

Foundations

USC, foundations should not ignore legislative audit report

The writing is on the wall again. Only this time it shouldn't take a prophet to understand what it means.

Thursday a hard-hitting report to the S.C. General Assembly was released, criticizing the relationship between USC and its four foundations. The report also said no reason existed to shield the identities of people who received gifts from President James Holderman.

USC and the foundations should learn from the past. The Board of Trustees and Holderman tried to keep from the public how much they were paying Jihan Sadat. The public not only found out how much was spent, but South Carolinians also found out how Holderman spent more than \$3.4 million of discretionary funds.

The Legislative Council Audit's report has revealed some other potentially damaging information about very questionable ties between USC and the foundations.

The report could be damaging because, ironically, as the public and the General Assembly loses confidence in the foundations and USC donations might suffer. No one wants to donate to a foundation that will not be open about how their money will be spent.

Among the findings in the report, the foundations have used state resources to raise money for private USC-affiliated foundations and state appropriations have funded foundation projects.

Other key items in the report revealed:

- All other southeastern states have greater access to foundation records than do South Carolina auditing organizations.

- USC high-level employees have served as foundation executive directors, chief financial officers, and other officers, and USC administrators have received salary supplements from university-affiliated foundations. The report also addressed the concern over possible conflicts of interest which might arise from these arrangements.

- Three projects, which originally began as privately funded through the foundations, may cost the state taxpayers \$13 million to complete.

After the report was issued, Board of Trustee Chairman Michael Mungo said, "There are no new problems of any substance." Mungo, however, appointed a committee to study the problems.

The report did find a lot wrong with the present relationship between USC and the foundations. The foundation directors, the Board of Trustees and Holderman should not ignore this report.

The foundations are accountable to the public on how public funds are spent. USC and the foundation should stop the appeal to Judge Carol Connor's ruling and release all spending records before tougher laws forcing disclosure are passed by the legislature.

Taking these steps before they become mandatory will help restore public faith in USC and the foundations.

MAVELLY Chicago Tribune



In the Belfry.

Beauty contests mirror female inequality

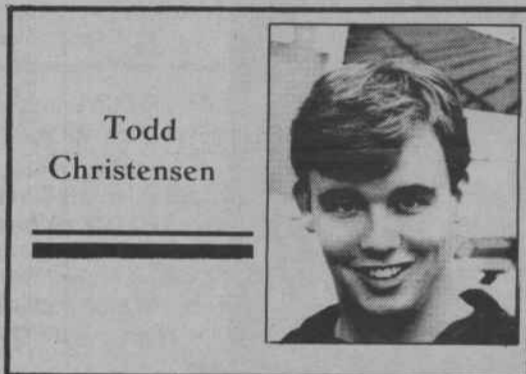
After watching the Miss South Carolina pageant a couple of weeks ago, I came to a startling conclusion: as long as contests of this sort exist, women will never have an equal place in society.

Before you start pasting the labels on me, be assured that I am not a chauvinist and I have nothing against women. But I find it offensive that women continue to voluntarily submit themselves to the scrutiny of the masses as if they were poodles on parade in a dog show.

What, I ask, is the purpose of having a Miss America or Miss Universe pageant, or the honor in being named the victor? That the winner is the most beautiful woman in the world? Or that she had the best rehearsed answer to the world's most pressing problems?

I would think that, in today's society, women would be trying to avoid the "put me on a pedestal" stereotype and be recognized as fully-functioning members of society. Instead, the contestants voluntarily parade themselves in front of millions of viewers, trying to show they have the best figure or most attractive smile or prettiest eyes.

You haven't come such a long way, baby. Could you ever take Ms. America seriously as a presidential candidate, regardless of her political background? You would have to ask how the two could possibly relate.



A case in point: what if a USC student ran for homecoming queen, a position of questionable merit and unwarranted type. Then she presented herself as a candidate for some student government president, a position of some respect and responsibility.

I could not see how anyone could take her seriously as a presidential candidate after running for the fluff position of homecoming queen.

There are girls who from the age of three, or even earlier, have been groomed to compete in beauty pageants, as if the ultimate goal in their lives should be winning the title of Miss America. I like to think that there are many more worthy, less

narcissistic plateaus the women of today could achieve.

Men could never compete in similar endeavors because society simply would not accept it. Even body building, a prominently male sport, is looked down upon by many as an exercise in self-indulgence. But body building, at least, promotes personal health and fitness.

But hundreds, even thousands, of women constantly starve themselves to squeeze into that swimsuit, the attire used in the most popular of the contest events. How can it be that some people will actually submit themselves to public judgment about their appearance in a handful of lycra and spandex?

The dog show analogy I made earlier was not made to describe looks, but actions. Owners train dogs to walk correctly, obey orders and maintain control so that their coats won't be disheveled by contest time.

