

► See why we all can get along with fraternities and sororities.

# VIEWPOINTS

"The guy had his pants unzipped and was twirling his [penis] around."

Lora Seward, victim of Bates West exposure incident

## The Gamecock

Serving the Carolina Community since 1908

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### TAKE OUR WORD

## Student voting for SG should relocate

In less than a month, student government elections will be held. Students will vote for the candidate who will represent their particular college after being elected.

Traditionally, student voting has taken place in several different buildings scattered throughout our campus. But the trick of voting lies in the regulation that a student can only vote in the building that has been designated for his or her respective college.

If a student has no classes in the building that day or won't be near that end of campus, chances are rather high that the student won't vote at all. Herein resides the crux of voter apathy.

All the voting for student elections should be moved to the centralized location of the Russell House. It is, after all, the student union. More students visit the Russell House more often than any other building on campus. It's only logical that student elections be held there.

The Russell House's main draw is its food services. Everyone needs

**PROBLEM**  
Each student must vote in a specified building on campus.

**SOLUTION**  
Student voting should be moved to the Russell House for better accessibility.

to eat, and hungry students eventually end up in the Russell House. Before or after eating, students could check off their ballots.

The Russell House is also the home to Student Government offices and meetings. It makes sense to vote for representatives where they will be debating student issues like parking and academic forgiveness.

In fact, the Russell House is where almost all student activities are orchestrated. Student organizations hold meetings in the Russell House. Student ticket distribution for football and basketball games is located there. Student media occupies the third floor. With so many reasons to be in the Russell House, students would have better accessibility to voting if it were moved.

The Russell House provides a central location for student voting. There is really no reason why it shouldn't be moved there for better accessibility, student convenience and decreased voter apathy.

## Student records should go public

For those students who are planning on committing a crime anytime soon, first take notice of this. Congress is considering a bill that would force colleges to open their judicial records to the general public. This means that if any student committed any crime while at any certain university, their record, along with usual public information, could be easily filed and snooped through by anyone.

Most universities now do not allow this form of access to files, but students are wanting more personal information on criminals besides mere statistics. Not only will this bill, if passed, divulge personal information, it will also open disciplinary hearings to journalists and the public.

This is tough, but fair. This would help student media become more factual, more precise and more trustworthy. They would not be looking at it as a right to snoop through a person's files and try to dig up dirt on a person.

**PROBLEM**  
Personal files of students may be opened to the public.

**SOLUTION**  
Personal files should become public to allow for a more resourceful media.

They would look at it as a responsibility, however burdensome, to report the most accurate and efficient news that they can. This is the job of your student media.

If you do not want anybody to look through your files, do not commit any crimes. That is a sure way to keep you name clean and to have years of dust gather on your folder.

Plus, a student media should, as does The Gamecock, act under an ethics code. Some papers might not take advantage of this, for fear of jumping the gun or libeling a person. But the option should be left open to those media sources who want to let the people know what's going on.

This would be a resourceful bill to pass because the public needs to know about any potential danger, about daily events and about the truth. But what it really comes down to is trust in your student media and any media by allowing them to provide their services with the utmost fact.



college press EXCHANGE

## Hard to survive without cable

### THE WORLD ACCORDING TO BRIAN AND MILES

Some months ago, under financial pressure and hard pressed to find satisfactory programming on a consistent basis, we decided to disconnect our cable television service.



brian BENENHALEY  
miles GORDON

Upon sharing this revelation with some of our friends, we received reactions of shock and disbelief. "How will you cope with the loss?" they'd ask. "The quiet at night will kill you guys in a month," some retorted. As is readily apparent, the predictions of the demise of Brian and Miles have proven to be premature. Alas, we

have adjusted to a cable-free lifestyle and are doing well, thank you. As a matter of fact, we'd like to use our inaugural column here in *The Gamecock* to offer some advice to other brave souls who may be considering going cable free. So now, here is the official top ten list of things you can do when you don't have cable television.

**No. 10 Go visit a friend who has cable TV.** If planned in advance, this can allow you to see the only things worth watching on cable anymore which are "Dallas" re-runs, professional wrestling and college basketball on ESPN.

**No. 9 Listen to AM radio.** This should be done in moderation as too much AM Radio leads to an ugly addiction. Miles has already fallen victim to the AM curse. Everyday he skips lunch so he won't miss G. Gordon Liddy. In two weeks, Miles lost eight pounds.

**No. 8 Stop by a friend's house who has cable television.** This is far less expensive than having cable yourself.

**No. 7 Read for class.** We haven't actually tried this. It is included

"As is readily apparent, the predictions of the demise of Brian and Miles have proven to be premature. Alas, we have adjusted to a cable-free lifestyle and are doing well, thank you."

solely for pointed-head intellectuals who take themselves too seriously.

**No. 6 Spend some time at a friend's house who has cable television.** Many times friends will offer you free food when you go over for a visit. Not only will you save on cable, your grocery bill will go down as well.

**No. 5 Read for pleasure.** The idea of reading when you don't have to is too ludicrous for discussion.

**No. 4 Go hang out with a friend who has cable television.** In addition to free food, in most instances you won't have to clean up after yourself either.

**No. 3 Take up golf.** Brian has. Be forewarned though, golf is twice as addictive as AM radio and many times more expensive than cable television.

**No. 2 Drop in on a friend who has cable television.** Most folks will defer to their guest's choice of programming even if it is professional wrestling.

