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Monday, April 6, 1998

BRIEFS

Group electing officers

Into the Streets will be holding elections at 7 p.m. today in RHUU 302.

Journalism meeting held

The National Association of Black Journalists is holding a meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the CEO Room of the Carolina Coliseum.

SG sponsoring clothing drive

Student Government is holding a clothing drive to benefit local charities from Wednesday, April 8 to Wednesday, April 15. Drop boxes will be located outside the Student Government office and in residence halls.

USC professor to lecture

English professor Thomas J. Rice will give the annual USC Educational Foundation Research Award in Humanities and Social Sciences lecture at 4 p.m. Tuesday in Gambrell Hall, room 429. He will discuss the complexity of contemporary novel topics.

Karate expert offers tips

World karate champion Bill "Superfoot" Wallace will teach advanced stretching methods, advanced kicking drills, pad and bag drills and tips to improve fighting technique April 16, at the Spring Valley High School gym. Cost is \$5 per adult spectator and \$15 per participant. For more information, call Mike or Shelley Genova at 736-4777.

AAAS needs chairpersons

AAAS, The Association of African-American Students, is accepting applications for committee chairpersons. Applications are available in the Multicultural Student Affairs Office, RHUU 33. For more information call 777-5061.

Unity meetings to be held

The USC Baha'i Club will be viewing and discussing "The Power of Race Unity" video at 7 p.m. in RHUU 302 Wednesday.

DATEBOOK

MONDAY
6 Golden Key National Honor Society, 5 p.m., RHUU 309.
*Into the Streets, 7 p.m., every other Monday, RHUU 302.

TUESDAY
7 The World Tae Kwon Do Club, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Booker T. Washington Gym.

► Students Allied for a Greener Earth, 8 p.m., RHUU 303.
► Palm Campus prayer meeting, 12:30 p.m., PALM Center.
► Fellowship of Christian Athletes prayer meeting, 7 a.m., Rutledge Chapel.
► Fencing Club meeting, 7 to 9 p.m., Blatt 308.
► Financial Management Association meeting, 5 p.m., BA 363.

Students organize neighbor day

copy editor **CONNIE KARICKHOFF**

Are you a good neighbor? How many people on your floor do you pass by everyday and don't even know their names?

Do you stop to speak to the people in the apartment next door? Have you ever just knocked on their door just to say hi?

Members of the Baptist Student Union are hoping to change all of that today, the day they have designated as the first Good Neighbor Day on campus.

"The objective is to take a day and focus on someone else for a little while," said BSU president, Jon Sherer, who came up with the idea for the event while spending an exchange day with USC President John Palms.

Sherer won the day with President Palms as part of a BSU fund-raising

auction and wanted Palms to help him proclaim his own student holiday.

Taking ideas from other campuses, such as Auburn's "Hey Day," during which students are encouraged to say "Hey" to those they meet on campus, Sherer created Good Neighbor Day.

"This is a day when you do something nice for one another," Sherer said. "Say hello to total strangers as you pass by, give an encouraging note to your roommate, take something to your neighbors."

But this is not a day just for BSU members or other religious organizations. Sherer has been working with other student organizations on campus to spread the "good" word about making a difference in attitudes toward one another.

As part of the good neighbor festivities, participants will hand out special cups to their neighbors, printed with

the message "Love your neighbor as yourself," from Matthew 22:39.

They are encouraged to fill the cups, made possible through a donation from the First Baptist Church, with candy, pencils or little gifts to share with someone they don't know.

"It's always nice to get a gift," said BSU member Davii Medley.

"It makes people feel good about themselves."

The cups will be available at the Baptist Student Union (700 Pickens St.) Monday afternoon, but everyone on campus is encouraged to stop by a neighbor's room or apartment to meet them and say "hello."

The day will be especially good for off-campus students, according to Medley, who may not know many of the people who live around them.

"This is not evangelistic at all," said Sherer.

"It's just doing something nice for someone else."

Though this Good Neighbor Day was planned rather quickly, Sherer hopes it will grow in the future beyond just an important campus-wide event.

"We hope it will spread city-wide, because this affects more than just USC," Medley said.

"It doesn't have to end on this day, of course, but we are hoping to facilitate an opportunity for people to go and reach out to those around them," Sherer said.

"These simple acts of thoughtfulness can go a long way," he said.

A group will meet at the Baptist Student Union at 11:30 a.m. today to take cups to neighbors around the Union and in some of the dorms on campus.

For those students who don't have time to join them, try to take a little time to do something nice for someone else today and be a good neighbor.

Bill may increase student monies

college press **EXCHANGE**

The Senate Labor and Human Relations Committee on Wednesday approved a bill that would extend the Higher Education Act another five years.

The bill, which is expected to go to the full Senate later this month, would increase the amount spent on Pell Grants and would decrease the costs of education loans to students.

But its passage is not guaranteed, because the Clinton Administration disagrees with some of the bill's provisions, which it says are too generous to bankers.

The maximum Pell Grant for the 1998-99 school year is set at \$3,000, but the bill proposes that that amount be increased to \$5,000 in time for the 1999-2000 academic year, and increased by an additional \$200 each of the following four years.

