

NEWS BREAKERS



American soldiers leave Somalia for home

MOGADISHU, Somalia — After four months in the land of sun, dust and blood, American soldiers are heading home in droves as the U.S. mission in Somalia comes to an end.

"All I want is a hug from my family, a long, hot shower and a king-sized bed," said Col. Ian "Red" Natkin of Chicago.

He is one of 249 men and women who left Somalia Tuesday. Even more flew out Thursday.

What started as a trickle of U.S. forces departing Operation Restore Hope has turned into a flood, with fewer than 7,000 Americans remaining from the peak U.S. commitment of 25,800 troops in mid-January.

More than 4,600 have left Somalia in the last 10 days. Nearly 400 depart Thursday and 2,300 more, including the last 1,624 Marines, are scheduled to follow soon.

The United Nations is expected to take control of the U.S.-led coalition forces next week, possibly Tuesday. It has a mandate for 28,000 troops, including 4,000 Americans, to help rebuild the war-ravaged country.

Suicide doctor loses of medical license

DETROIT — Dr. Jack Kevorkian was stripped of his medical license, but escaped prosecution in the death of a man Kevorkian's foes claimed had panicked and changed his mind at the last minute about going through with a suicide.

California revoked the suicide doctor's license on Tuesday, meaning he cannot practice anywhere in the United States. His license to practice in Michigan was lifted in 1991, but he continued to hold the California license.

In revoking the license, an administrative law judge declared that doctors "do not assist people in committing suicide." The revocation will have no practical effect; the 64-year-old retired pathologist has no medical practice.

In Michigan, Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga said there was no hard evidence that 70-year-old Hugh Gale changed his mind before he died Feb. 15 by inhaling carbon monoxide through a mask. Gale had emphysema and heart disease.

Clemson smoking ban upsets local farmers

CLEMSON — A proposed no-smoking rule at Clemson University has some tobacco growers upset.

The proposal would ban smoking in university vehicles and in all university buildings except residence halls.

John Holliday, president of Holliday Associates of Horry County, said he has funded tobacco research and extension work at Clemson ever since he was a member of Clemson's board of visitors in the 1950s.

One of the state's largest tobacco growers, Holliday said the land grant institution should focus on helping farmers with production of the state's biggest cash crop, not stamping out its use on campus.

A committee will decide next week whether to recommend the ban to school administrators, said Paul Michaud, Clemson vice president for development.

Michaud estimates Clemson receives about \$270,000 a year from tobacco interests for agriculture programs.

CRIME REPORT

The following was reported to USC Police through April 27.

Thursday, April 22

■ Larceny of Textbook. Patterson. The victim said three textbooks were stolen from his room. The total value of the books is \$83.

Sunday, April 25

■ Larceny of Painting. Mcbride Quad. A Robert E. Lee painting and other sketches were stolen. The total estimated value of the paintings is \$300.

Friday, April 23

■ Larceny of Money. Thomas Cooper Library. Money was stolen from a wallet key ring. The wallet contained credit cards, a driver's license and \$10. The total estimated value of the wallet and money is \$22.

Monday, April 26

■ Assault and Battery. Sims. The resident invited a woman to her room, but when the resident asked her to leave, the woman became verbally abusive. The woman then hit and pushed the resident. The resident got minor scratches.

Saturday, April 24

■ Larceny of Check. Bates House. The victim reported that a check was stolen from her checkbook and made out for \$60. The victim doesn't know if the check has been cashed.

■ Malicious Injury to Personal Property. Blossom Street Garage. A passenger-side rear-view mirror was found on the ground next to a vehicle. Police could not determine how the mirror was broken off. The car's owner was told of the damage, and the total estimated value of the mirror and damage is \$75.

■ Larceny of Stereo Equipment. Snowden loading dock. Stereo equipment was stolen from a vehicle. The speakers, radio and equalizer were taken. The total estimated value of equipment is \$235.

Tuesday, April 27

■ Larceny of Money. P.E. Center. \$10 was stolen out of a cash box.

■ Assault and Battery. Wade Hampton. A woman said she was assaulted. She suffered a bump on the chin and a little bleeding. The woman refused medical treatment.

