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Weather Forecast				
TODAY	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUE.
High 84 Low 64	High 79 Low 58	High 86 Low 62	High 88 Low 63	High 89 Low 63

## TAILGATE TOODLE-OO



Josh Rabon / THE GAMECOCK

Members of the class of 2006 gather for a final tailgate Thursday in front of Williams-Brice Stadium. The Carolina Alumni Association played host to the event.

### State

#### Sex offender bill next on legislative agenda

Before the Legislature adjourns in June, state representatives say they plan to consider a bill already approved by senators that would allow some sex offenders to be put to death.

House approval is seemingly the last step before the bill, which already has the support of state Attorney General Henry McMaster and Gov. Mark Sanford, could become law. It's been referred to the House Judiciary Committee, where Chairman Jim Harrison, R-Columbia, thinks it will likely have success.

House Majority Leader Jim Merrill, R-Daniel Island, said leaders are ready to open debate on the issue.

### Nation

#### Teens arrested in plot to attack high school

RIVERTON, Kan. — Five teenage boys accused of plotting a shooting rampage at their high school on the anniversary of the Columbine massacre were arrested Thursday after a message warning of a gun attack appeared on MySpace.com, authorities said.

Sheriff's deputies found guns, ammunition, knives and coded messages in the bedroom of one suspect, Sheriff Steve Norman said. Authorities also found documents about firearms and references to armageddon in two suspects' school lockers.

"What the resounding theme is: They were actually going to do this," Norman said.

### World

#### Iraqi prime minister declines another term

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Bowing to intense pressure, Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari agreed Thursday to allow Shiite lawmakers to find someone else to head the new government, abandoning his claim on another term in the face of Sunni and Kurdish opposition.

Al-Jaafari's abrupt reversal was an apparent breakthrough in the monthslong struggle to form a national unity government.

The Bush administration hopes such a government will curb Iraq's slide toward anarchy and enable the U.S. to start bringing home its 133,000 troops.

## CAROLINA BRIEF

### Biologist featured on national radio

USC biology professor Tim Mousseau has been interviewed by Bruce Gellerman of National Public Radio for the "Living on Earth" program, scheduled to air at 6 a.m. Sunday, April 23. Mousseau discussed his research on the Chernobyl nuclear disaster April 26, 1986.

His study, which appears in the April issue of "Trends in Ecology and Evolution," calls for a comprehensive research effort — including the establishment of an international research facility — to study the effects of low-radiation on people, animals and plants in Chernobyl, site of the world's worst nuclear disaster.

## THIS WEEK USC

**TODAY**  
Lettered Olive Literary Review reading: 4 p.m., Preston Seminar Room

**SATURDAY**  
USC Student Composers Concert: 8 p.m., School of Music 206

**MONDAY**  
FMLA second-hand jewelry sale: 2-5:30 p.m., Women's Quad

Last issue for Spring is Monday — Get on the schedule!

## BOARD CONTINUED FROM 1

The new contract would cost \$424,000 over the next five years with \$352,600 as the initial payment.

Kelly introduced a new contract with Coca-Cola Bottling Company for vending rights after the conclusion of the Pepsi Bottling contract. The new contract will last five years and one month, expiring at the same time as the athletics-vending contract and would include expansion of CarolinaCard accessible machines from 35 to 100 of 129.

During the Board of Trustees meeting, Toney Lister of the intercollegiate activities committee

recommended a price increase for football tickets to go in effect fall 2006.

Seven-game season tickets would increase to \$280, while faculty season tickets would increase to \$224.

The academic affairs committee brought forth a resolution to create several new programs, including a bachelor of science in nursing program at the Beaufort campus.

Board member Darla Moore said it was important to expand the nursing problem to meet the state and national nursing shortages.

"Currently, 75 percent of South Carolina nurses are prepared at the associate level," Lister said. "South

Carolina nursing programs currently report 32 faculty vacancies with an additional 100 vacancies projected for 2010."

Harris Pastides, vice president for research, said every year the university is forced to turn away 75 new nursing students that would normally be well qualified for the school because of a lack of resources.

The new program would require \$2.8 million in funding with only \$300,000 directed from tuition.

The academic affairs committee also addressed the grade forgiveness program introduced by former Student Government President Justin Williams. The plan is to be reviewed

by a faculty senate subcommittee next year.

Near the conclusion of the meeting, plans for the university's expansion to the Congaree River were presented. The new area, which includes a waterfront park district and Innovista, stretches from Gervais to Catawba streets and the river to Huger Street.

The planners estimated costs at about \$108 million and said the project would create 8,700 new jobs.

Moore said the offer was so appealing and lucrative that "the board should sign on the dotted line right now."

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

## CRIME REPORT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19  
Assistance rendered, 10:30 a.m.

Wade Hampton, 1528 Greene St. The victim, 19, said she passed out and felt dizzy.

Reporting officer: M.J. Winnington

Suspicious activity, 5 p.m.

Blossom Street garage, 1300 Blossom St. The victim, 21, said someone let the air out of his vehicle's front right tire.

Reporting officer: J. Widdifield

Malicious injury to real property, 5:30 p.m.

Bull Street garage, 611 Bull St. Someone broke off the exit gate arm.

Estimated value: \$1,100  
Reporting officer: J. Widdifield

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

Driving under suspension, 1:35 a.m.

Blossom and Sumter streets Julius Jeridaeu, 18, was arrested for driving under suspension.

Reporting officer: M. A. Winnington

Suspicious activity, 4:02 a.m.

Carolina Coliseum, 701 Assembly St. The complainant, 20, said that as she was leaving the Coliseum, a man standing on the steps with his hands in his pockets began to walk towards her at a fast pace.

Reporting officer: N. Peter

## TAILGATE CONTINUED FROM 1

"Shealy's was a big draw for me," Epps said. "I grew up in that area and wanted to come out and have one last tailgate party."

The party also had booths featuring the senior class gift, alumni association membership and the Career Center.

Sandy Tomes, Career Center program manager who works with alumni, said she was there to help seniors waiting until the last minute to finalize their post-college plans as well as provide some advice for the future.

"My purpose is two-fold," Tomes said. "I am here to encourage the last-minute seniors as well as remind them that they can use our services down the road as they may need to after they graduate."

Almost \$10,000 had been raised for the senior gift.

"This is the best senior gift we've ever had," Carson said.

Kristen Salo, graduate assistant of programs and events for the alumni association, said while the event was a success, getting word out to seniors was the greatest difficulty in planning.

"The challenge we had was getting word out to students because we wanted everyone to have a chance to come out," Salo said.

Salo said using on-campus advertising and student communication solved the issue.

"We tried to get word out through as many student groups as possible," Salo said. "We also have a student advisory board that tried to use word-of-mouth as well."

Epps said when she graduates, she will miss tailgating most of all at Carolina.

"I will probably miss the football team and the football games the most," Epps said. "Hopefully, I will get to come back for some of the games."

Having the alumni return and stay involved with the university was a key focus of the tailgate, Salo said.

"I think it's important that the seniors have a good time and keep in touch with Carolina through the years," she said. "Being active with their alma mater is what we want."

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

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