

▶That's all there is, there ain't no more! Have a lovely and fruitful summer...adios!

"I want to concentrate on realistic goals for myself and Student Government."  
SG VP *Chris Dorsel*

## The Gamecock

Serving the Carolina Community since 1908

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## TAKE OUR WORD

# Newspapers need to be recycled again

Keeping the tradition of "no comment" alive and well, President Palms recently gave the above statement to the student organization SAGE, Students Allied for a Greener Earth, in light of their petition for a re-establishment of the newspaper recycling program.

Beginning earlier this semester, the university decided to abandon recycling newspapers for some asinine reason, as if it were not important or something.

But to help get its point across, SAGE dumped more than 1,000 newspapers onto Greene Street Wednesday, which just happened to be Earth Day. This demonstration was to show the amount of newspapers that constantly go to waste and do not get recycled because of the absence of a newspaper recycling program.

And at the end of the day, the group gave a petition signed by 1,100 people to President Palms demanding a better recycling program. Through a representative, the

### PROBLEM

Newspaper recycling program at USC was abandoned earlier this semester.

### SOLUTION

SAGE is trying to get the program re-started, but administrative support is needed.

president declined to comment, and the representative only said, "[He] appreciates the interest in something like recycling."

Well, that's great. Really. But this is some serious stuff. It kind of seems like President Palms is almost blowing this off. Getting rid of the newspaper recycling program was not the

smartest thing to do in the first place, but re-establishing the program would relieve a lot of people, as well as putting the president in a good light.

Some leadership and support from people in high positions are needed for such a needed project to succeed. This is definitely a system that needs to be re-vamped.

Students are really concerned about this, obviously. And this issue will not disappear as easily as throwing it away. It, itself, will keep recycling over until the proper thing (re-establishing the program) is done.

It would behoove President Palms, the university and, most importantly, the environment for this program to be reborn.

# Library on its way to literary archive

The Thomas Cooper Library is working hard to acquire nationally recognized literary collections so that it can establish a solid reputation as a veritable research center.

Thomas Cooper is ranked 54th in the nation by the Association of Research Libraries. In the

past, the library was ranked 90th. Recent acquisitions, like that of novelist Joseph Heller's papers and manuscripts, have helped the library gain ground in the rankings. Other acquisitions in the library's collection, such as the works of F. Scott Fitzgerald, have further increased the standing of the library as a significant depository of American literature.

The library's efforts in acquiring literary material can only strengthen the pursuit of the university's overall goal to become one of the top academic institutions in the United States.

One of President Palms' objectives for USC is to be accredited by the elite American Association of Universities. To do this, the university's library must have an authoritative and legitimate repu-

### PROBLEM

As USC becomes nationally recognized, more emphasis is placed on research.

### SOLUTION

USC must not forget its original purpose of teaching students.

tation as a place of research.

If Thomas Cooper continues its present strategy, USC will be well on its way to accreditation.

But, as USC progresses toward becoming nationally known as a research institution, the university must not forget about the students. Teaching

students and encouraging them to learn must remain as the hallmarks of getting an education at USC. If too much attention and energy is focused on research, the fundamental aim of an undergraduate student seeking quality instruction will be lost.

In exchange, USC will attract professors who put more emphasis on scientific research than on teaching and educating students.

There is no question that research is extremely important, but USC has to remember why the university is here in the first place.

USC is here for the students, who chose USC so they could be educated by professors interested in teaching them.



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# Editor gives his final words

adam SNYDER  
editor in chief

Time. If I could find a way to stop it, I would. Instead, I will take a mental snapshot of this moment and store it in my scrapbook forever.

Ninety years ago, something started. I am sure there was a lot of excitement, nervousness and worry, but nonetheless, *The Gamecock* was born. And I know Carolina is better off because of it.

I have wondered time after time this semester: Who were those editors and staff members that came before me? What were their goals and dreams? What were the problems they had? What was it like then?

Then I wonder how we stack up, where our place is in history. Are we just another staff? Or is there something special that happened this year?

Only time will tell. I am biased, but something great has begun this year. And the greatness will continue for years to come.

This is roughly my 275th issue as a member of *The Gamecock* staff. I

have seen, heard and learned a lot in the three years I have been here. And hopefully, I have taught my peers a little bit.

In this year alone, we have been through a lot. With adjustments to the face of the staff, limited finances and attacks on the integrity of this newspaper, we have grown together. And we have never been deterred from our duty to bring you a quality newspaper three times a week.

Most USC students don't know who we are. They couldn't spot us in a crowd or in class, but you know *The Gamecock*. You expect to see it three times a week, and you expect to see it done well.

No, it hasn't been perfect. We haven't always gotten along. Some stories and some issues could have been better. But we have stuck together, through everything that has come our way, to persevere and grow. That shows quality individuals. That shows teamwork.

You don't know the hours upon hours of work that go into producing one story, much less one issue. Quite frankly, you aren't too concerned with

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the effort it takes to produce nearly 90 issues in a year. It is tireless work, but we realized long ago not to expect praise or pats on our back from outsiders.

But if there is one thing I have learned through my leadership training, it is to publicly thank and praise those who work with you.

I can say, from the setbacks and progress this staff has made throughout the year, I have never been so proud to be part of an organization as I am today. The people, from top to bottom, who work with *The Gamecock* are the finest individuals I have ever had the pleasure to meet.

Their dedication and hard work might have never been recognized in the general public, but they have done

an excellent job in everything I have asked them to do. This staff is the embodiment of every staff that has come before them and that will come after them, because everyday, they put the newspaper before themselves.

