

► Felicia will return to talk about race relations. Fred and Kevin will be here as well.

VIEWPOINTS

"To be honored like this is outstanding, but a shock. I didn't even know they had this award."
Brad Snyder, USC Track & Field

The Gamecock

Serving the Carolina Community since 1908

EDITORIAL BOARD

Adam Snyder, Editor in Chief
Amy Shannon, Viewpoints Editor
Kurt Johnson, Assistant Viewpoints Editor

TAKE OUR WORD

USC to have Mckie for one more year

Gamecock basketball fans have something to cheer about. Showing that an education does matter, Bj Mckie, the Bad Man of Gamecock b-ball, has decided to stay for his senior year and forego the NBA draft.

Though he was not expected to leave early for the draft, coach Eddie Fogler wanted to make sure that such possibilities were not out of the question, he said to *The State*.

Coming off such a disappointing loss this year at the NCAA Tournament, the basketball team surely breathes a sigh of relief knowing that such a valuable asset will continue to give the Gamecocks a chance at success.

With the loss of seniors such as Melvin Watson, the team will practically have to "rebuild". And having the experience such as Mckie there to help lead and teach will definitely help the incoming and less experienced players.

Not to take away from the other basketball players on the team,

PROBLEM

Bj Mckie could have forgone his senior year and entered the NBA draft.

SOLUTION

He has decided to stay at USC for his senior year and get his degree.

but to know that a quality athlete such as Mckie will be returning to your lineup surely allows the team to keep a good chemistry, knowing familiar faces will be on the court.

Mckie decided to stay because he was looking "forward to getting [his] degree," as quoted in *The State*. He also wanted to "help our team play to its potential next season."

Even if he was not going to be a first-round pick in the draft, surely the chance was available for him to give it a shot and try to make the pros.

Staying for his senior year will encompass the best of both worlds. He will receive his degree and have something to fall back on if he decides to go into the draft and for some strange and inexplicable reason does not get picked up.

And whether he gets drafted or not, he, as well as the rest of the seniors, will be moving to the professional world in their jobs and other activities.

Students might get more federal aid

Show us the money. A recent bill has passed the Senate Labor and Human Relations Committee that would extend the Higher Education Act for another five years. This means that Pell Grants would increase, and the amount of money used on loans would decrease. It will be heading to the full Senate some time this month.

However, he who helped federal money become more readily available to college students might be the one who keeps this down. Clinton does not totally approve of the bill because of certain provisions, which he believes are too generous to banks.

The Pell Grant would be increased to a maximum of \$3,000 for the 1998-99 school year, and the bill goes on to increase it to \$5,000 for the 1999-2000 school year, with the grant raising \$200 each year after that.

The bill would also set wider standards for the grant, while suspending aid to those students convicted of drug offenses.

The big disagreement deals with the lowering of interest rates stu-

PROBLEM

A bill in the Senate that raises federal aid may not make its way through.

SOLUTION

This bill should be passed to further help those in financial need.

dents would have to pay for their loans. Both Democrats and Republicans agree the interest rates should be cut, but they just cannot agree on how much.

Well, dropping this bill just because they could not agree on how much to cut the interest rates would be disastrous. It is important that this be passed. This would be a great financial up-lift for a lot of hard-working families if they could get more money for extra education.

More students would be eligible to go to college and do something with their lives. A lot of people would not be able to go to college now if not for federal aid; just think of the extra amount of people who will be able to attend now.

Education is important. If the government passes this bill, it will further show their support of education and their support of the American people.

More money would help people worry less about paying for college and worry more about doing well in college. It's important this bill be passed to ensure the dreams and goals of the aspiring American people.



college press EXCHANGE

Puritan legacy affects laws of U.S.

The Europeans have a saying: In America, sex is an obsession; everywhere else, it's reality.

But this is not a column about sex; it's a column about alcohol, and, more generally, rights. The

above statement comments on this nation's love of laws, on the right and on the left, which leave a nasty after-taste of dictated morality.

I can't make a white-wine sauce or enjoy a beer on a Columbia summer night without sneaking past the law to do it. I can't legally toast my grandfather on his seventy-fifth birthday. If I choose to defy the law and have a beer at a friend's house, I had best not drive home, because the state of South Carolina would prefer to have 21-year-olds driving with a .09 blood alcohol level than 20-year-olds with a .01.

