

► Fred and Kevin will be back to brighten your day and share their insights.

# VIEWPOINTS

"I see us getting better and better every time we tee up."

Kristi Coggins,  
USC Ladies Golf Coach

## The Gamecock

Serving the Carolina Community since 1908

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### TAKE OUR WORD

## NFL will punish off-field violence

It's about time somebody did something. The National Football League started off a campaign to be "victim friendly" by amending an already implemented off-field violence policy. It will be effective July 1.

This policy states that any NFL player or employee that is charged with some form of violent act or criminal behavior must undergo clinical evaluation and/or counseling. If that person refuses to partake in this required activity, fines and suspensions will be handed out. Conviction or admission of guilt puts the athlete into deep trouble with NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, who will take punitive actions.

The original policy took effect last summer, but was limited to just counseling.

This policy takes the NFL higher than any other professional sports organization in dealing with athlete-criminals. Tagliabue denies, however, that such action has anything to do with the recent La-trell Sprewell incident, in which he choked his coach.

#### PROBLEM

Too many athletes commit crimes and get away with it.

#### SOLUTION

A new policy punishes athletes more severely and equally.

Well, it should! Athletes just like Sprewell have gotten off way too easily. These actions performed by any other person or performed in any other public place are punishable by prison time or heavy fines. But no, these highly paid, highly egged sports

celebs obviously feel that they are a "step above the law."

With recent events, such as Sprewell's Michael Irving's night of cocaine and prostitution and baseball's Wil Cordero's beating of his wife, athletes know they can get away with things.

Their conscious tells them they should not commit these acts, but then they refer back to these events and they figure "why not?"

Though this is a big step forward, it's not enough. The athlete's know that even if they get caught, the maximum punishment they will get is a suspension and/or inconsequential fine.

Everybody deserves and is entitled equality under the law, even when it is broken. However, it is a known fact that money talks and bull shit walks.

## Excluding gay boys from Scouts wrong

California's Supreme Court ruled unanimously Monday that the Boy Scouts can exclude boys who are homosexuals or atheists.

The Boy Scouts claim that homosexuality is banned in a clause of the Scout oath. Members must vow to be "morally straight," and homosexuality goes against their traditional moral values, the Boy Scouts said.

This ruling allows the Boy Scouts to kick out two 16-year-old members who have refused to admit to a belief in God. Also upheld by the court was a rejection of a homosexual's application to become a Scout leader.

What kind of example is the Boy Scouts organization setting for the Boy Scouts themselves? Young boys are being shown that discrimination of homosexuals and atheists is fair and legal.

Has the civil rights movement sat stagnant for the past decade? Of course not. But state Supreme Court rulings like this one are bound to set the movement back more than just a couple years.

It is absolutely unacceptable that an organization such as the Boy Scouts discriminate in any way. This

#### PROBLEM

A court ruling allows the Boy Scouts to exclude gays and atheists.

#### SOLUTION

The Boy Scouts should accept any boys who want to participate.

organization is one that is supposed to embrace boys from different walks of life and teach them leadership, responsibility, honor and volunteerism. Are they saying that homosexuals and atheists are unable to learn the meaning of these qualities?

All Boy Scouts pledge to be "morally straight" upon becoming members. Supposedly being a homosexual or an atheist is in conflict with their oath. The phrase "morally straight" can be interpreted in several ways, but apparently the Boy Scouts feel that it means members must be heterosexual. The worst part of this interpretation is that the court agreed, which is completely unbelievable and quite pitiable.

Why is "straight" even included in the oath? Do little boys understand what connotation the word has when they vow to become Boy Scouts? They probably don't. A phrase such as "morally upstanding" would suffice much better.

