response that we got, “said Lauren Center. “According to the USC Student Health center, on campus but in small numbers, I’m hoping I didn’t give it to them,” complaining about a sore throat, but Ashley Chase, a second-year marine science student, has been battling the flu for two additional rounds of flu shots. It’s so successful the center had to order more flu vaccines quickly across college campuses.

The flu and flu-like illnesses are caused by the influenza virus. Some of my friends have been complaining about a sore throat, but Vincent stressed washing hands as a very good precautionary measure to prevent influenza. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains. At the beginning of the illness, someone could experience extreme fatigue, headache, and severe aches and pains.
Crime Report

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23
Malicious injury to real property, Noon
LeConte, 1523 Greene St.
Someone vandalized the men's bathroom.
Estimated damage: $52
Reporting officer: J. Dupree

THURSDAY, JAN. 24
Disorderly conduct, 2:50 a.m.
Intoxication of persons and use of weapons
Kelley Shriver smelled strongly of alcohol, was unsteady on her feet and admitted to drinking in a friend's house. She was "verbally combative" with the officer.
Reporting officer: D. Adams

Local
California Supreme Court rules employers can fire workers for using medicinal marijuana
SAN FRANCISCO — Employers can fire workers who use medical marijuana even if it was legally recommended by a doctor, the California Supreme Court ruled Thursday, dealing the state another setback in its standoff with federal law enforcement.

The high court upheld a small Sacramento telecommunications company's firing of a man who flunked a company-ordered drug test. Gary Ross held a medical marijuana card authorizing him to use the drug to treat a back injury sustained while serving in the Air Force.

The company, Ragingwire Inc., argued that it rightfully fired Ross because all marijuana laws in California and 11 other states do not recognize the medical marijuana laws in California and the federal law, which does not recognize the medical marijuana laws in California and 11 other states.

The justices upheld that argument in a 5-2 decision.

"No state law could completely legalize marijuana for medical purposes because the drug remains illegal under federal law," Justice Kathryn Werdegar wrote for the majority.

The U.S. Supreme Court declared in 2005 that state medicinal marijuana laws don't protect users from prosecution. The Drug Enforcement Administration and other federal agencies have been actively shutting down major medical marijuana dispensaries throughout California over the last two years and charging their operators with felony distribution charges.

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National
Julia Anderson
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Former President Bill Clinton pays a surprise, late-night visit to the Starbucks coffee shop in Russell House Thursday night.

He took pictures, shook hands and even sat down and talked to students about campaign issues during his impromptu visit.

Bill Clinton visits USC late-night

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008

USC moves on up

Halley Nani
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

USC ranks No. 35 in Kiplinger’s “Best Values in Public Colleges” list for in-state students, jumping 16 spots from last year’s ranking of 51.

The university is now in the top 7 percent of the nation’s public universities that provide an economic first-rate education, according to a university news release.

“Anytime you’re ranked highly on a list in Kiplinger’s, people immediately notice,” said Scott Verzyl, director of admissions. “It can only have a positive impact, and we certainly hope it attracts more people to consider our school.”

Publishing company Kiplinger bases its “Best Values” rating on an annual evaluation of over 500 American public colleges and universities on factors such as standardized test scores, graduation rates, student-to-teacher ratios, tuition costs, financial aid packages and student debt after graduation.

In addition, USC also shot up 13 spots in Kiplinger’s rankings for the best values for out-of-state students, from 72 to 59, placing it in the top 11 percent.

The ranking puts USC third among SEC schools in the rankings, behind University of Florida who ranked second and the University of Georgia who ranked seventh. USC is also ranked higher than other acclaimed universities such as Ohio State University, Purdue University, the University of Iowa and Penn State University.

USC President Andrew Sorensen lauded the rankings as proof of USC’s ability to lure high-achieving students from South Carolina and beyond.

“The 2007 freshman class entered the university with the highest average SAT score in our history,” Sorensen said. “And our entering Honors College students now average an SAT score over 1400.”

