



Cola Nights
Village Idiot
a casual and fun
pub and pizzeria
Carolina Life page 4

Gamecocks spank Davidson

Page 5

Super Bowl winner predicted

Page 5

Quote of the Day

"It is embarrassing that our nation... has a larger part of its citizenry in jail than human-rights offenders such as the Soviet Union, South Africa or Iraq."

David Bowden, columnist
See *Viewpoint* page 2

The Gamecock

Eighty-two Years of Collegiate Journalism

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**BRIEFLY
IN THE NEWS**

World

**Attempt to condemn
Baltic crackdown fails**

VILNIUS, USSR — The Russian parliament Thursday failed to muster enough votes to pass a resolution condemning the Kremlin's crackdown in Lithuania, where Soviet troops have seized another government building.

The vote was a victory for Communist Party conservatives who have been demanding Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev take tough measures against the separatist Baltic republics and other groups challenging central authority.

In the Lithuanian republic of Vilnius, Soviet tanks were seen moving Wednesday night through the city, despite an appeal from Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis to Gorbachev to withdraw Soviet soldiers from occupied buildings.

Nation

**Anti-abortion bill
passes Utah Senate**

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Senate Thursday passed a bill that would outlaw most abortions. The measure was expected to win House passage and could be signed into law today.

Gov. Norm Bangert has said he will sign the bill. Pro-choice groups promised to challenge it in court and threatened to boycott Utah's tourist attractions and try to derail its bid for the 1998 Winter Olympics.

Ninety percent of the state's 104 lawmakers are members of the Mormon Church, which considers abortion a grievous sin except in the most dire medical circumstances.

State

**Billboard tries to keep
nuclear plant out of S.C.**

GOLDEN, Colo. — Greenpeace wants the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant shut down and doesn't want the facility's operations moved to South Carolina.

The group hopes a new billboard unveiled near the Colorado facility gets its message across.

The 400-square-foot billboard, located on Colorado Highway 93, "Don't Dump Rocky Flats on South Carolina. Shut it down." It also lists two Greenpeace numbers for supporters to call.

Greenpeace is demanding the closure of the facility and opposes the Department of Energy's proposals to transfer its operations to the Savannah River nuclear weapons plant near Aiken.

**Jet leaving Columbia
has to abort takeoff**

A Delta Airlines jet bound for Atlanta aborted takeoff at Columbia Metropolitan Airport after parts of its engine fell onto the runway.

Flight 905 with 65 passengers and seven crew members aboard had just begun taxiing on the runway about 6:30 a.m. Thursday to prepare for takeoff when the captain heard noises in one of the 727's engines, Delta spokesman Jerry McSwain said.

Two runways were closed for about 15 minutes while airport workers cleared metal engine parts that had littered one of the runways near the intersection, said Robert Waddle, the airport's executive director.

Compiled from wire reports

USC to buy computers from IBM

By TIGE WATTS
Assistant News Editor

The Board of Trustees approved the purchase of IBM computer equipment worth \$261,581 Thursday in their open executive committee meeting.

The university also required IBM to donate more equipment valued at \$24,735.

There are 205 pieces in the purchase, with IBM donating an extra 15 pieces.

Martin Solomon from Computer Services said the computers will then be sold to different departments, students and faculty within the university.

"We will put these computers on our own market. We are allowed to do this as long as we don't sell to the general public. We can sell to students as long as it's for private use," Solomon said.

The agreement had to get a board approval because the purchase exceeds \$200,000.

"It is an excellent package and should get approval," Thomas Stepp, the board's secretary, said.

The board also accepted a check worth \$5,990 from the estate of Margaret All Hiers. The university will designate these funds as "The Margaret All Hiers Scholarship" and invest them as a quasi-endowment in the USC Trustees Fund.

"Quasi-endowed funds are those which are created and used at the discretion of the trustees," interim President Arthur Smith said.

The \$5,990 represents two percent of Hiers' estate as of July 31, 1990.

In other action, the board approved members of the Ad Hoc Committee on System Relationships.

These members are Chairwoman Lily Roland Hall, Herbert Adams, Arthur Bahnmuller, William Bethea Jr., James Bradley, E. Carter Floyd and Charles E. Simons III.

