Obama: Let’s get to work
Presidential hopeful shares plans for America’s future

Chesley Hadaway

Thousands of people flooded the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center to hear presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama speak Friday. Surrounded by an energetic crowd touting like Obama’s ‘08 signs, the stage in the middle of the room and was not by a wave of cheer.

“I am overwhelmed and overjoyed to be here in South Carolina,” Obama said. This was his first campaign event in the state since his Feb. 10 announcement to run for president.

Obama’s charismatic speaking style carried the image with the dirty image of America with the dirty image of politics, he talked about the war in Iraq.

“Before driving into heavier issues, Obama talked about the decision to go to war.”

“On my pr...
**Presidential candidates**

**Nick Payne**
Third-year economics student

- **Home town:** Lexington
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Elected to be USC Student Body senator.
- **Board of Trustees last challenge:** Philanthropy

**Chase Stoudenmire**
Third-year history student

- **Home town:** Greenville
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Senator for the college of arts and sciences. Served as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

**Vice-presidential candidates**

**Allen Klump**
Third-year political science/philosophy student

- **Home town:** Simpsonville
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Member of Student Senate

**Jay Laura**
Third-year international studies student

- **Home town:** Greenville
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Congressman advisory board member

**Treasurer candidates**

**Alesha Brown**
Second-year political science student

- **Home town:** Charleston
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Student Government treasurer

**John Carroll**
Third-year public relations student

- **Home town:** Akron
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Freshman council representative

**Sasha Noorani**
Third-year international business/finance student

- **Home town:** Center, Ohio
- **Political experience/qualifications:** Served on president's cabinet as the presidential affairs liaison

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**Center for Southern African-American Music**

Celebrate Black History

with USC Jazz Studies & The Auntie Karen Foundation

February 22, 2007
2:00 - 3:00 PM

FREE to all students

USC School of Music Recital Hall

Masterclass with Jazz Legend Patti Austin
accomplishments for students

“Government trumpets as will come here,” she said. “Little brothers and sisters that Entsminger said. “Does change student life, anything, maybe I’d vote.”

“But I found out they didn’t,” said Poirel. “I voted in my first election because they don’t realize they play a role in Student Government, but I voted because they ‘don’t feel uninformed about the policy’ Entsminger said. “I want to say how much we appreciate the strangers who gave us money Curry is thankful for all those who have supported the ministry through its recent fundraiser. The ministry plans to conduct another fundraiser, sell more T-shirts and provide more service. ‘I want to say how much we appreciate the strangers who gave us money Curry said. ‘That’s a big deal to us to help kids have it to buy gifts for a group of children staying in the Richmond County Hospital on Sunday. ‘When we went to the hospital, the kids were really happy,’ said Carol Poirel. “She said it’s important to vote, “I feel like it would be a disservice if I voted,” he said. “But about the capacity of this country to change,” Obama said. “I am here because I believe In America.” He referenced a Martin Luther King Jr. quote about the arc of the moral universe, adding that it is the citizen’s job to help bend that arc to justice.

“South Carolina, let’s do it work,” Obama said.

“Election” Continued from 1

“Okay, I want everyone to vote,” Entsminger said. But she said she understands that some students don’t vote because they “don’t feel they play a role in Student Government and think it doesn’t affect them.”

“Students don’t ‘care because they don’t realize what Student Government does,” she said. “It affects them in their daily lives.”

Anna Dillard, a third-year international studies student, and she isn’t voting this year, though she voted in her first two years at USC. “I voted when I thought Student Government accomplished something, but then I found out they didn’t,” Dillard said. “If they ever did anything, maybe I’d vote.”

“Student Government does change student life, Entsminger said. “It will affect you and your little brothers and sisters that will come here,” she said. Some recent issues Student Government trumpets as accomplishments for students

include a grade forgiveness policy Entsminger said the Elections Commission “shouldn’t have to convince people to vote — they should really want to.”

Several students said they don’t vote because they feel uninformed about the candidates. An executive officer debate on Georgia Street was held when many students had class and students running for Senate generally don’t have the resources to make a big investment in a campaign, she said. “When we went to the hospital, the kids were really happy,” said Carol Poirel. “She said it’s important to vote, “I feel like it would be a disservice if I voted,” he said.

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“South Carolina, let’s do it work,” Obama said.
Democrats should drop cold stance on abortion

Cruel advertising, other callous moves make jokes of precious human lives

Last week, USC’s Students for Life club raised money for a Columbia crisis pregnancy center. Such centers provide women with free services, such as counseling, to help them decide to keep or put up for adoption. Richars, Lenny Watson, president of the crisis pregnancy center, says that in the past this type of center has typically been underfunded and overcrowded.

"The world truly is upside down. We're here to help as many people as possible," Watson said. "We want to offer a wide selection to those who are in need of our services."