Thank you, all of you, for everything you have done to make this newspaper one of the best again. You have made this year the happiest I have had at the paper.

Remember, "in the end, it is 'hate it, love it, damn it, bless it.' This is *The Gamecock*."

This staff has provided a bright future for the next 90 years of this newspaper. Thank you for letting me be a part of it.

# Bread at center of controversy

Summer is looming, and many of us will be getting jobs. I'm glad I don't have to get one, because my usual seasonal employer, a restaurant in West Columbia, recently collapsed as a result of the Great Bread Controversy.

At first, it was only spoken of in whispers, but what I heard in these muted conversations shocked me: the bakers were allowing the bread to burn! Not every loaf, of course, but every few pan full would be wasted.

It seemed ironic. The restaurant depended upon the bread to survive; if the bread stopped coming, the whole operation would shut down. The bakers cherished their creations, too. When they brought out a fresh loaf, they would carefully arrange it in a basket with miniature butter tubs and swaddle it in a napkin to keep it warm.

Other times, they would be careless. They would be caught up in another task, and leave the bread to burn. The morbid thing is that it was a conscious decision. They'd rationalize, "I don't have the time, energy or other

resources to swaddle it and provide it with the butter it needs, so I'll burn it; sure, I'm destroying my beautiful creation, but that's my decision.

There were dissenting bakers, who tried to convince the pro-burning bakers to be more careful with their ovens. These anti-burning bakers tried their best to take responsibility for their ovens. When the restaurant managers came and demanded that they use their ovens for their natural functions, they would comply only in certain circumstances. If they were prepared to care for the bread once it got out of the oven, and had a strong desire to accommodate the managers, they would go along with him; the smarter of these even required that the manager split the responsibility for the bread with them.

Of course, sometimes the managers would profess plans to swaddle the bread, but would then leave the kitchen without paying butter support. That is why a baker must be careful before she gives in to a manager's demands.

Sadly, though, many of the bakers didn't have enough respect for themselves. When the managers came in demanding bread, they would be caught up in the heat of the kitchen, and the dough would begin its short, tragic life in the warm oven.

Naturally, this situation became contentious. The anti-burning bakers tried to think of ways to keep this bread from getting burnt. Many of them invoked the name of the owner, claim-

"It seemed ironic. The restaurant depended upon the bread to survive; if the bread stopped coming, the whole operation would be shut down."

ing the pro-burners would be fired. The pro-burners weren't too concerned about the fire, though. In fact, they called people who believed in the owner superstitious, because they had never seen him, as he hadn't entered the kitchen in something like two thousand years.

Whether a belief in an owner was their motive, the anti-burners were concerned and wanted to help. But it became more difficult to garner support for their cause, as the pro-burners mounted an emotionally charged campaign to protect their burning rights. They insisted the bread wasn't valuable until it came out of the oven, (which was completely arbitrary), and they could therefore do with it what they chose. They appealed to the emotions of restaurant workers everywhere: "Don't let them take away your right to burn! It's your oven! What if you are busy chopping celery one day, when you realize you need to get some bread out of the oven? We should have the right to put the celery ahead of the bread!"

The anti-burners tried to point out that it made more sense to make a choice about bringing the bread out into the kitchen before it even gets into the oven. The pro-burners, though, pretended that they were being forced to put the bread in, and that the only way they would have control over their cooking was with the right to burn.

Naturally, I differed with the pro-burners. Their position was intellectually dishonest, as it suggested that bakers are too stupid to figure out how to keep bread from getting into their ovens. I guess I just have more respect for bakers than many of their own do.

Eventually, the anti-burning bakers gave up, because they were tired of fighting a hopeless battle against people who refused to recognize truth. The restaurant began having financial problems because the bakers and kitchen workers, used to neglecting the bread, were becoming apathetic about the other food as well. And so I was left jobless, with only one hell of a story left to show for my experience.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Gamecock editorials not based on fact

To the editor:  
When I transferred to USC in January, I thought reading *The Gamecock* might be a good way to learn about life at USC. However, if I was to use the "Take Our Word" editorials as an example of how USC taught its students to research and use reason before stating an opinion, I would be looking to transfer to another university.

As the semester went on, I became troubled with the incorrect information and, therefore, flawed opinions expressed in "Take Our Word." As a political science major, your Friday, April 17 editorial, "Voters to decide on interracial marriages," greatly disturbed me. It is obvious to anyone who knows anything about the issue or the South Carolina Constitution that the writer of this editorial knows nothing about either.

First, the writer states "Though such a 'law' should have been struck

down a long time ago." It wouldn't have taken much research on the writer's part to find out that this law was struck down many years ago by the Supreme Court. What the legislation in question is doing is formally stripping it from the state constitution.

Second, the writer castigates the South Carolina House of Representatives for voting to let the people vote on whether to make this change instead of the legislature just voting on its own to remove this offensive provision in the state constitution. Again,

a little research by the writer would have found that the only way the South Carolina State Constitution can be amended is by having the people vote to do so after the proposed amendment has been approved by the General Assembly.

I hope that in the future *The Gamecock's* editorial writers will only express their opinions after fully researching and understanding an issue.

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Sophomore, Political Science

## The Gamecock

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The Gamecock is the student newspaper of The University of South Carolina and is published Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the fall and spring semesters and five times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in *The Gamecock* are those of the editors or author and not those of The University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of *The Gamecock*. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization.

### STUDENT MEDIA

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