

Cutback

Students to get shortchanged in resident adviser hiring freeze

The Office of Resident Student Development will not be replacing resident advisers that graduate or quit next semester.

Resident Student Development Director Jim McMahon said a budget misforecast caused the problem because at the beginning of the year, RSD overestimated its allocated funds and underestimated its expenditures.

Dennis Pruitt, Student Affairs Vice-President said the problem was not a budget misforecast but rather a preparation for a very bad scenario.

"Student Affairs are allocated money from the university every year. We feel that a university cutback is possible, and we need to prepare for a cutback in all departments," Pruitt said.

Whatever the reason for the decision not to hire new resident advisers, the students who live and work in the dormitories are going to get shortchanged.

The resident advisers and resident hall directors will all have to work harder to take up the slack for the vacant RA's. It's going to mean extra work for the same pay.

Students that live in some dormitories might be more inclined to take chances and break dorm rules if they know they do not have a RA that lives directly on the hall with them.

An RA plans activities for that floor's residents to interact, get to know one another, relax and have fun. This interaction is one of the benefits of living on campus. An RA can also prove to be a close, reliable friend in a time of need. However, whether it be for reasons of misforecast or preparation, many students are not likely to have access to this individual attention with next semester's hiring freeze.

While USC is preparing for the worst case when it come to the budget, hopefully they won't get that scenerio when it comes to its overworked, underpaid resident advisers that will have to do their jobs and someone else's next semester.

"WHEW! NOW IT'S BACK TO WORK COLLECTING MONEY FOR MY NEXT ELECTION CAMPAIGN"



IN THE SKYBOX AT THE DESERT SHIELD BOWL.



USC trying to deal with race relations

This past weekend, I attended the NAACP national conference, "Stop the Madness: Ending Campus Racism." It was amazing to listen to students from across the country share their experiences with racism on their campuses. They talked about things that I have never experienced and never hope to experience.

Students at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., found billiard balls thrown through windows of the black culture center. White fraternity members from the University of Mississippi were stripped, covered with racial slurs and dropped off at nearby Rust College, a predominately black school. Students have formed the White Student Union at the University of Florida with the purpose of ending affirmative action practices.

When I heard the students, mainly from northern schools, talk about their overt encounters with racism, I felt good to be at USC. It made me see how good we have it.

But then I thought about it. Granted, there might not be racism to the point of confrontation and extreme violence, but there is still racism.

One of the section editors for the paper told me that a friend of hers thought we were covering too many minority issues. During the Stu-



JEFF WILSON

dent Government elections an unknown person painted on the Pickens Street Bridge and by the library, "Don't let 15 percent minority rule." After some crime incidents occurred during my freshman year, handwritten flyers circulated around campus calling for a rally of white students in front of the Russell House. Many students gathered, but it was more out of curiosity than anything else. Even the students who put up the signs never showed up, or at least didn't make their presence known.

Even Homecoming has offered its share of racial tension. When black women have been crowned Homecoming queen in the past few years, people in the stadium booed. This year there were no black women in the five finalists, and some students complained. At first glance, these incidents make USC seem just as bad off when it comes to dealing with racism as other

schools that have gotten national attention, but it is not.

What makes USC different from those other schools is its ability to take proactive measures. Even though someone wrote racial remarks on campus during the Student Government elections, USC students overlooked the statements and elected a black student as student government president. Homecoming has been causing controversy, and now Student Government has established a committee to make changes in the Homecoming process.

On Friday, Delta Upsilon, a predominately white fraternity, and Alpha Phi Alpha, a predominately black fraternity, will work together with Game Ball Run.

On Thursday, our school will sponsor a "Rally Against Racism." At this rally, which will be in front of the Russell House at 12:30 p.m., Interim President Arthur Smith and many student leaders will speak out against racism and reaffirm USC's commitment to addressing racial issues.

Granted, USC is not perfect, and nothing that is done to curb racial tensions will ever change the minds and attitudes of everyone. But at least USC is trying, and that's a start.