The committee on intercollegiate activities also met Thursday. Athletic Director King Dixon issued an academic report listing nine student-athletes with a grade point ratio of 4.0; 46 student-athletes had GPRs between 3.5 and 3.999; and 73 had GPRs ranging from 3.0 to 3.499.

A football ticket price increase for the 1991 season was also proposed by Dixon at the meeting. He said the department was heading into uncharted waters because of their entrance into the Southeastern Conference.

The original proposal was to raise football tickets \$2 in the Duke, Virginia Tech, Georgia Tech and N.C. State games. It also dictated a \$1 increase for tickets to the East Tennessee State and Louisiana Tech games. The Clemson game was to be raised to \$25, with \$5 going to academic enrichment.

The board decided a \$2 increase for all games would be more efficient.



John Garner/The Gamecock
Pete Denton, USC vice president for business and finance, speaks at Thursday's Board of Trustees meeting.

**GULF
WAR**

Allied troops claim two victories

By The Associated Press

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia — A Saudi warplane shot down two Iraqi jets Thursday after they entered the kingdom's airspace loaded with bombs, Saudi military officials said. The allies were reportedly continuing their pounding of a strategic Iraqi city.

French warplanes made their first foray into Iraq, attacking positions of the elite Republican Guard near the Iraq-Kuwait border, military sources in Paris said. Previously, France had said it would only hit targets in occupied Kuwait.

In Baghdad, the Iraqi News Agency said Saddam Hussein visited the southern front Wednesday and met with commanders who

briefed him on developments in the Persian Gulf war.

The commanders told Saddam the allies were cowards for avoiding a ground battle and waging an air war instead, the official news agency said.

Saudi military officials in Dhahran said a Saudi pilot flying a U.S.-made F-15 shot down two Iraqi Mirage F-1 fighter jets loaded with bombs that entered Saudi airspace.

It was the first report of an Iraqi attempt to enter Saudi airspace since the war with Iraq began Jan. 16.

"I just rolled in behind them and shot them down," said the pilot, who agreed to be identified only as Capt. Ayedh.

The British, meanwhile, gave a slightly different account of the incident. In a briefing, Group Capt. Naill Irving of the Royal Air Force said crews of the HMS Gloucester and Cardiff detected the approach of three Iraqi jets — two "Floggers" and one Mirage capable of launching Exorcut missiles.

Two of the Iraqi planes were destroyed by a Saudi fighter aircraft, he said. The other discharged the Exocet out of range and fled.

The British captain also said allied forces captured an Iraqi minesweeper in the northern Persian Gulf — killing three Iraqis and capturing 22.

British Defense Secretary Tom King said earlier Thursday that allied aircraft downed two Iraqi fighter jets. It initially appeared that he referred to a separate incident.

At his morning briefing in Riyadh, U.S. Army Lt. Col. Greg Pepin mentioned only the one air engagement involving the Saudi jet fighter.

In other developments, CBS in New York said four of its journalists were reported missing Thursday after a Saudi military patrol found their empty car in northern Saudi Arabia. The four, including correspondent Bob Simon, had not been heard from for three days. CBS said it believed they were with "friendly forces."

Senate endorses city plan

Proposal to make Sumter Street safe

By GORDON MANTLER
Staff Writer

A city of Columbia safety improvement proposal for the Sumter Street area was unanimously endorsed by the Student Senate.

Sen. Tom Young introduced the resolution Wednesday that supported the city's proposal. "It is the only feasible plan to this dangerous problem," Young said.

The area of Sumter Street between Greene and Blossom streets, near the Towers residence area and the McBryde Quadrangle, has been designated by the city of Columbia as a dangerous area for pedestrians to cross.

The city's proposal calls for the closing off of Devine Street where it runs into Sumter, and the instal-

lation of pedestrian flashers on Sumter. Devine Street would end in a cul-de-sac, or a turn-around.

The flashers will be placed on either side of Sumter Street, alerting drivers that there is a crosswalk ahead. The city also plans to narrow the road and eliminate extra road space.

