



Yuletide brings in a new set of motion pictures.
See Carolina Life, page 5

Berson happy with soccer season

See Sports, page 10

"Students and the young — most in their early 20s — are the ones altering the world's destiny." — Jeff Shrewsbury, columnist
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Cooper library to stay open later for exams

By KELLY C. THOMAS
News Editor

It's almost that time of the semester again — time for exams — and the mountain of studying that accompanies them.

Students who find themselves in need of a little peace and quiet may wish to take advantage of the Thomas Cooper Library's extended exam-time hours.

C. J. Cambre, assistant director of the library, said there will be "modest extensions of the library hours" to accommodate students who "indicated concern over what they felt were restrictive operating hours in the library during exam time."

An informal study group was formed to look into the situation and make suggestions for extending the hours, said Mark Shanley, assistant vice president and dean of Student Development.

"One year," Cambre said, "the library went to being open 24 hours a day, but that didn't work at all. The hours were extended to 2 a.m. a couple of times, and the response was so-so."

"We will be leaving the library open until 2 a.m. this semester as well," he said. "If the extra hours are really utilized, the hours would continue to be extended during exam times in the future."

The library will be open an average of 17 hours per day for a nine-day period. This means the library will be accessible to students for 153 of the 216 possible exam-time hours, Cambre said.

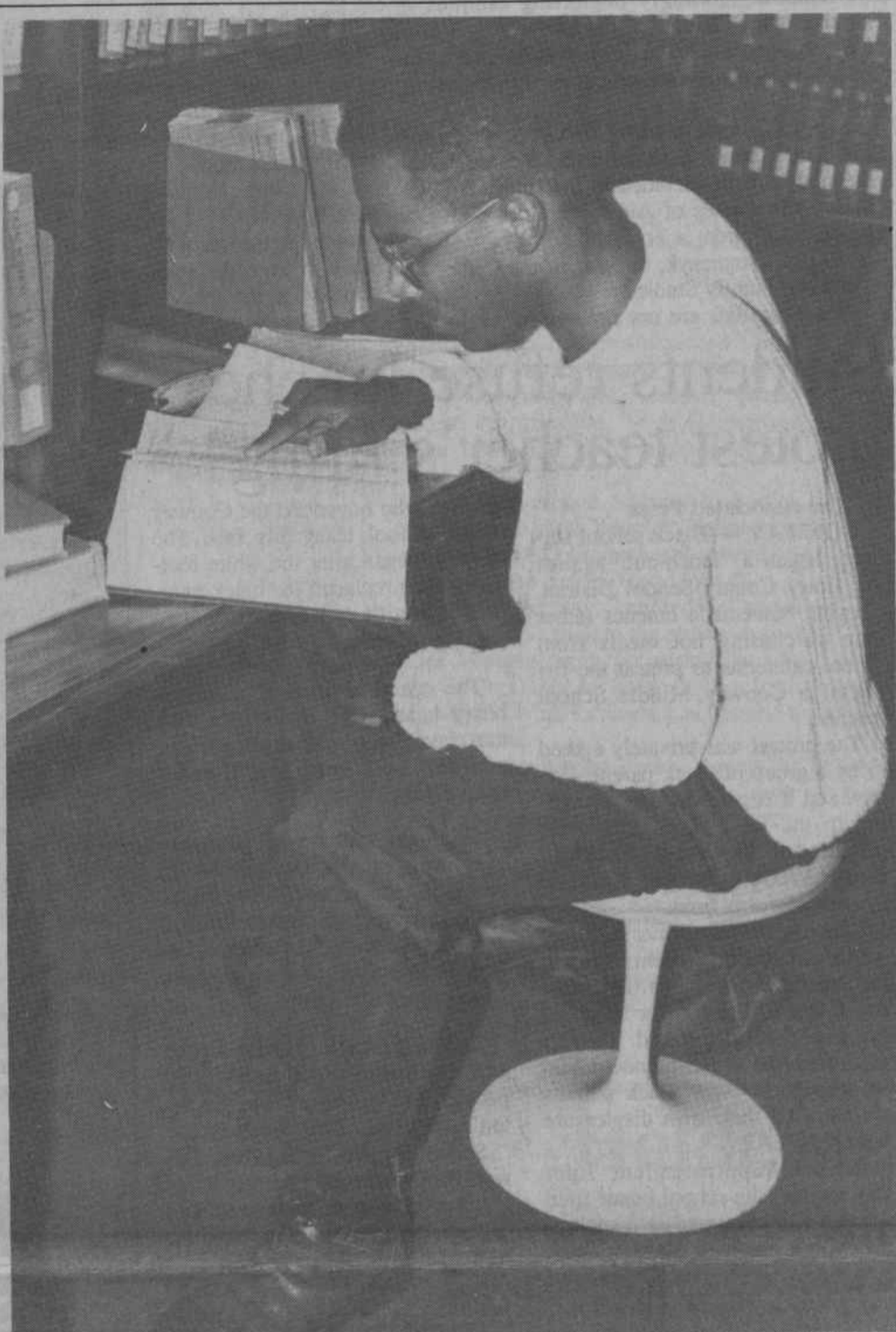
Shanley said USC President James Holderman told him to try extending the hours again, with an air of "if it doesn't work this time, then . . ."