About the Daily Gamecock

The Daily Gamecock (www.dailygamecock.com) is a weekly student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Trustees and the publisher of the Daily Gamecock are responsible for this newspaper's editorial content. This content is not those of the University of South Carolina. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student-activity fees.

PAYTONS

VOTE OR HAVE NO RIGHT TO ARGUE WITH POLICIES

In case you didn't know, today is the first day to vote for Student Government elections on VIP. Voting online is just as easy as stalking that secret admirer. Take a couple of seconds out of your afternoon nap or Facebook marathon to do your civic duty as a student.

Students complain that Student Government doesn't do anything. This is your chance to have a say, and when do they want you to hold them accountable.

Help break the stigma that our generation doesn't care about anything.

This year's candidates offer a wide selection to choose from, and there are some good, new ideas for this university. Whether you choose to vote for Nick Payne or Chase Stoudenmire for president, at least you've let your voice be heard.

Last year only 3,600 students voted in the elections. Last week only 3,600 students voted in the elections. This is your chance to have a say, and when do they want you to hold them accountable.

For Student Government elections on VIP.

Vote or have no right to argue with policies.

STRAIGHT OUT OF RIGHT FIELD

Two cases turning world upside down

Obama answers with refreshing candor

Senators speak frankly about drug use, urging in age of honest politics

Columbia Democrats will release a parade of political propaganda this month, and this past weekend's guest was Barack Obama. Not since John F. Kennedy has America seen a presidential candidate with the ability to capture so much attention.

Most people may be leading in the polls, but Barack Obama has managed to bag the media spotlight. A spate of speeches included a recent "50 Minutes" interview in which Obama discussed the major issues and causes of his past. Most politicians avoided talking about past drug use, but Obama was praised and condemned by some. His child was reportedly put up for adoption in his youth, and even more. Obama goes further and admits that while in high school and college he contemplated heroin.

For many this would seem to be political suicide to admit these types of mistakes in one's past. However, after seeing Obama's "50 Minutes" interview I found myself getting greater respect for him. Not only was he able to share his past with the public, he also used it to do it right.

During the interview Obama asked if he regretted being caught for past drug use. Obama answered, "I think that some of the things about national politics is this attempt to airbrush your past, and it's exhausting, you know. This is who I am. This is who I grew up being. This is who I experimented with drugs. This is who I feel some confusion but also the hope that revealing these mistakes can allow others to see the ability to overcome their own.

Finally, we have a presidential candidate who is willing to admit mistakes in his past. Obama is realistic about his errors and plans. No baseball teams or cabinet — instead a man learning from the errors of his past and working beyond them. If Obama takes this path I won't have to worry about him lying to me. For a change, I won't have to worry about weapons of mass destruction.

Don't get me wrong, Obama still has a great deal of explaining to do, especially since several weeks ago he was telling us he didn't want to run for president. What changed his mind? Will Obama's popularity blow up like Kirstie Alley,1 or will he be able to weather this storm and run for president?

For generations the highest standards involves utmost moral fiber and inner strength. That standard has changed in recent generations, from Marilyn Monroe to Winfrey and now to Obama. Will we have an age of voters who appreciate everything and believe very little said by their president. The hope is that after being convinced the dream is done, that doesn't mean we need to settle for less. Perhaps we're entering a new chapter in presidential history — one where presidents no longer need to pretend.
Murphy’s career returns to its roots

“Dreamgirls” reflects vulgarity and liveliness of actor’s early stand-up; Oscar nod comes for a role he doesn’t perform very often

He provoked the stage in skintight red pants, making gay jokes and dropping a reported 230 F bombs in a single standup routine. But that was the old Eddie Murphy, or rather, the brash, young Eddie Murphy. No Oscar nomination, no career collapse and rebirth, no talking donkey. Just a hungry, profane comedian who makes you drop a jaw and bust a gut.

"Delirious," the ever-inspirational inspiration for the old Eddie Murphy’s approach, but the director has this neat little ability to make out of subplots and do it well without you having to die with Hollywood political messages.

"Babel" could easily border on melodrama like “Crash” and “21 Grams,” “Babel” is a stirring, emotional tale about himself. The same split instinct that all hinge together on a larger plot point. Naturally, when Sophie (Cate Blanchett) and her Britney Spears-ish wife (Rinko Kikuchi) leaves Morocco, and Brad Pitt plays her husband. The shooting into stirring, emotional tale of medical assistance. The shooting happens, and now familiar PG-13 limits of an R rating. The next morning, the F word to appeal to more, he's approached by a monster tagline of a Freddy Krueger “Babel is Mexican film directing Alejandro González Iñárritu most recent release. Iñárritu is presently nominated for a Best Director Academy Award for his work on “Babel,” and the film itself is nominated for Best Picture.