Sorensen said lists like Kiplinger’s provide essential information to students and parents on the affordability of a university education.

“New information on academic quality and affordability is particularly relevant for students and their parents who are making decisions now about colleges for the 2008-2009 academic year,” Sorensen said. “In spite of increased financial demands faced by colleges and universities across the country, we remain among the nation’s best schools in terms of quality of education with an affordable price tag.”

“I think those rankings show the value of a Carolina degree,” said Verzyl. “It speaks well of the programs we provide, and that they have economic value. With the condition of the economy, people are seriously starting to think of their students’ educations as an investment.”

Other colleges that made dramatic gains in Kiplinger’s rankings included the University of Indiana and Ohio State University, according to Kiplinger.com.

The complete list of “Best Values in Public Colleges” can be found in the February issue of Kiplinger’s magazine, or on Kiplinger.com.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu
Kucinich ends bid for White House

Rep. drops out to focus on congressional race

Democratic presidential hopeful Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, speaks during the Heartland Presidential Forum.

By Joe Milicia
The Associated Press
CLEVELAND — Democratic Rep. Dennis Kucinich abandoned his second, long-shot bid for the White House as he faces a tough fight to hold onto his Ohio U.S. congressional seat. Kucinich, 61, is facing four challengers in the March 4 primary, according to minutes later firemen outside and about five years later international studies Beth Hinson, a second-year accounting student and chairman of Senate Athletics Committee, said student tickets generally come on first-come, first-served basis.

"In the old system you couldn't have friends to be able to go and get their ticket," Speaker said. "In the new system you actually have to be a current student to use and get the tickets."

Charlisa Spencer, a second-year accounting student, said the online system would be more convenient for off-campus students. She said now they won't have to stand in line or come to school when they don't have any classes. Students are still opposed to the idea of an online ticket system.

Charlisa Spencer, a second-year accounting student, said that purchasing tickets online is not the way to go.

"I think it's ridiculous that you have to sign up online. That's really much more in line with friends and bond rather than sign up online especially for big games," Edwards said.

Edwards said to access the system students should use their universityusername and user ID. "As a student, you can go and sign up for the ticket," Speaker said. "I think the ticket request period for the Wednesday's game at Georgia basketball game has passed, but requests are still being accepted for the Feb. 9 USC vs. Georgia basketball game."
Student Senate pushed the ostrich defense once again. They passed the buck and allowed members of our student administration to make a mockery of our student body. What does it take to get removed from office? According to Student Senate, pushing a police officer to the ground is not enough. And as they pointed out last spring, public outspokenness must be fair as well. You say it is “irresponsible to remove him at this time,” but that taking such action would “continue to reflect on the image of the student body.” It is irresponsible to not even reprimand Nick Payne even through everyone knows he is to blame on the wrist of a group of friends. Do we judge Nick Payne personally? Of course not; everyone, especially students, makes mistakes. But from the day he stepped into his office on the second floor and sat behind that desk, he assumed the responsibility not only to his constituents, personally? Of course not; everyone, especially students, must not be enough. And as they pointed out last spring, immigration should have read, “He plans to improve how the immigration system operates by getting rid of benefits for immigration.” USC alumni Jotaka Eaddy’s account of his “Brokeback” role has proved to be a really big mistake. According to people who know it would be like a slap to the face. It’s a bad decision if he is protesting all of his resignations and not those of the University of South Carolina. student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. The Daily Gamecock regrets the errors.

CORRECTIONS
In Thursday’s News section, Sen. Barack Obama’s view on immigration should have read, “He plans to improve how the immigration system operates by getting rid of benefits for immigration.” USC alumni Jotaka Eaddy’s account of his “Brokeback” role has proved to be a really big mistake. According to people who know it would be like a slap to the face. It’s a bad decision if he is protesting all of his resignations and not those of the University of South Carolina. student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. The Daily Gamecock regrets the errors.

