

Movie

'Postcards' has talent but lacks focus, reviewer says

Carolina Life, page 4

Soccer team defeats Panthers Page 8

South Carolina remembers Hugo Page 2

Quote of the Day

"We have thanks we have recovered, and we have thanks so few lives were lost."

Charleston Mayor Joseph Riley See News page 2

The Gamecock

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BRIEFLY IN THE NEWS

World

Soviets eager to help U.S., Cuba

MOSCOW — A senior advisor to President Mikhail Gorbachev said Thursday the Soviet Union is eager to see the United States and Cuba normalize their relations and is prepared to help in the process.

Speaking to members of The Associated Press board of directors and Associated Press executives, Presidential Council member Yevgeny Primakov also said the Soviet Union will not base future aid to Cuba solely on the political consideration of keeping President Fidel Castro in power.

Questions about Cuba figured prominently in the wide-ranging discussion with Primakov, who also said the Soviet Union has "stopped thinking of exporting revolution in any form." Asked if Cuba has made a similar decision, Primakov said "They are now reconsidering a lot of their policies."

Germany ratifies unification treaty

BONN, West Germany — East Germany ratified a treaty Thursday that will dissolve the nation in 13 days and merge it with West Germany.

The "unification treaty" was to be approved later in the day by West Germany's parliament, the Bundestag. Its passage would be the final legislative hurdle to joining the two countries.

Meeting in East Berlin, the East German parliament approved the treaty by a 299-80 vote.

Nation

N.C. to test land for waste disposal

OXFORD, N.C. — Test drilling continued Thursday on two state-owned tracts to determine their suitability for a hazardous waste disposal plant and a protester in Granville County predicted some heated words at a public hearing.

The test drilling entered its second day on state farms in Granville and Johnston counties. At the Granville site, 29 protesters were arrested Wednesday when they tried to block work crews.

Protest organizers in Granville County said between 2,000 and 3,000 people were expected to attend Thursday night's hearing at Webb High School in Oxford.

State

Taylor accuses FBI of misconduct

State Rep. Luther Taylor said federal agents held him for questioning for 25 hours straight in July and urged him to drink liquor.

Taylor also said in an affidavit filed Wednesday in U.S. District Court that the FBI agents and federal prosecutors discouraged him from consulting an attorney.

The Columbia Democrat filed the papers in support of a motion to drop conspiracy and extortion charges against him because of prosecutorial misconduct.

Compiled from wire reports

3 students victims of muggings

By AARON SHEININ Staff Writer

In two different incidents, three USC students were the victims of muggings on campus Saturday night.

The students were approached by two to four unidentified males who demanded their money. In one of the cases, the student was alone, while in the other, two of the victims were walking home together.

The first two victims were walking home together to Bates House when they were approached by two males as they were nearing the walkway to the Bates area. The two subjects demanded money from them.

When one victim displayed his empty wallet, the attackers started to threaten them verbally and showed signs of possessing weapons.

"We really didn't take them too seriously.... It looked like they were pointing their fingers at us under their shirts," one victim said.

Then, the two victims were ordered to leave the area by the subjects, according to the USC Police Department blotter. One of the victims also said they were unable to offer police more than a general description of the assailants.

In the second incident, a third victim, who could not be reached Thursday, was walking outside Bates House on the way to his room when he was approached by

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Roy Kramer(left), Southeastern Conference Commissioner, and Arthur Smith, USC interim president, discuss USC's possible joining of the SEC.

Conference talks continue

SEC meeting was good but not decisive

By BRANT LONG Assistant Sports Editor

USC Interim President Arthur Smith described Thursday's meeting with Southeastern Conference Commissioner Roy Kramer as informative, but no decisions were made.

Kramer, who visited the University of Miami Tuesday, met with Smith, Athletic Director King Dixon and USC's NCAA Faculty Representative William Putnam for about four hours at the President's House.

"I feel it went very well," Smith said. "There were very good discussions. I would

characterize them as warm, candid, detailed and very informative on both sides."

Dixon was also pleased with the meeting.

"I thought it was a very positive, good meeting," Dixon said. "We exchanged a lot of information.... They were very straightforward."

Smith said topics such as revenue sharing were discussed in more detail.

"One of the advantages of an all-sports conference is that conferences share income from such things as television and post-season play," Smith said. "That helps to dampen out the risk you have as an independent. You have good years and bad years."

Another topic of discussion was how the conference will be set up with 12 or 14 teams and what the make-up of divisions, if created,

will be.

"We were pleased to learn that no decisions have been made on those things and that, if we do join the league, we would very much be a player in making those decisions," Smith said.

Besides football and basketball, non-revenue sports were also discussed at the meeting, according to Smith.

One of USC's advantages over Miami as a prospective SEC member is the strength of those non-revenue and women's sports.

Dixon said he's sure the SEC is familiar with those sports.

"I would think any conference would be envious of our facilities," Dixon added.

