A berth in the Orange Bowl is out of the question for Gamecock football this year, but that doesn't mean Cocky isn't setting his sights on his own national championship. The big-beaked bird is currently placed third out of 12 contestants in the Capital One Mascot Challenge.

The contest, which is now in the final week of the regular season, pits some of the most spirited mascots in college sports against each other in weekly matchups of in-person and online voting. Some mascots are vying to win certain prizes, but others are simply looking for a chance to be recognized.

One of the prize categories is the Fan's Choice Award, which is awarded to the mascot that receives the most votes from fans. The Fan's Choice Award is a way for fans to show their support for their favorite mascot and to help determine which mascots will advance to the next round of the competition.

Cocky, the Carolina Gamecock mascot, is one of the mascots that is currently in the running for the Fan's Choice Award. He is currently placed third out of 12 contestants in the Capital One Mascot Challenge, and he is vying for a chance to win the Fan's Choice Award.

Cocky is a beloved mascot for University of South Carolina's Gamecock football team. He has been a part of the team for over 50 years, and he is known for his big beak and his love of cheering on the Gamecocks to victory.

Despite Cocky's popularity, the Capital One Mascot Challenge is a fierce competition, and there are many other mascots vying for the Fan's Choice Award. Some of the other mascots that are currently in the running include Smokey (Tennessee), Buster (Boise State), and Michael the Kangaroo (University of Akron).

To vote for Cocky, fans can visit the Capital One Mascot Challenge website and cast their votes. The Fan's Choice Award is a way for fans to show their support for their favorite mascot and to help determine which mascots will advance to the next round of the competition.

In closing, Cocky, and not only will I uphold the Carolinian Creed, not only will I work 100 percent to make the Gamecocks of this historic university.
Today @ USC

10:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Fonnie for the City
Galentine Street

SUNDAY

11 a.m. — 12:15 p.m.
Hill of the Lord church
service

Rutledge Chapel

6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
On-Campus Worship Room

RH, Room 303

8 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Night Alive
RH, Room 205

MONDAY

4 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Franzoni Cultural Exchange meeting
RH, Room 315

5 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Industrial Health Committee meeting
RH, Room 302

6:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Indoor Cultural Exchange meeting
RH, Room 203

7 a.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Red Cross Club meeting
RH, Room 104

7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Associated Student Pre-Health Students
RH, Room 211

7 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Feminist Majority Leadership
RH, Room 303

8 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.
Annenemy International meeting
Calton 101

8 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.
BGLSA Meeting
RH, Room 205

TUESDAY, NOV 18

7:30 a.m. — 8:30 a.m.
Columbia Fall Bike Rake, 981 Barnett
The victim said an unknown subject used an object to cut the cable lock securing her bike and stole her bicycle.

Total value: $70

Reporting officer: N. Peter

Simple possession of marijuana, 7:51 p.m.

Lis House, 1421 Whaley St.

Crime Report

The complainant said an odor of marijuana was detected coming from a room in the building. After questioning, Canton Farris Corrigan, opened openly admitted to smoking marijuana. She surrendered a pipe and a plastic bag containing a green leafy substance. Corrigan was arrested and transported to the Aiken S. Glenn Detention Center.

Total amount: 6.5 grams

Reporting officer: C. Thompson

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The 3-year-old tempered who was found dead in a cement block — he weighed less than 20 pounds, even after doctors cut out of an enlarged kidney. Nearby, a 4-year-old girl was found, still attached to a strap attached to a tale, her wide eyes lifeless, her emaciated arms dangling weekly.

In pockets of Haiti accessible only by donkey, children are dying of malnutrition — their already meager food supply cut by a series of devastating storms that destroyed crops, wiped out livestock andsent food provision. At least 26 severely malnourished children have died in the past four weeks in the remote region of Bar iod Orange in Haiti’s southeast, aid workers said Thursday, and there are fears the toll will rise much higher if help doesn’t come quickly.

