**Presidential Election**

**USC Senate tackles codes, smoking ban during spring**

**By the Numbers: On-Campus Housing Fines**

- **$25** for each piece of furniture not returned
- **$25** if provided furniture is not returned
- **$25 for each piece of furniture not removed**

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**Dorm residents have 24 hours to leave after last exam ends**

**By the Numbers: On-Campus Housing Fines**

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**On-campus students face moving out pains, problems**

"Moving was a pain because I am from the North, so naturally I have to store my things," Nix said. "Being in college leaves me to find new housing for the summer."

"I haven't done that yet," Edwards said. "He hasn't done that yet."

"There's a lot going on in Darfur. The fighting in Darfur has displaced more than 2 million people since fighting began," Nix said. "There's a lot going on in Darfur. The fighting in Darfur has displaced more than 2 million people since fighting began."
Student loan system needs serious change soon

Proﬁtable loan companies prey on students, leaving them with enormous debt

Student loans exist to help college students, not student loan lenders, but they aren’t working that way. Lenders are racking up huge proﬁts while students are buried under increasingly large debts.

In recent weeks, the curtain has been pulled back on the student loan industry, and just the little bit we’ve seen hasn’t been pretty.

With such huge and excessive proﬁts sloshing around, it’s predictable that many lenders are throwing the needed of students aside. They have reasons to.

The lenders – like drug company sales reps marketing their drugs to doctors – court college ﬁnancial aid ofﬁcers, seeking to “preferential lenders” given to students. Recent investigations by New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo and the New America Foundation have raised serious questions about the integrity of some college ﬁnancial aid ofﬁcers, seeking to “preferred lender” lists given to students.

Recent congressional hearings on these sweetheart deals, and that’s a good thing: the truth. But the problems with the bank-run guaranteed student loan program run much deeper. Clarington’s a few bad apples aren’t enough.

It’s obvious that this loan program is no longer working for students. Students today graduate with three times more debt than students only one decade ago.

An increasing number have six ﬁgures of debt.

But bad news for students is big business for bankers and lenders. The loans, which carry massive subsidies and a guarantee against default, courtesy of U.S. taxpayers, are a no-lose investment for lenders.

No wonder that a handful of private investors are buying the largest student lender, Sallie Mae, for $21 billion. Its CEO, Thomas Kurza, has taken $180 million in compensation and perks and incentives to ofﬁcials that recommend their loans to students, and three college ﬁnancial aid directors had shady stock sales. Lenders commonly offer perks and incentives to ofﬁcials that recommend their loans to students, and three college ﬁnancial aid directors had shady stock deals with a lender they recommended to their students.

In 2003, I asked the Education Department to enforce federal laws against these types of side deals. An ofﬁcial there wrote back, “If the current attempt at self-regulation fails, we will look again at our options.” Well, it failed. Time to look at our options.

There is much better way: letting students borrow directly from the Department of Education, as about a quarter do now.

These loans, which carry nearly identical terms and rates, are much cheaper for taxpayers. Cutting out the lenders would free up more than $6 billion a year that could be reinvested in making college affordable for more students.

Spending $6 billion a year helping students, rather than subsidizing lenders, would make a huge difference in college affordability. For example, it could help pay for an idea of mine called College for Everyone. The plan would pay tuition for a year of public college for anyone willing to take a part-time job. We know it works because we are already doing it in rural North Carolina.

It seems like a no-brainer, but it hasn’t happened yet. Why not? Because the lenders use their ﬁnancial clout and high-paid lobbyists to stack the deck in Washington, D.C., just like they do on some college campuses. Sallie Mae’s PAC contributed almost $600,000 to congressional campaigns in 2006. Another lender, the National Education Loan Network, was the leading donor to the National Republican Congressional Committee.

Our college students represent our hopes for the future, but too many of them are struggling to get through college and manage mounting debt. It’s time to do something for them for a change. Let’s cut out these wasteful student loan subsidies and use the savings to make college more affordable.

Edwards is a Democratic candidate for the 2008 presidential elections.
WE ARE UNVEILING OUR MODEL APARTMENT ON MAY 1ST!

