

The Thieves' Market is a new creation for shoppers who like antiques.

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## Swimmers seek Metro title Thursday

See Sports, page 7

"It just so happened that the certain someone was changing into a very big bug." — Scott Pruden, critic  
See "The Fly II," page 4

# The Gamecock

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## University aids victims of blaze

By ANDY BECHTEL  
Editor in chief

The USC students who were left homeless Friday morning after a fire destroyed their apartment building are rebuilding their lives with the help of the university, the Red Cross and fellow students.

The blaze ripped through the building at 828 Gregg St. shortly before 9 a.m. None of the 11 students was seriously injured, but many lost almost everything they owned. Police said the fire started when a candle fell onto a tablecloth in an apartment on the second floor.

USC officials rushed to the scene after receiving a phone call from Capstone's area manager, said Jim McMahon, director of resident student development. The university immediately began to make arrangements for the students, he said.

"We try to identify their most urgent needs," McMahon said. "By Friday afternoon, we had housing set up for those who wanted it."

The university provided free temporary housing in the Towers, he said, adding that the students also received pillows, sheets and towels.

The University Bookstore replaced books, and the university made new ID cards for the students, McMahon said. The Red Cross helped find them clothing, and many students donated



Athletic Director King Dixon introduces Sparky Woods, USC's new football coach, to the press Tuesday.

## Sparky Woods lands head coach position

By KEVIN ADAMS  
Sports editor

Philip "Sparky" Woods was named the new USC head football coach at a Tuesday morning press conference at Williams-Brice Stadium.

Woods, 35, will replace the late Joe Morrison, who died of a heart attack Feb. 5.

As head coach at Appalachian State University for the past five seasons, Woods led the NCAA Division I-AA Mountaineers to a 38-19-2 record and two Southern Conference championships during that time. He was also named the Southern Conference's Coach of the Year in 1985, 1986 and 1987 — the first coach ever to win the honor for three consecutive years.

"We are absolutely delighted to have a man the caliber of Sparky Woods as our new head football coach," USC Athletic Director King Dixon said. "He has the characteristics we were looking for — unquestioned integrity, strong character, student athlete-oriented and a genuine feeling and concern for young people. He comes from a winning tradition, he's a proven recruiter and he possesses excellent people skills."

The selection of Woods came after USC had narrowed its list of candidates to six over the weekend. Other finalists included Furman head coach and USC alumnus Jimmy Sat-

terfield, Marshall head coach George Chaump and USC defensive coordinator Joe Lee Dunn. Woods interviewed with Dixon and USC President James Holderman Sunday and was offered the position Monday afternoon.

"I'm thrilled to be the head foot-

ball coach at the University of South Carolina," Woods said. "I'm very sorry that it occurred because of the death of Coach Morrison, but I'm excited about carrying on with the

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### Sparky Woods' record at ASU

Year	Won	Lost	Tied
1984	4	7	0
1985	8	3	0
1986	9	2	1
1987	11	3	0
1988	6	4	1
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>

● Named Southern Conference Coach of the Year three straight years - 1985, 1986, 1987

## State agency surveys campus-area streets

# Safety, accessibility problems for disabled students

By RON BAKER  
Staff writer

Some USC campus-area streets are unsafe for students confined to wheelchairs, said a representative of the S.C. Protection and Advocacy System for the Handicapped.

Representatives of the Protection and Advocacy agency met with the city of Columbia's Street Division supervisor Feb. 17 to survey safety and accessibility in certain areas of the campus.

Agency representative David Reeves said there are many unsafe curb cuts and inaccessible areas on campus. He even compared maneuvering a wheelchair in some places to bobsledding on asphalt.

Reeves said the curb cuts are too steep to be safely navigated by anyone in a wheelchair and that students who are aware of the danger do not generally use those cuts. He said the real danger is to students in wheelchairs who are not used to the cuts trying to use them.

Among the specific problem areas noted by the survey are curb cuts at Main and Blossom streets and one at the USC sign in front of the Towers, Reeves said.

Tom Ward, president of USC's Disabled Student Services, said it is important to distinguish between those problems which fall under the USC's jurisdiction and those which are the responsibility of the city.

Ward cited extensive study of such troubles on the part of DSS. He said he has made a number of recommendations to campus officials and through campus officials to the city.

"The university has been extremely responsive to the needs of students with mobility impairments," he said.