Another 65 severely malnourished children are being treated in makeshift tents in the mountainous area, or at hospitals where aid workers said they were evacuated in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere, where aid workers said they were evacuated in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere, where aid workers said they were evacuated in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere.

One evacuee, a 7-year-old girl, died while being treated, Cocos said, adding: “The situation is extremely, extremely fragile and dangerous.”

At a makeshift children’s hospital in the mountainous area, 25 malnourished children were under emergency care Thursday, their stomachs swollen and their faces frayed by pigmentation loss caused by malnutrition. Several had the pupy faces typical of kwashiorkor, a protein-deficiency disorder.

Mediterranean Restaurant & Bar
Come enjoy our delicious dishes, appetizers, wine & spirits

Tabouli

Diners who visit Nandos’s on 930 Gervais Street in the Vista can order a variety of delicious, including flame, served tableside in a burst of flame.

Los Angeles — The mother of a Missouri girl who committed suicide being targeted by an Internet bullying on Thursday that she was unaware that her daughter had posed as a 16-year-old girl while allegedly crying to chat online with boys.

Tina Meier has said she had monitored 95 percent of the online activity of her 11-year-old daughter, Megan. Under questioning by defense attorney Dean Steward, Meier also said she did not recall a report from a psychologist that her daughter was portraying herself with sexual images during online activities.

“Doesn’t you remember her portraying herself as an 18-year-old?” Steward asked.

“No, I don’t,” Meier said.

The testimony came on the third day of the trial of Lori Drew, who is accused of comproming the then-13-year-old daughter, Sarah, and Drew’s then-18-year-old assistant, Ashley Grillo, to dream up a story and create a profile to find out what Megan was doing on MySpace.

Megan, who was being treated for depression and attention deficit disorder, committed suicide in 2006 after receiving cruel messages from a fictitious boy who provocous says was created as part of the hoax.

Drew has pleaded not guilty to one count of conspiracy and three counts of accessing computers without authorization. Each count carries a potential sentence of five years in prison.

It’s believed to be the nation’s first cyber-bullying trial and its results could set a legal precedent for dealing with the issue of online harassment.

Steward told jurors Drew violated the Computer Use and Fraud Act — used in the past to address computer hacking — and reminded the jury that the law does not apply to taking credit card charges dealing with the

In other testimony, Christina Chu, a hair stylist, testified that she was upset when Lori Drew told her she had helped set up a fake MySpace account to get back an unnerved girl.

Drew returned to the hair salon on the day of Megan’s suicide, and employees asked why she had done it and her family had decided to attend.

“It’s not like I pulled the trigger,” Chu quoted Drew as saying.
Meetings.”

and started attending vice president of SAGE the then-president and “That’s where I met studies and French student.

said Treasurer Tegan Plock, me want to join last year, ”

5,000 students from all over Washington, D.C. with over youth conference held in spring semester.

various environmentally- getting rid of Styrofoam include assisting Sodexo in most recent activities environmentally friendly as SAGE’s .

Advocating a Greener organization Students steps is due to the student these environmentally safe such as Earth Fare and the environmental organizations have included vendors and Carolina Productions.

Past Earth Day festivals have included vendors and environmental organizations such as Earth Fare and the Sierra Club. Last year’s festival also had a visit from Captain Planet, the club’s unofficial mascot.

SAGE works hard to maintain programs already in effect on campus, such as the recycling program. SAGE does a lot of work to make sure recycling bins are placed where they will be most effective as well as keeping signage up to date.

Budget cuts created a need for creative thinking,” said Public Relations Director Malia Griggs, a second-year media arts student.

SAGE’s main goal is to continually give students a voice on campus in the hopes that when students get involved things will happen, Plock and Griggs said.

SAGE meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Green Quad Learning Center.

If you would like more information about SAGE, you can either e-mail them at greenere@gwm.sc.edu or check out the Facebook group: SAGE (Students Advocating a Greener Environment).

