

GAMECOCK INSIDE

- NEWS** See what organizations meet when and where. **2**
- ETC.** Puff Daddy releases his first solo CD. **5**
- SPORTS** Preview of USC's upcoming game with UGA. **7**

Volume 90, Number 13

GAMECOCK BRIEFS

- Exercise program offered**
Walking Works, a five week exercise program, will begin Sept. 14 and is open to students, faculty and staff. Register by calling 7-6518.
- One-Shot Community Service projects coming up**
A One-Shot community service project will be held at the Department of Juvenile Justice on Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and again on Sept. 23 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Both days will be full of recreational activities and fun. Refreshments and transportation will also be provided. For more information, call 777-8402.
- Fulbright Grant applications for graduate study due**
The campus deadline for receipt of Fulbright Grant applications is Monday, Sept. 15 at noon in the Fellowships Office. Applications will be reviewed by a campus faculty committee prior to being forwarded to IIE for the October deadline.
- USC Dance Conservatory registration extended**
Registration for the USC Dance Conservatory has been extended until Sept. 15. Classes include instruction in ballet, tap, jazz, musical theater and pas de deux. The classes are held on weekdays and weekends in Blatt P.E. Center.
- Applications for Omicron Delta Kappa available**
Applications for Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society, is open to undergraduate and graduate students who with at least 60 earned hours, GPA of at least 3.0, and have excelled in leadership. Information sheets and applications are available at the Russell House Information Desk.
- USC to stage "Frankenstein"**
USC will be performing Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" Sept. 19-28 in the Drayton Hall auditorium. Tickets are available at Longstreet Box Office and one hour before the show. For ticket reservations call 777-2551.
- Autumn Jazz Cruise on Lake Murray**
An Autumn Jazz Cruise on Lake Murray will be held on Thursday, Sept. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. It is for you to enjoy good music, appetizers, and the company of your friends while watching a beautiful sunset. Benefits Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Columbia, Inc. Available to individuals over the age of 18. For more information, contact Barron Damon at 691-5700.
- John Izard Middleton's works on exhibit at McKissick**
Rediscovered drawings by John Izard Middleton are the focus exhibit Sept. 17-Dec. 19 at McKissick Museum. In conjunction with the exhibit, USC Press is publishing a book on the drawings and other outstanding holdings of the South Carolina Library.
- McKissick Museum to hold Fall Folklife Festival**
The McKissick Museum's third annual Fall Folklife Festival is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 27. The festival showcases the folk artistry of the state and region. It is held on the Horseshoe in front of the museum. For more information, call Holly Mitchell at McKissick Museum at 777-7251.
- S.C. Philharmonic announces its 1997-98 season**
The S.C. Philharmonic, Nicholas Smith, Music Director, announces its 33rd season beginning Oct. 4, 1997. The season includes eight "Master Series" concerts of traditional classical music, two "Pops" concerts, and one special Sunday matinee performance. All concerts are at the Koger Center for the Arts.
- Walk to Cure Diabetes**
Step out and help raise money for the research of diabetes on Sunday, Oct. 19, in Sequicentennial State Park. By participating in this year's annual "WALK TO CURE DIABETES" you can help raise funds that will go directly towards vital research to find a cure. For more information, call 777-8402.
- Crop walk to be held in Finlay Park**
Come and join the crop walk on Sunday, Oct. 19 at 2:30 p.m. in Finlay Park. The money is being raised for hunger education and Church World Service. For more information, call 777-8402.
- Carolina Cares will have speaker from Rape Crisis Network**
Tuesday Sept. 16 at 7 p.m., Carolina Cares will hold a meeting in RH room 302. A speaker from the Rape Crisis Network will address the problem of violent crimes on college campus.


