

# Disposable contact lenses can cause blindness

By The Associated Press

A new study found people who wear disposable contact lenses are far more likely to develop potentially blinding eye ulcers than those with regular soft lenses. But researchers say the wearers may be to blame, not the contacts.

Many wearers bring on problems by not caring for disposable lenses properly and not following recommended limits on wearing times, Dr. Terrence P. O'Brien, a colleague of the researchers, said Thursday.

"The problem is not necessarily one of the lenses," said O'Brien, a specialist in eye infections at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. "People have had a false sense of

security, and they think these lenses have eliminated the problems."

The study was the first to explore risks associated with disposables, introduced in 1988 in the hope they would be safer than other soft lenses, the researchers said.

A group representing contact lens makers called the study inconclusive, while an ophthalmologists' group urged wearers to be careful but not alarmed.

The study, published in the November issue of the Archives of Ophthalmology, didn't explore variations in wearing times or whether extended wear of disposables might account for the elevated risk.

Among the patients studied, 19

wore disposable lenses, 14 wore soft lenses designed to be removed daily, five wore extended-wear soft lenses and four wore hard lenses, the researchers said.

Compared with users of daily-wear soft lenses, the most common type worn in the United States, disposable soft lens users had a 14-times greater risk of developing a type of eye ulcer called ulcerative keratitis, the researchers found.

The ulcers are usually caused by bacteria that yield readily to antibiotic treatment, but they can cause vision-impairing scars and even blindness.

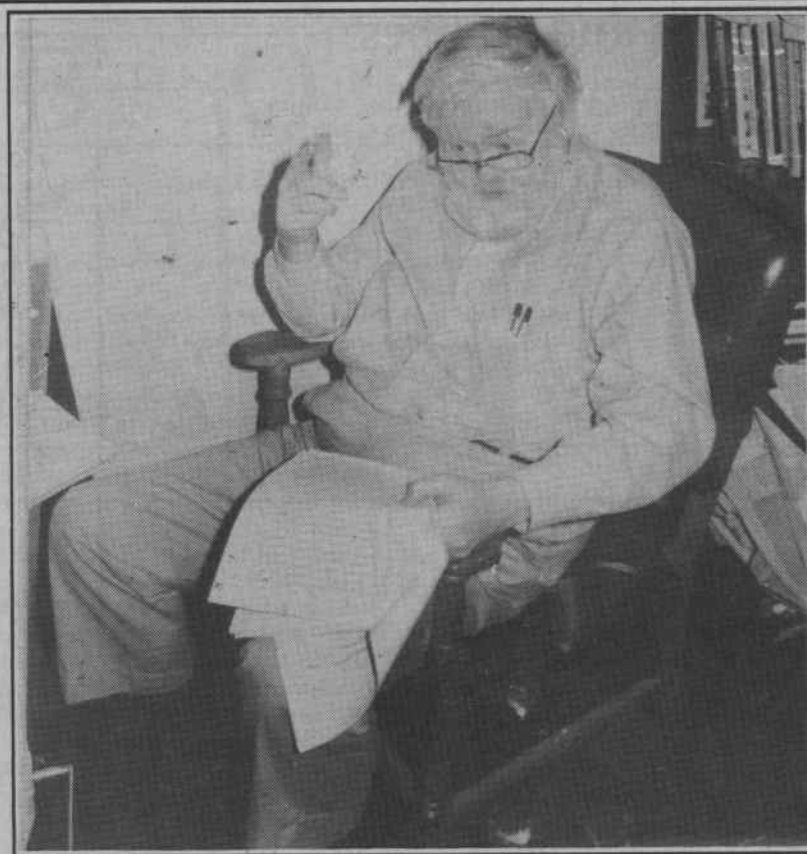
An estimated 2 million Americans wear disposable contact

lenses and account for one in 12 of all contact lens wearers in the country, the study said.

Disposables are chosen for about 20 percent of new contact lens fittings, said the researchers, led by Dr. Patricia O. Buehler of Johns Hopkins.

Another study reported in the Chicago-based journal found that among 242 eye patients at a London eye center, ulcerative keratitis was the most common ailment afflicting wearers of disposable contact lenses.