The film follows singer Alex Fletcher (Grant), who used to be ridiculously famous, but has since spiraled down doing gigs at amusement parks and letting his fame fade away. Echoed by the condition of his half- dead homeless, the former front man of an obviously Wham!-inspired hand called Pop! is irresistibly pathetic and charming. As he begins to participate in a reality show on 80s has-beens, he’s approached by a young wannabe “Carrie Conran (Bennett), who wants him to write a song for her upcoming album. What should he do? To give in to his age and the contrast between his old-school style and the Wham!-inspired band, he agrees to do the job, and studies to discover that his novice talent as a lyricist leaves him feeling even worse about himself. Not a Naomi, but Sophie Fisher (Barrymore), herself the ice cream man.

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Hugh Grant and Drew Barrymore star as frustrated writers who fall in love with each other while writing a pop song in the new romantic comedy “Music and Lyrics.”

For a cute, mediocre tearjerker littered with clichés and flawlessly orchestrated romantic moments, “Music and Lyrics” is surprisingly fun to watch. It is a refreshing twist on the typical unhealthy, couple-takes-perfect-scheme romance that it won’t factor into any awards consideration.

Though the film is something of a departure from the usual feel-good musical fare, it is also a bit too much in the genre-appropriate cheesiness that comes with the typical rom-com package. It’s also somewhat humorous that Fey and Piven are playing on the stereotypes of the record store where Fletcher laments on his own solo album collecting dust.

Comments on this story? Email gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu

To be plain and clear, this is not the kind of movie that’s going to win any awards. Thanks to this approach to character development, coupled with murder, it’s unlikely that anyone would leave the theater feeling any way but relieved.

It’s also somewhat more than award-worthy. Musicians leave characters stranded all over the place, even the subject of the film, Piven, with no idea where things are going. His character is a young pop star who has become a success with vehicles like “Beverly Hills, 90210,” “Brooklyn,” “Showtime” and, now, “Norbit.”

In other words, Murphy’s rise and fall and rise didn’t include a whole lot of stops or detours in “Dreamgirls” territory. His first Oscar nomination, significantly, comes for a role and a movie that stand for very little of his career at this point.

What would the young man in the red suit have to say about that? Hard to say. But he can rest easy with the knowledge that he will include a whole lot of stops or detours in “Dreamgirls” territory.

Your first career decision just got easier!

Visit us at the CareerFest
Wednesday, February 21, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Columbia Convention Center

Make an easy transition from college to a career at Vanguard, where we consider your professional growth to be one of our best investments.

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1. More adorable
6. Charger
11. Econ. meas.
14. Creative Muse
15. Medical prefix
16. “Norma __”
17. Kin of building blocks
20. Hang behind
21. Film critic Pauline
22. Medium’s milieu
24. Vamoose!
26. “Airplane!” star Robert
28. Monotonous routine
29. Bronx university
32. “__ brillig...”
35. Calyx segment
38. In matched pairings
40. Annual golf tourneys
43. Spherical
44. Successor of Tiberius
46. Speeder catcher
47. Jack up
48. Baloney!
51. Make a move
53. Pin box
54. Writer Ogden
58. My, my, my
61. With skill
63. Former PanAm rival
64. Classic Olds
65. Classic runabout
68. Gallery filler
69. Major artery
70. Twosomes
71. __ Alamos, NM

**DOWN**

1. Prison chambers
2. Bathsheba’s husband
3. Ballroom dance
4. Flap
5. Chess piece
6. Singer O’Connor
7. Hunt call
8. Ike’s command
9. Work units
10. Medicine-giver
11. “American Gothic” painter
12. DEA operative
13. French father
14. Bert the Cowardly Lion
23. German highway
25. Belonging to the same class
29. Brooks of “High Anxiety”
31. Cassini
33. Latin handle
34. Nostradamus, for one
35. Being as stated
36. Actor Morales
37. Speckled pattern
39. One-third of a WWII movie?
41. Crux
42. Slide sideways
45. Fertility goddess
49. Axle cover
50. __ E. Coyote
52. Mulberry bark
55. Courtyards
56. Under oath
57. Ship measure
58. Spoken
59. Rescuer
60. Public disorder
62. Jabbers
66. Make a mistake
67. Stadium cheer
68. Gallery filler

**Whiteboard**

- By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock

- By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

- By Brandon Davis / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

President candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., greets supporters during a rally before giving a speech at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center Friday.

The Daily Gamecock • MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2007

**PIC OF THE DAY**

**HOROSCOPES**

**Aries** You still have a lot on your mind. It’s becoming less of a burden. You’re sorting through all the pros and cons.

**Taurus** Others seek your opinion, and you can see how they might need it. Sometimes it looks to you like they don’t have a lick of sense.