Comments on this story? E-mail greenerebure@sc.edu
Thanksgiving importance marginalized in recent era

This upcoming Thursday is, of course, Thanksgiving. Snagging a seat at the holiday table with family and friends is a tradition cherished by many for generations. However, the way we celebrate Thanksgiving has evolved considerably in recent years. While some people might still associate Thanksgiving with a traditional holiday meal and family gathering, others view it as just another day of the year. President Obama’s decision to temporarily move Thanksgiving is just one of many recent changes that have diminished the holiday’s significance.

The tradition of Thanksgiving is rooted in the 17th century, when the Pilgrims and Wampanoag held a feast to celebrate the successful harvest. It has since become a cherished American holiday, celebrated with family, friends, and abundance. However, in recent years, Thanksgiving has faced challenges that have diminished its significance.

One of the most significant challenges to Thanksgiving’s importance is the increasing pressure from other holidays and events. As the calendar year has become more crowded, Thanksgiving has struggled to maintain its place as a major holiday. The holiday season, with its focus on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, has encroached on Thanksgiving, making it feel like just another day of the year. This is a particular concern for those who view Thanksgiving as the beginning of the holiday season.

In addition to the changing calendar, the way we celebrate Thanksgiving has also evolved. The traditional dinner with family and friends has given way to more casual gatherings, and many people now choose to celebrate Thanksgiving by participating in outdoor activities or spending time with friends. This has contributed to a sense of disconnect from the holiday’s original meaning.

As the holiday season becomes more crowded, it is essential to remember the true significance of Thanksgiving. It is a time to give thanks for the blessings in our lives and to reflect on the importance of family and community. While it is understandable that we want to make the most of the holiday season, we should not let the pressure of competition from other events diminish the importance of this cherished American tradition.

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Auto bailout sets bad precedent

Doling out government aid will only encourage companies to rely on federal help.

Right now the U.S. is in a crucial race. Facing a fawning of failed companies, our beleaguered economy seems poised to take another hit. As the government doles out federal aid to struggling companies, it must be sure to keep its hands off our economy. The United States needs to do everything possible to keep our domestic industry afloat. Companies that receive government aid must be held accountable for their decisions.

American car companies have failed repeatedly to respond to and accurately address the issues facing the car-buying public. Their foreign competitors, in no uncertain terms, have outperformed them by every economic measure. The market has spoken, and the companies that failed to respond to this new reality are no longer worth our support. Reckless investment and dubious loans naturally come with the tagline “high risk, high reward.” By giving bailouts to corporations that have low on their success rates and a track record of mismanagement, the government is effectively eliminating the high-risk part of this proposition. To set a precedent that makes such a speculative strategy “low risk, high reward” is an abysmal abuse of the economy.

This is a time when one of the few weaknesses of our governmental structure is wonderfully exploited. Because of the nature of the presidency, when Obama takes over January 20th, he will be holding the market to simply set their sights higher — and they are succeeding. Long-forgotten chumps have said to ask what we can do to help. The Brothas are spreading the word. Even former Gamecocks athletes are lending a helping hand. Though the reins are here, it’s too late to see what we can do to help.

The takeaway for every student organization is how they have reached this great achievement. Gamecocks saw a problem and went after it. They did not settle for any of the staid and established, or settle for anything different. They set a precedent that makes the market to drop. This is a reflection of the newest wave of the American economy. Obama isn’t sitting on the sidelines anymore. This is a reflection of the newest wave of the American economy. Obama is not sitting on the sidelines anymore.

The market is down 43 percent for the entire adventure took place in 2008. Pickens alone has lost $2 trillion over the years of strong donations, they decided to push themselves a little bit too far to see what sticks. Eventually the market will continue to do something with their capital. Eventually the market will continue to do something with their capital.

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Bridge between sixth, seventh
seasons of Fox show to air
Sunday before January return

Jimmy Ginmore

**Redemption**

It’s been over a year since the world has heard anything from Jack Bauer. Fans of Fox’s hit show “24” must get to come to two hours of Bauer action this Saturday when “Redemption” airs. The show is set to start at 8 p.m. The film finds Bauer (Kiefer Sutherland) in a new environment that is “a warm, inviting, hangout. The front area of the Five Points camera store opens doors to local photographers

Five Points camera store opens doors to local photographers with wide selection, inviting atmosphere, expertise

Johnny Warner THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The actual store features a wide variety of consignment and brand new. Sutherland clearly enjoys being back as Bauer, even if he’s not given many big moments in the special.