It was especially associated with extended-wear disposables, the researchers in England said.



Lea Clayton/The Gamecock

Anthropology professor John Adams

## Anthropology professor studies culture worldwide

### Professor Profile

by Sarah Hanlon

If you asked anthropology professor John Adams' students to describe him, many of them would give you the same answer:

He is Santa Claus.

This reputation is due to his jolly personality and appearance, giving his classes a laid-back, relaxed environment.

Adams, 62, graduated from Princeton, later working at the Museum of Natural Art in New York. He then made the decision to continue his studies at Harvard.

Adams has traveled all over the world studying different cultures. He has done field work in Mexico with the Tesque, British Columbia with the hunters and gatherers

and across the planet with other tribes.

Adams and his wife are both professors at USC. They came here because the school of anthropology had two openings to be filled.

Adams and his family are currently planning a trip to Moscow for a part of the summer. The trip is to present a paper written by Adams on the "Law of Gitsan People."

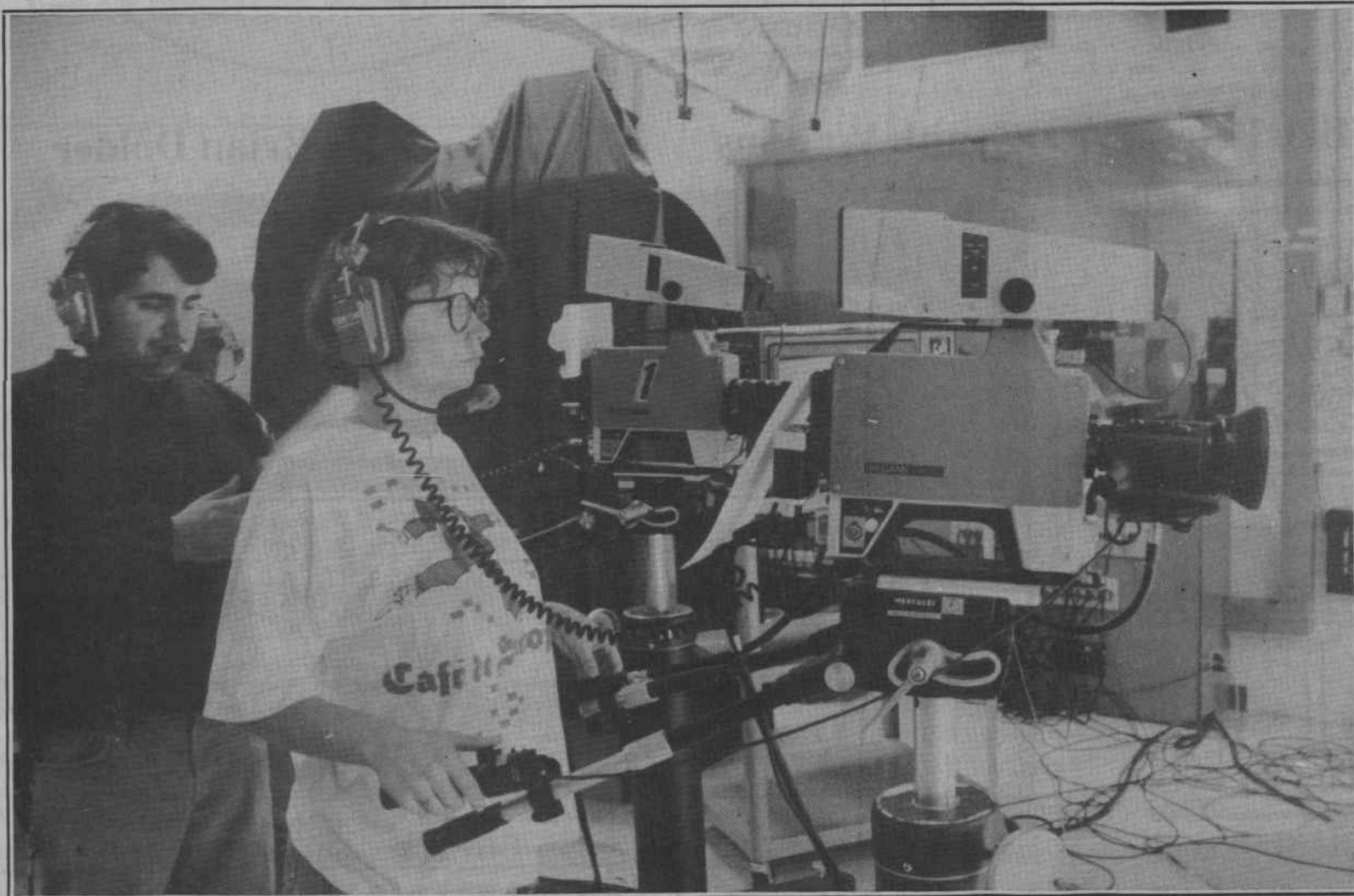
He will present the paper in a conference with other scholars. He is hoping for assistance from the USC budget.