"Currently, students have to look in four directions at one time just to cross the street," Young said. "USC students are at the direct mercy of the erratic driving of the motorists of Columbia."

Young has researched the problem since September, after a number of constituent complaints and his own near-miss as a pedestrian, he said.

Richard Conant, chairman of the University Safety Committee, said there have been no fatalities.

"Accidents have been amazingly low through the years. But there

could be a problem soon," he said.

The proposal is expected to be endorsed at the next University Safety Committee meeting on Feb. 7.

"We are coming up with the most cost-efficient plan," Conant said. "Everyone has been very cooperative."

The proposal will then be taken to the city council for approval. City engineers said construction could start as early as mid-summer 1991.

This past semester, a resolution was passed by the Student Senate endorsing a pedestrian safety ramp for this same Sumter Street area. Because of legal reasons, the city would not endorse it.

Officials said if a car hit the pedestrian ramp at a high speed, the car could lose control and strike a pedestrian, leading to large lawsuits.



Renee Meyer/The Gamecock
USC students brave the beginnings of the first Columbia snowfall of 1991.

Winter storm forces city to grind to a halt

By ROBERT THOMAS
Copy Editor

A winter storm began barreling across South Carolina Thursday, forcing state and USC offices to close early and canceling classes Thursday night.

Three to five inches of snow were predicted for late Thursday and overnight in the Midlands, the National Weather Service in Columbia said. Early morning rain gradually turned into snow by late afternoon Thursday in the Capitol City.

Gov. Carroll Campbell ordered the closing of state offices in 36 of the state's 46 counties for "all but essential personnel," said spokesman Tucker Eskew.

Following the governor's move — as is the usual case for all state agencies in Columbia — interim President Arthur Smith ordered USC offices to close and classes to

be cancelled after 4 p.m. Thursday.

At press time, there was no decision on whether or not the university would be closed Friday because of weather, which would be the first time since 1989, when Hurricane Hugo roared through the state.

Late Thursday afternoon, USC spokeswoman Debra Allen said the decision to cancel classes today would probably not have been made until early this morning.

The most snow fell in the Upstate, where the mountains were expected to receive four to eight inches of snow during the day and possibly an additional two inches overnight.

"There are numerous accidents around because of the conditions we have, nothing major," said John Gilreath, an Upstate district engineering administrator for the state Highway Department.

Researcher explores Iraq's strategy

By SCOTT PRILL
Staff Writer

The paranoia Iraq has about its strategic position in the Middle East is one of the primary reasons for the invasion of Kuwait, a student researching the region said.

Naim Joseph Salem, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Government and International Studies, is working on his dissertation on U.S.-Iraq relations.

Salem presented a discussion on "Implications and Consequences of the Gulf Crisis" as part of The Institute of International Studies' Brown Bag Lunch" lecture series.

He said other reasons for the Iraqi invasion included Iraq's need for water.

"Turkey dammed most of the water from the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. There was crop failure in Iraq, and Kuwait would not share their resources," Salem said. "By the year 2000, Turkey will have a stranglehold on both Syria and Iraq."

Salem called the Baker-Aziz meeting in Geneva an effort to score propaganda points on both sides. He said the meeting was staged strictly for media purposes.

"The real issue behind the Bush administration's involvement in the Gulf is not just Kuwait but more the trimming of Iraq's power and the overthrow of Hussein. Americans are not doing this because of their love for Arabs, but for their own strategic interests," he said.

Salem said Iraq is playing their defenses low as they did during the Iran-Iraq War, and they should be able to last only a few months.

"Iraq is counting on bringing Israel into the war and changing Arab public opinion," he said.

He said to truly win the war, the U.S. must destroy the army, economy and Iraqi regime. They must also convince the Iraqi people the United States did this in the name of international law.

Student opinion on the war is mixed.

Michael Ernest, a geography sophomore and a member of the Navy ROTC, said he believed Saddam Hussein was a severe threat to the Arab world.

"Iraq had to be shut down militarily or he would eventually go to take over other countries," Ernest said.

Ursula Engelbect, a German-Linguistics graduate, said "No positive outcome can come out of the war, for anyone."