"Redemption" exists to show fans how the emotions and action scenes allow Bauer to show his talents and truth in these wild and varied settings.

"Redemption" is perhaps the most intense and action-packed episode in the show’s history. The episode features exciting action sequences in various settings, such as a town square, an underwater cave, and a high-rise building.

However, the episode also has moments of tension and suspense. Bauer’s journey through the various locations is filled with unexpected twists and turns, keeping viewers on the edge of their seats.

In conclusion, “Redemption” is a thrilling and action-packed episode of “24” that showcases the talents of its cast and crew. It is a must-see for fans of the show and will leave viewers excited for the future episodes to come. The episode is highly recommended for fans of action-packed dramas and intense storylines.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@sc.edu

Five Points area store is devoted to a lounge setting and community feel. Customers often express surprise when they opened up their shop in May.

Johnson and Robertson are working to create within F-Stop is “a warm, inviting atmosphere in the community where photographers can collaborate and talk to each other,” said co-owner Aaron Johnson.

His business partner, Grant Robertson, said that they are not so much about "art for art's sake" as they are about creating an environment where photographers can hang out. "The lounge is at the forefront, and the store is located behind it," Johnson explained.

Johnson explained that there is quite a large population of photographers in Columbia, but they are unaware of each other. "Sometimes people often express surprise upon learning that there are many other film photographers in the area, and Johnson and Robertson are working to change that."

They said the environment they hope to create within F-Stop is "a warm, inviting atmosphere, laid back and casual place to hang out."
The Rise of Science, who may be familiar with their strenuous touring schedule, will be opening up the first 30 seconds of the song and pick up tempo songs on the album. The guitars open the first music video for “Shortcomings Can Be Incompleteness.”

This Saturday, Eone, 1994, Seven Story Fall, Asher and the Quick will be opening for The Rise of Science’s official CD release show in Atlanta.

Comments on this story? E-mail gano@features@cva.edu

As the USC campus prepares for final exams, just blocks away there are mermaids swimming and kicking off the holiday season. Thursday marked the celebration of all things holiday with Vista Lights, an annual event held in Columbia’s Vista.

I came down because it's a great way to kind of get into the holiday spirit, the lighting of the lights is also a great time to walk around with your friends and just look out some of the restaurants,” said Sofia Diaz, a fourth-year business student.

The street festival attracts a broad range of Columbia’s citizens to showcase the special art galleries, merchants, and restaurants that have transformed what was once a ghostown into a thriving entertainment and retail destination.

Brenda Schwarz Miller, vice chair of the Arts Roundtable, a non-profit organization that showcased work at the event this year, had a good turnout of seasonal shoppers.

“This is not a lot of art buyers per se, but I did see a lot of families,” said Miller.

Brian Dokes, executive chef and general manager at Blue Marin, considers this year’s celebration a success in the midst of economic woes.

“I try to mix it up because there is a shelf life for every actress,” Friel, 32, said. “As soon as the lines (to the face) begin to appear, then you start to play the mee love story.

“I don’t know what I would do if I couldn’t act. So I decided to try and give myself longevity by being able to be a character actress rather than a pretty face.”

Her next film role, compared to “Pushing Daisies,” will be different as she plays the Sleestak. And there is a shelf life for any actress, Friel, 32, said. “As soon as the lines (to the face) begin to appear, then you start to play the mee love story.

