

The nail that sticks up gets hammered down.
Japanese proverb

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AT A GLANCE



WORLD

Fifteen workers were contaminated with high levels of radioactivity this week after a spill at a private medical laboratory near Madrid, Spain, a newspaper reported Saturday.

The employees of Medgenix Espana S.A., in the Tres Cantos industrial area 12 miles from Madrid, showed signs of external and internal contamination after Thursday's spill of radioactive Molybdenum 99, El Pais reported.

Medgenix officials failed to contact the national Nuclear Safety Council after a vial containing the substance broke, El Pais said.

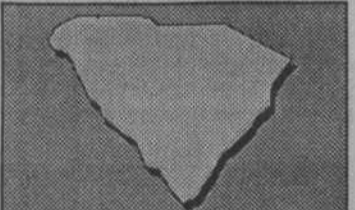


NATION

The White House is considering increased aid to the former Soviet Union, an administration official said Friday.

It reportedly would include \$1 billion to help stabilize the ruble, as well as direct aid.

President Bush received Secretary of State James Baker's recommendations in a report on Thursday, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.



STATE

Dogs chewed part of the face of a Pickens man who authorities believe died of natural causes.

"We think he died of a heart attack or stroke, fell to the floor and then had a nose bleed that attracted the dogs," said Detective Jerry Duncan of the Pickens County sheriff's department.

Thomas Gagliardone, 44, died sometime after 4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Duncan said. The right side of Gagliardone's face had been chewed away by the three dachshunds and a puppy poodle owned by him and his girlfriend, 33-year-old Joyce Dodson.



USC

USC student David Haller won the presidency of the South Carolina Young Democrats at the organization's annual convention this past weekend at Clemson University.

Debbie Drucker, another USC student, won National Executive Committee Woman, representing South Carolina to the national division of the organization.

Each year, members of Young Democrat organizations elect party officers.

Mortar Board inducts 36 students

Lt. Gov. Theodore honorary member

By MELISSA TENNEN
Staff Writer

USC's chapter of Mortar Board national honor society added 37 members, including South Carolina Lt. Gov. Nick Theodore, to its charter in an induction ceremony Sunday.

Theodore did not arrive until the ceremony was over. He apologized and said he was delayed in traffic.

"I hope that this particular movement will continue to move forward. These students are to be highly rewarded, and I feel good that the future of this state and nation will be in capable and enthusiastic hands," Theodore said.

The 45-minute induction ceremony began with this year's USC Mortar Board president Catherine Edwards presenting the society's constitution.

Edwards then explained what the honor means to the new 36 members, who are all rising seniors.

"It is an honor to be selected into this national honor society of seniors. It indicates responsibility to actively support ideas," she said to a small audience of parents and friends of the inductees.

After Edward's address, Mortar Board Vice President Jeff Wilson presented the national history of Mortar Board.

"Originally, Mortar Board was a national society for women," Wilson said. "It wasn't until 1976 that the society became co-educational with an emphasis on women. Today we have 217 chapters in the nation."

Presentation of certificates to the new members followed the speeches. Each member's name and achievements were announced before they were awarded a medal and certificate by Edwards, Wilson and Mauve O'Connor, the society's historian.

New members said they were excited about the honor. "It is an honor just being around these people who have done so much," new member Courtney Graham said.

Fellow inductee Gina Campbell agreed. "It is an honor just being chosen," she said.

Induction into Mortar Board is recognized as one of the highest honors a student can achieve. "Service is at the heart," David Bell, one of the society's three advisers, said.

"With education comes responsibility and to use the education for the good of others," adviser Kathy Mille said.

Mortar Board works to raise money for graduate and undergraduate scholarships. The annual production of the Mortar Board Calendar generates much of these funds.

The society devotes its service time to a specific cause. For the next two years, members hope to change its course from working for environmental protection to addressing illiteracy problems.

The new members' selection was based on their scholarship, service to the community and leadership in their three years at USC. "It is a blind selection process," Bell said. "We cover up the name and just look at the information given."

New Members

The new members of Mortar Board are William Anderson, Alice Branton, Elizabeth Bangston, Heidi Brooks, Shine Brooks, Darwina Bugarin, Gina Campbell, Michael Caroway, Celeste Crawly, Steven Coburn, Andrea Del Favero, Courtney Graham, Minnie Goodwin, Angela Hewitt, Jon Hill, Michael Hill and Bennett Hogan.

Also inducted were Faith Lawrence, Eunjo Lee, Keila Legee, Christi Liebelt, Kimberly Lovelace, Jennifer Mallory, Catherine Maner, Patricia McBurnery, Kathleen Norris, Amy Prosser, Shannon Reilly, Mary Rowan, Sam Sammataro, Stephen Scott, Gordon Sherard III, Kea Strozier, Deidre Terry, Dee Walker, Thomas Young.

Campus leadership needs grad students

By RALPH SARMIENTO
Staff Writer

Studying until three in the morning, writing endless papers and not having a social life are often the routines of a graduate student's life.

However, the Graduate Student Association hopes to find a few graduate and professional students at USC willing to take time get involved in university leadership by serving on executive committees.

"We need graduate students on these committees to ensure that the particular needs of graduate and professional students get heard and acted upon," said John Kennedy, chairman of the Graduate Student Association.

Among the committees without graduate student representation are academic responsibility, health services, athletic advisory, religious affairs, university safety, teaching assistant award and veteran's advisory.

Executive committees function separately from the Student Senate. They report directly to the Provost

and University president.

