”

However, he believes that over time, the team’s confidence will build. To succeed in the long run, Goffi said his players simply have to convince themselves they are capable.

“When you get leads, you got to run with them,” he said. “That’s been the issue. These guys have done the work; now it’s time to start believing.”

**Men’s tennis falls to Wake Forest, tops NC State**

**Team rebounds in singles after dropping doubles to Wolfpack**

At halftime of South Carolina’s match against No. 14 North Carolina State, coach Josh Goffi told his team to lay it all on the line. The rest of the dual, doubles before the intermission, Goffi needed his team to respond with energy. The Gamecocks bounced back to defeat N.C. State 4-3.

“We needed to get out a tough win, and that is exactly what happened today,” Goffi said. “The Wolfpack swept the Gamecocks in doubles before South Carolina clinched four wins in singles. In light of South Carolina’s loss to Wake Forest on Friday, Goffi said the loss to the N.C. State match was “finishing.”

“We started out the match well against Wake, and we just didn’t finish,” he said. “That is a sign of lack of belief and maybe a little bit of toughness to be honest.”

Chip Cox, a junior from Myrtle Beach, felt the team took the coach’s message to heart.

“We met in the locker room and decided what we needed to do for singles [at come out with a ton of energy],” Cox said. “I feel like everyone on this team is personal.”

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**South Carolina freshman forward Michael Carrera leads the Gamecocks in scoring and rebounding. He averages 11.1 points per game and 7.2 rebounds per game.**