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Inside the Box • By Matthew Lowrance / The Daily Gamecock

ARIES If you're not already working for yourself, you probably should be. You're knocking yourself out for low pay, and that's the way most entrepreneurs start out. TAURUS The sun's going into Sagittarius for the next four weeks. This is the area that brings emphasis to your financial holdings. GEMINI Start whatever it is that you're losing touch with. CANCER Your inhibitions and your terror of making mistakes. Keep at it. You're losing noticed, it can take a while. LEO Hurry and make a change, but it's not impossible. Think about the pros and cons. DOGcatalogue.com • Follow us on twitter.com/dogcatalogue... SCORPIO You can adopt your career now, and make a lot more money. This might involve making a change, but it's not impossible. Think about the pros and cons. CAPRICORN Friends can make a connection better than you can yourself. Luckily, you've been getting better at delegating responsibilities. That hasn't happened yet! AQUARIUS Conditions are changing in your favor. The next few weeks should be fun. Keep sorting through your expenses to see if there are any you can cut. PISCES By now you should have your plan just about used up. That last should almost be used up. Libra A behind-the-scenes negotiation works out well for you. This could be a trade or you get it free for hauling it away.

Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams
11/21/08

ACROSS
1. Stare stupidly
2. Camel competition
3. Hot of the cloth
4. Police officer, at times
5. Anticlimax
6. Tintinnabulate
7. Western mule
8. Tintinnabulate
9. Offended
10. Versailles
11. Very
12. Carved into wood
13. Flax and flax
14. Division word
15. Latin I lesson word
16. Offended
17. French king
18. Offended
19. Ears
20. Greek letter
21. Offended
22. 2nd section
23. Offended
24. Big daddy
25. Anticlimax
26. Carved into wood
27. Flax and flax
28. French king
29. Ears
30. Greek letter
31. Offended
32. Carved into wood
33. Flax and flax
34. French king
35. Ears
36. Greek letter
37. Offended
38. Carved into wood
39. Ears
40. Greek letter
41. French king
42. Flax and flax
43. Greek letter
44. Anticlimax
45. Ears
46. Greek letter
47. Carved into wood
48. Greek letter
49. Ears
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51. Greek letter
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61. Greek letter
62. Greek letter
63. Greek letter
64. Greek letter
65. Greek letter

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5. Railroad
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Solutions from 11/20/08

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

THE GUITAR SHOW BAND. THE DROWNOUT, THE FIRE TONIGHT, DANIEL MACHADO AND FRAMING HANLEY, ENTER THE ERA BANGKOK DANGEROUS

GROSS INDECENCY: THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE

The sun's going into Sagittarius for the next four weeks. This is the area that brings emphasis to your financial holdings. Cinnamon and ginger are doing the same old thing up some. You'll find that you don't have any, make a trade or you get it free for hauling it away.

THE SCENE @ USC

Russell House Theatre

 Gifts from 11/20/08

THE SCENE @ USC

Russell House Theatre

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 Gifts from 11/20/08

THE SCENE @ USC
**Tennis to use Fall Classic as training chance**

Some players not to travel, tournament used mostly for individual rankings

Scott Waggoner

The men’s tennis team travels to Auburn the third consecutive weekend in a row when they will look to prepare themselves for competition in the spring.

“We will play six matches this weekend, and we expect to do well in this event, as well as in all others in the fall, to see how each player is performing and decide who will use in the spring when team composition is finalized.”

“It gives you a feel about how the guys will look in the spring.” USC coach Kent DeMars said. “If they’re successful it’ll give me a pretty good idea we’ll be successful in the spring.

While winning players is what matters for the team, the fall serves as more of a practice to prepare all the players.

“The fall is all about travel, making changes, and learning about your team,” DeMars said. “This part of the season is for individual rankings, and not for the team.

Some of the players won’t be making the trip to Auburn this weekend though DeMars does plan to use them in the upcoming tournaments.

“I don’t even have a couple people going to be there this weekend,” DeMars said. “We’ll probably only have a little over half of our team that’s competing in the spring here at this tournament.

The Gamecocks are going into the Fall Classic after participating in the Ball Dog Scramble last weekend at the University of Georgia. Scott Waggoner team 11-11 in singles play at the event, as they were able to win one of the last two matches of the scramble. Junior Carlos Palacios led the way for the Gamecocks.

“We’ve been playing well,” DeMars said. “We have winning records for the most part against all of our opponents. Some of the guys who aren’t playing right now will play well in the spring. I think we’ll do well when they get their chance.”