"Time spent to these committees is not wasted. It's an opportunity for graduate students to become familiar with the inner workings of academia, to affect positive change in the academic environment," Kennedy said. "All graduate and professional students should be encouraged to participate," he added.

Although the majority of committees involve undergraduates, graduate student representation can add a voice of maturity and experience. Meetings usually last about an hour and a half.

"Each executive committee would benefit by a graduate student representative," Kennedy said.

"And we hope a few grad students out there are willing to serve on the committees," he said.

Interest in the Judicial Board and the Student-Trustee Liason committees has already occurred, but there are 11 other positions still open, according to the GSA.

If you would like to serve on a committee, call 777-2477 for more information



John Roundtree (center), supervisor of parking at the USC police department, is a representative of Buck A Cup to Brace A Child campaign, a charity drive to help disabled children. Also pictured are USC Athletic Director King Dixon (left) and President John Palms.

Changing weather triggers flu virus

By KATRINA BLASETTI
Staff Writer

As seasons change, bodies are tormented by tiny intruders that wreak havoc on students' class attendance.

A minuscule cold or flu virus, which cannot be seen even with the average microscope, can cause weeks of misery and force hundreds of students to seek relief at the Thomson Student Health Center.

While chicken soup and TLC can work wonders, an average of 200 students a day stop in for medical attention to speed up the recovery process, according to health center employees.

Cicely Jenkins oversees a staff of eight nurses assisting seven doctors and one nurse practitioner at the health center who treat general ailments plaguing students and faculty.

"Right now we see a lot of upper respiratory infections and gastroenteritis (stomach flu). Every once in a while we'll treat a case of the flu, but most flu cases hit earlier than usual this year — in December," Jenkins said.

Students who received flu shots were vaccinated for three strains of flu: the A Taiwan, A Beijing and B Panama varieties. Despite the exotic names, they brought familiar symptoms of congestion, fever, aches and fatigue.

Unfortunately, as one flu virus is brought under control, others are ready to take its place. "Each year, a vaccine is isolated for whatever the prevalent strain is," Jenkins said.

While the flu season is gone, the changing weather has brought an increased number of colds, flu-like viruses, bronchitis and allergy attacks.

In addition, the fast-paced lifestyle and poor sleeping habits characteristic of college students make them more susceptible to virus attacks.

A few simple habits such as getting enough sleep and eating properly can decrease students' chances of catching a cold or other virus.

"Being careful around others who are sick and washing your hands frequently can help," Jenkins said.

Often getting sick is unavoidable, and a visit to the health center becomes necessary. With a valid ID, a student can usually see a doctor or nurse practitioner within an hour.

Students can decrease their waiting time by calling ahead to make an appointment.

Allergy sufferers can be among the hardest hit with sicknesses this time of year. An increase in pollen causes congestion and sneezing.

Students can get allergy shots at the health center as well as prescriptions for allergy medication.

Audit may be in store for S.C. State campus

By The Associated Press

State Rep. Herb Kirsh said he has been receiving disturbing reports for nearly three years from taxpayers and employees about how S.C. State University has been operated.

"I'm beginning to wonder if there isn't something to all that," Kirsh, D-Clover, said. "The best way to find out is to have an audit."

Kirsh, a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, has organized a request by five state lawmakers to examine how the Orangeburg university is run.

Under state law, an audit by the Legislative Audit Council can be triggered by a written request from five legislators. But it is the agency's three-member governing board that decides which projects state auditors tackle. The LAC said it will take up the request when it meets Tuesday.

Interim President Carl Carpenter said Thursday he was unaware an audit request had been made.

Carpenter said he wants a chance to "ask questions to see why South Carolina State is being singled out. I'd like to seek more information first."

Sen. Herbert Fielding, chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus, said he would welcome an audit of the university. Fielding, D-Charleston, said black lawmakers share concerns about how the his-

torically black institution is being managed.

But he also cautioned that some complaints about the university should not be taken seriously.

"We certainly admonish Rep. Kirsh and everyone else to be very careful to make quick decisions about what the situation really is," Fielding said. "In certain instances, the real situation is blown out of proportion. There's more smoke than it is fire."

Kirsh said the letter with the audit request includes 11 examples of questionable management activities he has been told have occurred. He said he had little trouble finding four other lawmakers to join the request.

"I could've had 50 (names) if I had space for them to sign," Kirsh said.

Other House members who signed Kirsh's letter were Henry Brown Jr., R-Hanahan; Roland Corning, R-Columbia; Jarvis Klapman, R-West Columbia and Becky Meacham, R-Fort Mill.

Lawmakers want auditors to investigate is the university's business office. Whistle-blowers have told Kirsh the office has written off hundreds of bad checks and has failed to collect service charges.

Also, lawmakers have been told students living in dormitories have rung up thousands of dollars in

long-distance phone bills and aren't pressed to pay them.

But Kirsh said he has been bothered since 1990 by former President Albert Smith Jr.'s decision to pay Claybon Harris \$28,788.30 in severance pay.

Harris was accused of conflict-of-interest by a three-agency investigative team that looked into a catering company Harris owned that did business with the school while he was its vice president of business and finance.

Smith was forced to resign by a divided board of trustees in January. Since then, S.C. State has found itself repeatedly the subject of news reports about internal bickering and questionable business practices.

Trustee Chairman Henry Brevard II has dismissed those reports as coming from troublemakers with ulterior motives. Brevard said he won't respond to negative questions about the university.

An audit of the school would be similar to one Kirsh pushed for of the University of South Carolina and its foundations in the late 1980s. That audit identified a long list of questionable relationships between USC and its support organizations and led to major changes in policy that some believe contributed to former President James Holderman's resignation in 1990.