COME SEE COLUMBIA’S NEWEST APARTMENT COMPLEX!
The Connecticut Democrat, who visited USC on March 30, said education is the most pressing matter the United States is facing in the age of globalization. Richardson has formerly served as an ambassador to the United Nations, and has recently returned from a trip overseas in an attempt to reach a deal with North Korea to end Kim Jong-il’s nuclear weapons program.

In Thursday’s debate, Richardson came under fire for initially saying U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales should not resign because he was Hispanic. Richardson said once he heard Gonzales’s testimony on Capitol Hill, he had a change of heart.

Ashley Krieger, a third-year public relations student, said the convention was definitely the place to be Friday night.

“You could feel the excitement in the room as various party supporters spoke,” Krieger said. “The crowd was without a doubt stirred up about the upcoming elections and the platforms of their candidate of choice.”

Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois quickly made his way into the dining room after shaking a few hands. Obama arrived fresh from a campaign stop in Charleston. But the largest and loudest turnout was for Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York. Arriving last, Clinton appeared surprised at the overwhelming crowd of supporters in the convention lobby.

Clinton leads Obama in the campaign money race by $1,200*.

After dinner, where former U.S. Rep. Harold Ford Jr. gave the keynote address, the candidates joined S.C. Congressman Jim Clyburn down the street to an Elephant Dinner held on May 14. Sean Hannity of Fox News will headline the speaker list.

The following evening, the state GOP will host the firm-in-the-south Republican Presidential Primary debate that will be televised live on Fox News Channel.

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Highway collapses near San Francisco

Gasoline tanker truck crash paralyzes one of nation’s busiest roadways

OAKLAND, Calif. — A stretch of highway near the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge collapsed Sunday after a gasoline tanker crashed and burst into flames, leaving one of the nation’s busiest spans in a state of near paralysis. Officials said traffic could be disrupted for months.

Flames shot 200 feet in the air and the heat was intense enough to melt part of the freeway and cause the collapse, but the truck’s driver walked away from the scene with second-degree burns. No other injuries were reported.

“I’ve never seen anything like it,” Officer Trent Cross of the California Highway Patrol said of the crumpled interchange. “I’m looking at this thinking, ‘Wow, no one died — that’s amazing. It’s just very fortunate.’”

Authorities said the damage could take months to repair, and that it would cause the worst disruption for Bay Area commuters since the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake damaged a section of the Bay Bridge.

Nearly 75,000 vehicles use the portion of the road every day, but it’s where three highways converge, and authorities said it could cause commuting problems for hundreds of thousands of people.

Transportation officials said they already had added trains to the Bay Area Rapid Transit light rail system that takes commuters across San Francisco Bay, and were urging people to telecommute if possible.

“State officials said motorists who try to take alternate routes Monday instead of relying on public transportation would face nightmarish commutes,” a preliminary investigation indicated he may have been speeding on the curving road, Cross said.

The fire melted a second interchange, causing a 250-foot section of the roadway to collapse onto the roadway below, according to the highway patrol.

Witnesses reported flames from the blaze reaching up to 200 feet high.

Late Sunday morning, the charred section of collapsed freeway was draped at a sharp angle onto the highway beneath, exposing a web of twisted metal beneath the concrete.

The Bay Bridge consists of two heavily traveled, double-decked bridges about two miles long straddling San Francisco Bay.

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom said the accident showed how fragile the Bay area’s transportation network is.
In Turkey, 700,000 protest strict Muslim's candidacy

Christopher Torchia
The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — About 700,000 people marched Sunday in a massive protest against the possible election of an observant Muslim as president, a conflict that is testing Turkey's religiously oriented ruling party against the secularist military and civilian establishment.

When Turkey's red flag and singing nationalist songs dominated in Istanbul, the demands in Ankara were for an end to the Turkish presidency — a post with the Roman dress and replaced the Arabic Empire. He gave the vote for the collapse of the Ottoman World War I, founded the Ataturk, an army officer in national identity that has a conflict over Turkey's Muslim headscarf. "We want Hayrunisaah, who wears the 70-year-old housewife, said protester Ayse Bari, a 67-year-old retired government employee, a conflict that is testing Turkey's religiously oriented ruling party against the secularist military and civilian establishment.