The Gamecock

News: 777-7726

Advertising: 777-4249

JEFF WILSON
Editor in Chief

SHARON WILLAMSON
Managing Editor/Copy Desk Chief

LYNN GIBSON
News Editor

ELIZABETH LYNCH
Carolina Life Editor

DOUG AUBE
Sports Editor

RENEE MEYER
Photography Editor

KELLY C. THOMAS
Viewpoints Editor

ELIZABETH FOX
Assistant News Editor

SHERRI TILLMAN
Assistant News Editor

DAVID BOWDEN
Assistant Carolina Life Editor

KATHY HEBERGER
Assistant Carolina Life Editor

BRANT LONG
Assistant Sports Editor

JULIE BOUCHILLON
Assistant Photography Editor

SARA VERNE
Assistant Copy Desk Chief

OCTAVIA WRIGHT
Assistant to the Editors

KRISTIN FRANCIS
Graduate Assistant

ERIK COLLINS
Faculty Adviser

ED BONZA
Director of Student Media

LAURA S. DAY
Production Manager

RAY BURGOS
Assistant Production Manager

RENEE GIBSON
Advertising Manager

KYLE BERRY
Assistant Advertising Manager

CAROLYN GRIFFIN
Business Manager

Letters Policy: The Gamecock will try to print all letters received. Letters should be, at maximum, 250 to 300 words long. The writer must include full name, professional title if a USC employee or South Carolina resident, or year and major if a student. An address and phone number are required with all letters sent. The Gamecock reserves the right to edit letters for style, possible libel or in case of space limitations. The newspaper will not withhold names under any circumstance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

President not model leader

To the editor:

I write this letter to Darrin Wilcox to inform him of the great domestic policy wimp, George Bush. In the Nov. 7 issue of *The Gamecock*, Wilcox made inaccurate assumptions about the president and his policies.

First, Bush sent a secret envoy to China to try and ease the Chinese that we didn't support the student democracy movement. He sent National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft while thousands of students were killed.

Wilcox also says that Bush was an influence in the revolution in Eastern Europe. Bush didn't do anything Margaret Thatcher or Francois Mitterand did do. It is true that most of the Eastern Bloc countries looked to the United States for help, but Bush didn't do

it by himself. Congress approved the foreign aid.

Now, to the great budget deficit. Under voo-doo economics and Reaganomics, the federal deficit tripled to more than \$3 trillion. Reagan and Bush have spent billions on defense and have not raised any revenue. You can't blame Congress or the Democrats. That's the fault of Reagan/Bush '80, Reagan/Bush '84 and Bush/Quayle '88.

Finally, while we spend nearly a million dollars a day in Saudi Arabia on our troops, they are playing volleyball, cleaning weapons and grumbling about nothing to do. Wilcox said they are defending America's interests. What interests? Oil? America gets 60 percent of its oil from South America and Africa.

Wilcox said he's not a Republican nor did he write his letter on monogrammed stationery, but I do believe that Wilcox voted for Mr. No New Taxes/I Changed My

Mind George Bush. If Wilcox lived in North Carolina, he would have voted for Jesse Helms.

Byron C. James
political science sophomore

Letter writer not one of us

To the editor:

On the subject of Leon J. Johnson's asinine letter that appeared in the Oct. 29 *Gamecock*, we feel there is one thing more that needs to be said. Johnson, remember, purported in his letter that the AIDS virus was willfully and deliberately created by a conspiracy of Western nations, including the United States, as a tool for waging biochemical warfare against the black race.

This letter was skillfully discredited by Shepard McAninch in the Nov. 7 issue, but in the interest of truth and fairness, one more item must be cleared up. The infamous

letter in question was signed "Leon J. Johnson, Jr., astrophysics junior."

In the first place, no astrophysics major exists at this university. Furthermore, the physics department at USC is a very small, close-knit community, where everyone is well-known by everybody else. Not only has no one in this department ever heard of Johnson before, but a little research through our records indicated that he has never even taken a physics course of any kind here.

Many students, staff and faculty members are concerned that Johnson (if, indeed, such a person exists) is tarnishing the image of our department. We hereby wish to forcefully disassociate ourselves completely and wholly from Johnson's paranoid and ill-founded ravings.

Barry Johnson
physics graduate
Michael Mayers
physics senior