South Carolina will have to continue playing well if they hope to compete in the SEC this season.

“Our competition is really strong,” DeMars said. “We’ll probably have six SEC teams in the field of 25. So, it means that if you’re not in the top 5, you’re in the bottom half of your conference, and yet you could possibly be a good, young player when you play better people, it’s kind of a good news, bad news situation.”

The tournament will be held Friday through Sunday.

Comments on this story? E-mail scagatay@wcalumni.edu.

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**USC puts S.C. State in its sights**

Brandis Riley-Ross injured, Darrin Horn expects Brandon Condron to start, full Riley-Ross’ shoes in starting lineup

Sam Davis

As the Carolina Gamecocks prepare for their third game of the season against USC Upstate, USC coach Darrin Horn continues to stress high-energy play and intense defense in order to continue success on the basketball court. Yet with key starter junior guard Brandis Riley-Ross and some much needed size or energy from freshman forward Sam Wilder both missing from the lineup in Saturday’s win over 3-0 UNC, it won’t be so easy for Coach Horn and the Gamecocks.

“What has changed (with our missing players) is the ability to substitute as freely,” Horn said. “But nobody is logging too many minutes right now, which is a good thing.

I think overall, the guys have responded well.”

Against Winthrop, starting in place of Riley-Ross was senior guard Brandon Condron. Although he struggled on the court in Wednesday’s loss, the fact that it was early in the week and the players knew Condron was still the starter, but it’s only Wednesday,” Horn said.

In addition to Condron, sophomore forward Aroldy Streed and junior guard Robert Wilder will see increased minutes due to the Gamecocks’ temporary lack of depth. Horn admits that these role players will be pivotal in not necessarily winning games singly but in contributing in their own ways.

“We literally need [Wilder] to go in and be solid and not hurt us,” Horn said. “He needs to be the producer, but nobody whose here doesn’t bring anything. I thought [players coming off the bench] did a really good job with the minutes [they got].”

Sophomore forward Mike Holmes was able to step up for the Gamecocks over the weekend by posting 31 points and 20 rebounds in the two games combined. With Midtown out, Holmes and junior forward Dominic Anchic represents the team’s only presence in the paint. Another big performance is surely needed from both players.

“My mentality is playing hard and doing the little things that help the team win,” Holmes said. “To play on defense and do all the little things and do the little things that people will come.”

Senior guard Zam Fredrick echoes the mentality that Holmes brings to the court and says that’s the difference in the team this year.

“We give high-energy play and we fly around out there,” Fredrick said. “If you make a mistake, make an aggressive one. As long as we have good consistence effort on both ends of the court, we’ll have a very good year this year.”

Horn has certainly transformed Gamecocks’ basketball into a new team, which is evident in the first two victories of the season. Now, facing some mild adversity early on, the Gamecocks will need aggressive play and intense play in order to continue the early winning tendencies. Carolina will take on USC Upstate at 1 p.m. this Saturday at the Colonial Life Arena.

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**Traditional Game Ball Run to hold new meaning for fraternity members, alum**

Michael Aguilar

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

It’s a stereotypical question that every college student will hear. For most, the answer is relatively simple: married with kids, lawyer or a doctor, involved in international business or teaching. For most, the future will play out much like it is predicted to, you will go to graduate school, you will get married, you will accomplish your goals.

However, for some something different will happen, something that will drastically change. For some of our fellow students, the future will involve being blindsided on some idyllic Wednesday afternoon with something they did not see coming.

Such was the case for former USC student 33 year old Brian Shah. In the early months of 2009 doctors gave Shah some very alarming news. He was told that he had Lou Gehrig’s Disease, a fatal neurodegenerative disease that attacks muscles. No one has ever lived longer than 20 years with Lou Gehrig’s Disease, the current Sigma Nu’s best-known traditions, the Game Ball Run. The Friday prior to the Carolina/ Clemson game the fraternity brothers from the opposing schools would run the game ball for the big game from one school to the other, a 26-mile journey.