We don't want a covered woman in Ataturk's presidential palace," protester Aye Bari, a 67-year-old housewife, said in reference to God's wife Hayrunisaah, who wears the Muslim headscarf. "We want civilized, modern people there."

The election has reignited a conflict over Turkey's national identity that has lasted since Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, an army officer in World War I, founded the Ataturk, an army officer in national identity that has a conflict over Turkey's Muslim headscarf. "We don't want a covered woman in Ataturk's presidential palace," protester Aye Bari, a 67-year-old retired government employee, a conflict that is testing Turkey's religiously oriented ruling party against the secularist military and civilian establishment.

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You Light Up USC Awards

Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society gratefully acknowledges the service to students from the faculty, staff, administration, and fellow students at the University of South Carolina. As one of the largest student organizations on campus with over 3,500 members, ALD is in a unique position to evaluate USC personnel from the perspective of our diverse membership. ALD is proud to announce 25 members of the USC community who have been selected for the 2007 “You Light Up USC” awards. The members of Alpha Lambda Delta wish to recognize those listed below and express our heartfelt appreciation for the hard work and dedication you have shown in going above and beyond your call of duty. We want you to know that for us, YOU truly “Light up USC”!

Matthew Boehm - English Department
Dr. Clay Bolcom - Student Life/University 101 Instructor
Aaron Choosit - Columbia Hall RA
Professor Ed Coon - Hospitality, Retailing, Tourism Management
Keith Cosentino - ILC of West Quad - Housing Staff
Joni Dickerson - Columbia Hall RA
Dr. Mike Dukes - Chemistry 112 professor
Alicia Erwin - Graduate Advisor, Carolina Productions
Kelley Fink - University Housing/U101 Instructor
William H. Harrison - Real Estate Professor, Moore School of Business
Aaron Haberman - Visiting Assistant Professor of History
Dr. Joe Johnson - Professor, Physics Department
Patricia Jerman - University 101 Professor
Scott Jones - Campus Recreation/Intramurals
Dr. Ed Miller - Financial Aid and Scholarships
Dr. Catherine J. Murphy - Chemistry Department
Janet Parker - Resident Advisor 5th Floor Patterson Hall
Crystal Quick - Resident Assistant (RA)
Shirley Wilson - Sodexho Dining Services (Preston)

2006-2007 Service Projects by ALD members

USC Challenge - SC high school academic competition ALD has hosted for 10 years
Hallowoosa - EdVenture Children’s Museum event at Halloween
Painted Financial Aid offices – saved the FA Office $5,000 by spending two days painting
Special Olympics – volleyball team support staff
Move-In Crew – faculty / staff program assisting new students as they move into halls
Scholars Day - hosted the Scholars Day Showcase for the University

2007 Outstanding ALD Senior awards:

Taylor Alexander, Ben Sokol, and Mica Jenkins

2006-2007 ALD Officers

Caleb Will - President
Liz Cronin - Vice President
Tyler Woods - Treasurer
Lauren Wilson - Secretary
Shannon Coon - Intramurals Chair

MR. AND MISS USC 2007

The 28th annual bodybuilding (men) and figure (women’s physique) event was held before a record crowd at USC. Jill Hunter and Chuck Scogna won the overall titles. The eight women finalists showed their poise, figure and symmetry in both dresses and two piece swim suits. Ten men, in three different weight classes were judged on muscularity, muscle definition, symmetry and presentation. The Mr. & Miss USC is sponsored annually by the Bodybuilding and Fitness Club, a USC Sports Club.
Experts offer tips to judge campus mental health, safety services

**Jodi Patkin** The Associated Press

Searching for the right college match, students and parents usually have plenty of questions about topics like class size, dining options and extracurricular activities. But colleges say they get fewer queries on counseling services and campus security.

That could change after the horrific shootings at Virginia Tech. The group Security on Campus, a nonprofit advocacy group, says a number of high schools are asking for copies of the group’s “safety audit,” a printed guide to help seniors evaluate campus safety along with other factors as they make their college choice.

Experts emphasize there is no way to anticipate an event like the Virginia Tech shooting. But two big issues became even more salient — campus mental health services and security — are topics every student should consider.