He stressed the fact that the library will open at 7:30 a.m., which will enable students to pick up information or books before their classes.

"I think the extra hours are helpful because during exam time students get stressed and need a quiet space to study and relax," Shanley said.

The exam-time operating hours will be:
● Tuesday, Dec. 12-Friday, Dec. 15 — 7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.

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RENEE MEYER/The Gamecock

Accounting and finance sophomore James Webber studies in the Thomas Cooper Library Tuesday afternoon; students will be able to use library services for extended hours during exams.

Athletics now 'clean'

USC's Dixon is 'Mr. Integrity'

By DAVID STANTON and CHRIS SILVESTRI
Staff Writers

Over the past 10 years, USC has paid out more than \$1.58 million in legal judgements and contract buyouts to former athletic directors and coaches.

While many might think the university has wasted money in these suits and contract settlements, USC President James Holderman believes that, under the current leadership in the athletic department, the school's image is on the road to recovery.

"I don't think anything has been wasted. I think (Athletic Director) King Dixon is above reproach, and he's Mr. Integrity as far as I'm concerned," Holderman said.

"I think we are now on track and way ahead of most other departments in the country. We're clean. We're absolutely, utterly, completely clean. It's taken us a while to make sure that we could say all that, but we certainly are in a position to do so now," the president said.

In October, fired athletic director Bob Marcum received a \$234,425 settlement in his suit against the university. Legal fees for the trial through the month of September cost the university \$191,117. Figures for October are not yet available.

University Vice President for Business and Finance Pete Denton said he doesn't think the cost of the Marcum trial will affect any of

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USC President James Holderman

the Athletic Department's programs.

"The Marcum trial will have no programmatic affect on the Athletic Department," Denton said. "The Athletic Department had a general fund balance to start the year at about \$150,000."

Denton, who said the Athletic Department puts \$50,000 aside for legal expenses every year, was philosophical about giving up chunks of the general fund.

"The general fund balance is like planning a perfect marriage that would last forever," he said. "But just like in a real marriage, it doesn't always last."

Meanwhile, Holderman said he believes the university is divorcing itself from a bad reputation.

See HOLDERMAN page 3

USC coaches take care of athletes, say academics top priority

By KATHY HEBERGER
Staff Writer

A recent NCAA study reported that some Division I college athletes felt mistreated by coaches and isolated from non-athletic activities, but USC coaches say they are doing all they can to prevent this feeling, and athletes agree the situation here is good.

Coaches say academics are top priority and they try not to let the pressure to win hurt the athletes' academic and social lives.

"I think it's my responsibility to take an interest in how my players are doing academically," head football coach Sparky Woods said. "We're all here for academics. You work toward your degree first and try to win the ball game later."

"If all I talked about was catching the ball, they'd feel like they were just here to make the team win. But we don't do that. We talk about all our goals, not just winning games. I ask them how they're doing in English 101," he said.

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Sparky Woods
Head football coach

The study reported that some athletes felt abused by their coaches, like pieces of meat at the school just to make the team win.

"I know that there are athletes who have been abused in some programs, and I know that we've made our share of mistakes here at USC, but I also know that for every athlete who has been wronged by athletics, there are a thousand who have benefited

from them," Woods said.

"They're asked to carry a big responsibility. They're our number one advertisement for the school. No one on campus except the athletes could draw 70,000 people to the stadium. They have to represent the morals of the university," Woods said. "But it's a privilege to play college sports. We spend oodles of money to create a first-class situation for the football team. They have a nice place to stay, tutors and all they want to eat."

Athletic director King Dixon said being a college athlete is more time consuming now than it was when he was an athlete, and USC is doing all it can for the athletes. "They've chosen to take the lifestyle of an athlete. They're not indentured servants," he said. "I've not seen a lot of people not enjoying themselves."

Athletes agree time management is the key to keeping their lives on track and feel that the coaches here care about their well-being.

"It's very competitive, but I guess I expected that, and I think it's good," physical education freshman and track team member Susan McGhie said. "We're in a really good situation. We have a small team. I can tell my coach anything, and he'll give me advice. I can imagine that on a larger team that might not be possible," she said.

Criminal justice junior and basketball forward Michael Glover agrees that the coaches care about the athletes' well-being.

"They keep up with your academics and make sure your priorities are straight. If you have problems, they sit down with you in the office and talk it out," he said.

"You really have to watch your time always. You can get really behind and stressed if you don't use every chance you get to do homework," McGhie said.

See COLLEGE ATHLETE page 3

Black press to be focus of seminar

By ALLEN WEST
Staff Writer

The black press will be the focus of a three-hour seminar called "The Black Press: Past, Present, and Future" to be held Thursday.

Henry Louis Suggs, author and history professor at Clemson University, will open the seminar with an historical perspective followed by a panel discussion. The panel will be comprised of local editors of black newspapers who will focus on the current status of the black press.