The trip will allow students in the 1993 school year to receive some knowledge from his new experiences.

Adams and his wife are also working together on a book. It is centered around the migration of Englishmen. He hopes the book will be ready to publish by Dec. 31.

A man who has traveled the world, is jolly and looks like Santa. Who is to say he is not?

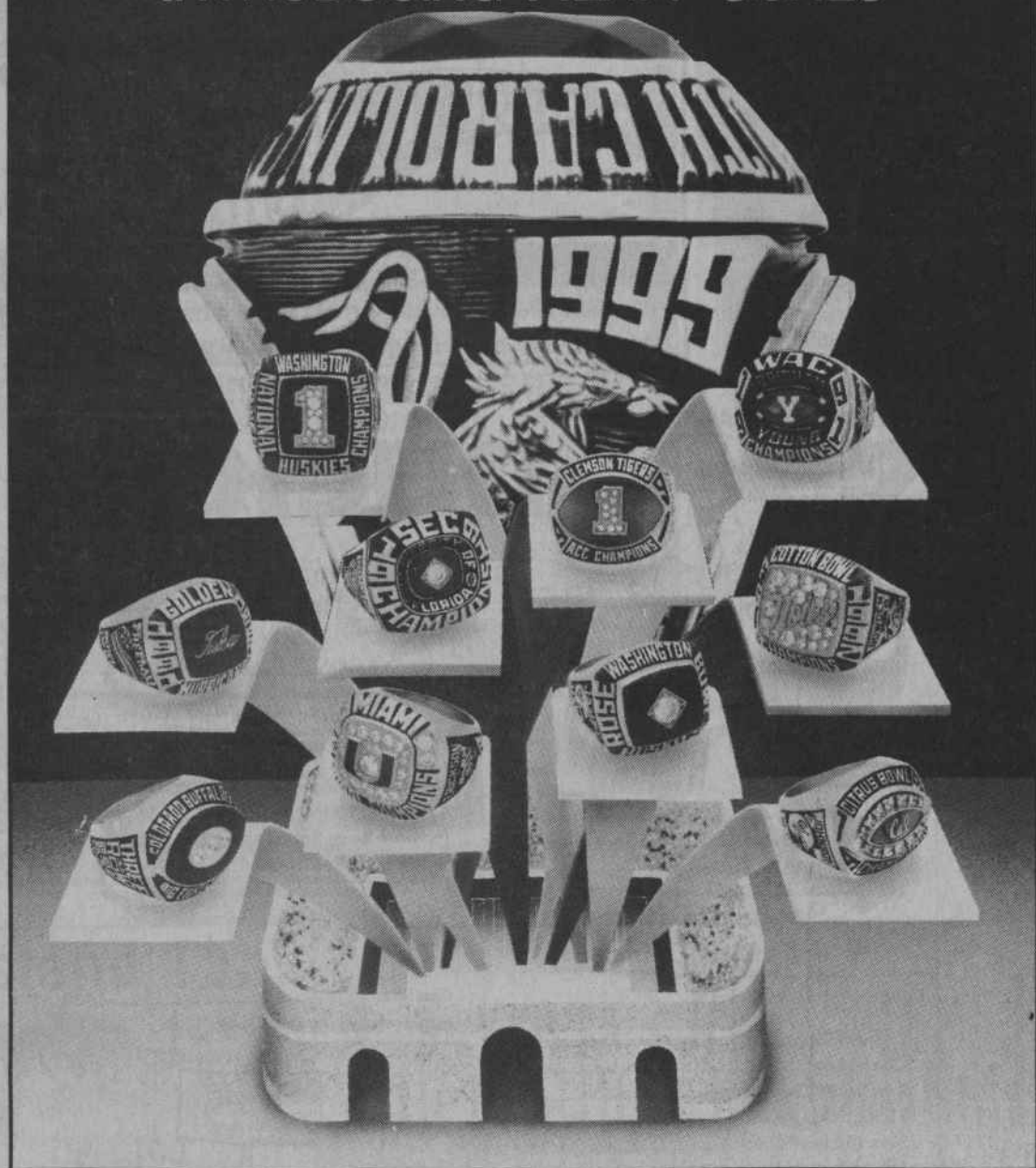
You're on!