What is any different in a beauty contest? These women have been groomed, schooled and indoctrinated in the art of winning beauty contests. They will parade on a stage, model clothing and display their bodies for a panel of judges who will award a meaningless title to one lucky winner.

For all of the beauty present in most of these pageants, the competition itself is truly ugly.

Chinese students should be given options

Chinese students and scholars residing in our country have been placed in limbo — a suspended kind of hell that will force them to decide whether to remain here and bring hardship to their families overseas or to return home and face almost certain persecution or worse.

However, many Chinese people residing here in the United States are wondering if they will even have the option of choosing. The reason for that is Chinese nationals have to apply for visas that require them to return to China for a minimum of two years after being abroad.

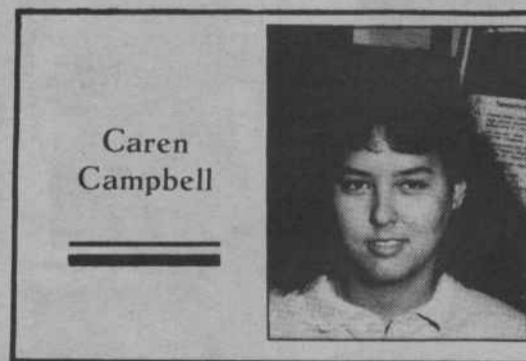
Many of their visas are going to expire soon, and they fear having to return to their native country which took the lives of some of their fellow students, brothers and sisters in Tiananmen Square in June.

But wait! President George Bush has offered to extend visas for Chinese citizens until June 5, 1990. Whoopie!

Come on, who does Bush think he's fooling? Bush's generous offer will only prolong the agony of Chinese nationals. Imagine what you would go through if you knew the date of your demise.

It will also prohibit Chinese nationals who choose to stay in the U.S. from renewing or extending their visas past June 1990.

Bush's plan is clearly a feeble attempt to display a measured amount of compassion for Chinese nationals. His desire to maintain relations with the



People's Republic of China is only thinly veiled by this shred of compassion.

Aren't our hands as red as the hooded executioner if we — the democracy coveting nation that we are — are the ones who are sending these people to certain persecution.

Making our fellow students and scholars return to China during this trying time of turmoil is ridiculous.

But wait. There's hope along the horizon.

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has introduced an act that would waive the two year foreign residence requirement which is at the center of the vortex that's sucking the Chinese people down into the abyss of good ole American bureaucracy.

Pelosi's bill would help to alleviate some of the stress these people are going through during a most trying time. In addition, it would lend some degree of stability and security into the lives of many of our own Chinese friends and acquaintances.

I try to understand Bush's motives. Perhaps he is trying to send a message to the government of the PRC. Maybe he is trying to help the Chinese people residing here.

I guess there's a very fine line between immigration and political asylum.

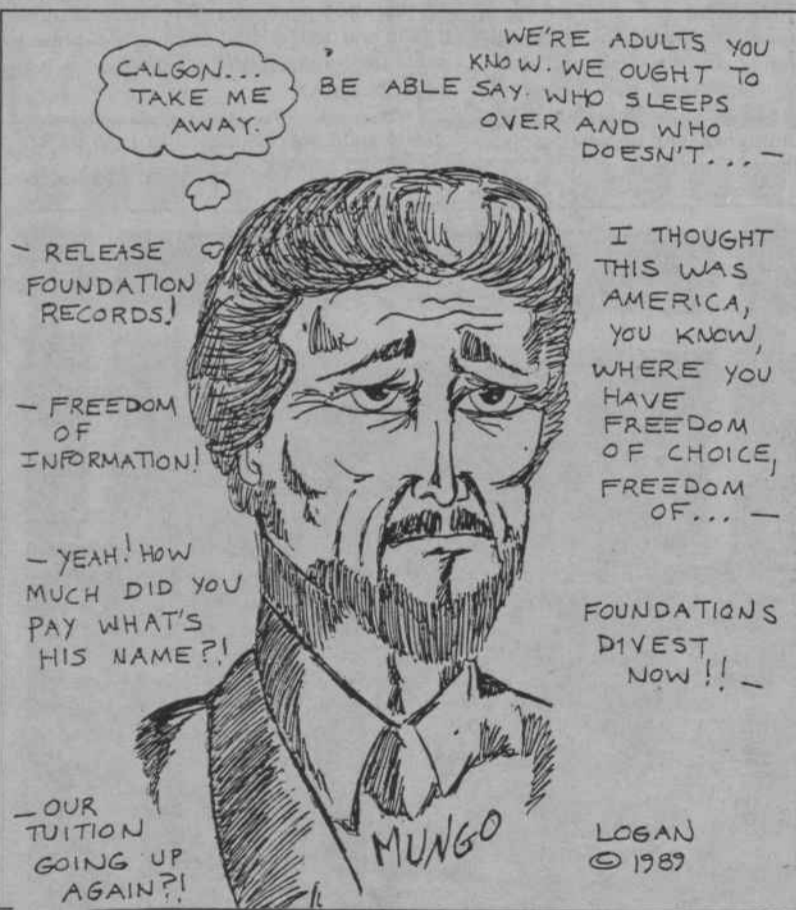
America: a nation that sends Soviet Jews and Chinese nationals back to suffer the wrath of their governments, yet allows a malicious dictator like Ferdinand Marcos to take refuge in the beautiful islands of Hawaii.

