

The Gamecock

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WEATHER

TODAY
 Rainy
 High 48
 Low 37

SATURDAY
 Rainy
 High 54
 Low 45

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Friday, February 14, 1997

Interfaith week returns to USC

STAFF REPORTS

For the first time in more than two decades, USC will celebrate Religious Awareness Days, an interfaith celebration of spirituality and morality that will include an interfaith prayer breakfast, daily prayers of different faiths, lectures and a two-day Partners in Dialogue conference.

Religious Awareness Days will be observed from Feb. 18 to Feb. 25.

At the prayer breakfast, which will be held at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, in the Russell House ballroom, members of the faculty, staff and student population — representing a diversity of faiths — will comment on the special value of prayer and religious beliefs in their lives.

USC President Dr. John Palms and USC Board of Trustees Chairman William Hubbard will be at the breakfast to offer greetings.

The student choir, A Touch of Faith, will provide a selection of gospel music. Tickets for the breakfast, open only to the USC community, are \$2 and can be reserved by calling 777-3196.

Palms said it is important for the university to sponsor the breakfast and other events during Religious Awareness Days because of the university's responsibility to provide moral and civic leadership for its students.

"The university is a place for the pursuit of understanding and truth with reason and holistic, rational perspectives that are not dogmatic and doctrinaire," Palms said. "It is also the university's responsibility to help shape students' sense of societal responsibility and ethics."

After the breakfast, Dr. William Willimon, dean of the chapel and professor of Christian ministry at Duke University, will give a lecture, God Goes to College: Religion and Values in Higher Education, at 8:45 a.m. in the Russell House theater.

The Partners in Dialogue conference will be held Feb. 22 to Feb. 23 in Gambrell Hall. The theme for the sixth annual interfaith conference is The Journey

RELIGION page 2

Here comes the Sun King

ANNA SETTARATH Staff Writer

USC's first solar car, the "Sun King," entered the Sunrayce 97 competition and helped advance USC into the future.

The Gamecock Sunrayce 97 team consists of more than 20 engineering and business students, and the team began developing their ideas in August, 1995, and have continued into this semester.

Jeff Morehouse is the adviser of the team and oversees their design, construction, testing and modification.

Sunrayce 97 will begin in Indianapolis on June 19 and will continue for 1,230 miles to Colorado Springs. The race will last 10 days and the car may not use a drop of fuel. The energy collected will power an electric engine ranging from two to ten horse power.

The team with the lowest cumulative time wins cash awards.

"USC is the only team in South Carolina to participate in this nation-wide competition," team member Mickey Wakefield said.

The "Sun King" is two meters wide, six meters long and 1.2 meters tall. It has a cockpit and Solar panels on the hood.

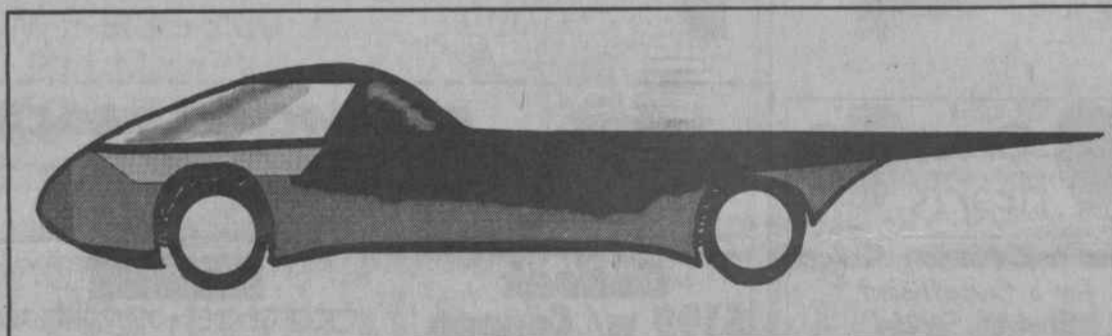
The solar cars use photovoltaics or "solar cells" to capture sunlight and transform it into electricity. Teams have to account for the sunlight availability, traffic patterns and terrain in order to have a successful race.

Although the team receives funds from the Department of Engineering, they said they need more contributions in the form of money, time and materials.

"Working from an estimated budget of \$50,000, we expect most of our contributions to come from individuals, businesses and corporations," project director Rebecca Seitzmeyer said.



USC's "Sun King" will take to the streets on June 19 to compete in Sunrayce 97.



Treasurer candidate may be disqualified after missed meeting

CEDRIC SCOTT Staff Writer

The final week of the 1997 Student Government Elections is providing the Elections Commission with an unprecedented situation.

Through the first two weeks of campaigning, no candidate was handed an infraction.

Now with six days remaining until election day, an executive office candidate is possibly near disqualification.

This could be the first time in SG history a candidate has been disqualified from an election.

The fate of SG Treasury candidate Terrance Levine rests on today's ruling by the Elections Commission.

According to Manisha Shroff, elections commissioner, the eligibility controversy is the result of a "lack of communication."

Campaign Rule 411.30 states: "The Elections Commissioner may disqualify any candidate, including write-in candidates, who do not comply with the rules for campaigning."

One of those rules is attendance of meetings.

After the filing deadline, candidates were required to attend the mandatory official candidates' meeting on Feb. 3 to learn about campaign rules and violations.

Levine said he did not attend this meeting because, at that time, he had "decided not to run."