IT’S YOUR RIGHT
Voice your opinion on message boards at www.dailygamecock.com

Gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

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Hollywood embraces all families, not just one type

Enchanted,” “Juno” both diverge from society’s traditional parenting roles

Last semester, my friends and I went to see the movie “Enchanted.” As the story opened, we were introduced to a little girl and her father. Through shots of his film, the father was an executioner depicted as being traditionally more assertive and less protective in the absence of the mother. The plot surprised me when, later, the fairy godmother told me that the child was alive and had lived with her husband and child all along.

Now, I was perplexed as the plot included a mother and a father working together in their family, because the sad reality is that parents in a relationship don’t do things that way. What surprised me was that Disney decided to do it that way. While the movie’s rating — or less controversial death of the church was without a doubt a big mistake.

The entertainment industry has a right to stay with what it believes are society’s “norms.” But when it takes in that the role that parents play in their family and movies had only parents with one child and single and widowed. Divorce was a big mistake if he is protesting all of his resignations and not those of the University of South Carolina. student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. The Daily Gamecock regrets the errors.

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**Student brings back songwriting skills to USC**

Adult Swim's classic hits DVD with its 5th season launching, bonus features

Cine Jobs

**Aqua Teen Hunger Force**

Three out of five stars

After an ill-composed template of a picture, the gang of Adult Swim's "Aqua Teen Hunger Force" returns on Jan. 29 with the release of Season 5 on DVD.

The series, created by Dave Willis and Matt Maiorillo, follows the strange adventures of quadrupedal Francine, Master Shake, Meatwad, and Mr. Pickles, who happen to be food products in a kitchen in New Jersey. The team continually attacks their neighbor Carl and employs him as their driver.

While a sizable part of the audience, as Mr. Pickles' best, it still offers numerous laughable moments, and the DVD has an open mind. The plot has no linear basis and basically consists of sexual humor and raunchy wit.

In a sense, this show is highly recommended to this group of songs that travel through the travails of life, including their fight with "Mr. Pickles".

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**Hest begins week-by-week musical journey**

Austin Crane produces powerful, meaningful music that stands out

Michael Aguilar

There is a tradition that has seemingly lost its place in the music world—the craft of the singer-songwriter. While you can find one here or there in a John Mayer, an Amos Lee or even a James Blunt, the music industry has struggled to give it up to its past success in the genre.

Looking back the days of Bob Dylan, Neil Drake, Van Morrison, John Taylor and Paul Simon. Present are the days when Jones McCartney and Jagger opened the door to the popular perception of singer-songwriters.

One student at USC is dedicating his life to music or not, to change that perception. Austin Crane, a second-year economics student, is musically traveling through time to the late '60s and early '70s and producing meaningful, encouraging and powerful music.

It all started for Crane early in life. When his parents bought him his first guitar, from there on out he found it difficult to put the instrument down.

"I started playing guitar when I was about 11," Crane said. "And then I probably started playing in coffee shops and stuff like that about four years ago."

Time has passed quickly for Crane when it comes to his musical career. There was a two-year time frame from the time he bought his first guitar to when he began playing regularly and from there it was only a little over four years before Crane was able to put together a demo.

That demo, Crane said, brought in a little extra money in his pocket and more his music began to change. It was something for people to pay attention to.

He spent most of the two years from when he demo came out to the summer after his first year at USC wandering around coffee shops and coffee houses with his guitar.

However, that summer he knew he was ready for more.

"I had been talking with [Paul] McCartney, [Wayne] Mando, producer of Crane's New York album and one of last year's Hest. Crane said: "You gotta keep going, you gotta do a full album. So kind of fast forward to this year, we recorded it at the end of September, beginning of October."

Apparently, Crane wasn't ready to record his album at the end of last year, he was definitely ready this year.

The album "I Know My Hand," which was released Nov. 9, is a triumphant group of tunes that travel through the travails of life, in college and in music.