What kind of message does this send, Mr. Bush?

We have a chance to ease the pain however slightly of those Chinese people who through no fault of their own have been put in a very difficult situation, even though only one of South Carolina's representatives has co-sponsored this bill.

The world has recognized the magnitude of the situation in China. The U.S. House of Representatives, with the help of Congresswoman Pelosi, has come to grips with and decided to tackle this problem that truly plagues us all.

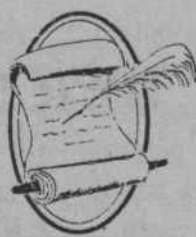
Hopefully, Mr. Bush will grab the clue soon. Maybe he will after he gets back from that hotbed of political controversy — Paris.



The Gamecock

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Where have all the baseball heroes gone?

On Sunday, baseball's Hall of Fame will induct Carl Yastrzemski and Johnny Bench.

When I was seven and in need of a hero, I found myself cruising along in my uncle's sedan on Highway 28 between Falmouth and Dennis, Mass. on Cape Cod. Sitting next to me, my cousin, Chuckie, had his head out the window, hollering the name of a local ballplayer at passing pedestrians.

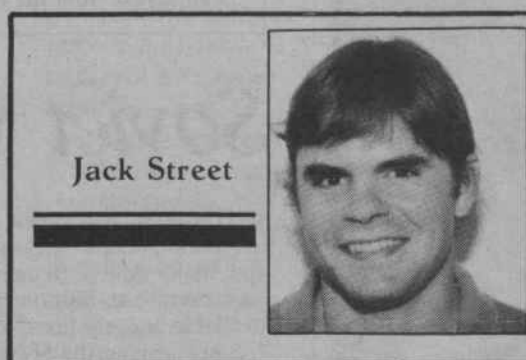
The local ballplayer was Carl Yastrzemski, off Long Island, playing in the big leagues for the Boston Red Sox.

The summer of 1967 was incredible. Even without the political and social upheaval, it would have been extraordinary just because the Red Sox won the pennant, their first in 21 years.

Hocking lingo from Broadway, we called it the "impossible dream." Yastrzemski had seven hits in eight at-bats in the season's final weekend, single-handedly winning the pennant at the last possible moment.

Later he said, "I knew the dream was no longer impossible."

At 27, Yastrzemski was just beginning to mature. He won the 1967 triple crown, the last player to achieve that feat. Off the field, he was maturing, too. The Red Sox had begun to shed



their party-boys mentality. When told that Carl had started a family, one wag quipped, "I didn't think he could cooperate with anyone for that long."

Until 1983, when "Yaz" retired, he was my boyhood and then my teenage hero. Red Sox fans are not all like me.

Fickle and even bitter Bostonians spit back stories of lamentable hitting by Yaz and/or the Sox in the clutch. But nobody denied the desire of the Captain. Yastrzemski was early to the ballpark everyday, epitomizing the work ethic in a town spawned by the Puritans.

A career spanning three decades in high-pressure Boston speaks of a special kind of determination. Imagine, a ballplayer staying with one organization for his entire career. Savor this man's induction into baseball's Hall of Fame: he is of a beautiful but dying breed.

Is Boston's best player of the day, Wade Boggs, fit to be a hero? Meanwhile Johnny Bench's former teammate Pete Rose manages the Cincinnati Reds in between bets.

Yaz crossed the line between idol and hero. The function of the hero is to inspire the spectator to continue in the same spirit from where he, the hero, leaves off. The hero must be typical of the crowd, who at that time only needs to be made aware of their potential. We recognize a bit of ourselves in the hero.

The idol is different. Today's "heroes" are really idols. They are self-sufficient, self-serving contexts for the fantasy of the fan. Most ballplayers today bask in the glitter of apparent perfection. The hero strives for perfection.

One record says it all about Yaz: most games played (3,808), 3,419 hits, 452 home runs and 18 American League All-Star appearances ain't bad. There were bad times, too. But what I remember is Yastrzemski's daily quest for improvement.