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University of South Carolina

Friday, January 30, 1998

## BRIEFS

## Phi Sigma Pi recruiting members

Students with a 3.0 or higher GPA and 12 or more hours are invited to attend Phi Sigma Pi's formal rush at 3 p.m. Sunday in Russell House room 203 and 205. For more information, call Milli at 544-4888.

## Puppet Regime meets to elect officers

The Puppet Regime will meet at 5 p.m. Monday in the Longstreet Theatre green room. Officers will be elected.

## USC leadership conference to be held

A Student Leadership Training Conference will be held Feb. 7 at USC. Early registration deadline is Friday, and the final deadline is Feb. 4. For more information, call 777-6688.

## Turkey subject of panel

The office of International Programs for Students and the Turkish Student Association will sponsor a panel discussion and cultural presentation on Turkey at 7 p.m. Feb. 10 in Harper College, the Gressette Room. For more information, call 777-7461.

## Professor to lecture

Stanley Cavell of Harvard University's philosophy department will hold a lecture at 4 p.m. Feb. 16 in Gambrell 153. The lecture is "Identifying Praise: At Moments in Henry James and Fred Astaire."

## 'Stride' for health

The Columbia chapter of Hadassah is sponsoring a 5K Run and One Mile Health Walk March 1. Registration is at 1 p.m., the walk begins at 2:30 p.m., and the run starts at 3 p.m. For information, call Shelly Kriegshaber at 788-5367.

## Trenholm hosts chess tournament

Trenholm Park, 3900 Covenant Road, will host a chess tournament at 11 a.m. Feb. 21 for people ages 13 to 19. Registration is \$5 by Feb. 18. For more information, call Richland County Recreation Center at 788-5367.

## DATEBOOK

FRIDAY 30

Adult Children of Alcoholics, 10:30 a.m., starts Feb. 6, Counseling and Human Development Center.

Elderly home "One-shot" community service, 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., Feb. 6, meet at 2:30 p.m. in front of Russell House.

SUNDAY 1

"LifeChance" Ballet Gala for S.C. children with AIDS, 6:30 p.m., Jan. 31, Koger Center.

PALM Sunday Worship, 5:30 p.m., PALM Center.

## Senate discusses safety, safe ride program

staff writer KENLEY YOUNG

Lieutenant Weaver Grayson of the Crime Awareness Office of the USC Law Enforcement and Safety Division spoke briefly to the student senate Wednesday concerning his organization's continuing efforts to improve student safety on campus.

While Grayson acknowledged the effectiveness of the university's emergency call boxes, bicycle patrol, campus police and uniform police, he also mentioned

the development of a Student Safety Web Page.

According to Grayson, any USC student who may have information about infractions or violations could use the site to report such news to the proper authorities. The page also would serve as a type of "rumor control" since potential informants would retain anonymity.

Furthermore, Grayson enlisted the assistance of the student senate on these matters of student safety, and he rein-

forced a suggestion that has long been discussed within the senate.

"Your senate subcommittees should keep notebooks so that when you guys leave office, the incoming officers will know where you left off," he said. "That is a good way for the student government to become a more viable entity than it is now."

Following Grayson's speech, Sen. Mike Moore of the Student Services Committee presented a proposed student sur-

vey concerning the imposition of a Student Safe Ride Program.

"I know that many students drink and drive, despite the obvious danger to everyone. If we pass out these surveys on election day, I'm sure that we can get the numbers we need to support this program and see it implemented," Moore said.

Moore took the opportunity to question Grayson about the proposal, and the lieutenant responded with a cautionary remark.

"The idea is a sound one. However, you must consider the legal liability of the university if it sponsors such a mass transit program," Grayson said.

Any student interested in the Safe Ride Program should complete the survey that will be available near the ballot boxes on Election Day.

Absences Wednesday included the following senators: Quincy Whittle, Deisha Smith, Douglas Barrett, Elizabeth Fordham, Jason Gowdy, LaTasha Veldman, Scott Hile and Jared Mobley.

