

## Resignation

### Students deserve more input in selection of athletic director

The resignation of Athletic Director Dick Bestwick is too sudden to accurately, objectively evaluate, but it does give us a chance to re-evaluate the direction of the Athletic Department.

One thing that needs to be stressed, as far as students are concerned, is the ticket situation. Students are understandably concerned with the allotment of tickets and also with their seeming inability to get tickets to the big games.

The Athletic Department's decision not to offer validations for the upcoming Florida State game may help every student who wants a ticket get a ticket. But, then again, it may not.

The nature of the ticket situation is what appalls most students, because we, all 23,000 of us, are only guaranteed a chance at the "student" 12,000 tickets. But, truth to tell, there aren't 12,000 student tickets. About 500 are taken out for the band, more than 900 are taken out for various kinds of athletes, including non-student prospects.

Now, the university will say that 23,000 students have never expressed an interest in getting tickets to the game. For most games, there are student tickets left over.

Just like the alumni and Gamecock Club members, we are most interested in attending three types of games — big games such as Georgia, Florida State and Clemson; openers such as the North Carolina game this year; and homecoming. And, like most alumni and Gamecock Club members, we are the rowdiest, loudest fans who cheer the team.

And we're the reason the team is there. It is comprised of students. The band that more often plays to the West side of the stadium during halftime, and therefore not for the students, is comprised of students. The cheerleaders who get the wave going are students, and they almost always use the student sections to get it going.

And students are still paying for the stadium where the game is played, the band performs and the cheerleaders "wave."

Yet the attitude still exists, as it was so eloquently expressed by a USC trustee, that the students are beneath notice and the least important part of the university.

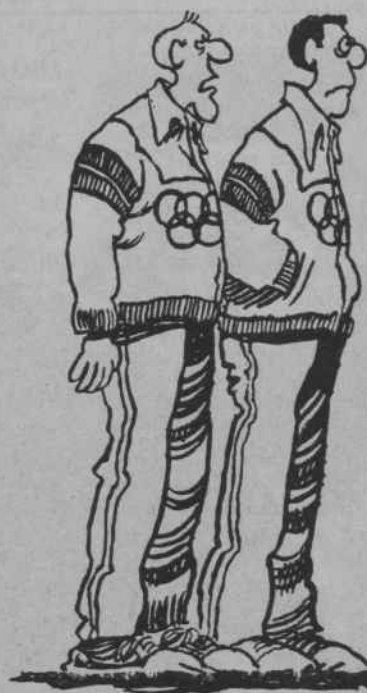
The Athletic Department makes mega bucks, and it uses most of that money to fund other sports at USC. But the profit is normally just hoarded up there or dribbled out every once in a while to areas of campus that need it, such as when Bob Marcum, former A.D., gave \$500,000 to the library. But it was profits from just one televised football game, when the university was involved in at least two.

A better example of the Athletic Department's attitude is the deal worked out last semester, kind of like Bestwick's first official act as A.D. USC President James Holderman, former S.G. President Michael Hogue and Bestwick cut a deal where the students would give the department all the tickets in section 501 for a year, and the department would give about \$50,000 to help fund the Intramural Department.

The attitude is students have to give something up to the Athletic Department before we can squeeze money out of its "vault." And funding intramurals is something most athletic departments at other universities do automatically. Students don't have to give up tickets.

So yes, the resignation of Bestwick is too sudden to evaluate, but it is real easy to evaluate the opportunity this presents the students. This time, the university should form a search committee, and at least two students, one from S.G. and one other, should be allowed to sit in on it.

We have too much at stake to let the university choose someone who will ignore the students. We've had too much of that lately.



"URINE SAMPLES!"

MARLETTE © 1988  
THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

## Columnist's notes, quotes, burps return

Some more o' my infamous "annoying burps o' trivialities," or, as they are called in other papers, Notes and Quotes.

● I was hustled out o' *The Gamecock* newsroom Saturday night to check out a fire alarm in Douglas dormitory that turned out to be false. But I found, milling in the crowds o' the 30 or 40 people who had to "evacuate" the dorm, a bunch of guys singing the songs that make you feel all revolted inside. Classics such as "The S & M Man" and others were beautifully butchered by these young gentlemen. But they did perform a pretty good version of "I'm A Soul Man," dancing kind o' like the Blues Brothers.