About 13 percent of university students and 25 percent of liberal arts colleges use mental health services, according to The Anxiety Disorders Association of America.

Counselor programs vary widely by school, but are more widespread than many students realize. Among about 17 million full-time college students, institutions reported relatively few criminal offenses in the category of murder or non- negligent homicide just last year, according to a campus safety survey. 

Among them: — What is the ratio of counseling staff to students? (IAACS suggests one counselor for every 1,000 to 1,500 students.)

— Is someone from the counseling center available 24 hours a day?

— Are walk-in appointments available?

Almost any center will have procedures for emergencies, but without walk-in hours it might take weeks to get an emergency appointment.

— Is there a psychiatrist on staff? That’s particularly important for the growing number of students who arrive on campus already taking medication. And remember that in some categories, a high number isn’t a bad thing.

— If a school has 10,000 students, it shows 15 sexual assaults, that may raise a red flag, said Alison Kiss, program manager at Security on Campus. But when you call, the campus police have to have phonomenal sexual assault services as well as students may feel more comfortable reporting assaults.

It’s a global crisis that is now occurring, said Daune Cooper from the Safe Darfur Coalition. We want to bring this important issue and this crisis to the forefront of the American and international conscious.

We want the students here at USC to be aware of the atrocities that are going on in Darfur.

Cooper encourages students to stand up and fight back against the atrocities that are going on in Darfur.

2007 year in review

This is the best test I’ve ever taken.

By Bethany Canfield

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The Daily Gamecock ● MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2007

**Jodi Patkin** The Associated Press

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Acquisitions of racism false, unfairly aimed

Don’t blame the messengers. It’s an age-old saying, but that doesn’t make it any less true.

Friday’s front page caused some concerned readers to call our staff race after we printed seven snapshots of black fraternity members charged with hanging on the front page but did not print pictures of a white student who was charged with making explosives.

In a perfect world, we’d have the phones, photo numbers and contact information of every student on campus, but this isn’t a perfect world. The reality is, that the Lexington County Sheriff’s Department was not able to acquire pictures of the fraternity members while the Columbia Police Department didn’t.

It’s sad that people will accuse us as racist without all the facts. People of all races can make the front page. In the past semester, we’ve run mugshots of Stephen Garcia, Blake Mitchell and two white swimmers.

Our job is to report the news — good and bad.

We love getting letters to the editor, and encourage criticism, but we aren’t OK with people calling us racists. People of all backgrounds work here, and we want all students to feel welcome.

But this issue isn’t about race. It’s about seven fraternity members charged with hitting another student with a steel bar but more than 100 times until he had to be taken to the hospital. Student Life Director Jerry Brewer called the incident unprecedented here. But college pranksters have been making Drain-O bombs for ages.

And while explosives are never something to be taken lightly, when it comes to newsworthiness, stupid pranks don’t compare to keg or beer brawls. Those are the ones who deserve to have their pictures on the front page.

If you want to blame anyone for making a mistake, I’d blame those who screwed up in the first place.

About The Daily Gamecock

Lord so loved that he forsook college sinners to march of Bible Trump

Ladies and gentlemen of USC, here is how to make you see, every day, whom I’ve seen you experienced pastors at the Rivers Church guiding Bibles in their palms and the mouths of the students of USC to find Jesus as soon as possible before the last term begins.

First, there are those pastors aren’t just setting up shop without permission, nor have they to be invited by somebody in authority. Not seeing the desire to respect and the lack of facility of religious freedom have suffered. And if we stand up for ourselves the people who keep inviting them on our time, preballenas campus.

Second, “shillholism” is, of course, the combination of “shill” and “rebellion,” meaning “rebellion through offering one’s body to others to suffer for their views, to be dead to life, and living life as it is.” This is a book of faith, not just one of life, and living life as the devil would like him or her to live. Here’s a book of faith, and life as it is, name, but with the letters rearranged.

THOMAS MAULICK

Every English student

Why, you could beg out to the sinning population of USC to find Jesus as soon as possible before the last term begins.

