

Dead bill

Students need a representative on USC's Board of Trustees

State Rep. Tim Rogers, D-Richland, is expected to do a favor for USC students sometime next semester.

For him, though, it will be next spring, when the General Assembly reconvenes to begin a new two-year cycle of bills, votes, amendments and other such lawmaking stuff.

One of the bills he is expected to introduce, or reintroduce actually, would place a voting student on USC's Board of Trustees.

He is reintroducing it because the bill was allowed to die without any action being taken on it by the previous Student Government. It became a non-issue, as important as it was, and nothing was done.

S.G. President James Franklin expects to mobilize an effort among students to help push the bill. He doesn't think it's unimportant, so he won't let it die the ignoble death it died last year.

There is much to be said in favor of having a student on the board.

First and foremost is a disturbing attitude that was expressed by a member of the board, with the nodding approval of other trustees, that the students are an unimportant, minor part of the university.

That's an attitude that can only be changed by having a student become an equal to the trustees, and having that equality enforceable by act of law.

Second, the students need to have their opinions expressed by a capable spokesman to the board at all times, especially when the board meets in an executive session. The S.G. president is only at times allowed to address the board, but never in executive session. It can easily be said that the subjects addressed in the executive sessions are as important to individual students as the subjects discussed in open session are to the students in general.

Some have said if a student is put on the board, a faculty representative will have to be put on the board, and then a staff representative.

That argument, which has been expressed by the administration at times, is without base. Students don't work for the administration; we won't be voting on pay raises for ourselves.

We have the same relationship to the university, being tuition-paying students, as the taxpayers of this state have. They have their representatives to express their views to the university. We should have ours.

On campus, students are stripped of some of the rights they would have if they were living in the real world — having to put up with inspections, rules that limit the rights they would have if they simply moved off campus. And all the students who live on campus or who have friends on campus have to listen to the ultra-conservative, out-of-touch babblings of trustees like state Rep. Mike Fair, R-Greenville, who proposed changes to the dorm visitation policy because he didn't like the rules.

With reactionaries like Fair on the board, it is imperative that the students have a representative who can vote and oppose Fair's 12th-century proposals.

But most importantly, the students need a representative on the board to speak our case when it comes time for the university to discuss tuition increases, such as the one USC President James Holderman told the Commission on Higher Education might be necessary next year. It seems it's never enough.

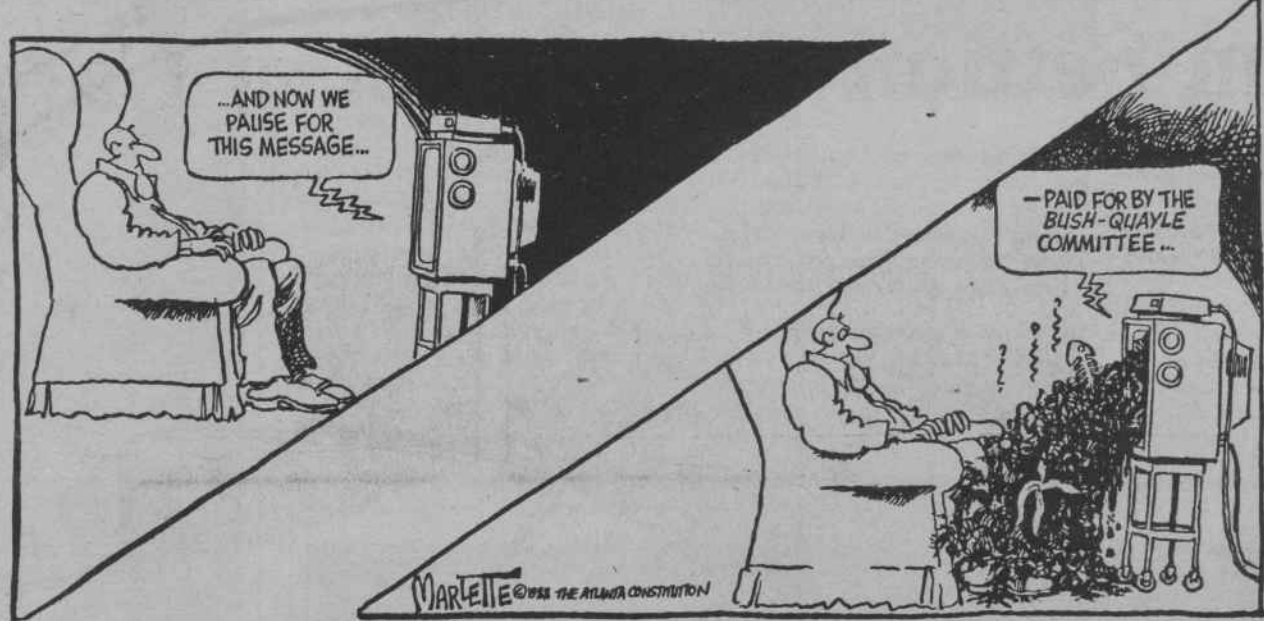
We need a representative, a student, who can go in there and fight for the students' interests. Students don't want to have to pay more to attend USC. And students probably don't need every single service that the university provides, so a student could probably go in and force some budget cuts, not in the academic area, but in the frills area and the programming area.