There was very little discussion about

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Statute might require minors to be off streets by midnight

By PAIGE VISHTON Staff Writer

Life for Richland County minors could be drastically different from now on.

Richland County Councilman John Monroe proposed an ordinance Sept. 11 requiring youths 17 years old and under to be off the streets by midnight. The purpose of the ordinance is to help curb juvenile crime and violence.

This past year, 2.5 percent of USC students were under 18, said Karen Petit of Media Relations.

The proposal has been altered and is now being debated. The current proposal suggests an age limit of 16 and under, and a curfew at 2 a.m.

Richland County Sheriff Alan Sloan is supporting the ordinance.

"County Council doesn't want to give a kid a criminal record for being on the street at 2 a.m., but we do need this as a tool," he said.

"I, as a parent and professional law man, feel we've reached a time in society where we must successfully control all the mailboxes being knocked down and the cars being broken into," he said.

"No one in their right mind should be out at

2 a.m. anyway," he said.

The S. C. Individual Liberty Union contends this ordinance is a violation of individual rights based on age discrimination.

Sasha Kennison, acting director of SCILU, claims the ordinance will not work.

"If rebellious teenagers want to go out after 2 a.m. they will, whether it's against the law or not. That only makes it more enticing," Kennison said. "If enough people speak or call up protesting the ordinance, it will not be passed."

Kennison's research found State Law Enforcement Department statistics showing about twice as much crime committed by 17 to 20 year olds than those under 17.

"If the purpose is to cut crime, will they continue to establish curfews for 20 year olds and on up?" Kennison said.

Moreover, SCILU feels this ordinance will force these youth to stay out of view of police officers, causing otherwise law-abiding youth to associate with the criminal element of society.

The 1989 SLED statistics show 60 rapes committed by people under 17 and 639 by those 17 and older. Breaking and entering statistics reflect 1,443 break-ins by those under 17 and

Who Commits The Crime?

1989 SLED statistics show the following numbers for crimes committed by persons under 17 versus those committed by those 17 and older.

Breaking and Entering 1,443 by under 17 -- 4,315 by 17-

Drug Law Violations 380 by under 17 -- 16,354 by 17+

Rapes 60 by under 17 -- 639 by 17-

Murders 11 by under 17 -- 299 by 17+

Source: SLED

Elizabeth Fox and Sheri Tillman/The Gamecock

4,315 by those 17 and older. Drug laws have been violated by 380 people under 17 and by 16,354 people 17 and over. Eleven murders were committed by those under 17, and 299 by those 17 and older.

Prospective ordinances receive three readings and a public hearing before they are imposed.

The proposed ordinance will be presented to the committee for consideration in two weeks.

County Attorney Dennis Aughtry and Sloan will draft the ordinance.

University prepares for evaluation

By KRIS TAYLOR Staff Writer

Getting ready for reaccreditation and establishing a strong graduate program are some of the concerns facing USC as they approach the year 2001, Interim President Arthur Smith told the Student Senate Wednesday.

"We are on the eve of the final decade of 2001," Smith said. "Over the past two years the administration and faculty have been doing strategic planning for the 200th birthday of the university."

In his first meeting with the Student Senate, Smith said much of the planning is being done in preparation for reaccreditation in March.

"About 50 top administrators will be here evaluating us principally in terms of what we say we are, and what we say we want to

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Baghdad professor gives talk

Saddam's methods flawed, speaker say

By TIGE WATTS Staff Writer

Saddam Hussein's propaganda has put the Kuwaiti conquerer "between a rock and a hard place," according to Ehsan Osman, speaker at the first International Studies Brown Bag Lunch Session.

Osman has participated in a USC exchange program as a visiting fellow with the Institute of International Affairs since the beginning of the fall semester.

Osman left Baghdad 25 days after the invasion. From Baghdad, he flew to Jordan, and then the United States.

wait for Iraq's economic turmoil. He claimed that Kuwait was illegally overproducing their OPEC quota," said Osman.

Osman said the true purpose for the invasion was economic.

"Iraq's money was close to a twelfth in value compared to Kuwait's in the private market," said Osman.

According to Osman, another Saddam mistake was his miscalculation of United Nations' intervention.

"He did not think that the U.N. would do anything about the invasion," Osman said. "He thought they would take the same stance they took on the Afghanistan, Grenada and Panama invasion."

trade partner with the U.S. Ten percent of U.S. oil reserves were bought from Iraq, whereas only two percent came from Kuwait."

Osman said Saddam was surprised by the U.N.'s reason for the economic embargo.

"He did not take into consideration the U.N.'s safeguard interests of Saudi Arabia, good relations with Kuwait, and the severity of his international violation," said Osman.

Osman believes that Iraq is in an economic state of panic. He said the Iraqi citizens are buying in massive bulk. He alluded to a time when a merchant was surprised when Osman bought a single kilogram of sugar.

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Ehsan Osman