A majority of the problems surveyed Friday by Reeves' organization and Street Supervisor Lee Honeycutt appear to fall within the city's domain. The city has had a mixed reaction to the survey.

Columbia's Public Information Director John Spade,

who was unaware of this preliminary study, said Monday, "This is the first time it has come to our attention that there are safety problems on city streets on and around campus."

While the city of Columbia has always worked very closely with the protection and advocacy agency, Spade said, there are problems with funding unless conditions pose what he termed "an immediate hazard."

Miles Hadley, Columbia's assistant city manager, echoed Spade's comment that difficulties and potential dangers are a priority item for the city, but budgetary limitations exist.

"Such curb cuts can only be done so many at a time," Hadley said. He thinks funding is not a real problem where day-to-day improvements are involved, but such corrections can only be made during original construction or repairs deemed necessary for other reasons.

"The process requires a certain amount of time involv-

ed to get funding for this sort of thing," Honeycutt said. He said securing funding was the foremost obstacle to improvement.

No projected cost has been given for improving the situation, as the process is just getting underway, Reeves said.

Reeves said the proposed changes will be very costly, but said streets and sidewalks must follow safety guidelines. He said the city has been very cooperative so far, and he expects the agency he represents to work with USC for other improvements.

Reeves said he hopes the process for resolving the problems can begin formally within several weeks, but Honeycutt does not seem to believe things will go smoothly.

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## Students may curb fee increase by saving energy

By PAM CREECH  
Staff writer

The Residence Hall Association is calling for conservation of energy in student residence halls to avoid future housing fee increases.

A 6.3 percent housing fee increase was approved by the Board of Trustees Thursday, and a large portion of that increase has been earmarked to cover rising utility costs.

"There will be a 3 percent increase in electricity, and the other companies have not told Housing what their increases will be next year," RHA President Michelle Lefeld said.

"There will be an increase in utility costs, and we have to increase fees because of their increase," she said.

Ken Corbett, director of business operations of USC Housing Services, said utilities are expected to increase an average of 5 percent in the fall.

S.C. Electric & Gas will implement a 3 percent increase, and water costs are expected to rise 26.5 percent, Corbett said.

Utilities accounted for 16.8 percent of the housing fee on June 30, 1988, he said.

Other areas that will increase include wages, supplies and service and a category which includes security, Corbett said.

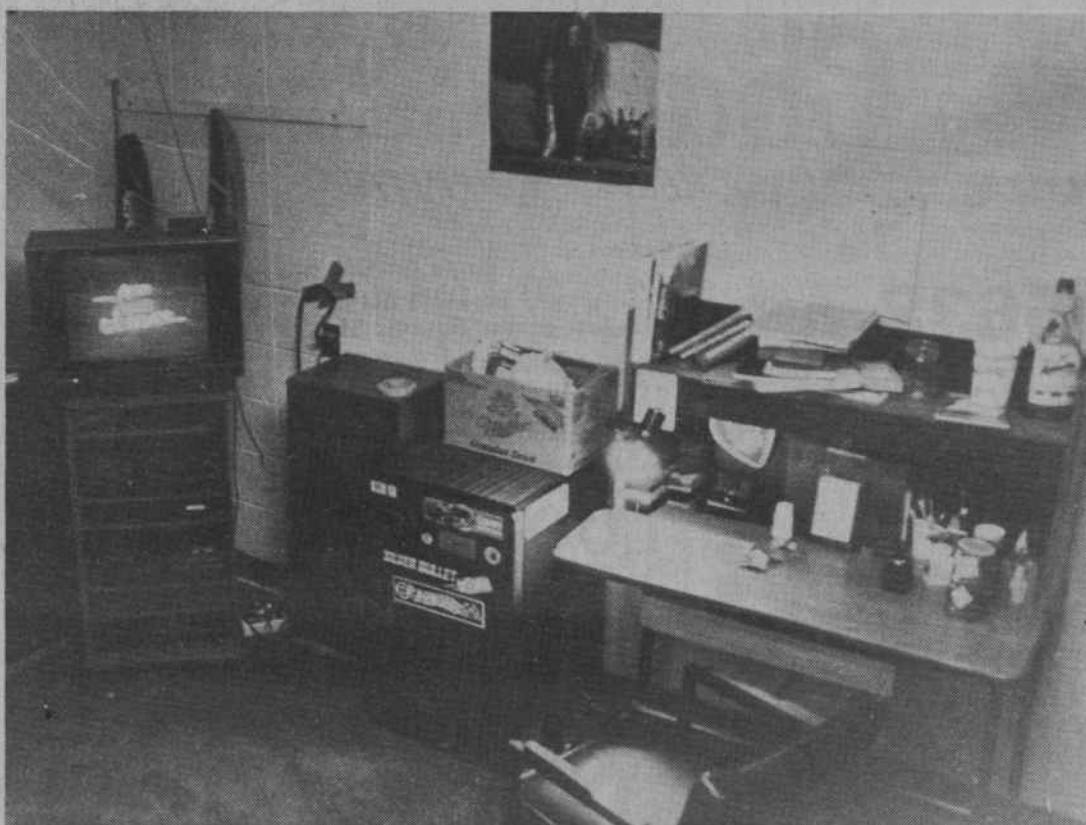
"These increases mandated an increase in operations costs," Corbett said.