The university can do two things when it is faced with a lower-than-normal allocation from the state. As it always does, it can raise the tuition. Or it can cut back, as it did in '87-88.

But until there is vocal, committed opposition to an increase in fees, as there was in the '86-87 school year with two tuition protest marches to the State House and other methods, the university will think it can get away with these increases.

The best opposition, though, would come from a student on the board, relating the feelings and the anger and the determination of the students not to put up with increases.

We need a student trustee. So students should watch carefully what S.G. is going to do about it, and join in any efforts that might help send Rep. Rogers to the State House. Then he can tell the legislature that there are a number of students who are upset with the lack of representation on the board.



Halloween a measure of your childhood

I'm not quite sure when it happens, but I think it's safe to say you really begin to lose your childhood the first time you stay home on Halloween night.

For most, it happens around the 12th year of life.

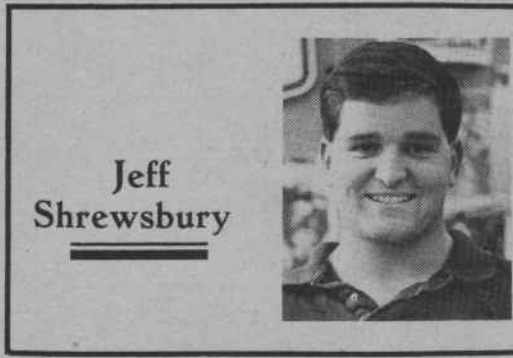
It's the time when dressing in costumes and getting free candy begins to take a back seat to listening to music, watching TV and thinking about girls. You're still a child in the classic sense, but the first time you wake up and realize you don't have a costume and don't care to walk around the neighborhood is when you know it's becoming time to put down childish things and move on with your life.

Soon after, going to a Halloween party is much more fun than hitting the sidewalks dressed as a spaceman saying "trick or treat."

When you're young, very young, Halloween is such a special time. You get caught up in the ceremony and mystery of the strange and scary night. You wonder if there really are ghosts and goblins, and you wonder if there is a devil.

You look forward to carving a pumpkin into an evil-looking jack-o-lantern and lighting the candle that casts an eerie glow on your front porch. It's a fun time for the kids to spend a night with their parents and get oodles of candy and treats. But it's just that — a time for kids.

I remember, as does everyone I imagine, the first Halloween I spent at home.



Jeff Shrewsbury

It was a cold Wednesday, and I got back from school at about 4 p.m. My mother was in the kitchen dumping a bag of lollipops in a glass bowl and whistling a happy tune. I came in and put my books on the table, then went over and grabbed a lollipop out of the bowl.

"Mom," I said, unwrapping the coating. "I think I'll stay home tonight."

