

# The Gamecock

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WEATHER

**TODAY**  
Cloudy  
High 78  
Low 71

**SATURDAY**  
Cloudy  
High 86  
Low 69

Volume 89, Number 9

University of South Carolina

Friday, September 6, 1996

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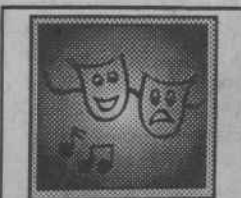
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The USC Volunteer fair will be held Wednesday, September 11 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the Russell House Union Patio (rain location: Russell House Ballroom).

The fair provides a unique opportunity for Columbia community agencies to highlight their volunteer opportunities and to introduce themselves to the Carolina community. Students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

USC's Office of Community Service Programs sponsors the fair and encourages the University community to increase their awareness and involvement related to service.

To many students, the idea of volunteering is a new one. Others are interested in service and may simply be unaware of all the community service options that exist in the Columbia area.

The USC Volunteer Fair will provide an excellent opportunity for agencies to preview their services to future volunteers.

For more information call Lisa Zaleon or Rachelle Leher at (803)777-6688 or visit the USC Office of Community Service in the Russell House.

## Hurricane Fran puts S.C. on alert



Beth Kneen, a College of Charleston freshman from West Palm Beach, Fla., arrived at USC's Baptist Student Union Thursday.

### USC reacts to Hurricane Fran

MARTHA HOTOP News Editor

Campus was abuzz yesterday with talk about the approaching Hurricane Fran.

In passing, students and faculty asked one another about the latest news on the hurricane. Students wondered and speculated about where the hurricane would make landfall. Throughout the day, numerous students could be heard asking one another if they thought classes would be cancelled: some students openly said they hoped they wouldn't be cancelled.

"I'm anxious to see what will happen," sophomore Tammy Skelton said. "It kind of scares me that Lexington and Richland Counties have a delayed opening—they must have a reason for doing that."

Despite students hopes that classes would be canceled, Marketing and Media Relations specialist Bond Nickles didn't expect classes to be canceled.

"The Columbia campus doesn't anticipate the cancellation of classes, today or tonight," Bond Nickles said.

To keep students informed about the status of classes and evening activities, the Emergency Information Center on TIPS was activated. Students could call TIPS to find out about the hurricane's coordinates, and whether or not classes were cancelled.

"The Emergency Information Network was put into effect in 1990, after Hurricane Hugo," Student Ombudsman Jim Doran said. "The university wanted a way to be able to get information to students."

The Network, which overrides TIPS prompts, can be changed at moment, Doran said.

Yesterday, messages on the Network were updated at 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. The actual decision about whether to hold classes is made

by President Palms.

As the Hurricane moved closer to South Carolina yesterday, students from coastal areas of the state expressed concern for the families and homes. Students that lived closer to the beach expressed more concern than those from further inland.

"The Hurricane doesn't bother me as much because my house is five miles from [Myrtle Beach]," senior Jamee Blanton said. "However, my dad is in law enforcement so he has to stay there."

Blanton said he might go home this weekend to help clean-up, if there is a lot of damage.

Students who experienced Hurricane Hugo first-hand in 1990 when it destroyed Charleston, spoke of the power and destruction associated with hurricanes. These students recollected and spoke freely about the damage they witnessed during Hugo.

Some of the students recalled being without power for a week, and bathing by candlelight with bottled water. Other students recalled seeing trees strewn about their neighborhoods and roofs torn off houses.

The experiences of Hurricane Hugo taught some students what to expect with a hurricane.

"Hurricane Hugo taught me to know what's coming up and to be prepared," sophomore Aubrey Stevenson said. "People took Hugo too lightly and didn't realize what a category four hurricane could do. Even though Hurricane Fran is only a category three storm, it's still big."

To protect the students and university property in the event of the hurricane, the university has already begun to take precautions. Construction equipment and materials

FRAN page 2

### Charleston students escape Fran at USC

CECE VON KOLNITZ Projects Editor

The possibility of Hurricane Fran slamming into South Carolina's coastline chased over 20 College of Charleston students to USC's Baptist Student Center Thursday.

Administrators originally thought USC would house 150 COC students, but because Fran's threat to Charleston diminished Thursday evening, only about 15 evacuees stayed the night at BSC.

The evacuees boarded COC vans early Thursday morning, and arrived in Columbia around 10:30 a.m. Their sleeping bags and suitcases were piled on pews and lined one wall of BSC's chapel.

Beth Kneen, a COC freshman from West Palm Beach, Fla., said some of her fears about Fran's presence in Charleston had already subsided when she heard the hurricane had set its eye on the northern part of the coast.

"Now that it's turning north, and we're not getting the eye of it, it will turn out a lot better than we expected," Kneen said.

Kneen said she remembers when Hurricane Andrew devastated Miami.

"We drove down to Miami [after Andrew], and it was terrible," Kneen said. "The only thing that worries me is seeing another city like that."

Kneen said originally she and a friend had planned to stay at someone's house in the area, but plans fell through. Kneen said she had no place to go until she remembered the flyers she'd seen posted around campus announcing USC as an option for student evacuees.

