

WUSC

Students should offer support to station's fund-raising effort

WUSC-FM, the university's student-run radio station, is holding its annual fund-raising event this weekend, and students owe it to themselves to listen and help the station by pledging a few dollars.

The event, known as "Moolah for Music," offers listeners the unique opportunity to hear almost anything they want in exchange for a small donation. For two days, WUSC breaks away from its alternative format and plays what listeners pay for, no matter what the genre. During "Moolah for Music," the station also gives away thousands of dollars in prizes, including albums, posters, pizzas and hotel accommodations.

During past fund-raising campaigns, the station has played Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven" backward, various hit singles by Madonna and just about everything else imaginable within the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission. All these bizarre requests make the weekend of "Moolah for Music" one of the most interesting times to listen to the radio. More importantly, it gives WUSC a chance to raise some money.

Because the station does not broadcast commercials, it must rely on funding from the university. But because the station must meet certain revenue requirements every year, that is usually not enough. WUSC needs the support of students during "Moolah for Music" to help the station in its quest to upgrade equipment and provide quality broadcasts.

Throughout the year, WUSC offers a remarkably wide range of music. The station plays reggae, rap, classical, acoustic, heavy metal and hardcore among other genres. WUSC attempts to appeal to every possible taste and provides an excellent service to USC and the community in the process. No other radio station in the Columbia area can claim such diversity, and the university should be proud to have WUSC.

USC students, especially those who have never given the station a chance, should tune in to WUSC this weekend to hear some fun, intriguing radio. They would also be contributing to a worthy cause by making a donation. With student help, WUSC can get better and better, and that quality will reflect on the entire university, including its students.



" TODAY, THE WORLD — TOMORROW, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA !..."

False loyalty blinds supporters of North

Joseph Sobran and I are usually fundamentally opposed on every issue. So it shocked me yesterday to read something by him that I actually agreed with. But we can all occasionally learn from our foes. Right?

For those of you scratching your heads and wondering who Sobran may be, he is a syndicated political columnist who wears his conservatism proudly. He is a Republican in the most overt sense.

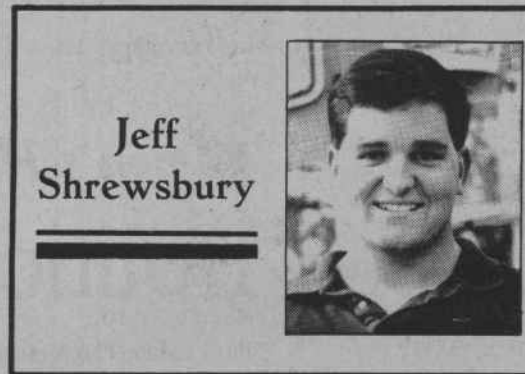
Politics aside, however, the man can write. He can turn a phrase with the best of them, but it just so happens that about 90 percent of the phrases he turns, I disagree with. I respect his craftsmanship, but I dislike his products.

In his Thursday column, Sobran brings up a good point about principles in conservatism today. He argues that conservatives, whom he usually falls in behind, have been blinded by Republican party principle in regards to former President Reagan and the Oliver North trial.

North's attorneys are trying to call Reagan to the stand to testify about what he knows, or remembers, about the Iran-Contra affair. Obviously, this has caused a great deal of uproar in the various camps of the conservative right wing.

Sobran argues that conservatives have been blinded by their complete and stubborn support of the party.

Sobran said it doesn't matter if Reagan has to testify or not because conservatives are willing to pardon him solely on principle. "If he's one of us, then he didn't do anything wrong, and even



Jeff Shrewsbury

if he did, we don't want to hear about it," is what conservatives are claiming, Sobran says.

This is a role reversal, Sobran said. He states that the Democrats and "liberals" of the past administrations such as Franklin Roosevelt's and John F. Kennedy's were the ones who blindly accepted whatever the president did, and it was the conservatives who controlled the legislature. Now, he says, the opposite is true.

Sobran's point in this column was to show that politics can dilute one's sense of right and wrong. He says some people who may have fundamental objections to some of the things North and maybe Reagan might have done are willing to overlook those acts for the sake of party principle.

Sobran eloquently explained why this phenomenon occurs. "One of the dangers of

becoming a movement is that you tend to forget your principles when you sniff the chance of gaining power. Instead of being guided by your principles, you tend to be led by comrades who are intent on political victory."

He is saying this type of blind trust is dangerous and wrong, and I agree.

We don't know what part Reagan played in the affair or what crimes North may have committed, and we may never find out. But the people who are rallying to North and Reagan's support seem to be doing so out of some sort of twisted sense of loyalty to the GOP as well as a sort of Pollyanna dream for the government.

The people who refuse to accept the fact that Reagan may have lied and North transcended the Constitution are doing so because they are afraid and horrified these things might be happening in a party they once felt could do no wrong. These supporters, not so much out of ignorance really, but more out of desperation for a cleaner government, reject the facts even when overwhelmed.

They are turning a cheek to the truth and blindly following in the hopes that the problems will go away.

There are problems in our system and in every system for that matter, but we have laws, and we have ways of policing ourselves. We need to clean up our act through hard work and practical solutions. Ignoring the problem and hoping it will go away has never worked and will never work. It will only succeed in making the problem worse.