■ Larceny of Books. Calcott. Some books were stolen. Their estimated value is \$125.

■ Malicious Injury to Personal Property. A basketball goal was broken by someone hanging from it. The total estimated value of the goal is \$300.

■ Larceny of Wallet. Contact Lens Clinic, Russell House. Money was stolen from a bookbag. The total estimated value is \$70.

Compiled by Alissa Easton.

Bad credit can disable students' future

By ROCHELLE KILLINGBECK
Assistant News Editor

A bad credit history can ruin a college student's post-graduate career, and many find out when it's too late.

Three ways people usually earn bad credit are being over-extended, acquiring credit without a means to pay it back and having too many credit cards, said Brandolyn Pinkston, public information and education director for the S.C. Department of Consumer Affairs.

She said many credit card companies target college-age students even if they don't have a constant source of income.

"A lot of (college) students receive credit card applications in the mail and apply for them knowing they don't have a job. Then, their parents have to pay their bills, or sometimes the bills just don't get paid," she said.

Accounting sophomore Michelle Murphy said she doesn't want to pay interest on what she buys.

"I don't have a credit card because I don't have a job, and I don't want my parents to have to pay my bills. Besides that, it's not worth paying interest on credit card purchases."

Pinkston said one major point concerning credit is it isn't an extra income; it has to be paid back.

She also said students have to be careful when bombarded with cred-

it opportunities. By shopping around for credit and making sure they have a steady income, students can avoid many of the pitfalls.

"Some students charge everything from their spring break vacations to groceries on their credit cards without intentions of paying the bill. Then, they'll wonder why credit collection agencies are calling them and asking for money," she said.

Pinkston said college might be fun when students don't recognize the necessity of paying off their credit.

She said when students graduate, however, they usually need a loan to buy a house, car, furniture or some other large item, and "they need credit to qualify for it. Usually, by the time the students reach this stage in life, their credit is ruined, she said.

"Financial institutions look at a person's character, capacity to pay a loan back, and collateral when deciding if they are going to give a person credit," she said.

She also said an employer has the right to deny a person a job of \$20,000 or more if he has a bad credit history.

Because credit companies can report debt for up to seven years, a person's credit history can remain bad for the same duration, unless they file for bankruptcy, which can be reported for up to 10 years,

according to the consumer affairs department.

Pinkston said if a person is in debt, he should call the company he owes money to and explain that he is having financial problems. Then he should pay them as soon as possible.

"When you ignore credit collection agencies, the situation only gets worse because they will think that person is spending money on other things," she said.

Pinkston said credit bureaus cannot call a person before 8 a.m. nor after 9 p.m. They cannot call a person's employer and leave messages that the person owes them money, nor can they threaten to harm the debtor.

Pinkston said the safest way for a college student to establish credit is to start out with a department store credit card with a \$200 to \$300 limit.

"After a student charges and pays it off and develops a good credit record, he should increase it and maintain good credit. If he successfully does that, then it would be pretty safe to apply for a national credit card like VISA or American Express," she said.

Biology junior Vida Brewer said, "I have three credit cards, but I have a steady source of income to pay them off. I learned through watching others because it's not rare to know college students with bad credit."

Riding horses adds fun, excitement to students life



STUDENT PROFILE

Rebecca Keapproth

By ALISSA EASTON
Staff Writer

Rebecca Keapproth spends her free time away from the books, riding horses.

"I love to ride, and it is even more fun to be part of an equestrian team. Also, it is nice to get away from the campus during the day for a little while," Keapproth, a psychology freshman from Coral Springs, Fla., said.

Keapproth spends about six

hours a week riding with the USC Equestrian team. She also takes frequent weekend road trips with the team.

This year, she and the team went to the University of Florida, Berry College and the University of Georgia.

"Part of the reason I chose USC was because I knew they had an equestrian team, and it is the reason I am going to stay another year at

USC," Keapproth said.

"I have been riding for about two years," she said. "I rode when I was younger, but stopped when I was 12 and then took it up again two years ago."

Although riding coupled with her studies consumes much time, Keapproth still sees her friends.