"Everybody's so nice here. It's amazing," Kneen said. "They fed us, they entertained us, and they've given us a place to sleep."

John Ballard, a COC freshman from Charleston, said he ended up at the BSC because his parents were out of town and he couldn't find anyone to stay with closer to home.

Ballard, who lives in Wentworth residence hall at COC, said "I heard the hurricane was going more north, so I'm not really concerned about it messing up Charleston too bad."

Shandran Jones, a director on COC's residence life staff, said even though Fran took a turn away from Charleston Thursday, safety is the first priority on the minds of COC staff members.

"I think it still gives us reason to be concerned," Jones said. "We would always rather err on the side of being safe as opposed to keeping students there and not being safe."

CHARLESTON page 2

### SG senate discusses Homecoming

REGINNA GREEN Staff Writer

Student Senate met for the second time this semester Wednesday to discuss 1996 Homecoming procedure and approve its newest members.

Senior Penny Owens, a transfer from USC-Union, was approved as Director of Special Projects. Owens was student body president of her former university branch.

LaShawn Johnson, pharmacy sophomore, was also approved as one of the Senate's newest members. Johnson said she had particular reasons for wanting to be a part of Student Senate.

"There's been several problems within my major that I'd heard about before I joined the Senate," Johnson said. "Pharmacy students have not been receiving information, and as a second-year pharmacy student, I'd like to make sure that students in the college get the correct information."

"I'd like to help with anything, really, that I can," Johnson said.

Student Government Vice President Jamel Franklin disseminated the 1996 Homecoming Showcase rules and regulations.

As in previous years, all candidates must have a minimum 2.5 GPR and 30

hours of college credit.

Candidates may only be nominated once by a registered campus organization, and the completed Homecoming King and Queen applications must be accompanied by a \$15 application fee. The deadline for applications to the Student Government office is Sept. 18 at 5 p.m.

According to the official rules and regulations, "The Student Government will not economically benefit from this fee, or from any money generated by this event." The funds will go to charity,

SENATE page 2

### USCPD cruisers pilot new technology

SHARIF SIMMONS Staff Writer

The University of South Carolina Division of Law Enforcement and Safety (SCDLES), in a joint venture with Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile and Cerulean, is now launching the newest crime-fighting tool, Cellular Digital Packet Data or CDPD. CDPD will allow officers to instantaneously access federal, state and local motor vehicle and criminal databases before they even step out of the car.

"This new system was so desperately needed, because in the past, with the old system, officers would have to first call the dispatcher, who then would check the database, which would give



ADAM SNYDER The Gamecock

USCPD Corporal Daryl Longshore demonstrates the new Cellular Digital Packet Data Packet that police cruisers are now equipped with.

POLICE page 2



ACHIM HUNT The Gamecock

USC mascot, Cocky gets students excited during the football games. Cocky is frequently seen dancing on the sidelines.

### Football season awakens Gamecock traditions

ACHIM HUNT Sports Editor

If one is new to the area, or has never been to a Carolina football game, then one needs to go to Williams-Brice Stadium tomorrow night for the Gamecocks' opener.

Football and Saturday afternoon games are part of the tradition that surrounds life at USC. Football games give meaning to students, faculty and Columbia residents.

The University of South Carolina is the only major college athletic program in the country that uses the mascot "Fighting Gamecocks". The teams have been called "Gamecocks" for more than 90 years.

In about 1900, the Carolina football team struggled to settle on one nickname, instead of changing to a

different one almost every year, like they did in the past. Then, during the tenth year of football, the football team was referred to as the "Game Cocks".

In 1903, The State shortened the phrase to one word, and South Carolina teams have been called "Gamecocks" ever since.

A gamecock is a fighting rooster, known for its spirit and courage. Cock fighting used to be a popular sport in the 19th century, and involved the fighting of two gamecock roosters until one died.

Garnet and Black were adopted near the turn of the century as the official colors of the University of South Carolina athletic teams. The colors are dominant ones on the gamecock, which is the University's official mascot

for its athletic teams.

The first mascot for Carolina athletic teams was Big Spur, who was replaced by Cocky in 1982. Big Spur was loved by Gamecock fans, and when the University switched to Cocky, many fans were mad. When Cocky won the National Championship for best mascot in 1984, those grumblings quickly disappeared.

The Gamecocks feature perhaps the most unique and electrifying pregame entrance in all of college football. As the minutes wind down on the game clock prior to opening kickoff, the Gamecocks assemble in the tunnel in the southwest corner of Williams-Brice Stadium.

Then, as the first chords of "2001" blare over the sound system, the crowd

noise starts to build with the music. As the last chord of the song sounds, the team runs out through the tunnel and past the band.

The "2001" theme corresponds with the University's 200th birthday celebration the year 2001.

Gamecock fans come from all over the state to see the Gamecocks play and enjoy the tradition of 2001 and tailgating.

Tailgating is the practice of arriving at a parking space near the stadium about four hours before kickoff, and enjoying some great fried chicken and tasty beverages. It is a time to spend with friends and listen to the tailgate show, while discussing who is starting and what the opposition will be like on that day.