

The A.C. Moore Garden could be EVEN IN THE CITY (or the best kept secret in Columbia)

staff writer ALIA AKKAM

Nestled in the heart of downtown, the University of South Carolina's A. C. Moore Garden is a tranquil respite from chaos for students, faculty and Columbia residents alike.

The National Wildlife Federation has recently designated this oasis of green as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat.

Located on the south side of campus, at the corner of Blossom and Blossom streets, the garden is a square city block.

It earned its title as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat because of its abundance of greenery and wildlife and because of USC's conservation efforts, including the elimination of unnecessary pesticides and fertilizers.

"(This garden is a living example of history in university confines."

Kirstin Dow,
professor,
the geography department

According to the School of the Environments Trish Jerman, program manager for Sustainable Universities Initiatives, this is a rich example of nature she hopes will raise city residents' awareness of other city nature preserves.

With about 80 trees on the premises, most of which are native to the Southeast, the garden's diverse collection of plants ranges from southern magnolias to American holly to blue Japanese oaks.

In addition to its grass- and honey-suckle-covered slopes, the garden is also home to a host of wildlife.

A number of large bullfrogs live in the garden pond's boggy corner, along with gambusia fish and tadpoles.

Urban birds, such as robins, woodpeckers and mockingbirds, also live in the garden.

A natural attraction for nature lovers, the garden serves as a science laboratory for college students and a classroom for preschoolers at the USC day care center.

Kirstin Dow, a professor in the geography department and a frequent visitor to the garden, often brings her classes with her to investigate topics such as human-erosion patterns, stream health and vegetation.

This hands-on approach to learning offers a unique opportunity to explore "the way that people and hu-



ELLEN BYRD The Gamecock
The A. C. Moore Garden, at the corner of Blossom and Pickens streets, offers a quiet place for professors, students and wildlife to enjoy. The garden has recently been designated a Backyard Wildlife Habitat.

man activities influence the environment," Dow said.

The garden's secluded atmosphere also draws students who are looking

for an alternative to studying in the library.

"I seem to get more accomplished when I've got this natural and beautiful environment surrounding me to keep me motivated," sophomore Patrick Corcoran said.

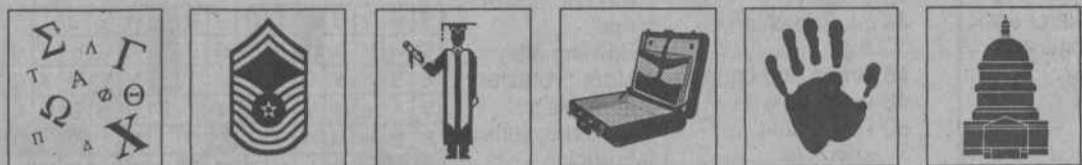
Corcoran occasionally goes to the garden with friends for a study session.

Students have also expressed their desire to commit to the garden's development through Students Allied for a Greener Earth.

SAGE is the USC campus ecology clinic.

By working closely with USC officials, SAGE members hope to add paths, boardwalks, a small pond and maybe even some native plants to what Dow called "this living example of history in university confines."

There are 20,000 Backyard Wildlife Habitats in North America.



Mandatory Renewal & Treasurer's Workshops

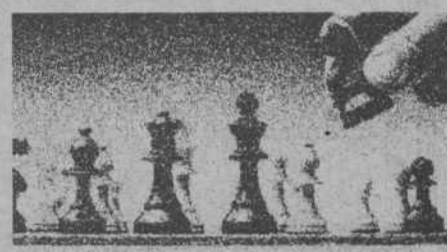
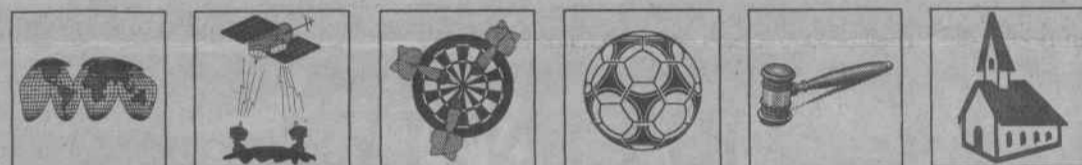
All registered student organizations must be represented by the President, or designated executive officer, at a Renewal & Treasurer's Workshop to continue to be recognized as a registered student organization at the University of South Carolina (even if you do NOT receive student activity funds). All Treasurers of organizations that receive, or are planning to receive student activity funds during the 1998-99 school year, must also attend a Workshop.