"Becky is a great person," elementary education freshman Lynn Pew said. "She always puts everyone before herself."

Journalism freshman Erin Galloway agreed, saying, "Becky is always there for you no matter what you need."

Keapproth participated in regional events a few weeks ago and was one place lower than in her regular season. But this does not discourage Keapproth, who says she always has next year to look forward to.

SOLOMON continued from page 1

- **Communications:** Together we will attempt to inform the entire student body of the goals we have set and inform them of the many opportunities that both the Legislative and Executive branches offer students. You are the eyes, ears, and voice of the Student Senate and the student body.
- **Powers and Responsibility:** We will continue to ensure that the university has qualified individuals to serve on its committees and boards.
- **Finance:** Together we must look into the ramifications of the many changes that are on the forefront of our financial future. We must

ensure that Student Government has a voice in the financial matters of this university. In short, we must do what Brad Holt has already made famous: Be a watchdog for the students.

• **Academics:** We must tackle the many obstacles facing the USC academic community and the student body. We must make proposals concerning academic advisement, grade forgiveness, faculty critique forms, and faculty hiring. We will be extremely busy.

• **Judiciary:** I know that you have all met Attorney General Brannon. Together you have the job of revising our constitution and advising

every regional campus in the system as they look to you for guidance.

I challenge all of Student Government to provide tireless leadership to the many students that elected us and to join in the lobbying process rallying to return millions of dollars to the USC system. And finally, I challenge all of you to not only come to the Executive branch in times of cooperation but also in times of conflict; because no matter how right we as individuals think we are, we are wrong if we do not collectively serve the students!"

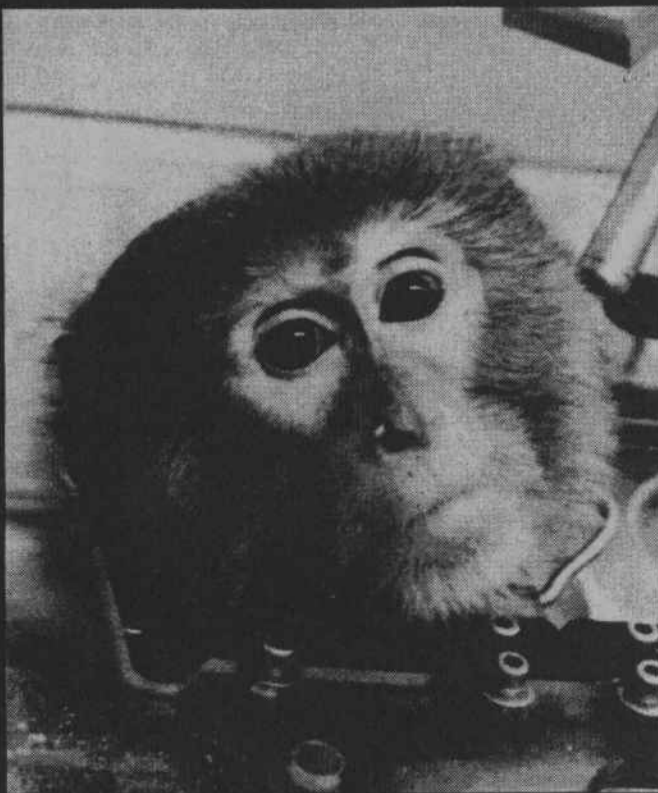
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Smoke, Die. It's That Simple.

With human lives in the balance, why are experimenters monkeying around?



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Over half of all new medicines are more dangerous than animal tests predicted—so dangerous that they have to be relabeled or pulled off the market. Of twenty-five drugs that seemed to reduce stroke damage in animal experiments, not a single one proved effective in human beings.

While experimenters are monkeying around in animal laboratories, they are ignoring what is most important—prevention. Nearly two-thirds of this nation's deaths result from diet-related diseases.

Join Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine as we work for a new day in medicine—when research is no longer dictated by vested interests.

Yes, I'll support PCRM in your work to advance the importance of prevention and to provide alternatives to animal research. I've enclosed my tax-deductible contribution for: \$10 \$20 \$50 \$100

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