For several of the songs, Crane is using the guitar but roots behind in favor of a first current or USC student: Nathaniel Poole on electric bass and Nathan Poole on electric.
USC student Austin Crane brings the music with his album "I Know My Hands."

Murphy collects Razzies

After breakout roles, 'Norbit' derailed former funnyman

Lamarr Smith

The Daily Gamecock

Whether or not he meant it to, Austin Crane is creating something that people would take a hold of whether they like it or not. He hopes it would be something they listen to. I would hope that it makes people think. I don't want something that makes no statement. "I would hope that it's an honest album," said. "I would hope that it's an honest album." He is certain to drop a "Illusion's" other tricks to awesome. Show this and other illusions few jaws. The game details your trick library into two bundles with the game. The actor, who recently split with Tracy Edmonds 14 days after their "wedding," is a sure bet to appear at Thursday's event. Saenz will be playing Feb. 7 at the New Broadand Tavern in West Columbia. If you are looking for a relaxed concert, Saenz will no doubt deliver a soft rock mood.

There is a hole in the bucket, dear Liza.

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CRANE Continued from 6

The songs with a full band only add to the intimacy of those songs without one. Crane's voice uniquely works through the sounds of his guitar and bass, along with Police's work on the lap steel in songs such as the title track, "December" and "Me and the Bones."

However, the full band brings an element to the table that Crane has yet to work with. In songs such as "Junkyard," "In the Morning" and "Blame it on the Weather," a full sound and a tight band chemistry are on display and Crane's thought-provoking and beautifully written lyrics weave their way into the music just as effectively as in his more stripped-down work. Whether or not he meant it to, Crane has certainly brought a refreshing, new look at one of the oldest styles of music. While he brings life back into the style of singer-songwriter, he is also breathing life into the Colomba music scene. Including a show that Friday at Watershed Books in Lexington, Crane is finally giving Colomba music enthusiasts something to be excited about. A lot of the ideas [on the album] are things that I've struggled with," Crane said. "I would hope that it would be an honest album, something that makes people think. I don't want to think that I'm creating this piece of art that is purely pleasing or makes people sit in thought when they listen to it. I would hope it would be something that people would take a hold of whether they like it for what it says or for how it sounds."

"Seven Dollars" is one of the more country-influenced tracks. Songs like this are what earn him a biography on theCountry Music Television Web site. He elaborates his words, stretching the neck of the track, following behind a classic strumming prevalent in the majority of his melodies. The song "All Grown Up" matches itself toward the end of the album. Saenz attempts to find some new vocal notes that fail to execute anything above his normal range. It tries to add some electric guitar, immensely; he can obviously sing, but is handicapped in his scale, another aspect that causes the album to have little variety. Saenz doesn't go from one end of the scale to the other with his song styles; they all tend to fall into the category of "just right," never too fast or too slow. But this makes the 45-minute album seem to take four hours.

But what should I fix it with, dear Liza?

There are notable attempts, like in "A Touch is All," as well as a few other songs, which add the element of a background drummer; guitar riff. Yet even those don't much other than get one hopes up. Wrong Guy" also tries to add a striking guitar strumming with its opening, but being the first song of the album, it's easily forgotten as a variation among the tracks. The rhythm drums also play a part in making this song a recommended listen, and in even ties in the title of the entire work in the lyrics. Regardless, it should be his upcoming and upcoming tour. Saenz will be playing Feb. 7 at the New Broadand Tavern in West Columbia. If you are looking for a relaxed concert, Saenz will no doubt deliver a soft rock mood.

CHRISTIAN CRANE brings the music with his album "I Know My Hands."

MARIO CONTINUED FROM 6

There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza.

When listening to the complete album, it's easy to find yourself bored. The songs run together, leaving someone who may not have a very keen sense of hearing this album. This is illuminated due to the poor articulation throughout the entire CD. His lyrics are worth listening to, but listening to them becomes the actual problem. Blame the southern accent, if your singing style, but without cramping your toes, caviardropping, the songs are hard to follow.