To the church, of course, we would like to bring to their attention that the church is the church is the church’s job to try to save the damn. You see, every day, whom I’ve seen you experienced pastors at the Rivers Church guiding Bibles in their palms and the mouths of the students of USC to find Jesus as soon as possible before the last term begins.

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S.C. Summer Concert Schedule

CHARLESTON
Verizon Wireless Ampitheatre
Godsmack — May 9
Gwen Stefani, Akon, Lady Sovereign — May 12
Martina McBride, Little Big Town, Rodney Atkins — June 2
Honda Civic Tour: Fall Out Boy, +44, Paul Wall, The Academy Is... — June 13
Vans Warped Tour — July 23
John Mayer, Ben Folds — August 1

MYRTLE BEACH
House of Blues
Cherelle, Finger 11, Strata — May 31
Johnny Lang — June 2
Ben Harper and Innocent Criminals — June 14
Rise Against, Silverstein, Comeback Kid — June 22
Edwin McCain — July 6
Hawthorne Heights — July 14
Etta James — July 20
B.B. King — July 22

GREENVILLE
Bi-Lo Center
Hawk Williams Jr. and Lynyrd Skynyrd — June 2
Tool — June 5
Cirque du Soleil’s Delirium — June 6-7
Yolanda Adams — June 16

COLUMBIA
Columbia Coliseum
Chaka Khan, Patti Labelle — May 18
Headliners
Badfish (Tribute to Sublime) — June 5
Bowling for Soup — July 1

CHARLESTON
CHARLESTON/ISLE OF PALMS

SAVANNAH
Savannah Civic Center
Trace Adkins — May 17

COLUMBIA

SAVANNAH

VERMONT WIRELESS AMPitheatre
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Information Compiled by Christina Stritzinger
The Daily Gamecock
Photo Illustration by Julia Anderson
The Daily Gamecock
Summer movie lineup packed with sequels

This year’s blockbusters bound to leave hungry film audiences satisfied

Tyler Mobley
The Beat column

Every summer, the rich old men of Hollywood open up their wallets and shovel millions of dollars into projects they know nothing about, all in the hopes that they’ll be profitable. Fortunately, some other people tend to make those movies pretty exciting, giving us an over-the-top spectacle to enjoy in the heat of the summer months.

There are dozens of movies vying for your attention this summer, but for the moment, we’ll only focus on the most goddamn enormous of them.

The official opening of the summer money-grab starts May 4 with the release of “Spider-Man 3.” This third film in the series might be the last, because Tobey Maguire is reportedly unwilling to do a fourth. But it looks like the best one yet.

With the introduction of Venom, the end of that annoying “Mary Jane doesn’t know I’m Spider Man” awkwardness and a nice revenge plot, “Spider Man 3” looks like it just might please fanboys and casual audiences alike. Unfortunately, if you’ve seen the trailer more than twice, you’ve already been handed the entire plot of the film. Oops!

If Spider Man’s profits haven’t sucked the economy dry by May 25, then “Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End” might go ahead and finish it off. What is being called the final film in the series, this “Pirates” looks even more ridiculous than the last one. There’s something about Singapore, Keith Richards as Jack Sparrow’s dad, underwater boats, pirate heaven ... oh, whatever. It’s going to be huge and confusing, but maybe this time it will actually have an ending. Expect to be excited, confused, amazed, thrilled and confused some more.

Conveniently waiting until you almost forgot it even existed, “Shrek the Third” will open on May 18 for another fairy tale adventure. There’s no telling how successful this one is going to be, because pretty much everyone likes something about this series. In “The Third,” Shrek has a kid, becomes like an ogre and Eddie Murphy keeps talking. Surprise! “Shrek the Third” will undoubtedly make fistfuls of cash, but you can’t help but wonder if the series is still fresh or relevant. Donkey is annoying, Shrek is “gross,” and there will be topical pop culture jokes all over the place. We get it. We’re all going to see it anyway, so here’s hoping that it’s got some surprises in store for us.