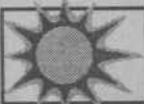
compiled by Kristin Richardson

The Gamecock

Serving USC since 1908

University of South Carolina

WEATHER

	TODAY P. Cloudy High 84 Low 65
	SATURDAY Sunny High 85 Low 64

INDEX

Datebook	2
Viewpoints	3
Etc.	5
Comics	6
Sports	7
Classified	8

Friday, September 12, 1997

Midnight Madness

ESPN to broadcast basketball tip-off event

ACHIM HUNT Sports Editor

Flash back to Feb. 4, 1997. The South Carolina Gamecocks, undefeated in conference play, were ready to take on the SEC basketball powerhouse Kentucky in a nationally televised game at Frank Mcquire Arena. As we all know, the Gamecocks won and the fans stormed the court.

For those of you who were there, you know how crazy it was down on that floor. For those of you who weren't there, it was complete madness.

Now there will be more madness hitting Columbia next month.

Midnight Madness that is. The defending SEC champion South Carolina men's basketball team will open practice for the 1997-98 season Saturday, Oct. 18, at 12:01 a.m. The school's first-ever "Midnight Madness" will be nationally televised by ESPN from the Carolina Coliseum.

ESPN will televise the event beginning Friday evening, and also will feature Duke, Rhode Island and Tennessee in the hour-long program.

Specific start times will be announced at a later date, but the festivities will begin late Friday evening and will run through the end of the ESPN broadcast at 1 a.m. Saturday.

Head coach Eddie Fogler will introduce the 1997-98 team shortly after midnight.

The fifth-year USC coach was the SEC Coach of the Year last season and was second in the voting for National Coach of the Year.

"We are certainly excited to have this spotlight on our program," Fogler said. "ESPN asking us to televise a Midnight Madness is a reflection on the excitement generated by our program last year. It is a real tribute to the Gamecock fans, who are among the most supportive in the country."

USC was selected to be a part of this "Midnight Madness" because of their very successful season last year.

In addition to being SEC champs, the "Triple Threat" of BJ McKie, Larry Davis and Melvin Watson were named to the All-SEC first team. After a slow start with losses to UNC-Asheville and Charleston Southern last December, the Gamecocks rolled off big wins at home against Kentucky, Georgia and Vanderbilt.

USC was equally successful on the road, with wins at Vanderbilt, LSU and Kentucky.

In one of the earliest preseason polls of the year, Eddie Fogler's team is ranked No. 7 in the nation.



SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

Head coach Eddie Fogler, above, and senior Melvin Watson, below, will begin their defense of the Gamecocks 1996-97 SEC Championship. ESPN will televise a showcase of the team October 18 as part of Midnight Madness. Festivities are expected to begin late Friday evening and last until 1 a.m. Saturday.

The Gamecocks also will tip off regular-season coverage on ESPN Nov. 14, when they play Maryland in the Black Coaches Association Classic in Minneapolis, Minn.

After that, the Gamecocks return home for several nonconference games before they travel to rival Clemson on Dec. 17.

After winter break, the Gamecocks return home to start the SEC season against Vanderbilt and LSU.