The Sigma Nu brothers did this in support of multiple sclerosis (MS). Over the years, due to the Game Ball Run, Sigma Nu donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to MS research. This year was set to be a repeat of the previous decades’ performances, until the current Sigma Nu brothers caught wind of Shah’s situation.

“We decided it would be better to help him out in any way possible,” fifth year international business major Jimmy Lekovich said. “We set a goal of $400,000 this year. We want to give the $400,000-$500,000 that we usually give to MS and we want to give the rest to Brian to help him out.”

In economic times such as these, Shah, who can no longer walk and struggles to speak, could certainly use the extra money. He and his wife, Ashley, are standing down the piling medical bills associated with ALS, nearly $200,000 a year. However, there is more to the run than just an economic boost for Shah.

“This gives Brian something to be excited about,” Lekovich said. “He’s getting to be around us, he’s getting to be around his best friends, doing something he remembers doing and used to love doing back when he was a student. Hopefully that’s something that he can come out and, just like old times, run in with his friends.”

Due to the enormous alumni response to Shah’s disease, the current Sigma Nu brothers decided to allow alumni to run for the Gameball.
Gamecock Sport's Honor Roll

Die-hard soccer fan picks best, brightest for U.S. to send to South Africa

If we were dictator of the world, this is the American team I would put on the field for the 2007 World Cup in South Africa.

Ck — Tim Howard
Howard is really a no-brainer. The historical bridge between Fabien Barthez and Edwin van der Sar at Manchester United is still in goal for the Stars and Stripes, single-handedly keeping the U.S. friendly against the No. 1 ranked Argentina last summer.

RB — Michael Parkhurst
Parkhurst has received surprisingly little attention from the national squad, despite taking home the MLS Defender of the Year Award in 2007. Parkhurst lacks ideal size but is one of the best defenders in the game, rarely letting his concentration lapse or committing fouls.

CB Oguchi Onyewu
Onyewu is 6-4 — the tallest player ever to suit up for the U.S. He shows flashes of brilliance and has the physical presence to mark big strikers like the Netherlands’ Ruud van Nistelrooy and Argentina last summer.

LCB — Heath Pearce
Pearce is here for a lack of better idea. America’s strength has always been in goal and at midfield, not in defense, which is why I’ve picked this 3-5-2 setup popular in MLS. Someone has to play, and Pearce is as good a candidate as any.

RCM — Sacha Kljestan
Kljestan is a solid two-way player and will be able to control the flow of play away from the vulnerable American defense. He is also versatile enough in midfield to play anywhere, which would allow the U.S. to maneuver through its congested defense.

LCM — Maicon Edou
Edou was one of the up-and-coming stars in MLS before moving to Scottish giants Rangers. He’s a stay-at-home midfielder who can stop opposing attacks before they become the defense’s problem.

BMW — Freddy Adu
Do we really need to talk about Adu? He’s fast, he’s smart, he’s good on the dead ball and it’s about time he got the chance to show what he can do against the world’s best.

LW — DaMarcus Beasley
Beasley, a virtual no-brainer in 2006, still earns a spot on this team because he’s the best winger with an American passport. While he’s a risky pick due to injuries and inconsistency, he’s too good a player when healthy to leave off the squad.

CAM — Clint Dempsey
Dempsey more or less slipped through the cracks of the U.S. development system and, as a result, is not as well known as the other goalie on this team with a killer instinct. He showed in 2006 when he scored the only U.S. goal of the World Cup.

BS — Landon Donovan
The face of American soccer. Like Beasley, he’s fast, small, creative and didn’t bother to show up for the 2006 World Cup. Since then, he’s managed to return to form, leading MLS in scoring this season and earning a trial run with German club Bayer Munich.

JS — Jonny Alilhode
Alilhode has all the skills he needs to be a dominant striker, though he too often has his starting lineup at Villareal, he has the stage to do it. In CONCACAF play, he looks like a man among boys, and it would be a thrill to watch him go up against the world’s best defenders on the biggest stage.
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