Completing the “Hollywood will suck your wallet dry” cycle of the summer, “Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix,” the fifth film in the book-adapted series, opens on July 13. The trailers for this look pretty exciting, and fans of the book can expect a pretty true-to-form

Other summer flicks:

“Transformers” — July 4
“Don’s Plum” — July 6
“Live Free or Die Hard” — June 27
“Knewd Up” — June 1
“The Simpsons Movie” — July 27
“20 Weeks Later” — May 11

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Go with the flow, get out of the dorms and into Riverbed!
"The Condemned"

Tyler Mobley
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

What “The Condemned” wants you to know: the media will sell you violence, you will watch violence, you are violent for watching that violence, the media deserves to die, foreigners are killers, all Asian people know kung fu, women cannot defend themselves from anything, World Wrestling Entertainment cannot make good movies and it will still make them in spite of this.

Just so you know, Stone Cold Steve Austin does not want to kill you. He is an American soldier, a good-old Texas native, and he inexplicably has no eyebrows. However, if you cross Stone Cold Steve Austin in any way, he will have no choice but to kill you. Of course, as long as you’re not a death-row convict placed on an island as you’re not a death-row killer, he will have no choice but to make them in spite of this.

“The Condemned” is one of the worst movies no one will see this year. It’s not the worst movie ever made, but it’s the kind of bad that stays with you and keeps wallets firmly closed.

What’s that? You didn’t know that WWE, the folks who brought you Hulk Hogan and homo–erotic–phobic–white–trash–fests, made movies? Oh yeah, they make movies all right, and they’re doing it to make you a better person.

“The Condemned” really wants to make you think about the desensitization of our culture to violence and how the media will sell you violence, the media will even sell murder as long as you buy it. The best way for them to make you think about that, of course, is to hire Steve “No Brow” Austin to pretend to murder people for two hours while they try to sell this movie to you.

Not only is “The Condemned” one of the most hypocritical movies ever, this year, it’s the worst movie of the year. Everyone expects the WWE to use unfair stereotypes. For example, let’s look at the cast of “murderous” characters. The “Asian guy” knows kung fu. That’s all. There is literally nothing else to his character. The “Black guy” has to say things like “Now that’s what I’m talkin’ about,” and he gets killed almost immediately.

“The Condemned” is one of the worst movies ever made, but it’s the kind of lame offensiveness that says “we did no research for this film, so we’re going to use unfair stereotypes.”

For example, let’s look at the cast of “murderous” characters. The “Asian guy” knows kung fu. That’s all. There is literally nothing else to his character. The “Black guy” has to say things like “Now that’s what I’m talkin’ about,” and he gets killed almost immediately. The Hispanic couple, for absolutely no reason, is a part of spacy lovers. What about women in general, though? Don’t they get some royal treatment? They sure do!

Along with our eight male killers, there are two women thrown onto the island. Just like all women on death row, they are beautiful and completely defenseless. The female killers in “The Condemned,” to get to the grisly point, only serve as rape victims. They are given no characterization, almost no lines, and they get raped. That’s it.

Austin, though, is a heavily–muscled slice of American apple pie. He weeps pure tears of justice and naturally kills foreigners, liberal media types, and even an “Islamic fundamentalist” with swift authority. All he wants is to get home to Texas to see his blonde–blazed, blue–eyed girlfriend on the farm. What more could a conservative American stereotype ask for?

Save your money and skip “The Condemned.” Go rent “Battle Royale” for the exact same plot with actual satire and thought.

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

★

“The Condemned” Steve Austin’s character backhands a fellow inmate and competitor while trying to leave the island alive.

★

THE DAILY GAMECOCK

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2007

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CAROLINA

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Welcome to Falling Rock National Park

Inside the Box • By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

FORGET NOT YOUR FRIEND RAVI, PERHAPS SOMEDAY, WE SHALL ALL BE TOGETHER AGAIN!

TO YOU AS WELL FEAR-BUNNY, EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY NOT ADMIT YOUR LOVE FOR ME!

TO THE SCENE

The Secret Handshake

The USC Symphonic Band performs a concert in front of a large crowd near the McKissick Museum on Sunday evening. The Concert Band performed shortly after.

THE MATCHES, THE 7 p.m.
700 Gervais St.
$25
Koger Center for the Arts

SOUL THE EXIES, SMILE EMPTY WEDNESDAY 7:30 p.m.
122 State St.
Tavern

THE NEW BROOKLAND TANGENTS, 122 State St.
$10
6 p.m.