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Letters to the editor

Rockafellas' retains policy

To the editor:
I am writing in response to David Oventhal's letter of March 22 regarding Rockafellas' change in admission policy. I am disappointed that *The Gamecock*, a publication I have worked for, advertised in and enjoyed over the past seven years would print the irate ramblings of an ill-informed student without first checking all the facts.

Oventhal's long day of carousing on St. Patrick's Day must have blurred his mind with delusions. Rockafellas' did not get busted by the ABC at any time during that weekend, contrary to Oventhal's belief.

Regarding the change in our age policy, Oventhal was correct, partially. Since December, ABC has been particularly active in Five Points, trying to enforce drinking laws. This action has resulted in the eminent demise of Crazy Zack's and the possible closing of other area bars. In the light of this effort by ABC and the fact that a record number of agents were assigned to patrol Five Points on St. Patrick's Day, the management at Rockafellas' felt it was in the best interest of the club and its future not to allow those younger than 21 in during the week of the celebration. It might interest Oventhal to know that all his peers at Carolina are not as honest and trusting as he is. When ABC did visit Rockafellas' in December, they popped six people for underage drinking. Everyone was a USC student; four of them had fake IDs.

It was a decision none of us wanted to make, but until we could come up with the best possible system for controlling underage drinking, it was our only choice.

Fortunately, that week is behind us, and thanks to added security personnel and new security measures, we will resume admitting those 18 and older. We have been advised against

this by those who believe we are only asking for trouble, but we all felt so rotten about banning those of you who truly just want to come out and listen to the music that we are willing to take our chances and place trust in you. Please work with us on this. The powers that be are no longer taking underage drinking lightly. Heavy fines and criminal charges await those who try to beat the system.

One note to my friend, Oventhal. I was flattered that you considered Rockafellas' to be "the place in town." I hope now that now you know exactly where we stand you will once again think highly of us. In the future, if you or anyone else has a problem with the laws governing the drinking age in this state, I suggest you write your congressman, not *The Gamecock*.

Derek Chiarenza
USC class of 1987
Principal owner, Rockafellas'

School doing positive things

To the editor:
Now that the school year is ending, I feel that I must write to commend USC on the many positive things it is doing.

I had hesitated returning to school after an eight-year absence, but after some discussion, my husband, John, and I decided to enroll in the newly created masters of media arts program. (This despite my pregnancy!)

We are so glad we decided to pursue our degrees. We are having fun while receiving a solid education in filmmaking, screenwriting and creative thinking. Cholton Brasington, who heads the department, had assured us that the department would help accommodate us with scheduling, especially with the baby, and I'm pleased to say that the department has been very flexible.

The media arts department also brought us in contact with Robby Benson. John and I have enjoyed his

class thoroughly and think that USC should be proud to have someone as knowledgeable and sincere as he is to teach filmmaking and promote the school and state. As an announcer at WSCQ radio, I know that many people would love for Benson, his wife, Karla Devito, and daughter to stay in Columbia for as long as they'd like.

Continue the good work, USC!
Cindy Dean Ott
Media arts graduate student

Parker: classy team player

To the editor:
Martha Parker will never suit up again as a Lady Gamecock, but few players have ever meant as much to their programs as Parker meant to Carolina.

Parker won so many honors that she lost count after her sophomore season, but being the classy athlete that she is, she put those honors aside in order to concentrate on helping the team win. A true team player. How many amateur and professional athletes can make that claim?

During her four years here, she helped the talented Lady Gamecocks to three Metro Conference championships and NCAA tournament appearances and an overall record of 83 wins and 41 losses.

When I came to Carolina, I knew nothing about women's basketball. But as a member of the WUSC-FM sports staff, I have had the privilege of watching Parker and the Lady Gamecocks the past four seasons. Those who never saw Parker play missed a real treat!

I would just like to say a great big "thank you" to Parker for being the outstanding athlete and person she is. You have given me a tremendous appreciation for Lady Gamecock basketball.

Steve Gwyn
Journalism senior

Blacks robbed of identities

To the editor:
This letter is to all white students at USC who do not understand how offensive it is to me and other African-American students to be taken for granted, denied and robbed of our culture.

I am mainly speaking of the African medallions that many African-American students have been wearing proudly over the past year. These medallions have many meanings that go far deeper than its physical appearance. These medallions represent our blackness and struggle that all blacks are going through worldwide; they represent African-Americans' past in this hypocritical country and how we are in search of our true identity.

However, to my surprise, I have seen some white students wearing these pendants. I am not sure of the ramifications behind their acts, but I take it to be mockery. I do not think many white students understand African-Americans or their true history — especially on this campus. The question I ask is what involvement white people have with Africa for the enslavement or repression of other human beings.

We African-Americans are the only group of people who have no culture — have no past, although we are attempting to unite as one! Yet we cannot unite as long as someone infiltrates what is ours. Africa is ours! It is the closest and only thing we have left to claim. White people have taken everything good from Africa and African-Americans and have tainted it and exploited it to their benefit. They have incorporated everything we have originated, everything from inventions to art. Now it's the medallions. Maybe we should bring back the afros and dashikis and see what happens.

Stephen Driffin
English senior
Phi Beta Sigma fraternity

The Gamecock

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