So, to these gentlemen, from the guy in *The Gamecock*:

(To the tune of "The S & M Man," which is to the tune of "The Candy Man.")

Who can make your face pale,  
and twist your guts around,  
just by singing songs that make you want to turn and frown,  
the silly drunk boys,  
the silly drunk boys,  
'Cause they have no self-control and completely lack poise,  
the silly drunk boys.

● Gosh, sometimes I think I know the weirdest people on the face o' the earth. If you read *Portfolio Magazine*, you might have read some o' the



Stephen Guilfoyle

fiction by my friend and yours, Mike Jasper.

Mike, as he said many times in the small bio written up in the magazine, is the self-proclaimed Center o' the Universe. But Mike and I, though we are friends, usually find ourselves on different sides o' the political spectrum. So, if he's the center o' the universe, that probably makes me the Nose Tackle o' the Universe.

● Another friend o' mine — I'm not making any o' this up, really — has decided to get a T-shirt proclaiming his name. He's decided to call himself "The Unknown Black Male," because police reports routinely list that the cops are looking for an "unknown B/M," which newspapers semi-routinely print and television and radio announcers semi-routinely broadcast.

I will not list the name o' this friend because he has chosen to become a symbol instead o' a man. I, being a good reporter, will keep sacred the secret o' my friend's true identity and never reveal it. Unless, let's say, there were some cash involved.

● Last, on the long list of my weird friends, are the Chip and Dip sisters. They're not sisters, but roommates. But they do — or did — share a passion for potato chips with various kinds o' dip. The two of them, on many a wild evening last semester, would get chips for the pound and more than one kind o' dip, and finish.

● Found something out for my fearless readers. That report I received about Robby Benson possibly being at the Timothy Leary show was a case o' mistaken identity. I met the gentleman who was at the Leary show, and he doesn't look like Benson, but looks like someone who would be mistaken for Benson.

But he seems like an OK guy — the un-Robbie Benson that is. I've never had the pleasure of meeting the real McCoy.

He came up to me at a meeting and said "Hi, I'm Robby Benson."

And, though he looked ever so slightly like him, he sounded nothing like him, and I said, "No you're not."

He said, "No, I'm not. I was just kidding." Ha ha. Humor. I recognize that.

## Letters to the editor

### Shuttle helped expose danger

To the editor:

As one of the coordinators of the shuttle service that ran the last two weekends, I would like to address several of the issues pertaining to the service, as well as clarify any of the points of confusion that may have arisen.

From the beginning, we stressed a trial period, one weekend that became two after the response to our initial efforts. Our plan was not perfect; in fact, as we found out, it was far from it, but we were reacting in good faith in response to what we perceived to be and still feel is an emergency situation. Despite all the odds and obstacles that we seem to face at every turn, we were able to transport 120 students safely home. To us, disregarding everything else, this is the most important aspect of the system.

The shuttle service also deserves credit for one other reason; it heightened campus awareness of the need of the shuttle to exercise caution. We appreciated the publicity given in *The Gamecock*, which certainly played a large key role in the success of the shuttle. And, yes, we do deem the shuttle to have been a success in the fact that we accomplished what was our central goal — to get the administration, student government or anybody to do something about the safety issue.

A safety task force has now been created by Student Government President James Franklin to address the issues. We believe that, had we not taken the initiative, the safety problem would still be left untouched. That efforts are finally being made to remedy the safety problem will be the legacy of our shuttle system.

A shuttle will not run this weekend. The task force will look at the issues and make appropriate recommendations for some kind of safety solution. Of course, there are no clear cut answers. We must, however, work together to provide some mechanism by which we can work with the students to provide for their safety. They must, of course, bear some of the responsibility for their actions, but we also should give them a means to acquire this responsibility, whether it be education or whatever. We commend President

Franklin in the creation of this task force and only wish that it could have been created earlier.

Finally, we would like to thank all of the organizations and people that gave of their time and effort to the shuttle project. In particular, we thank Pi Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha, Beta Theta Pi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Delta Upsilon, Leigh Stanton, Rick Gant, the student life graduate assistants and Jerry Brewer. To everyone who helped, you are appreciated more than you will ever know, by us and, more importantly, by those who took advantage of the shuttle system. You certainly can feel that you provided a good service. We do.