Renewal & Treasurer's Workshops will be held on the following dates:

Monday, September 14	3:30-5pm	Russell House Ballroom C
Monday, September 14	4:45-5:15 pm	Russell House 322/326 (for GREEKS only)
Monday, September 14	5:30-7pm	Blatt PE Center (for SPORTS CLUBS only)
Wednesday, September 16	3:30-5pm	Russell House Ballroom C
Thursday, September 17	7-8:30pm	Russell House Ballroom C

An Executive Officer must attend a workshop and submit a registration form by Friday, September 18, 1998!

For more information about Renewal/Registration, contact the Campus Activities Center at 777-5780. Any questions concerning funding should be directed to Student Government at 777-2654.



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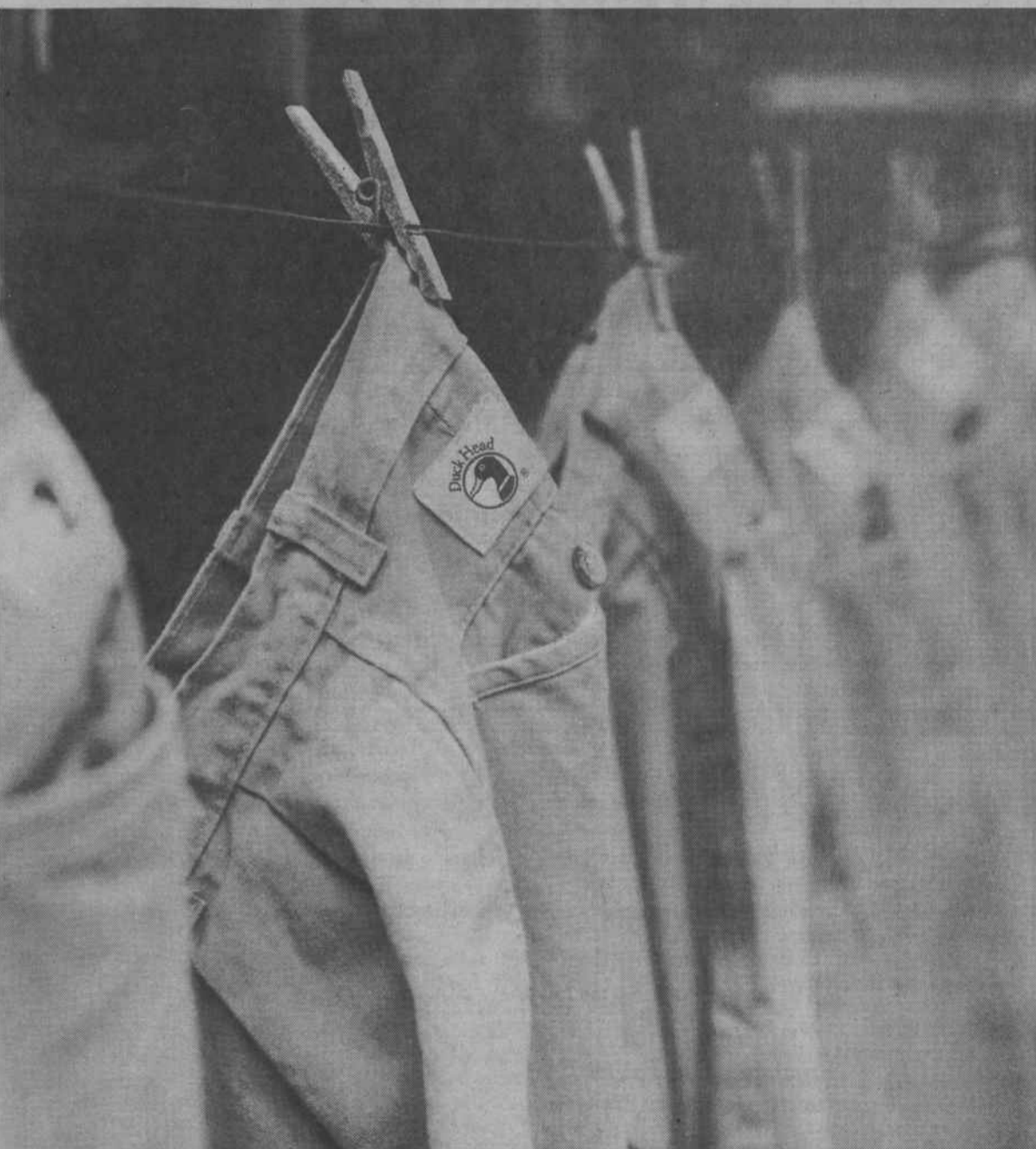
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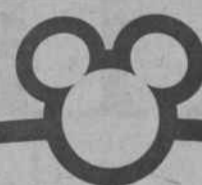


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