

# Just cruisin'

students, travel agencies  
choose cruises  
for summer



By LEE CLONTZ  
Assistant Carolina! Editor

"So what are you doing this summer?"

Unless you either live in a vacuum or simply have no friends, you will probably answer this question many times over the final month of the semester.

Because of financial woes, or simply apathy, you may have made no particular plans.

If you are like many students,

you probably think a cruise to be beyond your means.

Think again.

With the economy in the midst of a slump, cruise ships are slashing prices in an attempt to fill their holds.

Because of all of the cost cutting, USC students are presented with the perfect opportunity to travel to the Caribbean at heavily discounted rates.

According to Barry Hurley, an

agent at Travel Professionals, located in the AT&T Building downtown, many cruise lines are offering two-for-one deals, which can result in considerably reduced fares.

With some of the new bargain programs, a three-day cruise to the Caribbean can cost as little as \$300 per person.

According to Hurley, as well as several USC students, a cruise is in many ways a terrific bargain, be-

cause excess costs are eliminated.

According to one USC denizen, a cruise represents a great deal. "They feed you five-course meals every night, and there's entertainment all the time," she said.

For students on an even tighter budget, Hurley recommends travel to various resorts in Georgia and historic downtown Charleston.

"People sometimes forget how close Charleston is. It's a nice drive, there's a lot of history, and

it's just a real good time," Hurley said.

"There's also a lot of fun on the Georgia coast. Sea Pines, and Hilton Head of course, are really popular," he added.

Still, according to Hurley, the most popular travel locations for students recently have been the tropical cruises.

"They have no hidden costs, they're a bargain right now, and they're really a lot of fun," he said.

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