Marie-Louise Ramsdale  
Sorority Council Service  
Chairwoman  
Soviet Studies junior

### USC activism lives, not dead

To the editor:

I would like to respond to the article written by Stephen Guilfoyle on Sept. 28.

Stephen Guilfoyle has a point about a "lack of commitment." There seems to be a lack of motivation for social concerns, such as environmental problems, politics, etc.

However, I disagree that things are for the worst. I am a little bit more of an optimist than you, Mr. Guilfoyle, and I see a growing number of people who are tired of vague solutions to enormous problems which won't be answered by short-sighted solutions. I see people who are willing to dedicate extra time to causes they support. Groups such as Greenpeace, the Alliance for Peace and Amnesty International are a few groups or causes people are starting to get involved with.

To further my argument, there will soon be another group emerging from the woodwork of an apathetic and conservative campus. That group is Greenpeace. Greenpeace at USC will be an affiliation of the newly opened Greenpeace, the Southeast Nuclear Campaign, here in Columbia. (I am proud to say that I have an "active" role in both groups.)

It's easy to understand why you would say such groups are "invisible." It's discouraging to us, too.

For example, a representative of the House in South Carolina expressed her concern during a press conference over the GSX landfill being too close to Lake Marion. Did WIS-TV show that on their 7:00 Report? No. Their lead stories usually have to do with traffic accidents, fires or killings.

Another example, Greenpeace held a silent vigil at SRP this past summer. WIS-TV broadcasted their coverage of this vigil on the 11:00 Report on a Saturday night! Does anybody really watch the 11:00 Report on a Saturday night? I don't.

Media is not only the one to blame, but people are too. It seems as though the students or people in the area have their priorities put in different orders. Some people or students want to know what's happening to them politically or to their environment, while some of them have other things on their minds. Could there be an epidemic of "social ignorance" on campus these days? Or, are people scared to be labeled or associated with a radical group?

Radical or not, Greenpeace is a very selfless group of people who are "socially conscious" of what's happening to their environment. Maybe you will thank us one day for our efforts.

Yes, Mr. Guilfoyle, times have changed, but I now see that they are "a-changin'" for the better!

Melodie Moody  
Pharmacy major  
Greenpeace volunteer

### Bush debated with substance

To the editor:

I was very pleased last week to see Dukakis and Bush finally square off face-to-face in a nationally televised debate. However, it was very disturbing to see members of the press, and society in general, wrongly judge the outcome of the debate.

Dukakis was improperly dubbed the slight winner simply because of his "eye-to-eye" contact with the camera, and lawyerly, Reagan-like eloquence in speech. What people failed to notice, however, was the substance of Bush's remarks. Bush repeatedly refuted the

Dukakis's poor attempts to undermine the present administration, while reminding America of the misery we lived in during the last Democratic tenure in the White House. Dukakis had to "eat crow" several times in the course of the evening, with his mention of low housing, when in fact housing is up; when he forgot to mention that interest rates are down more than 10 percent from the Carter administration's economic fiasco; when he haphazardly attempted to downplay some major opinion differences between him and his running mate; when Bush reminded America that Dukakis vehemently opposed the U.S. attack on terrorist training-haven Libya; etc., etc..

When I go into the voting booth next month, I'm not going to vote for a candidate simply because he is more relaxed in front of a camera. I am going to vote for the candidate with the most experience, the best solutions to today's problems, the best running mate, the best leader for America! I'm voting for George Bush.

Scott Saunders  
Journalism sophomore

### Service still 'good idea'

To the editor:

I applaud the Sorority and Fraternity councils for their bold effort thus far to provide a Five Points shuttle service. It is unfortunate that their efforts have been met with opposition rather than support. If we truly want to continue to upgrade the image of "The USC," student initiated projects like the shuttle service should be backed 100 percent. If a USC student is injured either on or off campus, the entire USC community is affected. Instead of worrying about the liability of the project, those concerned should search for solutions to this obstacle. I'm sure there is a USC alumni in a position of authority at a local insurance company who would be more than happy to underwrite the service. I encourage the councils to continue the shuttle. Good ideas outlast their critics.

John Cavanaugh  
Political Science  
graduate student



## The Gamecock

Best Non-daily Collegiate Newspaper, Southeastern Region  
Society of Professional Journalists, 1987-88

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