## PUSH AMERICA

## USC senior to ride for the disabled

staff writer KENLEY YOUNG

This summer, USC senior and Pi Kappa Phi member Brian Phillips will be one of 60 participants from universities across the nation to embark on "The Journey of Hope," a cross-country bicycle voyage beginning in San Francisco, Calif., and ending in Washington, D.C.

The annual cycling event, which lasts from June 10 to Aug. 15 and spans about 3,500 miles, is a project of PUSH America, a nonprofit organization intended to raise funds and public awareness on behalf of people with disabilities. "The Journey of Hope" is the largest fund-raising campaign for the PUSH America program. However, the fraternity organization also sponsors "Give a Push" weekends. In the past, participants of this program have constructed wheelchair ramps, upgraded local parks and playgrounds and even repaired boat docks.

Although "The Journey of Hope" program is in its 10th year of operation, this is Phillips' first opportunity to represent USC as a cyclist.

"I've only been a serious cyclist for about one year, but I did recently participate in a tour from Camden to Myrtle Beach. Hopefully, that was a preview of what I can expect," Phillips said.

Phillips is particularly enthusiastic about his upcoming ride because he will be a part of the program's 10th anniversary celebration, which includes an additional Northwestern Anniversary Route for certain cyclists.

Along the way, Phillips and his team members will be speaking to the media in order to promote awareness of the serious issues facing disabled persons.

Besides traveling an average of 75 miles per day, Phillips will be involved in "Friendship Visits," during which he will actually meet and speak with many disabled people. He also will volunteer in an educational puppet show, "Kids on the Block."

"Aside from the physical riding, we will gather hands-on experience with disabled persons through programs like this [the puppet show]. It's all about seeing those smiles on their faces. That's what you'll remember the most," he said.

According to Phillips, in addition to supporting people with disabilities, PUSH America also helps combat the negative public image of fraternities. In fact, when Phillips' predecessors established the PUSH America campaign in 1977, Pi Kappa Phi became the only national men's fraternity to have founded its own service project. As a result of collegiate fraternity endeavors, PUSH America has received more than \$3 million in donations since its inception.

Despite the tremendous challenge that awaits him, Phillips is determined to perform well and to accomplish the projected goals of the PUSH America campaign.

"One of the primary reasons that I joined Pi Kappa Phi was because I knew that they sponsored this program. For four years, my goal has been to participate in and to complete this ride. I've realized that some people really don't understand how to deal with disabled people. The truth is that they [disabled people] want the same things you want. They want to be treated normally," Phillips said.



Brian Phillips poses with his bicycle on the Horseshoe. Phillips will be riding cross country for PUSH America this summer. He must raise a minimum of \$4,000 to qualify for the program.

In order to participate in "The Journey of Hope," Phillips and each member of his team must raise a minimum of \$4,000. However, Phillips insists that the money supports PUSH America, not himself.

The cyclists have sponsors. Right now, Saturn [car company] is the biggest corporate sponsor, so none of the money that we personally raise goes toward funding our trip. At night, we'll sleep in gyms, civic centers and, occasionally, donated hotel rooms," Phillips said.

Anyone interested in contributing to PUSH America's campaign should contact Brian Phillips at (803) 929-0414.

## False alarms costing students

asst. news editor CARRIE MCCULLOUGH

If students think problems caused by false fire alarms set in the dorms end once the students go back inside, they should think again.

The Columbia Fire Department allows the university to have three "free" false alarms every year.

After the initial three, the Department of Housing foots the \$100 bill, according to Gene Luna, director of housing and judicial programs.

"We don't get any tuition. We don't get any tax money. The students' rents pays for these [false alarms]," Luna said.

This means students are paying for the false alarms because Housing's funds are the students rent. False fire alarms are a factor when students' housing costs increase.

False alarms have been a serious problem in South Quad this year.

Tim Hamby, residence life coordinator for South Quad and the Towers, said newly updated fire alarm systems are more sensitive. People don't necessarily pull the hall fire alarms. The alarms have gone off because of steam from cooking, steam from showers or someone burning dinner.