My mother, a fine woman, stopped and looked at me with a sort of inquisitive twitch to her eye. She pulled up a chair and sat down next to me.

"Why?" she asked, taking my hand.

"I'm getting too old for that stuff."

"You're sister is going out. She's up there right now getting her costume together."

"Yeah, but she's a kid."

I remember at the time being proud to say that

because for the first time I felt like I would eventually become an adult like my mom. I knew at that moment that everyone, even her, had gone through the same thing — realizing they were growing up. I also projected in my mind a time when I too would be sitting next to my child, taking his hand and hearing him lose some of his innocence. It was an emotional moment.

"Are you, sure?" she asked, smiling.

"Yes. I think I'm going to watch TV."

My mom started to snifle, I think. She stood and hugged me.

"You're growing up too fast for me," she said quietly in my ear.

She pulled back and our eyes connected in one of those parent-child emotional locks. We both knew this was one of those epiphanies that life periodically deals out. She accepted it, though, probably feeling a little older herself.

"Would you like to hand out the candy?" she asked.

I thought about it. It would be the first grown-up thing I ever got to do. I had never considered the fact that I might someday be the one greeting the little ballerinas, cowboys and ghosts at the door and giving them treats from a bowl. I knew they would be looking at me through the door knowing I wasn't one of them anymore. They would know I wasn't a kid.

I started to cry.

I still love to carve pumpkins, though.

Win has columnist crowing like Gamecock

The annoying burps of trivialities return, in a special football victory installment.

● How many people saw the game Saturday? (Anybody who says "What game?" goes to bed without supper tonight.)

This week's football hero — Patrick Hinton. If you see him, stop him, shake his hands and say, "Great job, big guy."

● Speaking of people I'm going to be speaking to, I'll be looking for Todd Ellis tomorrow. I normally see him in Gambrell before my . . . but we wouldn't want to have a crowd there would we? No. Suffice it to say I'll see him, and I'm gonna ask our junior quarterback what he was doing and saying immediately following that perfect touchdown strike to Eddie Miller in the fourth quarter.

Instead of the touchdown shuffle, Ellis pulled his fingers as if they were two six shooters, shot twice, and holstered his fingers and said something that looked like "SO THERE."

Yes, Todd "The Kid" Ellis, you did that to a national audience.

● But some of those watching, myself included, are a trifle confused. And we're wondering about what you did, too.

I think you were doing it to one of the sidelines, I'm not sure which one, but it also looked like it could have been done to the backfield referee. He was right in line of your "six shooters."

I guess it's all right. From their earlier calls (and worse, their failure to make other calls), they showed, to use the Western imagery you brought into my mind, that they were nothin' but a buncha sidewindin', horse robbin' varmints.

● Back to Patrick Hinton for a moment. Wat-



Stephen Guilfoyle

ching on the tube as I was, my friends and I saw that the fumble recovery Hinton made in the second half was actually his fourth interception of the evening. N.C. State's receiver never had possession of the ball, and it bounced around on him until it popped into Hinton's hands, without having touched the ground.

Don't believe what you read in *The State* — that was an interception.

● Speaking of big wins, did any of the others watching the game on ESPN see that HUGE smile on coach Joe Morrison's face? He's reached the century mark now, this big game was twice as important to the coach because he's got 100 wins.

Way to go, JoMo.

● Sources told the guy in *The Gamecock* that Morrison was still smiling by the time he held his conference with the rest of the press inside the locker room area. He was also seen shaking hands and patting players on the back. I haven't heard of Morrison being this happy and ebullient since I saw his Coca-Cola commercial.

He was REALLY happy in his Coke commercial.

Speaking of which, I wonder if the coach did put in that play he drew. I guess it was a Coke-rooskie? It looked good to me.

● The guy in *The Gamecock* is really happy right now, because he is going to go to his religion class this morning and just laugh, laugh, laugh, and when I'm done laughing, I'll laugh some more, just for the heck of it.

I'm allowed to crow, because I was the only one in the class to pick the Gamecocks to win by 14 or more points.