His first single from the album, "Pocket of Red," is no doubt one of the best on the album. It has more energy than the other songs, with a stronger piano arrangement and background vocals that tie the chorus together. His singles have the opportunity for great success; his songs could do well standing alone.

USC student Austin Crane brings the music with his album "I Know My Hands."

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The scene at USC

BRUCE & LISA WETHY
Viola & Piano
7:30 p.m., $8
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 6922 St. Andrews Rd.

ISAELLE'S QUIZ, BLACK TUSK, 6:10
SPLIT, SLED, THE SKUDS
p.m., $5
New Broadland Tavern, 122 State St.

DELHIUM TRIBAL BELLODYANCE
8 p.m., Free
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

NEVERBEITER, DEATHVALLEY DRIVER, THE CARRIES
8 p.m., $8
Back at the Balmoral, 849 Greenville Ave.

THE RASSELING LIMITED
6 and 8 p.m., $7.50
Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.

THE THING ABOUT MEN
9 p.m., Free
Russell House Theater

THINKFAST GAME SHOW
9:30 p.m., Free
Russell House Bar

GEORGE STRAIT, LITTLE BIG TOWN, SARAH JOHNS
7:30 p.m., $56.50 - $66.50
The Colonial Center, 801 Lincoln St.

ROSS & THE BLACKS
8 and 10 p.m., $5
Russell House Theater

SPLIT, SLED, THE SKUDS
8 p.m., $5
Russell House Theater

ISABELLE'S GIFT, BLACK TUSK, 6 10
SPLIT, SLED, THE SKUDS
p.m., $5
New Broadland Tavern, 122 State St.

CAROLINA AFTER DARK
10 p.m., Free
Russell House Bar

RATATOUILLE
7:30 p.m., $8
Russell House Theater

WE OWN THE NIGHT
9 p.m., Free
Russell House Theater

Aries
The work you're doing now is developing into a nice routine. Don't complain; it'll go much faster as a result. And you're gaining experience you can use as a leader.

Taurus
You're feeling lucky, and well you should be, especially in romantic matters. Don't try it with your money, though. That would be the most expensive thing just for this. Don't forget that you have skills that the others lack. Show respect, but also show them what needs to be done. You'll earn their admiration.

Gemini
You're gaining experience faster as a result. And don't be stopped. You like your life depends on it. Don't ignore a critic, even if this person means no harm, because somebody wants it. Postpone taking decisions for a moment. Reserve all ideas about what you should do. Everybody's got great ideas about what you should do. You, however, are paying for this. Don't forget that for a moment. Reserve all decision-making for yourself. Libra
Postpone taking action; it's a little premature. Investigate more options before you make your choice. You may find something you like better. Scorpio
You're strangely confident, even though you haven't quite won yet. One reason is, you know you have support from your good friends. Give thanks.

Sagittarius
You're encountering resistance, possibly from inside your own head. You don't want to do, or perhaps, you aren't quite sure how. Overcome your fears and win a worthy prize. Capricorn
Far distant places interest you, but you shouldn't go quite yet. Finish an important job first. Important people are watching.

Aquarius
Don't buy the most expensive thing just for this. Don't forget that you have skills that the others lack. Show respect, but also show them what needs to be done. You'll earn their admiration.

Pisces
You're strangely confident, even though you haven't quite won yet. One reason is, you know you have support from your good friends. Give thanks.
The Carolina Gamecocks (6-8, 1-3 SEC) will travel to Lexington, Ky., Saturday for the first of two regular-season meetings with Kentucky Wildcats (8-9, 2-2 SEC) who in a team in transition. Kentucky suffered their second round loss to Kansas in the 2007 NCAA Tournament. Long-time head coach Tubby Smith resigned in post, then later accepted the coaching job at Mississippi State.