Among the bill's other provisions are the suspension of student aid for people convicted of drug offenses and wider eligibility standards for Pell Grants.

The proposed legislation would net more students who are financially independent of their parents and more dependent students who work in addition to going to college.

The bill would increase from \$3,000 to \$4,250 the amount of money independent students could earn and still be qualified for a grant.

It also would increase from \$1,750 to \$2,200 the amount of earnings a dependent student could exclude from statements about his or her family's need.

The forgiveness of student-loan debt up to \$10,000 would be provided for graduates who teach for three years in a school with a large representation of low-income families.

The amount of time lenders must give students who are more than \$30,000 in debt to repay their loans would be extended from 10 years to 25 years instead.

The bill mandates that colleges and universities disclose to the public more detailed financial information so that students and their parents can make more informed choices.

Colleges failing to provide such information would be fined up to \$25,000 for each offense.

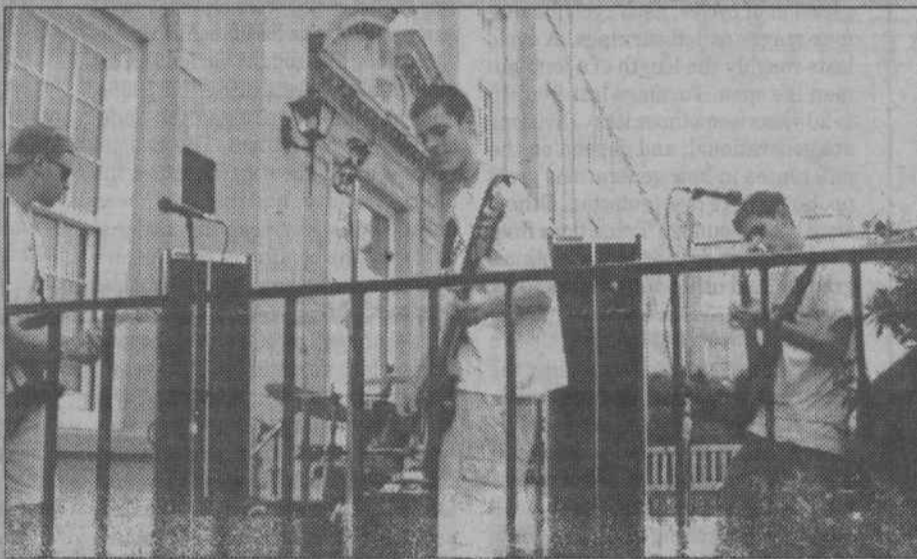
The bill also authorizes \$10 million in grants for colleges needing to improve their facilities to better meet the needs of disabled students.

Much of Wednesday's discussion focused on another of the bill's provisions, which would lower the interest rates students would have to pay on their loans. Republicans and Democrats agree that the rates should be cut, but they don't see eye-to-eye on how to lower the rates.

Republicans have proposed to offset the lower interest rates by increasing the amount of in subsidies the government pays lenders to help cover their costs.

But Democrats have complained that the tactic would benefit banks at the expense of taxpayers, who would have to shell out more money to pay the higher subsidies.

USC SHOWCASE



Photos from top: The band, 8 Men Out, performs on the patio of Preston College. The members, Mattison Gamble, Mitchell Jordan and Myers Truluck perform music from the 'swing' genre. Bottom left: The mounted police of Columbia offer candid shots with the horses. Right: Children participate in an interactive reptile show where the turtles were the stars of the show.

gamecock GREENBACKS

UT offering scholarships

The University of Texas at Arlington will award 20 scholarships for their Master of Science in Marketing research program. Admissions deadline is May 20, and scholarship deadline is June 1. For more information call (817) 272-2340 or e-mail at msmr@uta.edu.

Truman Scholar applications available

The Harry Truman Scholarship Foundation is accepting applications from college juniors interested in not-for-profit government careers. Eighty scholarships are available. For more information call Novella Beskid at 777-0958.

Undergraduate Southern Studies application offered

Southern Studies scholarships are open to undergraduates who have completed at least six hours of work

toward a minor of a B.A.I.S. degree in Southern Studies. Applications are available in Gambrell Hall room 107. The deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday April 15.

S. C. Tax Council accounting scholarships

The South Carolina Tax Council is accepting applications until May 15 for accounting major scholarships to a South Carolina college or university. Applications are available in the Fellowship Office, Harper College 303.

NAIW accepting scholarship applications

The National Association of Insurance Women is accepting applications through April 20 for insurance/risk management scholarships. Application are available in the Fellowship Office, Harper College 303.

Earth Sciences Internship applications

The U.S. Geological Survey Earth Sciences Internship Program is continually accepting applications for hands-on appointments. The program is

administered by Oak Ridge Associated Universities. For more information, contact Ernestine Friedman at (423) 576-2358 or Deborah McCleary at (423) 576-4813.

Fulbright Grant competition opens May 1

The official opening of the 1999-2000 competition for Fulbright Grants for graduate study or research abroad in academic fields and for professional training in creative and performing arts is May 1. Applications must be received at the U.S. Student Programs Division at IIE/New York by Oct. 23. For more information call the IIE New York Headquarters at (212) 984-5330.