

Blood

Carolina-Clemson blood drive good way to help and have fun

It's November. It's getting colder. Football season is almost over, and the Clemson game is this weekend. All these point to only one thing — the annual Carolina-Clemson blood drive.

The American Red Cross is holding its annual blood drive that gives the two schools something else to compete over. The blood drive calls on the students of each school to donate blood, and the number of pints is tallied and compared to each school. The school with the most donated pints is declared the winner, but the real winners are the people of South Carolina.

Blood saves lives.

Last year the drive collected about 1,400 pints of blood. It takes about five pints to save a life after an auto accident, so this contest could have saved about 280 people last year.

That is a wonderful and wonderful thing. The people at USC, Clemson and the Red Cross should receive a big pat on the backs. It's a good thing that these two schools that are so opposed to each other can cooperate on a project like this and do some good. The football rivalry gets intense. State bragging rights are on the line, but in the blood contest there is no bragging that is not shared.

The country needs blood. The state needs blood, and it's up to every student, faculty member and USC staff member to give a little. The drive continues today and Friday.

Let's show Clemson we can beat them off the field as well, but let's show the people of the state that we care more about them than any old football game.

So, let's get out there and win one for the gipper because some day the gipper might need some blood.

MARLETTE ©1986



"MY APPROACH TO CONGRESS HAS BEEN BASED ON A BIPARTISAN EFFORT"



"I'VE SMOKED ALL MY LIFE, AND IT NEVER HURT ME!"

Achoo! It's that crazy Fluverber again

You can always tell when it's November because the leaves are virtually gone, fallen gently to the brown grass, football teams talk about bowl games, thick-brained politicians extend their arms in victory and every third person has a Kleenex tissue attached to their nose.

Because, you see, November officially begins the cold and flu season. The month should be renamed Fluverber.

About this time every year, the resistance cells that battle viruses in our bodies suddenly pack up the cytoplasm and all the little nucleopods and head down the bloodstream for their annual vacation. And thus, (I love the word "thus") the nasty little virus cells move in and raid the resistance refrigerators for a couple of days.

And it's those midnight raids in the resistance fridge that causes our noses to run and

our heads to ache.

It's nature's way, I suppose.

But I swear I thought I learned in third-grade science class that nature's way always has a good reason behind it. For the life of me, though, I can't figure out what possible good comes from colds and flu. It doesn't cleanse your body. It doesn't cause you to shed "bad blood" or anything like that. It doesn't do anything but make sleeping torture, breathing a hazard and Kleenex stocks rise.

Colds are one of life's little kicks in the butt.

My mother always told me they're life's way of telling you to slow down — that you're doing too much. But we have stress-related diseases for that, don't we? A good stress-related heart attack will slow the best of people down for a while.

And at least there are drugs that cure stress-related diseases. Colds and flu have eluded modern medicine since time began. Aspirin helps you temporarily, it closes the refrigerator for a while, but it just doesn't bring Mr. Resistance and Mrs. Cytoplasm back from their week at the beach.

So, the age-old question of what to do about a cold has cropped up again.

Mothers say soup and sleep. Doctors say Tylenol. Grandmothers say orange juice, honey

and television. I like grandmothers best. But the point is, everybody has their own way to cure the common cold. And, by God, they're going to tell you about it.

It's like hiccups. How many different ways have you heard to cure hiccups? Probably as many as you have for colds.

The best way that, incidentally, four out of every five columnists recommend, is sleep, sleep, big puffy blankets wrapped around your feet, sleep, orange juice, sleep and comic books.

Hey, it works for me.

The worst possible thing to do is to come to work or go to school. You should be a slug on your couch or in your bed for at least two days before you consider leaving to be around other people with vactioning resistance. I recommend a two-day R-and-R period — Rest and Ridiculously-Boring-Days-of-TV-Watching-And-Comic-Book-Reading.

I further recommend doing nothing — absolutely nothing for as long as your brain has the woozies. If I had my way there would be a provision in the Constitution that says every person has the right to do nothing — ABSOLUTELY NOTHING — for as long as it takes to shed a cold.

Who says nothing good can come out of a cold?



Jeff Shrewsbury

Letters to the editor

Homosexuals shouldn't fear

To the editor:

I wish to offer some encouragement to the homosexuals and lesbians who may have been frightened by recent letters to the editor. No one has ever gone to hell because he or she was a homosexual or a lesbian. Matthew 12:31 states, "Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven; but blasphemy against the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven."

Now, if you are a homosexual or a lesbian and you ask Jesus to take control of your life, He will want you to make changes in your life, just as He does for anyone who is saved. But He will be there to help you every step of the way. Corinthians 10:13 states, "no temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it."

Let me reiterate; no one ever went to hell because he or she was a homosexual or a lesbian, just as no

one ever made it to heaven simply on the merits of being a heterosexual. People die and go to hell everyday because they have not accepted Jesus Christ into their hearts as personal savior and master.

Mark King
Electrical engineering senior

First letter misunderstood

To the editor:

It has become apparent in recent days that some people have completely misunderstood what I was saying in my Oct. 25 letter.

My editorial had NOTHING to do with anyone's religious feelings or convictions. For the record, I am a devout and caring member of my church. I do indeed accept God and Christ in my heart.

I will repeat the essence of my letter and what should be remembered:

"For the good of humankind, stop being anti-human and start being a positive and functional part of the Human Race (that includes people of different colors, national-

ities, religions and sexual preferences.)"

If this is still not clear, try this:

We are all human beings on this tiny earth and we need to try to understand and care for each other. Humankind will never be able to survive if we do not stop the blind prejudices and the judging of each other. We need to make ourselves better people.

That was my point. We need to accept each other and move in positive directions and stop the name calling and the finger pointing.

I certainly hope this letter clears away all of the debris and makes people think about being better and happier people. Work it out and work together.

Amy McCaleb
History junior

People unclear on pro-choice

To the editor:

I have noticed that around campus many people have the issue of pro-choice confused. I would like to clarify what it is really all about. Pro-choice is not a debate on whether or not abortion is right or wrong; it is not an issue concern-

ing the disgrace of burning the American flag; and it isn't an argument dealing with our morality in our dorm rooms after dark. Pro-choice is exactly what it states. CHOICE.

In America we supposedly have the freedom of choice. Our national anthem states "let freedom ring." Is this the way our government really works? Maybe we should change our national anthem to "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

A few exclusive individuals are making important decisions for all of us. We choose them to do this. Are they representing us? If we don't make it known we want our freedom, it will gradually disappear. This is already starting to happen.

We have the freedom of speech, the freedom of the press and the freedom of expression. Isn't the burning of the American flag expressing one's self?

Pro-choice isn't a debate of right and wrong, it's an issue of choice. Our morals shouldn't be inflicted on other people any more than their morals should be inflicted on us. We should be able to choose what's right for us.

S. Noelle VanDoren
Education junior

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