



Fans have been rooting for the Gamecocks — and tailgating — for years. See Carolina Life, page 5

Ellis draws praise from UGa coach

See Sports, page 8

"... Og would go through the stack of dead beef and pick out what he wanted. It was like shopping day at Winn-Dixie." — Scott Pruden, columnist See "Lifestyles," page 4

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Housing office makes \$15,000 blunder at NADA



TEDDY LEPP/The Gamecock

Vinyl siding was put on the side of the blue NADA apartment building, but had to be removed because the building is an historical landmark.

By KELLY C. THOMAS
News Editor

The University of South Carolina's housing office just made a \$15,500 mistake, a housing official said.

Director of Housing Services Linda Saad said USC contracted the National Aluminum Company to install \$16,000 worth of vinyl siding on the blue NADA apartment building earlier this semester.

"The problem," she said, "was that that building is a landmark building, and vinyl siding is not considered to be an acceptable covering for landmark buildings."

The siding was not completely installed before the university realized their mistake, so the company knocked off some of the original quoted price, leaving the total cost for installation at \$12,000, Saad said.

A second company, Crouch Construction, was then hired to remove the siding that was already installed, adding another \$3,500 to the university's bill.

"It was my fault," Saad said. "I should have checked to see if the building was a landmark building, but the thought that it might be didn't even cross my mind."

Saad said the vinyl siding was ordered after housing officials noticed the paint on the building was peeling.

"Two-year-old paint should not peel," she said. "It cost us \$7,600 to paint that building. It should last a little longer than two years."

"The vinyl siding seemed like a prudent financial move at the time," Saad said, "because, basically, vinyl siding lasts forever."

Saad said she plans to be very cautious in the future to make sure another mistake doesn't happen.

She said there was no information in the housing office files to indicate that the building was a landmark, "And it didn't even dawn on me that that was in the realm of possibilities," she said.

Policy changes affect state employees

By JAYE SIMMONS
Staff Writer

Several changes have been made in state employee health and medical insurance, which many affected people aren't aware of, a university official said.

Some of the changes involve differences in payment and dependent eligibility rules, USC Benefits Manager Carol Bonnette said.

"The new health plan is a comprehensive or major medical type plan while the old plan used to be a combination of basic major medical outpatient diagnostic and prescription drug card program," she said.

Under the new policy, which becomes effective this January, benefits will be subject to annual deductibles and co-payments, Bonnette said.

Dependents will lose their dependent eligibility after age 18 unless they are full-time students. Dependents still in school will lose their eligibility at age 23, she said.

These rules differ from previous requirements

"The new health plan is a comprehensive or major medical type plan while the old plan used to be a combination of basic major medical outpatient diagnostic and prescription drug card program."

Carol Bonnette
USC Benefits Manager

which allowed dependents eligibility at age 23 regardless of their educational status, she said.

Certified documentation will be needed to claim dependency of adopted children and children having last names different from their parents or guardians, Bonnette said.

She said employees of the university are asked to contact the Benefits Office whenever a dependent loses eligibility.

Eligibility may be lost when a dependent gets

married, is no longer financially dependent on the policy holder or exceeds the age requirement, she said.

The opportunity to obtain health and medical insurance as a one-time dependent of a group insurance policy is protected under federal law, Bonnette said.

The Consolidated Omnibus Budgets Reconciliation Act (COBRA) of 1984 requires employers to notify employees and/or dependents who lose coverage under their group plan of their right to continue coverage under that plan for 18 to 36 months depending on qualifying circumstances, Bonnette said.

The newly formed Division of Insurance Services was established this past July as a combination of the State Insurance Benefits Division and the Insurance Reserve Board.

The specific reasons why the new division was formed has been the root of much specula-

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Company looks into telephone system

By RHONDA GREENE
Staff Writer

A prominent selective marketing company is interested in offering a new Call 900 telephone system to a major university in every state.

While this system would provide students and alumni with valuable information from other colleges and universities across the nation, some university officials believe it would be counterproductive.

If introduced by the North American Selective Marketing Inc., the Collegiate Information Network, a Call-900-Plus service, would provide for a fee a menu with pre-recorded messages, NASH's Executive Vice President Henry Wener said.

These messages include information about job opportunities, alumni news, course changes,

sports scores and information on various organizations, Wener said. It can also be used to collect information on credit cards and registration. A variety of items can be added to the menu depending on the university's needs, he said.

Any university can obtain a 900 number just by contacting NASH and filling out an application, Wener said. The cost of using the line starts at \$250 a month. The fee for setting the system up and programming is about \$1,500, he said.

The Collegiate Information Network can also be used as a fund-raiser for the university or as a means to meet the cost of using the system, he said.

"We hope to see at least one major university in each state use this system," Wener said. "It is a quick and widespread source of information."