THE MATCHES, THE 7 p.m.
700 Gervais St.
$12 advance, $15 day of show
7 p.m.

Today’s Syndicated Sudoku

How to Play

1. Every digit 1 to 9.
2. Each digit appears once in each 3-by-3 box.
3. Each digit appears once in each row.
4. Each digit appears once in each column.

Solutions to Friday's Sudoku

1 2 3
2 5 6
9 4 8

1 2 3
2 5 6
9 4 8

2 3 4
4 5 7
6 1 8

4 5 7
6 1 8
2 3 4

The Secret Handshake

TODAY'S GUESTS APART, MALABARID MAFIA, THE DECADE Headliners 7 p.m.
700 Gervais St.
$7

USC SYMPHONY WITH MARVIN HAMLISCH Koerner Center for the Arts
1051 Greene St.
$15
7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY THE EXIES, SMILE EMPTY SOLES Headliners 7:30 p.m.
700 Gervais St.
$10 advance, $15 day of show
7 p.m.

CITIES APART, MALABARID MAFIA, THE DECADE
7:30 p.m.
Koger Center for the Arts

SUDOKU

By The Mepham Group

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THE DAILY GAMECOCK

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2007

HOROSCOPES

Aquarius

• Do a lot more listening than talking for a while. Specifically, do not discuss how much money is coming in.
• Be quiet and listen. If someone is exposing himself, think about what you know and what you may need to do. You may not be ready to talk to him or her about the entire job. Give it a try.

Capricorn

• Your very persuasive now and becoming even more so. Get your facts down straight and down pat. Take copious notes.
• You'll get your best information today from your silent partners. Also check for the latest news coming across the grapevine.

Sagittarius

• You're always a little run down and sometimes you get interesting information today from Scorpio. You don't have to tell everyone you know, however. Bring the story to Capricorn. It's the support you get from the people you love that makes you great. Pets count, too.

Aquarius

• Think you can get a "wellness day" off? It's worth a try.
• Did you know Pisces is the sign of the billionaire? It's not all luck. Get busy.

Pisces

• You're always the lead in creative work, perhaps involving technology. Does that sound like fun? Good.
• It's not all luck. Get busy. You're always the lead in creative work, perhaps involving technology. Does that sound like fun? Good. You may not be ready to talk to him or her about the entire job. Give it a try.
Gamecocks taken in NFL Draft

Sidney Rice

Former USC wide receiver Sidney Rice was selected by the Minnesota Vikings with the 44th pick in the 2nd round. Rice is expected to provide a much-needed boost to a team that was weak at wide receiver. Rice is a big target with good hands and a strong work ethic. He will be a valuable addition to the Vikings offense.

Phil Disher couldn’t give USC enough firepower to beat Alabama.

In the first game of a three-game series, the Gamecocks were shut out by the Crimson Tide. Alabama’s pitching was dominant, holding the Gamecocks to just five hits. The Gamecocks were unable to generate any offense and were unable to score a single run.

Carolina stumbles, caves in to Alabama

Gamecocks can’t tread water against Crimson Tide, drop second-straight conference series in two weeks

The Gamecocks have endured a rough stretch in recent weeks, losing four consecutive games. They were unable to score more than four runs in any of those games. The team is struggling at the plate and on the mound, and it will need to turnaround its fortunes quickly if it hopes to make a run for a NCAA bid.

USC softball team continues slide in SEC standings

Struggling squad fails to get off ground against Tigers, loses weekend set

In 10 days, the SEC’s softball tournament will begin in Auburn. All of the Gamecocks want to qualify for the tournament and have a chance of winning it. They are going to have to play a lot better than they did last weekend in Auburn.

Field. Carolina’s McKenna Hughes got the Gamecocks’ lone hit of the game. Junior Melissa Hendon was on the mound for the Gamecocks and gave up five runs on six hits in the loss. The Gamecocks played considerably better for the Gamecocks defense. Even though they were shutout again, Auburn managed to get only one run across on two outs in a 1-0 victory. Thompson took to the mound for Auburn in the second game too, and the Tigers pitcher recorded 11 strikeouts between both games.