But it doesn't matter because the ruling has been made. And now they will learn by example that discrimination is just another part of being a Boy Scout.



college press EXCHANGE

## 'Titanic' SG scandal revealed

Good lord, did we have an interesting last couple of weeks. Surely you guys felt the excitement and tension I felt with all the accusations and complaints that were being strewn about for about the past



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three weeks. Hell, yeah, I was upset too that Titanic passed Star Wars as the all time movie money maker, when everybody knows full well that if

Star Wars initially came out when ticket prices were this high, there would be no freakin' way anybody would be able to catch it.

But then there was this other thing with Student Government and not knowing how to open a door or some-

thing. No, actually, that whole thing was actually pretty exciting.

It kind of reminded me of the movie All the President's Men, which was an account of the little-known Watergate Scandal, during the Garfield administration. The movie focused on the two reporters who broke the case, Bob "hey I look like Robert Redford" Woodward and Carl "Rainman" Bernstein. Anyway, it was cool to see what they went through and how they overcame the odds to show the injustices in the political system. I think it also showed Dustin Hoffman's butt, in case anyone is really interested.

Anyway, that's what these past couple of weeks have felt like for me. The Gamecock newsroom had been going crazy trying to find out who did what, who fired who, what was being done about it and exactly what the hell Student Government was, since nobody had ever heard about it or what they did. In the first couple of articles, we thought they were some kind of bean worshippers, but we eventually found out they are the governing body here on campus. Still, nobody really

has heard about them or knows if they really do anything.

Well, once their status was established and we found out what they do and who does what, we started to report what was going on. And some serious stuff was going on. Here's the lowdown:

The SG President (who is elected by students who do not vote) was caught "doing something" with an intern during election day. However, nobody turned out to vote, so nobody actually "saw" anything. However, the president took pictures, which wasn't a real smart thing to do, and somehow they got out.

Anyway, the Elections Commission (a fancy name for the People Who Do Nothing Committee) decided to do something and ask the president for his resignation, even though he would be out of office in two weeks, for (and I quote) "not equally representing the entire Student Body by 'doing something' with only this one intern, when representatives from all walks of student life should have also had 'something done' to them."

Well, the President subsequently refused this request and fired the Elections Commission for (and I quote) "Actually doing something, when in Article 1, Sentence 3 of the Elections Commission Handbook states 'Any member of this commission solemnly swears not to do anything while on this commission.' This Commission had no authority to do what they did, so there...nanni, nanni, booboo."

Then, all of a sudden, the President was going to have impeachment charges brought against him, and a trial was going to be held. But the Student Government couldn't figure out how to open the door to their meeting room, which hasn't been used yet this year, so they said "screw it, let's forget the whole thing. South Park is on."

Well, there you are, democracy at its finest. Well, it was exciting and suspenseful while it lasted and truly, I think we all witnessed some kind of history here. Unless they raise ticket prices to \$20 each, ain't nobody gonna catch that ship.

## Good friends equal bad roommates

It happened to me twice. One would think that I would have learned from my mistake the first time. One would be wrong.

I had two best friends. I met my first one on my first day at the new elementary school where I had just enrolled. My mom had fed us Little Debbie Nutty Bars (and orange juice) for breakfast. I couldn't



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Columnist

find my classroom by myself and I was getting scared. This girl came up to me to ask if I was okay. I threw up Nutty Bars at her feet. We were best friends from then on. Until last summer at least.

We were both going to USC and sick of living on-campus. We moved into a nice, yet cheap apartment in West Columbia. Things went great for a while. Nobody to get on our nerves. No one to watch over us. Then the real

shit began. She didn't have a car. I did. She didn't have a job. I did. She didn't buy groceries. I did. She couldn't pay the rent. I did.

Now to be fair. I must share the fact that she did eventually get her act together. She got a job at a local grocery store, she began feeding herself, and eventually she did pay me back the money I had spent on bills.

The semester ended. Summer began. We went to Toogies for dinner one night, and she asked me if one of her friends could move in with us for the summer. Now, the girl she was speaking of is not someone I get along with. I REALLY don't like her. My roommate knew this, so she wasn't surprised when I said hell no.