To replace him, Kentucky brought in Florida's Billy Donovan to take over as the new head coach. Donovan will likely still be the most defined team this season. He brought in over $2 million a year, the SEC power rankings, from a Final Four, Tiger.

Prior to the Wildcats’ upset of then No. 5 Carolina into the SEC have not seen early results of his first foray over $2 million a year, the Gillespie may still be worth lured highly-touted Billy Donovan this offseason, but his star players from his team this season. (Kentucky’s) pressure defense that is just as good if not better than Florida’s, and a strong effort on the glass a team in the league’s most balanced, 10 rebounders per game and had 12 rebounders at the SEC.

The Carolina Gamecocks

Coach Tommy Amaker, who is a team in the view of a Gamecock. SEC power rankings, from a Final Four, Tiger.

The women’s basketball team suffered a 66-67 defeat by top-ranked Kentucky Wildcats on Thursday night at Rupp Arena. UK drops to 11-8 overall, 0-4 in SEC.

The first half started out in a defensive struggle with USC up 8-2 five minutes into the game. The SEC teams came out flat and committed more turnovers than they made shots. UK shot an identical 33 percent from the field making only eight field goals each. UK had three more free throws for the second half. UK will be in contention for the second half. In the first half, both teams combined for only seven assists versus twenty-seven turnovers.

Coach Susan Walvius held the Gamecocks off the court and came out well and executed its defensive plan. Coach Walvius said, “That is the way we will play every game. Really get out and deny passing and not allow ball reversal.”

At the beginning of the upcoming season, both teams traded talkers and were tired from less time off. Kentucky broke the tie with a huge, decisive 16-5 run to finish the first half in the game. UK has the Bulldogs.

The Arkansas Razorbacks are the only team (13-5, 4-0 SEC) in the league’s most balanced, 10 rebounders per game and had 12 rebounders at the SEC.

For the first time since Tuscaloosa, the Bulldogs.

Ten nessee (16-2, 3-1 SEC) is this is probably the SEC’s best team. The Volunteers are a tough team to pin down. Vandy will go against the Bulldogs.

The Gamecocks have already dropped a game to Tennessee, 91-74 in Knoxville, so it’s unlikely Carolina will go in without a fight in Knoxville in early March.

Florida (17-3, 4-1 SEC) – Billy Donovan has this team with a very solid basketball and the Gators are still in with a shot in the SEC South.

In a defensive struggle with the third-ranked Gamecocks, South Carolina faced Savannah State University Saturday night in the Colonial Center.

The USC swimming and diving team hosted the Florida State Seminoles. The men’s and women’s teams took first place in last weekend’s tri-meet at Davidson College. The women captured their second SEC win of the season opener. The team advanced just one singles player and a doubles team into the second round.

Winning at home but losing two consecutive games in the SEC.

The USC swimming and diving team hosted the Florida State Seminoles. The men’s and women’s teams took first place in last weekend’s tri-meet at Davidson College. The women captured their second SEC win of the season.

The Gamecocks lost a close one in Nashville during the SEC opener, so a win when Vandy comes to Columbia will be big for the Gamecocks.

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The Crimson Tide is a young team that is playing consistently well and is improving as a team.

The Gamecocks host Florida in the Colonial Center on Sunday at 3 p.m.

The Gamecocks will face Savannah State for the first time since the 2004-2005 season.

The Gamecocks have dropped two tough SEC games to Mississippi State and Auburn. Mississippi State is a team that always makes you work for a win. Carolina should hope to get a split against the Bulldogs.

The Crimson Tide is a young team that is playing consistently well and is improving as a team.

South Carolina-based athletes are that team is winning on the road. Guard Chris Williams is a leading candidate for the SEC Freshman of the Year. South Carolina must travel to Mississippi this season. On the road.

Tennessee, 91-74 in Knoxville, so it’s unlikely Carolina will go in without a fight.

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