Almost half the class thought we wouldn't win. The rest thought it would be by 3 to 7 points.

My professor said 10-7, USC.

● For Wednesday, we'll have a complete list — with addresses and phone numbers — of the traitors who picked N.C. State.

● But for now, before my religion professor asks what I knew that he and the rest of the pollsters and pundits and pickers didn't, I'll say that I don't look at statistics. I've talked to the players.

And I knew that Matt McKernan was still angry about State's victory two years ago. And I know he's honest enough and outspoken enough a player to get the entire defense ready by himself if he had to. And I talked to McKernan, Patrick Hinton and Derrick Frazier after the Georgia Tech game. They were humiliated and I kind of thought they would be looking for someone to take out their humiliation on.

● How 'bout that rejuvenated running game? How 'bout that rejuvenated Harold Green?

● Ah, 'tis good to be a Gamecock, 'tisn't it?

The Gamecock

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

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Letters to the editor

Student should report bugs

To the editor:

I feel the definite need to respond to (Monty Seth Warner's Friday letter) "USC dorm like roach motel." I am the resident adviser on the second floor of Douglas, and I am embarrassed; however, it's not fair!

Just like R.A.s and employees of USC Housing, students also have responsibilities. An R.A. is more or less a mediator who relays and stresses problems that students may have to the proper officials. If a student doesn't inform the R.A., then the R.A. may not know the problem exists. On these lines, I have not seen a roach in my room or elsewhere on the second floor of Douglas this semester.

I have no quarrels with the young man who wrote the subject article. I only wish that residents would handle things with a little more common sense and a lot less ignorance. There is a proper way to handle things, and

embarrassing others without giving them a chance is not the proper way.

Tim Mobley
electrical engineering senior

Parties use shallow tactics

To the editor:

In response to Michael Yoder's letter "Dukakis More Substantive," which appeared in *The Gamecock* Friday, Mr. Yoder ought to step down as self-proclaimed political analyst and, if capable, open his eyes to reality and acknowledge the fact that neither the vice president nor the governor of Massachusetts is a more substantive presidential candidate than the other. If Yoder truly believes his claims legitimate then I hail the Dukakis campaign for its ability to attract all those Yoders without a cause (without a candidate in this particular case) who seek purpose in the political realm.

I believe that if one were to delve just a smidgen deeper into those

issues so feverishly rattled off last week and were to use each candidate's record, as well as plain common sense as a guide, one would find neither Mr. Bush nor Mr. Dukakis to be truly committed to those issues we all hold dear. For, when the economic push comes to shove, both show their true aristocratic colors.

Neither candidate has the fortitude to outline any solution to any problem our nation presently faces, and why should they? It would be political suicide to rock the American boat. After all, we as Americans have to right to be ignorant of global reality and to feel a false sense of economic security, and in light of these, we truly deserve what we elect. We must admit, however, that it is the nasty American capitalist economy that sustains all those good humanitarian and environmental policies. We also must admit that as each of us move up that nasty capitalist ladder we will find ourselves often speaking from the other side of our mouths, a phenomenon prevalent to those once fervent part-time pseudo-liberals.

I think it beyond the scope of any

65-line commentary to delineate even the fundamental issues that should be considered when assessing a candidate to the highest elected office of our country. Anyone attempting to do so (Yoder, Mullinax, Arant, et al) would be foolishly simplistic in doing so and should be encouraged to refrain, and any vote influenced by such commentary, as well as the past 12 months of election year rhetoric, should not be cast. Ignorance, in fact, is not bliss. If one were to evaluate the records of both the Republican and Democratic candidates, the bottom line is that neither candidate has demonstrated the strength, creativity, wisdom or diplomacy that will be required of the next president of the United States.

Neither candidate is substantive and both camps are guilty of (to use Mr. Yoder's words) "shallow, fact twisting and negative campaigns," a bipartisan practice indeed, Mr. Yoder. I am anxiously awaiting the day when people will think more and speak less.

Daniel J. Sarlitto
geography graduate student