

The Gamecock

Serving USC since 1908

WEATHER

TODAY

Cloudy
High 74
Low 29

THURSDAY

Cloudy
High 73
Low 52

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University of South Carolina

Wednesday, February 19, 1997

University to open bids for dining service contract

SHAWN STARKEY Staff Writer

Marriott Food Services, which is currently under contract to provide dining services for the university, will be bidding along with other companies for a new contract when the current one expires this summer.

If accepted, the new contract will be Marriott's fourth with the university. The current contract was accepted in 1992.

As part of the agreement, Marriott provides the university a total of \$825,000 in enhancements along with the dining services.

"[The enhancements] are a nice extra," said Dr. Richard Wertz, director of Business Affairs.

The university's Request for Proposal invites enhancements to give bidding companies an opportunity to stand out, according to Wertz. "[USC] is saying, 'Make us your best offer,'" he said.

Marriott's best offer included a total of \$825,000 in enhancements, according to the agreement.

Marriott agreed to invest \$400,000 in improvements to dining facilities and \$200,000 in a student access system. The improvements included new food

outlets like Manchu Wok and Fast Break.

The access system is the computer system which allows students to use their meal plans and cash cards with their student ID. When Marriott's contract expires, the improvements and access system will become the property of the university.

Marriott paid the President's House \$100,000—\$20,000 per year over the last five years—and the School of Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Administration (HRTA) \$125,000—25,000 per year.

Carl Chandler, Marriott district manager, said the \$20,000 per year was

given to the President's House Foundation and was applied toward catering and functions.

"The money given to the President's House is to help them raise money for the university," Chandler said.

Bond Nickles, public information coordinator for Media Relations said the \$100,000 was put into an account within the USC Education Foundation.

"That account is used to buy furnishings for the President's House such as silver, rugs, furniture and replacements. But this isn't the president's private slush fund," Nickles said. "The

role of the house is to raise money for the university."

The \$125,000 donated to HRTA is a professional donation, Chandler said.

"Marriott gives that money to support education for the [HRTA] students," said Liz Bohlke, Marriott general manager. Sandy Strick, interim chair of HRTA, said they do not have a formal arrangement with Marriott.

"We use the money for program enhancements like exhibits (for trade shows) and sending faculty to that extra conference they may not be able to afford. [The donation] is very helpful," Strick

said.

The HRTA donation also "includes revenue for a chair in HRTA," Wertz said.

The university was paid about \$1 million last year for rent, utilities and maintenance, among other charges, according to Wertz.

"Most [of the money] goes to the maintenance and upkeep of the facilities. It takes a lot of money to keep [the food outlets] operating," Wertz said.

The current agreement guarantees the university at least \$4.5 million over the five-year term of the contract.

CRIME REPORT

Luke Robinson

Monday, Feb. 17

•Driving under suspension, driving under the influence, Rosewood Ave. and S. Kilbourne St. Reporting officer observed suspect vehicle driving erratically, stopping past the white lines on several intersections and finally running a red light at the above location. Reporting officer initiated a traffic stop. Subject failed to produce valid ID and appeared to be intoxicated. Officer administered field sobriety tests and subject failed all tests. Suspect was arrested and transported to Richland County Detention Center.

•Autobreaking, attempted autobreaking, petit larceny, possession of tools of a crime, resisting arrest, S-6 Lot. Reporting officer observed suspect vehicle enter the lot and cruise around the parking lanes. Subject vehicle stopped in front of victim's vehicle and two suspects exited the suspect vehicle, with one still inside. These two suspects entered the victim's vehicle and rummaged around inside. Suspects returned to their vehicle carrying various items from the victim's car. Officers moved in to the area and attempted to apprehend the subjects. One subject was captured inside the car, one attempted to flee, and one suspect managed to elude capture. All stolen items were recovered. Suspects were arrested and transported to Richland County Detention Center.