The new systems are in South Quad, Preston, Maxcy, Cliff Apartments and Bates House, Hamby said.

"To my knowledge, no one has pulled the alarm in South Quad," Hamby said.

A large number of false fire alarms never make it to the Columbia Fire Department.

Once an alarm sounds, it rings in the building involved, at the Columbia Fire Department and at the USC Police Department. USCPD evaluates if it is a real fire or a false alarm.

If the evaluation is made quickly enough, the Columbia Fire Department is called to cancel the alarm it receives, and USCPD goes to the residence hall and turns off the alarm.

Bates has had a few rashes of people pulling alarms in the last few years, according to Hamby.

Students caught pulling fire alarms and causing false fire alarms will be responsible for the fine and also will face some disciplinary action, according to Luna.

"I take it extremely seriously," Luna said.

## Professors discuss novel about mystery writer Grafton

staff writer BRAD WALTERS

Three USC professors held a presentation Wednesday in Gambrell Hall to discuss the writing of *G is for Grafton*, their novel about popular mystery writer Sue Grafton and the protagonist in her novels, Kinsey Millhone.

Few USC students were present at the event, but the auditorium was packed with about 100 people.

Professors Natalie Hevener Kaufman and Carol McGinnis Kay co-wrote the book.

Kaufman and Kay, along with Professor Patricia Gilmartin, who provided maps and other visuals for the book, gave this presentation to discuss both the making of this biography and their visit with Grafton during the writing process.

The book mainly discusses the life and evolution of Grafton's main character, Kinsey, who Grafton has compared to herself in many ways. The biography also delves into the social and political issues of Grafton's novels and about Grafton and her writing style.

While the professors spoke, they ran a slide show from their visit to Grafton's hometown of Santa Barbara, Calif. According to Kay, Grafton was involved in the publishing of the novel and was a very eager participant in helping the authors piece together the book.

The idea of writing the book came up almost out of nowhere one day when Kay and Kaufman were having coffee together, although Kay attributes "a lifetime of reading mystery novels" to helping spawn the idea, as well.

Three years later, the book hit the shelves. Kaufman and Kay are good friends and found that collaborating on the writing went smoothly.

"We've yet to have a fight over [the book]," Kay said.

Kay, an English professor, specializes in Shakespeare, but she finds joy in reading detective fiction, as well as writing about it.

"Detective fiction can be as well-written as any other genre," Kay said.

Kaufman, a legal scholar, works in the department of government and international studies. She believes that sometimes people as a whole don't take popular culture seriously enough. Both Kay and Kaufman have run panels on women and detective fiction for the Popular Culture Association.

Kaufman and Kay invited Gilmartin, a cartographer and professor of geography, to make maps for the book. These maps were based on Kinsey's fictional home, Santa Teresa, whose real life counterpart is Grafton's hometown of Santa Barbara.

"I found that the mental map I had constructed from reading these novels was intact with reality, with the exception of what Sue tampered with," Gilmartin said.

Kaufman and Kay have recently toured to speak about the book in Santa Barbara and Washington, D.C., as well as locally in Greenville, Hilton Head and Aiken. Philadelphia, Pa., Augusta, Ga., and Charlottesville, W. Va., are among their scheduled stops in the near future.

Sue Grafton is a New York Times bestselling author. The first of her

Kinsey Millhone books is *A is for Alibi*, and each story in the series corresponds to a letter of the alphabet.

According to Kay, Kinsey's character is a working-class, sharp-tongued female detective whose favorite place to eat is McDonald's. Grafton's latest Kinsey Millhone novel in the series is *M is for Malice*. The next in the series, *N is for Noose*, is scheduled to come out in May.

Kay and Kaufman's book, *G is for Grafton: The World of Kinsey Millhone*, was released Nov. 24, 1997, and was an alternate selection for the Mystery Writer's Guild for this month. It is 352 pages and published by Henry Holt and Co. Inc.