

etc.

[PEOPLE ■ PLACES ■ WHATNOT]

CAROLINA ROADTRIP

Camden

Chances are a great many USC students will be heading off to Camden this weekend not to tour the historic points but to "watch" the Carolina Cup, which, as every year, is being held at the Springdale race course in Camden.

But, before you strap on your ties and adjust your hats, take note of Camden's historic connections, rather than its mature connections.

How To Get There: Take 321 north to Camden

A Little history for you . . .

Camden was established in 1732 and takes the cake as the oldest inland city in South Carolina. Located in the Old English district of South Carolina, Camden still retains some English ties. Maybe that is because originally it was the major British garrison of Lord Cornwallis.

Although you may think that all Camden is known for is the Carolina Cup, think again. The Battles of Hobkirk Camden were fought in the vicinity, and 12 other Revolutionary War battles took place nearby.

The Camden Revolutionary War Site is located on U.S. 521 north of I-20. The War park is associated with National Park Service, and the park is located on a 92-acre site. Restorations include fort sites, log cabins and 18th and 19th century homes, including the Kershaw-Cornwallis House, where Cornwallis made his headquarters. There is also an exciting slide show that details the town's story, and there is an equally exciting model of the original 80-building village based on maps used by patriot General Nathaniel Greene. The park includes a nature trail, wooded picnic area and craft shop.

So you know about the history, but what do you wear to the Cup?

For "ladies" wear a springy style dress. Staff writer Lucy Arnold, a cup veteran, recommends a hat.



"You have to wear a hat," said Arnold "because everybody wears a hat. It's like an Old English tradition!"

For the "gentlemen," the uniform of choice is tan pants, white shirt and of course, a tie.

"You can be prissy and wear your sandals, but walk delicately because the place is covered with sand type spurs," Arnold said.

You've brought yourself, what else do you need?

According to Arnold, food is a must. "You can either have a big elegant thing with hors d'oeuvres, entrees and cakes, or you can do your regular picnic with fried chicken and sandwiches," Arnold said.

Features editor, Allison Williams, cites Cup food festivities as "glorified tailgating."

Some tend to bring flowers and candles, and Williams even remembered a couple getting married at the Cup last year.

You've got the food, you've got yourself . . .

Now you have to look for a horse, which is, according to staff writer Dora Devera, "a miracle." Guess that's the point of a horse race.

-STEPHANIE SONNENFELD

FRIGHT NIGHT

After two-and-a-half years of working on it, two USC media arts graduates premiered their 100-minute, 16mm horror feature "Freakshow" this week at the Nickelodeon Theater.

BEN PILLOW Asst. Features Editor

Co-directed by Columbia independent filmmakers Paul Talbot and William Cooke, the story involves two teenagers who visit an eerie sideshow, where a sinister barker presents a series of shocking exhibits, including a mutant baby, a ferocious wolf boy, an ancient mummy and a hideously deformed creature.

The co-directors then hope to go on tour with the movie and a line of merchandise that includes toys, t-shirts, still pictures and posters.

"Freakshow" is the follow-up to Talbot and Cooke's 1991 horror feature "Campfire Tales," which was released on videotape internationally and has sold over 9,000 copies worldwide.

"That film was actually started while we were seniors at USC," Cooke said. "The first segment was the final project for a filmmaking class we were taking, and it ended up taking four years to make."

While the two had each been making "some form of films," since they were kids, "Campfire Tales" was their first commercial movie.

"It really got us some press and acclamations, which opened the door for a second, bigger project," Talbot said.

"Freakshow" stars two cult horror legends, Gunnar Hansen, best known for his performance in "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" and Veronica Carlson of "Dracula Has Risen From The Grave." The rest of the actors and crew are all local.

"We have a local stock of actors for pretty much all of our projects," Talbot said.

The story was written by Talbot and Cooke, with inspiration coming from the movie "Freaks."

"We knew all along we would do another film after the first movie," Cooke said. "Paul has stories and I have stories. We work with an anthology format, and that is ideal for our partnership."

But it was rarely easy work, in more ways than one.

"The scheduling with a low budget and trying to raise money was difficult," Cooke said. "It's hard to do a good quality piece on a low budget."

Special effects coordinator Michael Smith, another USC alumnus, had a particularly difficult time with the schedule.

"The special effects are more complicated," Smith said. "You have nightmares the day before the shoot, and you're still not ready."

The film was funded by the pair's own company, Crimson Productions, and some grant money. Talbot, who also produced the film, said making movies for him is a necessity.

"It's a need to do it...you feel compelled to do it," Talbot said.

"I guess any artist would have a hard time telling why they do what they do," Cooke said. "It comes naturally, but it's extremely expensive. One frustrating aspect is that we can't practice our art enough because it is so expensive."

Associate producer of the film Jeff Miller, yet another USC alumnus, said they just have stories they want other people to hear.

"There is no other way to let people in on your interests than to do it yourself," Miller said.

For Smith, the step by step piecing together of a creation is his motivation.

"Who wouldn't want to make monsters?" Smith asked. "It's neat to create characters and see them come to life."

The film does contain graphic violence, profanity and nudity, warranting a viewer discretion warning. There will even be a uniformed nurse in attendance distributing stomach distress bags.

"That's just what we're interested in," Talbot said. "I like stuff that is taboo, like gore, violence and nudity."

"If I make someone sick I hold that in the utmost regard," Smith said.

"Someone throwing up is like a standing ovation," Talbot added.