**Gemini** Although you feel sure you’re right, appear to be listening intently. Be respectful.

**Cancer** You’re losing interest in making sure you have enough on hand. Don’t forget to wrap things up well.

**Leo** Continue to sort through the numbers. Pretend it’s a job you like. You’re actually pretty good at it now.

**Virgo** You soundly take over the tough part, for a while. You scan for errors and helpfully point them out.

**Libra** The work is certainly plentiful, and maybe even fun. There’s not much money from it yet. Don’t spend more on it than you’ll earn.

**Scorpio** You’re very attractive now, and very persuasive, too. Therefore, you don’t need to throw your money around.

**Sagittarius** You’re often the life of the party, the star of the show. You have permission now to be invisible to all but your close family.

**Capricorn** You’re so immersed in your studies, you hardly notice time going by. Today, the startling development is found through your research.

**Aquarius** If at first you don’t succeed, review your shopping list. There are several items on there you can do without.

**Pisces** You’re very intelligent but inhibited by tunnel vision. Rely on your own experience in a similar situation.

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- HARRIET
- HUSSAR
- INDIAN
- JAGUAR
- MAIDEN
- MINERVA
- NAUTILUS
- ORANGE
- PARADE
- PIONEER
- PIONEER STAR
- PILGRIM
- QUEEN
- RESOLUTION
- RIVERINE
- ROAMER
- ROYAL
- TARGOS
- TERRY
- WASHINGTON
- WOLFSBAD
- WOLF PACK
- YORK

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- By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock

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**Crossword**

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Brought to you by:

Solutions from Friday Crossword

**TODAY**

“JONESTOWN: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF PEOPLE’S TEMPLE”
Nickelsodum Theatre
957 Main St.
7 p.m. and 9 p.m.
$5.50 for students

**TUESDAY**

ACOUSTIC NIGHT
New Brookland Tavern
122 State St.
7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

VIRGINIA COALITION, JAG STAR
Headliners
700 Gervais St. 8 p.m., $8 advance, $10 doors

**THURSDAY**

THE PHYSICS OF MEANING, THE TEETH
The (art) Garage 728 S. Edisto St.

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Carolina obliterates Tennessee

Gamecocks find some retribution, end losing streak by thrashing Vols

Michael Frongone
THE GUM HAWKER

Thousands of Carolina fans left the Colonial Center in a state of shock Saturday afternoon, and not because USC lost its first SEC game since its 106-game win streak was broken by Tennessee in 1949.

The Gamecocks had won four straight, while the Vols had dropped seven in a row, and the most they could have anticipated from the SEC opener was a split. Instead, USC won, 11-2, and its winning streak improved to five games.

USC moved its record back above .500 on the year overall and back to 1-0 in the conference at 6-6.

USC was led once again by its senior point guard and SEC Player of the Year candidate Tre’ Kelley who finished with 25 points and five assists, including an 8-10 shooting from the free throw line. It was Kelley’s fourth consecutive game scoring over 20 points.

The story of the game, however, was the play of his supporting cast. Dominique Ariche continued his strong play, scoring in double figures for the second straight game with 11 points. He filled out the rest of the stat sheet, collecting six boards, four assists, one block and two steals.

Senior guard Bryce Sheldon added 16 points and freshman guard Brandy Riley-Ross broke out of his bared-shooting slump to get 12 points.

Odom was very pleased with Riley-Ross play. “He’s gone through one of the great droughts since the Nile dried up,” Odom said. “It’s good to see him break it again.”

Odom said he also hopes Riley-Ross can use this game to regain his confidence and help the basketball team to regain his confidence and help the basketball team.

The Cats served up

The Citadel was led

THE CATALDE SERVES UP

just lost one game in Charleston.

Three scoreless innings.

The rally was started afte

USC drops first contest

The Citadel serves up just lost one game in Charleston.

The Cats served up

just lost one game in Charleston.

Three scoreless innings.

The rally was started afte
Prize Patrol Schedule

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<td>Bates House Gameroom lobby</td>
<td>Patterson Lobby</td>
<td>Sims Classroom 001</td>
<td>McBride Building C-West</td>
</tr>
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<td>7 pm</td>
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SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN
Feb. 25 Russell House 7 pm

VOTE On VIP

To Vote:
1) Log onto vip.sc.edu
2) Enter Student ID and PIN #
3) Click Personal tab
4) Select Student Body Elections
5) VOTE!

Monday, Feb. 19 & Tuesday, Feb. 20

Write-In Ballots available in RH 227 from 9am-4pm
Questions: EC@gwm.sc.edu

Your mission: Have a voice. Vote.
Find candidate info at www.sg.sc.edu
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Seeking 1/M @ University Oaks.

M/seeks/1 rmmte

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Clean & Quiet 2BR 1BA APT.

WALK TO USC/SHANDON

1 blk from USC. Free util.

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