Martin Solomon, USC Vice President for Computing, Communications and Information Technology, said USC already offers services that are similar to the Collegiate Information Network at no charge. Such services include ASKUS and the new Telephone Information Processing System (TIPS), which allow students to receive their grades or register by telephone.

The Call 900 network would be administered through MCI, Solomon said. MCI will charge seven percent of the retail value of each call to offset the cost of billing and uncollectables, he said. Uncollectables are calls people claim they did not make and the phone company has to pay for them.

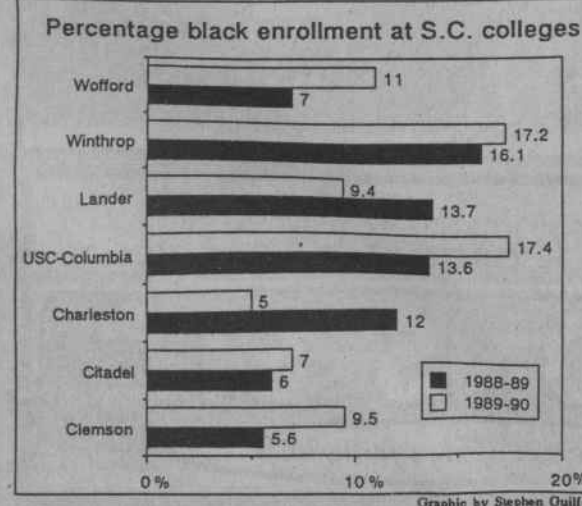
Solomon added that USC tries to provide free and helpful information to students.



TEDDY LEPP/The Gamecock

Lending a helping hand

Business senior Bob Wiggins helps to load a truck bound for the South Carolina coastal areas Tuesday. The Coliseum's Elephant Room was literally packed with cots, food, clothing and other necessities donated by Columbians willing to help the victims of Hurricane Hugo.



Black enrollment rises at mostly white schools

By JEFF WILSON
Assistant News Editor

New figures from the office of admissions at many of South Carolina's colleges and universities show that black enrollment is up at most of the state's predominately white schools.

With its percentage of black freshmen, USC fares considerably better than many other state campuses.

Of the 2,779 students in the fall freshmen class at USC, 17.4 percent were black. That is a 3.8 percent increase over this past fall's freshmen class.

USC has the largest percentage of black students in its freshmen class out of the schools surveyed.

"USC for a long time has tried to provide an environment where students would feel welcomed. We have tried to provide an environment that celebrates cultural diversity," Ralph Johnson, assistant dean of student life for minority student life, said.

He said the Office of Admissions' implementation of the Carolina Tipoff, a one-day minority workshop, played a significant part in the increase in the

number of black freshmen who enrolled.

"Through the Carolina Tipoff, messages were sent to the general public that we are serious about our recruitment of black students. The students that participated in Carolina Tipoff had the opportunity to know more about student support programs, such as the Minority Assistance Peer Program," Johnson said.

Deborah Haynes, director of admissions, said Carolina Tipoff allowed prospective minority students and their parents to come to USC and find out about many of the programs available to stu-

dents, including financial aid. She said minority students already enrolled at USC served on a panel to answer questions about campus life and activities.

Haynes said the Office of Admissions received good evaluations about the workshop from the participants.

"Students also found out about the number of different minority organizations on campus, such as the NAACP, the Society for Black Engineers, the As-

See ENROLLMENT page 2

For the Record

In the Wednesday, Sept. 20 edition of *The Gamecock*, Student Government President Marie-Louise Ramsdale was misquoted. Ramsdale actually said some of the Students' Rights Coalitions' activities are superfluous when the group does not work with already existing organizations. She does not think the organization itself is superfluous. *The Gamecock* regrets this error.



Jerry Brewer

FILE PHOTO

Pi Kappa Phi board of directors elects Brewer national treasurer

By ELISABETH TANGUY
Staff Writer

Jerry Brewer, assistant vice president for student affairs and dean of student life at USC, has been named national treasurer of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity.

In August 1989, he was elected treasurer of the national Board of Directors of Pi Kappa Phi for a two-year term. The national board has seven members who set policies and deal with investments.

Brewer's election was the result of his long-time involvement in the fraternity. "I was initiated into the fraternity in 1974, and I have been active in it as an alumni since 1979," he said.

From 1980-85, Brewer served as Area II governor,

coordinating the local alumni structures in both North Carolina and South Carolina. He was also the fraternity's national secretary in 1987-88.

Brewer, who earned a master's degree in student personnel services in 1980, has been involved in student affairs for the past 15 years. "It seemed natural and it's been a very enjoyable experience," he said.

At the moment, Brewer combines his functions in the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity with his work at student affairs.

"The two compliment each other very well," he said. "Through the fraternity, for example, I can collect information and use it to the benefit of students."