In addition to Hill, the Gamecocks can’t tuck away against Crimson Tide, drop second-straight conference series in two weeks

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NY Yankees drop ball, fall behind in AL East title hunt

Steinbrenner has little title hunt in AL East

I see hope someone has some aspirin for New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner. As we all know, The Boss will not stand for losing and will do anything in his power to see his beloved franchise in the World Series. That should scare the lemmings in the Bronx and the Yankees whipping them Sunday by 10-1.

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Looking for its third win of the season and to force a weekend series against Auburn.

The Gamecocks’ offense continued to struggle and failed to score a run in both games this weekend. The offense went 9-for-46 in the weekend series against Alabama.

On paper, the Gamecocks were outscored 30-0 during the offensive drought and had lost seven of their last eight games, being outscored 50-27 during the offensive drought. The offense went 2-for-15 on the afternoon as Barbosa pitched well.

Sophomore third baseman James Darnell hit a solo home run, putting one more on top of his team-leading total of 15. The series loss drops the Gamecocks to fourth in the chase for the lead of the SEC.

Ed Betz / The Associated Press

The bright spots for the Gamecocks were few and far between. Aside from Hempy’s pitching, the only positive was Travis Matthes putting Alabama up for two-run RBI single for Kent Jones, a junior second baseman. Jones continued his fervent pace of the last few weeks, batting .384 over the series and knocking out another home run, adding to his 13 on the season.

There have always been talks of rifts between Rodriguez and Jeter. It is the two best players on the team, but this team’s struggles come from much more than two players not being their best.

Besides Rodriguez, the other two best hitters in the majors in every offensive category and is showing he could be a Triple Crown threat. There are not played on paper, and they have done little about Mariano Rivera, arguably the best closer of baseball. And don’t forget about Jason Giambi, who is arguably the best power hitter in the game; however, the games are not played on paper, and they have done little other than number one and position. These guys are not played on paper, and they have done little about Mariano Rivera, arguably the best closer of baseball. And don’t forget about Jason Giambi, who is arguably the best power hitter in the game. Despite Rodriguez being nothing short of spectacular thus far, the Yankees are still in the cellar of their division.

It really does not make sense that this should not be a championship team, unless one takes a look back at previous teams to win championships. All of the teams that have won the World Series in recent memory had something that these Yankees have yet to show us. They are all TEAMS.

From the Cardinals last year to the White Sox and Red Sox the year before, they were all TEAMS of good players. Sure they had superstars, but they still played together and functioned as one. While this Yankee lineup looks like a buffet full of future Hall of Famers, they lack team unity.

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There have always been talks of rifts between Rodriguez and Jeter. It is the two best players on the team, but this team’s struggles come from much more than two players not being their best.

Old Yankee lineups of the late ’90s and early 2000s had played together for a long time last weekend. There have always been talks of rifts between Rodriguez and Jeter. It is the two best players on the team, but this team’s struggles come from much more than two players not being their best.

The old Yankee lineups of the late ’90s and early 2000s had played together for a long time. Players such as Paul O’Neill, Chuck Knoblauch and Bernie Williams had played together for a long time. Players such as Paul O’Neill, Chuck Knoblauch and Bernie Williams had played together for a long time. Players such as Paul O’Neill, Chuck Knoblauch and Bernie Williams had played together for a long time. Players such as Paul O’Neill, Chuck Knoblauch and Bernie Williams had played together for a long time.

With Sunday’s loss, the Gamecocks have been shutout in their last five games, being outscored 50-27 during the offensive drought. The offense went 2-for-15 on the afternoon as Barbosa pitched well.

Hendon pitched well, giving up three runs off of three hits, but the Gamecocks’ offense continued to struggle and hung Hendon out to dry. Carolina’s hitters went 5-for-23 on the afternoon and failed to score a run again.

The Gamecocks return to Columbia for their final three games of the regular season. They host Mississippi for a weekend series beginning with a doubleheader on Saturday. With Sunday’s loss, the Gamecocks have been shutout in their last five games, being outscored 50-27 during the offensive drought. The offense went 2-for-15 on the afternoon as Barbosa pitched well.

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