"I talked to Manisha [Shroff] on [Feb. 3] and asked for my deposit back," Levine

said. He said that was when Shroff encouraged him to re-enter the race.

"The [elections] commissioner's job is three-fold," Shroff said.

Besides encouraging voter turnout and overseeing and regulating the elections process, Shroff said she must "encourage people to file for candidacy."

Since Levine did not attend the meeting, he had to arrange a time to meet with Shroff and the Elections Commission. Levine and Shroff were scheduled to meet on Feb. 5.

According to Levine, a family emergency came up and he was unsuccessful in attempts to locate Shroff that Wednesday to tell her about his situation. Shroff said she "was not told of the emergency."

Levine said he "wants to run."

He also said he has paid the candidate's fee and has spent money on financing his campaign.

Nevertheless, according to Levine, his main reasons for wanting to run are not because of the money he has committed to his campaign.

He said he wants to run because he "has many concerns" with equity in funding at the university.

"[Levine's] actions warrant disqualification, according to election codes, but no decision has been made," Shroff said.

The Elections Commission will meet this afternoon to determine Levine's eligibility.

“ [Levine’s] actions warrant disqualification, according to election codes, but no decision has been made. ”

Manisha Shroff
elections commissioner

Senator reprimands Senate for attendance

CARA PELLATT Staff Writer

Sen. Matthew Richardson urged senators to become more active in their senatorial roles at Wednesday's Senate meeting.

In an "attempt to motivate," he criticized the number of absences accumulated by some senators.

"We have not had Dr. Palms address the Senate. Do we want to have Dr. Palms address the Senate in the condition it's in?" Richardson said.

In a debate over whether or not to allow Sen. Richardson more time to

“ Do we want to have Dr. Palms address the Senate in the condition it's in? ”

Sen. Matthew Richardson

speak, Sen. Graham King argued against allowing the extra five minutes.

"I try to come to every meeting," King said.

"I even skip class on Wednesdays to come here," he said.

He said the senators who were present did not need to hear Richardson's message.

Sen. Susanne Newman commented on the importance of the senators

Senate voted to allow Richardson five more minutes.

Sen. Richardson also commented on the low number of bills that have been

respecting each other.

"I just think that, out of respect, if he has enough time to think about this, then we have to listen," Newman said.

The

Senate voted to allow Richardson five more minutes.

Sen. Richardson also commented on the low number of bills that have been

passed by the senate in 1997. SBL97002 is the only bill that has been passed this year. The first bill, SBL97001, was withdrawn from the floor.

"If we didn't have student activity fees to distribute and we didn't have 002, then we would have nothing," Richardson said.

In other business, the senators had to vote on SBL97002 again because they did not follow proper procedure in passing the bill at last week's meeting. The bill was supposed to go through a second reading before the senators could

SENATE page 2

University international programs grow, attract students

ROSALIND HARVEY Staff Writer

That new student in the seat next to you might not be from South Carolina. In fact, they might not even be from this country.

USC undergraduate and graduate programs are attracting students from around the world.

The countries with the most student representation at USC are China, India, South Korea, Ecuador, Japan and England.

Patricia Willer, director of international programs, said most of these students are studying in the departments of science and math, business administration, engineering, liberal arts and public health.

Requirements for admission to the university are very similar to that of American students, Willer said. However, an English proficiency test must be passed

before admission. All students from non-english speaking countries must take a test of English as a foreign language (TOEFL).

The TOEFL is similar to the SAT American students must take for admission, she said.

Recruiting of international students is not as active as recruiting American students.

"Primarily our reputation and our faculty reputation is our best recruiter," Willer said.

Entry into the country requires a non-resident visa. This visa does not allow these students to become a U.S. resident.

Those students who decide to work in the United States will find themselves limited to a certain number of working hours and paying more in taxes, Willer said.

"International studies in the United States is the fifth largest export," Willer said.

"This industry is growing and we will be seeing

more competition from other countries like Australia, Japan and England for international students," she said.

Willer said most students go back to their home countries after graduation. She also said the international student dropout rate is low.

"Between the selection process and the time it takes for a student to gain acceptance, the students are committed and use that determination to finish their years here," she said. "Not to mention the financial investment they have already made."

Cost for international students is the same for out-of-state residence, Willer said.

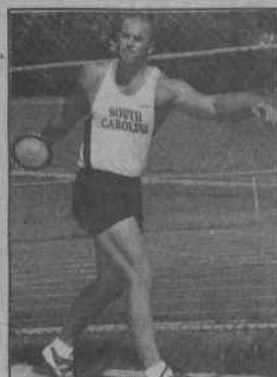
Romanian graduate student Claudiu Dimofte said U.S. schools are different than European schools.

"There are more assignments and more homework here than in Romania," he said.

GAMECOCK INSIDE



Tonight, the North Carolina band **Hobex** will be playing at the Elbow Room. The three-man band formed from the ashes of the popular Southern-circuit power group Dillon Fence. **Hobex's EXPLODES** Greg Humphreys talked with ETC. about tonight's show. **PAGE 5**



Sophomore shot putter **Brad Snyder** broke the school record in the shot put last weekend with a throw of **64-6 1/2**. Check out the profile on this Olympian from **SCHOOL RECORD** in **Sports**. **PAGE 8**

How many Valentine's Day cards were purchased in 1989?

ANSWER: 900,000,000

How many were bought by women?

ANSWER: 80%

Source: Harper's Index

JUST FOR FUN