Moderating the panel will be Ken Campbell, a journalism professor at USC. The panel will address the economic, social and political impact of the black press, as well as responding to the many criticisms it has received.

Campbell said the panel will answer some of the criticisms faced by the black press, such as why there is a need for it; why its news stories are often poorly written, and why the new stories tend to be

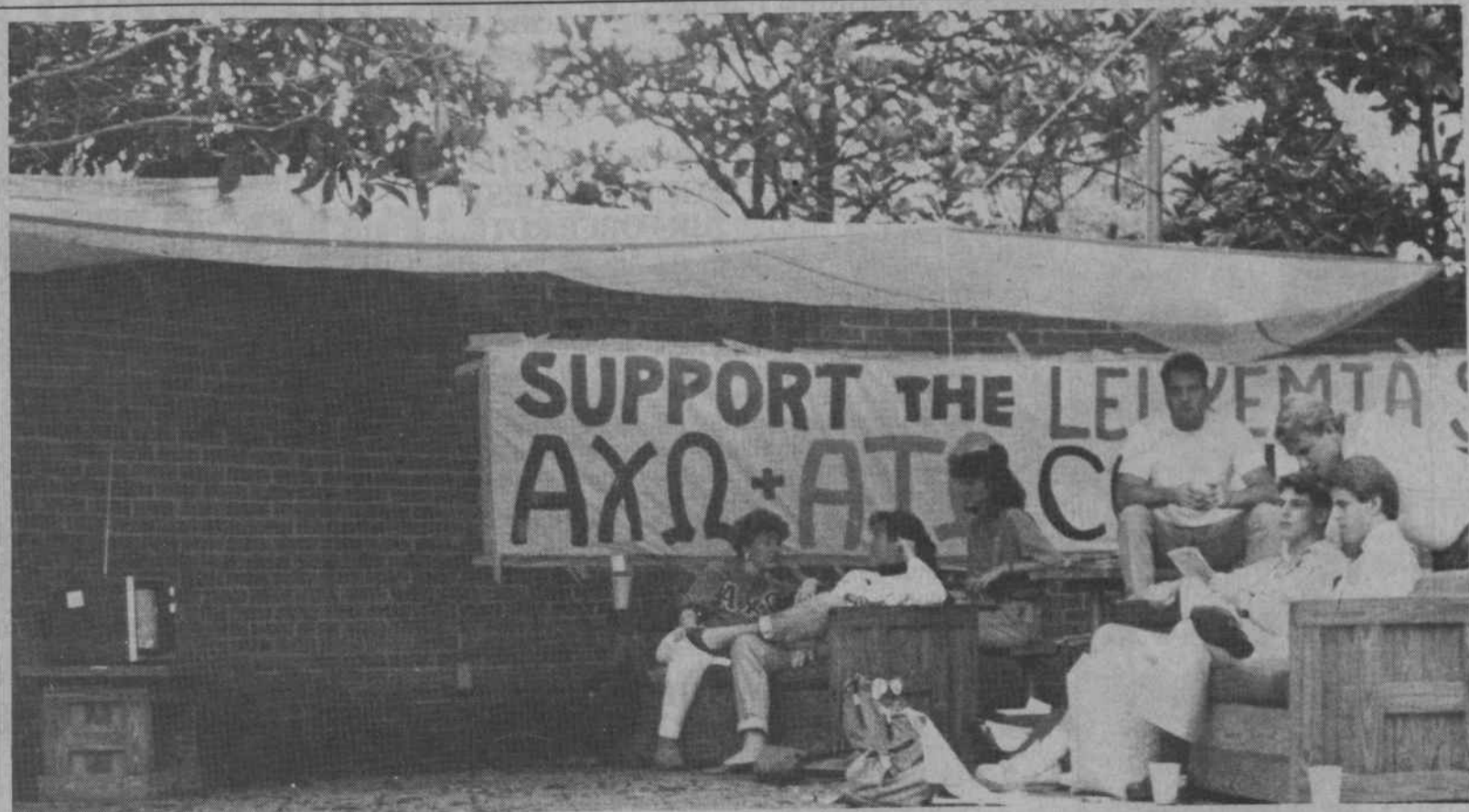
public relations pieces or lack objectivity.

Francis Draper, president of *The Afro-American* newspaper in Baltimore will provide a perspective on the future of the black press. Draper's newspaper is considered to be one of the most progressive black newspapers in the country, Campbell said.

The seminar is the brainchild of Kris Carter-DuValle, a journalism graduate student.

Panel members include Nathaniel Abraham, president of *The Columbia Times*; Mignon Clyburn, editor of *The Coastal Times* in Charleston; Ernie Pitt, publisher of *The Winson-Salem Chronicle*; Isaac Washington, publisher of *The Black News* in Columbia; and Gerald Johnson, president of *The Charlotte Post*.

The seminar, to be held at 2 p.m. in the Gambrell Hall Auditorium, is free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception at the Alumni House.



WIN OTTI/The Gamecock

Checking out the tube

Members of Alpha Chi Omega sorority and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity participate in a Couch Potato-athon on the Russell House patio Tuesday. The groups are collecting money to give towards Leukemia research.