Sunday, Feb. 16

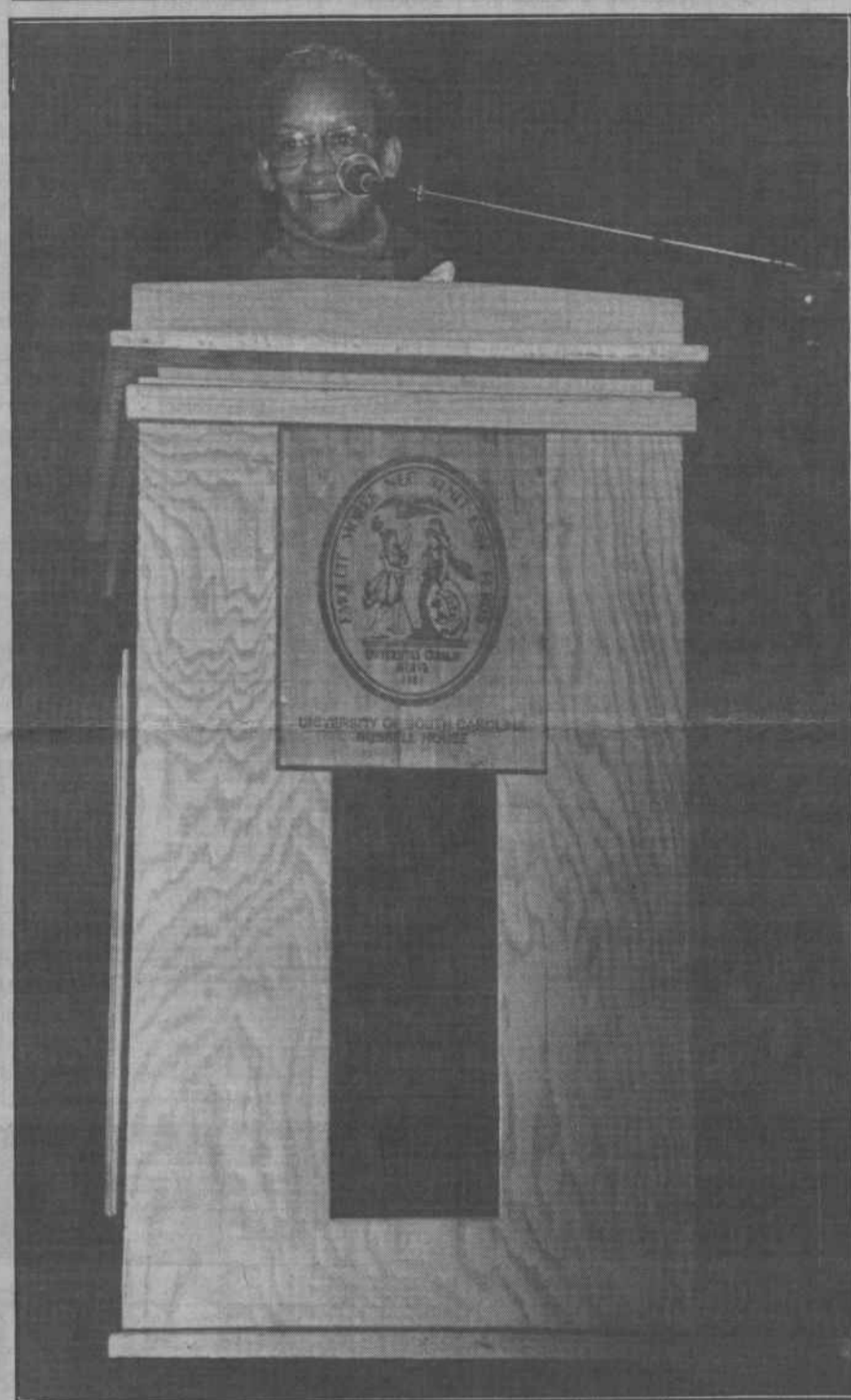
•Driving under the influence, Wheat & Sumter Sts. Reporting officer observed subject skidding to a stop at the above location. Subject turned left from Wheat and headed south on Sumter. While making the turn subject swung too wide and hit the curb, deflating his tire. Reporting officer initiated a traffic stop but subject did not stop immediately. Subject almost fell down getting out of his vehicle, and failed repeated sobriety tests. Subject blew a .23 blood alcohol level. Suspect was arrested and transported to Richland County Detention Center.

•Autobreaking, larceny of a CB radio, BA Building Lot. Victim reported that unknown persons removed his CB radio and other items from his vehicle through the open driver's-side window. Estimated loss: \$75.

Saturday, Feb. 15

CRIME page 2

Speaking her mind



NIKKI THORPE The Gamecock

Controversial poet Nikki Giovanni spoke and read her poetry Monday as a part of USC's Black History Month activities. Giovanni touched on issues important to African Americans, including the O.J. Simpson case, Ebonics and the legacy of rapper Tupac Shakur.

Candidates address parking, food, fees, grade forgiveness

ROSALIND HARVEY Staff Writer

With Student Government elections only a day away, candidates are making the campus election circuit to ensure students are aware of their goals for office.

The two candidates for President are Liberal Arts junior Jamel Franklin and Criminal Justice graduate student Mike Moore.

Some of the goals Franklin said he hopes to accomplish if elected are improving campus dining, establishing academic forgiveness, establishing an academic peer program for new students and forming a student/faculty forum on race relations.

Franklin said he will be able to keep a bill alive once passed by the Senate. He said he plans to do this by finding the important people in the university who can influence the future of the bill and convincing them of the bill's importance.