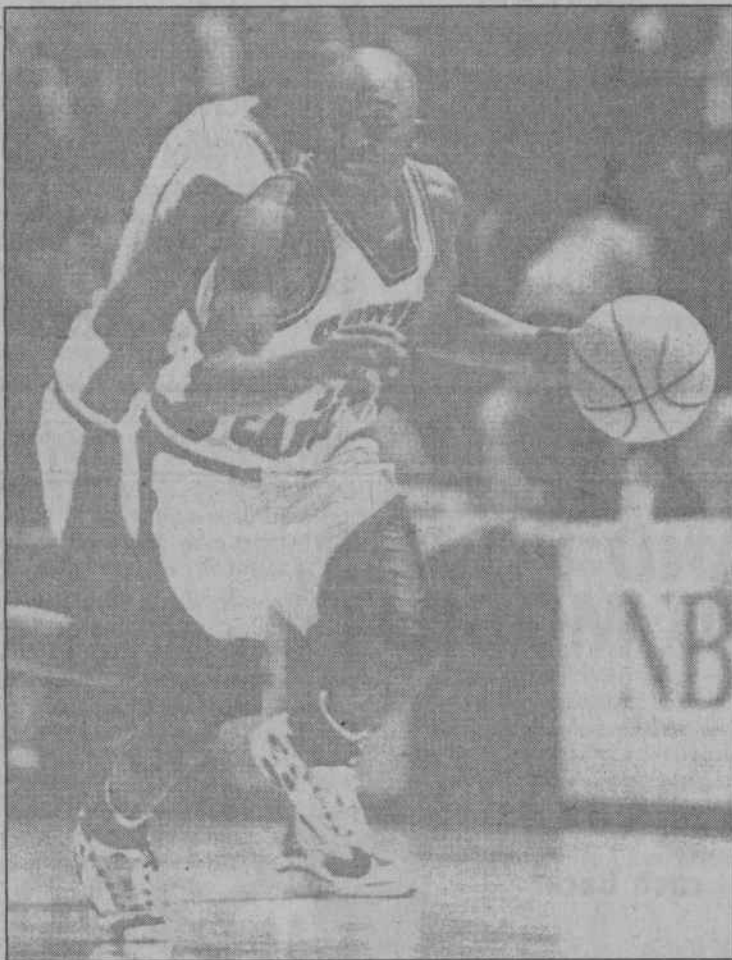
A big nonconference tilt looms Feb. 1 against Cincinnati, who the Gamecocks upset last year on national television.

As February winds down, the Gamecocks face Georgia and Kentucky back-to-back to close the season. Both games will be on national television.

USC will be on TV a school-record 17 times this year.

So, with the national television audience, promise of big wins and national awards, Gamecock basketball already promises to be madness.

It will just start a little earlier this year.



SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

Students speak to Trustees

KRISTIN RICHARDSON
Asst. News Editor

USC students are voicing their concerns and opinions about the board of trustees' master plan.

The board of trustees approved a plan last month designed to be a beautification project for the university.

The plan suggests the closing of the two parking lots located near the Russell House and Thomas Cooper Library. An area with walkways, a lawn and trees that can be used for recreation will replace the lots.

The plan states the parking lots have already been accommodated by Bull Street garage, which has 1,200 spaces.

At the student liaison committee meeting Thursday, Student Body President Jamel Franklin announced student concerns about the proposed parking reduction made by the building and grounds committee in August.

"We have taken on some major issues," Franklin said. "There are some ideas and concerns about beautifying our campus. There are concerns about parking and replacements."

All available parking spots in Bull Street garage were full at the beginning of the semester.

Students pay \$160 per semester in order to retain a space there.

Changes have been made in the garage that have led to problems with the students using their passes.

"I have an access card to the Bull Street garage and I have a hard time finding a parking space," junior Linette Callahan said. "Students who get tickets to the garage have more available spaces than I do. Taking away the parking lots beside the Russell House will cause a lot of problems."

This year, the garage is divided into different sections that are available for those users with passes and those who pay for a space each day.

"I think it's too inconvenient for student usage," junior Terence Henry said. "They only have one machine that is working and you have to stand in line after class to pay and get out."

Henry also said there are open spaces available during the day when he uses the garage.

Franklin will address the building and grounds committee about this issue at their next meeting.

Out of concern for the students at USC, Franklin said Student Government wants to make suggestions about where they can relocate the new walkways, lawn and trees that will replace the parking lots.

"I hope they will take it into consideration and find another way to add to the beautification of the campus," he said. "It is a very good project, but students don't have that priority in mind."

The issue about parking has been an ongoing problem that has yet to be solved, even with the large number of student parking lots, garages and parking meters available at USC.

Taking away the two parking lots has become an important issue to the students. Student Government will be making a move against the plan in November at the next building and grounds committee meeting.

"What the plan is talking about is a replacement for parking. What we need is an addition," Franklin said.

Student government passes billboard bill

CARA PELLATT Asst. News Editor

Senators approved by acclamation Wednesday SBL(97)013, a bill that approves Student Government billboards being placed in each college.