"Freakshow" was filmed entirely in the Columbia area. Many exteriors were shot in Blythewood, and the crew often used homes of friends and family. Segments were also shot at The Purple Cow, Alley Cats and the South Carolina State Fair.

Cooke said about 80 percent of the cast and crew are USC alumni. According to Talbot, so far they have heard nothing but positive reactions.

"From the people we've shown it to, everyone



GABRIEL MADDEN The Gamecock

seems to really like it," he said. "We're excited about the Nickelodeon showings because a lot of people will get to see it. It really does have something for everyone."

Whether Talbot and Cooke conglomerate to make another film depends on the success of "Freakshow," the two said. For now, however, they are developing short projects to stay busy.

"Unlike a lot of filmmakers who make a certain type of film early on as a stepping stone to other genres, we'd be perfectly happy making nothing but horror films," Cooke said.

Described as hardcore horror not watered-down, Talbot said they may have to cut some of the film to get it to an R-rating so the film may be shown in some theaters. But that doesn't withhold their satisfaction with the final product by any measure.

"There are a lot of surprises," Smith said. "Everyone ought to have a good time watching it. A lot of people really don't believe you can make a full-length film or you really did it."

For those interested, the producers and some of the actresses of "Freakshow" will be available at Heroes and Dragons, the comic book store in the Boozer Shopping Center Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. with their line of merchandise.

effwhyeye
freakshow
 where Nickelodeon
 when Friday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

One-man show delivers strong message, good acting

PLAYTIME

CHUCK GRIFFITH Staff Writer
The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me
 ★★★ (out of four stars)

"The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me" is a one man show performed by R. Scott Williams who recently appeared in USC's "Othello."

Williams plays a homosexual male who is coming to grips with his way of living from childhood to the dawning of the 21st century. The play brings up the issues of AIDS as the plague attacking the gays and lesbians of the world, dealing with families hearing the news for the first time, noticing you're gay and not knowing what to do and future gay pride uprising. Williams begins with a prelude that seduces the audience to listen closely to his beginning lines.

The set is bare with a black wall

effwhyeye
The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me
 where Benson Theatre
 when March 31, April 1, 8 p.m.
 how much \$3 student

and lights hanging above. The play comes to life the moment Williams appears on stage in his red shirt, white shirt and blue jeans (symbolic of American patriotism). His acting role is just the right mixture of ingredients: from his wide eyes and flexible movement to the conviction of talent.

Sadly, 15 minutes into the play, Williams tries too hard as he portrays a young boy praying to God. In a se-

ries of lines, he seems to lose the character and then slips back into it.

An irritated sequence is when Williams explains why he goes to the gym. The writing done by David Drake is weak, and the rhythm/rhyme that Williams speaks with as he is pumping iron is vexing to the purpose.

Williams executes his energy across the stage while he does a rap at a dancing bar. His body is all over the place in the strikingly clever red light design done by Andy Mills. Director Jim Patterson's talent is very recognizable in the performance. Patterson has a clear use of visual imagery and perceptual placement. The lights and shadows illustrate the dominance or innocence of Williams' character.

I did notice some flaws in the execution of lighting. I don't usually mention this, but this was the production's fourth night and I would think that

those errors would be corrected by now. As I pointed out above, the script needs work at times. Williams' use of facial expressions does compensate for the punchlines, but I question the overall implementation given here.

One notable scene is the compelling "...and The Way We Were." Williams' eulogies for his dead lovers of the past is approached with a delicate sensitivity that is well achieved by emotionally driving the audience to listen.

Overall, I suggest going to see this production for the enjoyment of watching Williams perform and the strong message that the play delivers.

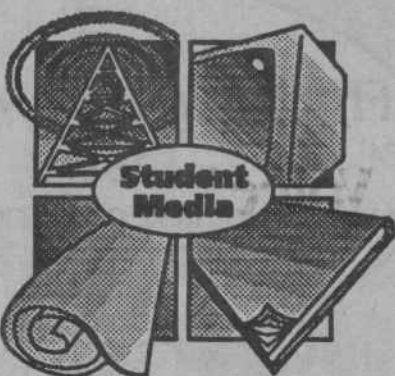
"The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me" is being performed at Benson Theatre March 31 and April 1 and Workshop Theatre April 7-8. Performances are at 8 and 10:30 p.m. For more information, call Carolina Program Union at 777-7130.

Ever met anybody famous?

If so, give Etc. a call at 777-3913.

Leadership positions are available

- Garnet & Black Quarterly Magazine Editor
- The Gamecock Summer Editor
- The Gamecock Fall Editor
- WUSC - FM Station Manager



Applications can be picked up in the Russell House room 331. Deadline for completed application is 5pm, April 13.

All positions require that applicants be junior or senior standing, have a minimum GPR of 2.50 overall or minimum GPR required to remain in good standing in the major college (whichever is greater), and must have worked for the respective organization for at least one year (or equivalent experience). Application are judged on their submitted samples of work responses on their application form, two letters of reference, and a formal interview before the Board of Student Publications and Communications on April 24.

SAIL INTO SUMMER

Final Exams are coming up soon, are you wondering how to pull it off? This workshop is geared toward coordinating your remaining resources to sail into your final exams. Get that extra push that will put you over the top.

The Workshop will focus on:

- Task analysis: what needs to be done in each course
- Time analysis: conversion to real hours
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Bring your Text books and syllabi

Russell House Room 303 Monday April 3 6-9 pm