Despite Executive Vice President of Business and Finance Pete Denton's comment that residence hall security will "take an additional substantial portion of the increase," the division's costs are only expected to increase 1.3 percent.

The cause for the increase in utilities costs is a lack of conservation by residents, Lefeld said.

"Until the majority of students conserve, there will be increases every year," Lefeld said.

She said students are not as conservation-



With stereos, televisions and lights constantly on, students use a lot of energy.

oriented as they were during the energy crisis of the 1970s.

"During the 1970s, students conserved," Lefeld said. "Now they take 30-minute showers, the air conditioner is on 70 and the heat's on at 80."

McClintock Resident Adviser April Borum has observed the waste of electricity in her residence hall.

"I've seen people leave their stereos on when they leave the room," she said.

Lefeld would like to see a conservation plan implemented at USC, but the effectiveness of such a program would be directly related to student concern about the problem.

"I have been looking into a program, but it's difficult to go about it without an energy crunch," she said. "If anybody has a plan, let me know."

In light of the increase, Lefeld reminds residents that the benefits of living on campus still outweigh the costs.

"Living on campus gives students a positive learning experience, convenience and security that living off campus cannot offer," she said.

Those conveniences include peer interaction, she said.

"Off campus living does not offer the ability to run down the hall and meet people with the same interests," Lefeld said.

She said the condition and atmosphere of each residence hall is the responsibility of its residents. The decision to conserve utilities would depend on the students.

"Where you live is what you make it," Lefeld said, "positive or negative."

## Project to educate on substance abuse

By LYNN GIBSON  
Staff writer

Students will educate students about the risks of drugs and alcohol starting this month under a program funded by a federal grant.

The peer education project consists of 12 students who applied to and were selected by Student Life's Alcohol and Drug Program.

The students will work in pairs promoting drug and alcohol awareness within residence halls and student organizations free of charge, said Kimbra Robinson, peer education supervisor and assistant director of the Alcohol and Drug Program.

Alcohol and Drug Program Director Katie Altman said the two-year program is funded primarily by a Funds for the Improvement of Secondary Education grant, which stipulates that a peer education program be implemented.

"Studies have shown that peer education is more effective in both approach and prevention of high-risk drug use," Robinson said. "A lot of times students see professionals as being too authoritative and are afraid to ask questions and speak freely. With someone closer to their own age, students feel more at ease about talking about their problems."

The students have been in training since the beginning of January and will begin making presentations Friday.

The S.C. Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, which also contributes funds to USC's alcohol and drug program, helped train the students, Robinson said.

The students were selected for the program based on prior experience and interest in drug and alcohol education, good communication skills, flexible schedule and the ability to remain on campus through the end of the next fall semester, Robinson said.

Three presentations have been planned on the subjects of alcohol, driving under the influence and what to do if a friend has an alcohol or drug problem, Altman said.

More topics will be added based on feedback from students about their interests. "We're here for the students," she said.

The program will benefit the university through the number of students reached, Altman said. She said among the six teams, presentations could be made at any time of day.

The students represent a cross section of the campus, Robinson said.

"We have six girls and six boys. Their majors range from psychology to physical education, and they represent all aspects of life," Altman said.

Robinson said the program will not be a judgmental one.

"The message is not 'Don't do, don't do,' it's 'be aware of your risks.' What I consider to be responsible and what you consider to be responsible may not be the same, but determining high risks and low risks is pretty much black and white," she said.