Anyway, she let the girl move in anyway. Pouring salt into my wound, she told me that the girl would not be paying 1/3 rent, but would be paying 1/2 her rent, while I would still be responsible for my 1/2. I told her that if they wanted to live together that much, they would be doing so alone. I was moving out.

She got pissed. Wrote me this horrible note about me being a backstabbing bitch, not to mention that I was ungrateful and selfish.

"Best friends make horrible roommates. They don't respect you. My current roommate is a good one. She was a stranger when she moved in."

Oh yeah, I previously went to the landlord and told her that there was an unwelcome visitor living with me. She kicked our guest out for trespassing. But this girl kept coming over anyway. Eventually she and her friend moved out. She left me with her long distance phone calls, the cable bill, and the electricity bill from when they kept the air conditioning running constantly.

I lived alone for a while after that. But remember that I said that this had happened to me before. My other best friend and I moved into a townhouse in my hometown before I came back to USC. I was taking a year off to save some money, etc. This bitch went freakin' psycho. She told me one night that she was moving in with her boyfriend (that she had known three weeks), and that I had to find another roommate. I had a full-time job working from mid-

night until 8 a.m., I waited tables on the weekends from 5p.m. til almost midnight, and I went to school half-time. I didn't have time to sleep, much less time to find a new roommate. She didn't care. One night I came home from school and there was no furniture, she even took all the dishes. I was left with EVERY BILL. I went to my landlord. Because I couldn't pay the whole rent, he evicted me.

Best friends make horrible roommates. They don't respect you. My current roommate is a good one. She was a stranger when she moved in. The girl that she replaced and I are good friends again. Although our friendship won't be the same as before, she explained some things to me that I didn't know about. The other girl that left me stranded wrote me a letter asking me to forgive her. I still hate her.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Pope Pius did do his share for Jews

To the editor:  
On March 23, an editorial appeared on Pius XII's "silence" and "inaction" during the Holocaust, accompanied by a Kiki McCormick column on the differing beliefs of Catholics and Protestants. Because of shoddy research, both pieces cry out to the heavens for a response.

The Vatican report did not call Pope Pius XII to account for a simple reason. Pius did more than any other world leader to speak out on behalf of the Jews, and to aid and assist them. In his encyclical Summi Pontificatus

(1938), Pius condemned anti-Semitism and declared that "Spiritually, we [Christians] are all Semites."

The Nazis, in fact, were displeased with the election of Pius; the Berliner Morganpost (1939) editorialized, "the election of Cardinal Pacelli [Pius] is not accepted with favor in Germany because he was always opposed to Nazism." Pius' Christmas message of 1942 condemning Nazism was viewed by a Gestapo report as a plea "on behalf of the Jews."

If this is too little evidence, more can be furnished on behalf of Pius. Dr. Joseph Nathan, of the Hebrew Commission, praised Pius in 1945 for his work on behalf of Europe's Jews. Respected Holocaust scholars (who are

also Jewish), Jenő Levai and Puctas Lapide, gave high marks for the pontiff's efforts. On the death of Pius, Golda Meir, paid him the tribute, "...When fearful martyrdom came to our people, the voice of the Pope was raised for its victims."

Emilio Zolli, the chief rabbi of Rome, was so grateful to Pius that when he converted to Catholicism, he took the pontiff's name. This does not even take into account the hundreds of linear feet of documentation housed at the Vatican, the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Committee which record the efforts of the Catholic Church under Pope Pius' direction on behalf of the Jews.

Which brings me to Ms. McCormick. The Catholic Church does not preach a gospel of works, but one of grace. The chief difference between Protestants and Catholics is whether grace merely shields the believer from God's judgment (the Protestant view), or so infuses the believer as to justify the believer, and sanctify him and his works in the life of grace described by St. Paul in Chapter 8 of Romans. The question is not works vs. faith, but what limitations if any, are to be placed upon God's grace by man's depravity.

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