And the No. 1 thing to do when you don't have cable television: write a column for *The Gamecock*.

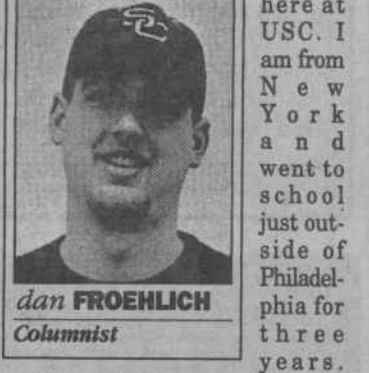
Sticking to our top ten list has made life without cable a piece of cake. Lately though, something strange has been happening among our friends. Many of our friends have mysteriously moved away without leaving forwarding addresses. Miles thinks that maybe we've been wearing out our welcome. Nah... couldn't be that.

Oh, by the way, we've been meaning to ask you, do you have cable television?

## Students concerned about sidewalks

### FROM A NEW YORK STATE OF MIND

Hey there! My name is Dan and I am going to gripe and moan right now about this place we have all come to call home. I am a fourth-year, but only in my first year here at USC. I am from New York and went to school just outside of Philadelphia for three years.



dan FROEHLICH  
Columnist

Though they were not the best years of my life, I did enjoy one aspect of up north that I thought I would find down here in the self-proclaimed "Southern Hospitality" of South Carolina, and that is friend-

liness and warm smiles. Unfortunately, it seems to be just the opposite.

I have been here at USC since Wednesday before classes started for transfer orientation. That means I have been on campus since Jan. 7. Since then, I have come to know all of... two people. Why?

It is no fault of mine. I have been friendly and pleasant, offering a smile whenever I make eye-contact with a fellow student, or anyone else for that matter. A "hello" or "what's up" is always spewing out of my mouth.

However, the reciprocation has been few and far between because everyone seems to be really concerned with how the sidewalks are doing. No less than 10 times a day do I find myself attempting to make contact with a passerby when they all of a sudden look down at the sidewalk! Why?!?! From what I have seen, the majority of the sidewalks are in good condition.

Okay, so I am not the best looking guy. Nor am I an unfriendly looking guy. I am your average white male that

"No less than 10 times a day do I find myself attempting to make contact with passerbys when they all of a sudden look down at the sidewalk! Why?!"

likes to meet new people. Only problem is, it seems like no one wants to meet anyone else around here.

I finally found something I liked about the rain that has been occurring for most of the time I have been here. As I was walking back from an early class one rainy morning, I spotted a young woman without an umbrella. Being the nice fellow that I try to be, I offered her some of the free space under that umbrella and found out that she was a very pleasant person.

Had it not been raining, I have a feeling this girl would have stayed 10 feet ahead of me the whole time and never even given me a look. Thank god for the rain, huh?

So here is what I am asking the USC community to do. Go out today and try to make eye contact with as many strangers as you can, without frightening them. After sufficient eye contact has been made, make a polite gesture towards them, whether it be a head-nod, a "hello" or even a simple smile.

Trust me, if the people around the great cities of New York and Philadelphia can do it, I know that the wonderful people of Columbia can do it. Heck, "Southern Comfort" (not the drink) is half of the reason why I ventured out of the Northeast. Prove me right and offer up a smile for a stranger today.

## Damn those bible pushing people

### michele DAMES Guest Columnist

It was raining, which means it must have been a Tuesday or Thursday. Class had just ended and one of my classmates came up to me and started a typical conversation. Couldn't get a parking space today, how about you? Can you believe it's raining again? We have our first exam next week already? Do you believe in the healing power of the Lord? One of these things is not like the others.

She continues to invite me to attend a meeting where there are young men and women who discuss the bible and the meaning in their lives. I politely declined the invitation only to be hounded by questions. Have

you accepted the faith? Why won't you come? What happened in your past to make you angry at God?

First of all, I'm not angry at God. I am, however, angry at The Basil Pot for having my car towed. I'm angry at that asshole who cut me off at the corner of Gervais and Assembly. I'm not thrilled that my roommate moved out and left me with rent and \$100 worth of phone calls, and I'm pissed off that they put Elvis in a Pizza Hut commercial and that The Presidents of the United States broke up.

I'm angry at certain people because of specific events. How could I be angry at someone who doesn't exist? It's my right, after all, to not believe in God. I believe George Carlin said it best when he said he was

amazed that people actually believe that there is an imaginary man in the sky who has ten rules that he wants us to follow.

If we don't follow these guidelines, we will be punished and sent "down there," but if we are good, then we are going to be handsomely rewarded and sent "up there."

You know what's "up there?" Clouds and turbulence. I have never lived in the South until now, and the Bible Belt was simply a place that I had heard of, like the Bermuda Triangle. I questioned its existence.

I suppose I drove through it on the way to Florida, but the only place we ever stopped was South of the Border.

Well, now that I'm here for six months I know it does.

My first day of work at USC, I was handed a flyer proclaiming the Lord. I went to Wal-Mart and returned to my car to see an audio tape of his preaching under my windshield.

Now it isn't even safe to go to class, the belt is whipping me wherever I go. So please take this paper, and go whip yourself. Attach it to your windshield, and then get in your car and drive with it obstructing your view for several miles.

Shove it in someone's face real good, and then question them as to why they don't like it. Then organize a trip to the Bermuda Triangle. I hear it's beautiful this time of year.

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