Lee Clontz/The Gamecock

Chip Thompson directs Eviline Kooiman during Thursday's filming of 'Carolina News Tonight.' The show airs Mondays and Thursdays on Carolina Cablevision Channel 10.

## INTRODUCING HERFF JONES



### THE CHAMPIONS CHOICE USC RING DAYS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
November 17th, 18th & 19th

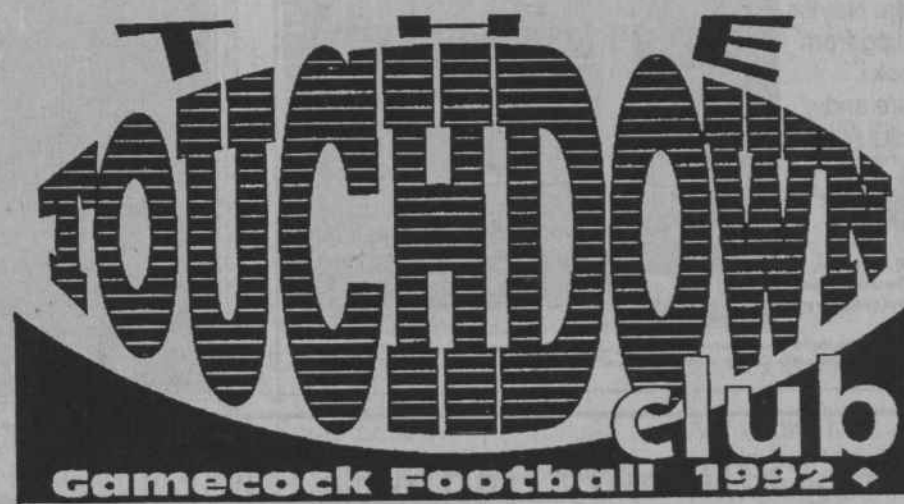
Many new styles & options — \$30<sup>00</sup> deposit

**"BIG BUCKS" OFF ON YOUR USC RING**

Stop by the Ring Display and enter the FREE Airline Ticket Sweepstakes.

USC BOOKSTORE  
RUSSELL HOUSE

10:00 am - 4:00 pm



## Register to Win!!!

To coincide with the 1992-93 football season, these sponsors have formed *The Touchdown Club*! For each of the eleven games of the season, a prize will be awarded from one of our sponsors and a winner will be chosen. Look for the winner's box in the Monday, Nov. 23rd edition of *The Gamecock*.

USC v. Clemson:

### Seiko Gamecock Watch

from

### Jewelry Warehouse

Register at the following sponsors and **YOUR** name may be in the winner's box!!!

**Jewelry Warehouse**

• Two Notch Rd. • Broad River Rd.  
• 2909 Platt Spring Rd. - W. Cola

**Bruno's**

• St. Andrews Rd. • Two Notch Rd.

**Pizza Hut**

• 617 S. Main St. or  
delivery 929-0044

**Addam's Bookstore**

601 Main St.

**Carmike Cinemas 10**

Columbiana Center

**Columbia Athletic Club**

4502 Forest Dr.

**Major League Lanes**

1732 Bush River Rd.

**Park Triangle Lanes**

Parkland Plaza, Cayce