Franklin also said he will address other issues directly affecting students, such as "the rising tuition, more choices and better prices for dining on campus, diversity and the even distribution of organizational fees."

Mike Moore said he hopes he can make student government a pro-active government, improve dining on campus, establish a transportation service from Russell House to Five Points and talk to students to find out what is important to them.

Moore said he plans to end executive office pay. He also said he plans to donate his presidential salary to two local charities if he is elected.

Moore said in order to make sure a bill is carried out once approved by the Senate, there must be a pro-active president in office.

"A pro-active president will take an interest and follow-up on a bill once it

has passed," Moore said.

According to Moore, the issues USC students are concerned with are dining, residence hall visitation and parking.

Candidates running for the office of Vice President are Kim Dickerson, a Liberal Arts sophomore; Michael Phillips, a Liberal Arts junior; and Gene Willis, an Applied Professional Science junior.

If elected vice president, Dickerson said she plans to improve advisement, develop good relations with the faculty senate and make sure student fees go to the

students.

Dickerson said she will accomplish this by working with the faculty and administration on this issue.

"Students' main concerns today are dining, housing and academics," Dickerson said.

Phillips said he will push for academic forgiveness, increase safety at USC and improve dining facilities.

According to Phillips, the way a bill can be assured a long life is through pressure.

"Students have to take an interest and concern. They apply pressure to the needed area," Phillips said.

Phillips said the issues most important to USC students are housing, safety, meal plans, parking and higher education funding.

Willis said he can create a monthly newsletter for USC students to let them know what the student government is doing for them. He said he plans to develop a mentor program for new students at USC and would like to form a safety committee to deal with issues like rape.

Willis said a bill is a direct need for the students and, once passed, it should be acted upon.



ISSUES page 8

AAAS celebrates 29th anniversary with Founder's Day program

KRISTIN RICHARDSON Staff Writer

The Association of African-American Students (AAAS) celebrated its 29th Anniversary Tuesday with a Founder's Day Program in the Russell House Ballroom.

The AAAS was founded in 1968 as the first black student organization at USC. Since then, the organization has grown into a well-established organization.

"The very existence of the association represents a milestone and accomplishment for those outstanding individuals who made it all possible," said Kimberly Baxter, AAAS president.

In the program, AAAS wanted to express the theme "to salute our past, celebrate our present, and embrace our future." As a salute to their past, the association invited those students who founded

AAAS at USC so many years ago.

Marcus Gardner, Parliamentarian for AAAS, introduced the members of the panel discussion, most of which were USC alumni.

Those who had some type of involvement with AAAS in its beginning stages were Devarus Davis, Rosalind Hale, Vanessa Scott, Cleveland Sellers, John Harper and Kenneth Price.

Harper, AAAS founder, was the first to speak as Gardner questioned each member of the panel.

Harper highlighted some of the accomplishments the association had under the guidance of Price, AAAS' first president.

Price said, "AAAS came about because there were no social outlets for blacks on campus."



"The university was not readily accepting of a black organization on campus, but we overcame that obstacle. We wanted to address issues we faced on campus as well as in our community" he said.

Gardner asked questions about how to improve the involvement among black Greek organizations with other black organizations, the opportunities available through the Black Alumni Council and the advantages of being involved in black organizations after graduation.

Davis, a 1992 graduate of USC, said, "We as blacks who are educated need to realize that it is our responsibility to reach back and help others and our community."

A candlelight ceremony, led by Adraine Lawrence

and Leroy York, secretary and treasurer of AAAS respectively, representing "the celebration of the present" followed the panel discussion.

During the ceremony, members of other black organizations lit a candle in appreciation of AAAS for being the "stepping stone" in the rise of black students at USC.

The "celebration of the future" of AAAS was given by the director of Multicultural Student Affairs, Walter Jackson. The closing remarks were given by AAAS advisor, Thomas Rivers and a reception followed.

Baxter said, "I was very pleased about the program itself. It is important for students, especially black students, to know their history. We were the first black organization with 19 others following. Students should get involved and feel a sense of respect and appreciation for AAAS."

GAMECOCK INSIDE

The Gamecock offers a special election section. It includes all of the important information for the '97 Student Body elections. See the platforms of candidates for all executive positions—president, vice president and treasurer, a sample ballot and voting locations. Election Day is Thursday, and The Gamecock's election coverage gives all the details on who's who and where it will all happen.

ELECTION COVERAGE

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SPRING SPORTS

SPORTS PAGE 8

previews women's and men's golf, tennis, track and field, swimming, equestrian, softball and baseball.

What are the chances that a college-educated American lied about not voting in a survey?

JUST FOR FUN

ANSWER: 1 in 2 or 50%

Source: Harper's Index

DECISION 1997 A Gamecock Special Section