According to the bill, the billboards will display the photographs of the Executive Officers and the senators of the college, the minutes of each Senate meeting and an envelope for

comments. The senators will maintain the bulletin boards in their respective colleges.

Sen. Gene Willis said the purpose of the billboards is to let students know the senators are accessible to them.

"It will hold us more accountable," Willis said. "People will know who we are."

Some colleges have bulletin boards they will allow the senators to use.

Student government will have to pay for photographs of the officers and senators and the boards for colleges that do not have an extra bulletin board. The estimated cost of the project is \$80, according to Willis.

In other business, Vice President Kim Dickerson announced two new chairs for the Judiciary and Academic committees. Sen. Jonathan Sharpe will replace Sen. Regina Fletcher for

Academic chair. Sen. Scott Hile will replace Sen. Ashley Jones as Judiciary chair.

"The chairman was a graduate student and she had scheduling conflicts," Sharpe said.

The following senators were absent from Wednesday's meeting: Jennifer Parrish-Liberal Arts Deanna Smith-Education

S.C. economic success brings lower unemployment

REGINNA GREEN Staff Writer

Even though all three of South Carolina's economic indices fell in June for the second month in a row, both the leading and composite indices were up from the same time last year, indicating a strengthening economy, according to the latest issue of South Carolina Economic Indicators.

The report, published by the College of Business Administration and the state Employment Security Commission, tracked 16 economic indicators in June. Of these, six improved, nine declined, and one remained unchanged from the previous month.

The Index of Leading Indicators, which tends to forecast the state of the economy, also fell in June, but has remained above the 1996 levels every month this year. Of the eight indicators

comprising this index, three improved, four declined and one remained unchanged.

According to the report, the major contributor to the decline was the 32.4 percent jump in Unemployment Insurance Benefits.

Dr. Susan Laury, a research economist with the College of Business Administration, emphasized the importance of looking at recent statistics from a larger perspective than simply month-to-month.

"It's a mistake trying to figure out how the economy is doing from month to month," Laury said. "What's important is what's going on in the longer run in the state's economy."

And in the longer run, the state's economy is improving in several areas.

Several rising indicators, especially in the new business corporations that rose 32.3 percent, suggest the state's

economy is continuing to improve, but at a more moderate pace than two months ago, according to the report.

"The state has really been pushing out-of-state investment for the past few years and it has paid off," Laury said. "1995 and 1996 were record-breaking years for investment in South Carolina, and employment is up [from last year] as a result."

The unemployment rate also rose to 5.1 percent in June, but was still far below the 1996 level of 6.1 percent.

Sam McClary, program coordinator for the South Carolina Employment Security Commission Office of Labor Market Information, credits the state's overall economic improvement to the decline in unemployment.

"A general increase in good economic conditions is the most likely factor [contributing to the lower unemployment rate]," McClary said. "We've been on an

economic upswing for the past few years, and that has affected the unemployment rate."

Of the eight indicators which comprise the Index of Coincident Indicators, which provides a snapshot of the economy's current status, three improved and five declined. One of South Carolina's historically strong industries is facing a decline. The Textile and Related Employment indicator has declined every month since January.

Ted Matthews, spokesman for Greenville-based Springs Industries, has seen a drop in employment levels for his company compared to a year ago, but attributes the decline to several different factors.

"We do have fewer employees, in South Carolina as well as outside the state, than we did a year ago," Matthews said. "But that is the result of many different things. Everything from the

consolidation of certain operations to modern equipment that decreases the number of necessary employees has had an effect on the number of people we employ."

Other industries like manufacturing, which lost 5,800 jobs, have also experienced declines in unemployment, McClary said.

But the trade and services industries experienced quite a jump in employment levels, seeing 10,600 and 11,400 additional jobs, respectively.

Though the Diffusion Index of Major Employment Sectors fell in June, with three categories expanding, five declining and three staying the same, it signaled a consistent level for several employment categories.

The report also indicates that more industry segments realized more employment gains than losses in June.