As a nation, we miss out on a great deal as a result of our Puritan legacy

of temperance. A pub-culture of camaraderie, music and heritage exists in Europe for which we have no comparative substitute. Our contribution to the world's liquid gustatory delights is not weissbier or cappuccino or champagne; it's Coca-Cola.

But our attitudes toward human vices are symptomatic of a greater disease. For a nation founded on the radical ideas of personal liberty and the separation of church and state, we have an awful lot of laws with a distastefully strong moral flavor — and this should never be the case. Murder, for example, and other laws with apparently "moral" reasons behind them, do not attempt to protect society from immorality; they attempt to protect the rights of individuals in society. All laws should have this goal. Our government should not be concerned with morals; it should be concerned with rights.

This nation is infected with an increasing reluctance, of those who wield power in society, to allow people to make mistakes.

Which brings me to the point of this column: The question isn't really whether it is or is not moral, or practical, or in my best interest to be able to drink alcohol before the age of 21;

"For a nation founded on the radical ideas of personal liberty and the separation of church and state, we have an awful lot of laws with a distastefully strong moral flavor."

the question is whose decision it is. And, for once, I have a straight answer: It's mine. It's my decision.

But I'm not silly enough to think that anyone's about to change a law just because I present logic for doing so. And if you can't beat 'em, join 'em — I have some more suggestions for the improvement of society:

Sixteen-year-olds are too inexperienced to drive. Let's raise the driving age to 21 as well.

How many freshmen do you know who bounced a check the first year they got a bank account? That's what I thought. We should raise the minimum age to hold a checking account to 21 as well.

And credit cards. Now those are dangerous things. Probably most people under the age of 30 are simply too young to use one of those responsibly

— we should make them illegal for those under 30.

Child TV and film stars. The tendency to turn to illegal drugs and petty theft once cuteness becomes adolescence is far too serious to allow anyone under the age of 14 to act in film or television.

Has anyone noticed a pattern here? All these things involve learning. Although my examples pertain to youth, our lawbooks are filled with rules which attempt to make choices in the best interests of individuals — not of society, but of individuals — who live in the most diverse sovereignty on the planet. The futility of this should be obvious.

I would like my government to give me the freedom to make my own mistakes, instead of making them on my behalf.



emily STREYER
 Guest Columnist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader explains differences among Greek organizations

To the editor:

While it was great to see a positive article about fraternities and sororities at USC ("New additions enhance USC Greek System"), I feel it is important to clear up some common misconceptions about the groups that make up the "Greek System" at USC.

According to the most recent list in the Campus Activities Center, there are 68 registered student organizations with Greek-letter names. Many are honor and professional societies, interest groups and service organizations. While all of these groups serve a valuable purpose and benefit the students at USC, only 33 of those Greek-letter organizations are fraternities and sororities advised by the Office of Greek Life. These organizations govern themselves through the Fraternity Council (which includes 19 fraternities) and the Sorority Council (including 14 sororities, or "women's fraternities"). These 33 groups benefit from national affiliations with either the National Interfraternity Conference, National Panhellenic Council, or National Pan-Hellenic Council, which provide additional guidance and leadership opportunities for members at an international level.

Confusing to many people, to be sure. So what's in a name? Two of the organizations mentioned in your article are not advised by the Office of Greek Life and do not participate in the formal membership recruitment ("rush") process held each semester, are not eligible for housing within the Greek residence halls and do not participate in other Greek educational programming provided by the office throughout the year.

Delta Tau Delta, the national fraternity which was mentioned in your article, is part of USC's Fraternity Council, following its successful colonization with more than 50 members last week. This group exemplifies what is great about Greek Life: leadership, scholarship, service to campus and community, and a lifetime of friendships with members from all walks of life.

I'm sure the members of USC fraternities and sororities appreciate your coverage of the positive aspects of their organizations. However, as a national officer with a National Panhellenic Council sorority, I feel it is important for members of the Carolina Community to understand the distinction between organizations with Greek letters in their names and Greek-letter organizations that are part of the "Greek System."

Michelle Burke
 Graduate Student

Grateful Dead quote doesn't belong on sorority t-shirt

To the editor:

Recently, I saw a sorority girl wearing her formal t-shirt. Nothing wrong there except for the Grateful Dead quote on the back. People tell me, what's wrong here? For roughly 30 years the Dead was an underground band with no intentions of gaining celebrity status. They had a tremendous following unknown to any band without the help

of radio songs. Word of mouth was how their music was spread.

Putting a Dead quote on the back of a sorority shirt is very demeaning to the band. The Greek system here at USC stands for everything but what the Dead is about. If I could find a Greek who knew any other Dead songs other than "Casey Jones," "Truckin'" or "Touch of Grey" then I'll take that back.

Perhaps the Greeks would be better off sticking a Matchbox 20 or Spacehog quote on their shirts, and try to understand what the Dead is really about.

Jack Straw
 Senior, Criminal Justice

Reverend questions word interpretation

To the editor:

It is not my nature to be combative in a public setting, but I feel it necessary to present an opposing view to that of Dr. Marcus Borg as presented in the recent article "Professor Argues on Resurrection." I applaud Dr. Borg's emphasis on relationship with God. My frustration, however, stems from the scholarship behind his conclusions.

Dr. Borg's esoteric understanding of the term anastasis is highly questionable. We translate the term as "resurrection" or as "rising." Outside the references to Christ's followers (Matt. 22:31 ff), and even of those who don't follow Christ (Rev. 20:4 ff). The passage in Revelation makes it clear the dead are taking up something they do not have — namely, physical existence: "They (dead Christians) came to life and reigned with Christ... This is the first resurrection (anastasis)." The word for "life" is *zao*. The most natural and common reference of the word is to "physical existence."

Further, consider 1 Corinthians 15. Paul is refuting some who were saying there is no resurrection, and lists witness to the risen Christ in defense. In the same discussion of Christ's resurrection, Paul speaks of the believer's resurrection — that the dead will take

on "flesh." Admittedly, he calls it a heavenly body, but the material nature of this body is undeniable.

Further still, the verb from which "anastasis" is derived, *anistaemi*, is also used to describe Peter physically raising Tabitha from the dead (Acts 9:41). It is used as a "metaphor" for coming back to life in that it takes a part as a representation of the whole. The actual getting up from a prone position in death stands for the whole thing: coming back to life. It is not a metaphor in any esoteric sense (meaning that there is no correspondence with physical reality). The Greek of the New Testament does not support Dr. Borg's thesis. Paul, as well as his associates, the apostles, believed in the physical resurrection of Jesus.

As one who knows New Testament Greek and is familiar with the scholarly literature, I often find these discussions dizzying. I can only imagine what it is like for the layperson. It is my hope, however, to show that the conclusions of Dr. Borg and most institutions of higher learning are not the only voices out there. There are thoughtful and scholarly people who have examined the issues, and still find the traditional and historic message to be true. Give those educated voices of belief a fair hearing.

The Rev. Daryl Madi, M.Div.
 RUF Campus Minister at USC

The Gamecock
 Serving the Carolina Community since 1908

STUDENT MEDIA
 RUSSELL HOUSE
 USC
 COLUMBIA, SC 29208

WHO WE ARE

The Gamecock
 Editor in Chief: Rosalind Harvey
 Viewpoints Editor: Kurt Johnson
 News Editors: Carrie McCullough
 Features Editor: Kristin Freestate
 Sports Editors: Nathan Brown
 Photo Editor: Sean Rayford
 Online Editor: Tori O'Hara
 Copy Desk Chief: Erin Reed

Public Relations
 Coordinator: Connie Karickhoff

Asst. News Editor
 Asst. Sports Editor
 Asst. Photo Editor
 Asst. Online Editor
 Copy Editors

Student Media
 Classified Ad Manager: Sherry F. Holmes
 Business Manager: Carolyn Griffin
 Creative Director: Jim Green
 Creative Services Graduate Asst.: Michele Dames
 Faculty Advisor: Erik Collins

Advertising Manager
 Lee Phipps

HOW TO REACH US
 All numbers area code 803

The Gamecock
 Editor: 777-3914
 Viewpoints: 777-7726
 News: 777-7726
 Etc.: 777-3913
 Sports: 777-7182
 Online: 777-2833

Student Media
 Advertising: 777-1184
 Classifieds: 777-1184
 Fax: 777-6482
 Office: 777-3888



college press EXCHANGE