

Carolina Pig Pickin' Theme

Everyone knows that Homecoming is this week. Most people know that a student commission plans the entire week. But no one ever knows who comes up with the theme.

Chappell Suber, Homecoming Commissioner, called her mother, Linda Suber, on night last spring for inspiration, because the Homecoming Commission was having a hard time coming up with a theme. "As soon as I told my mom that we were playing the Arkansas Razorbacks, she said 'How about Carolina Pig Pickin'?' I didn't even ask her for more ideas, because I knew that one was perfect!" Linda, a Carolina Alumni, said, "I was born and raised in Columbia so it just seemed obvious to me, especially because of the tie in with the Razorbacks. It was just an instant response, I didn't think Chappell would actually use it." After passing the theme by the Homecoming Commission and others in Student Life, it was unanimous: Linda came up with the perfect Homecoming theme.

Don't forget to stop by the Grand Stand at the Parade on Friday and tell Linda congratulations on the theme.

Sponsorships

This year, the Homecoming Commission began a new tradition with its first major sponsorship drive. Potential sponsors, including both local and on-campus businesses, were given a sponsorship package. This package included advertisements in Homecoming programs, announcements by emcees at events, and other on-campus publicity geared towards increasing sponsors' visibility with USC students, faculty, alumni, and community. Sponsors are also invited to a special reception on the Horseshoe during the Barbeque.

Sponsors Co-Chair Natalie Guthrie says, "This was an educational experience. I'm glad that I had the opportunity to work with local businesses on a community driven event." Kim Coxe, also a Sponsors Co-Chair, adds, "I enjoyed seeing organizations on campus come together to support Homecoming."

The USC Athletic Department and Carolina First are again large supporters of Homecoming this year. New sponsors include Carolina Alumni Association,

Graffiti Tees, WNOK, The R L Bryan Company, Adams Mark Hotel, Sharpe's Formal Wear, Russell House University Bookstore, Liz Claiborne, Willy's Oyster Bar and Grill, Disc-Go-Round, Earthworks, SC Bookstore, Governor's House Hotel and Harper's Restaurant. Please remember to support the sponsors who support us!

Carnival

Are those animals grazing on the grassy area by the Russell House Patio? Why yes, they are. The reason: Cockey's Carolina Carnival. The Homecoming Carnival is going to be bigger and better this year. The Carnival will have a country-fair atmosphere in the spirit of our Homecoming theme and will kick-off the week's celebration on the Russell House Patio, Wednesday, October 14, from 11 am-3 pm. Features at this spectacular event include not only a petting zoo, but also a Rock Wall, Bungee Run, and Bouncy Boxing. For one glorious afternoon, the Russell House Patio will be transformed into a grand festival. Delicious carnival foods will be served for free. You ears will be serenaded by the live music of Junction 51. Student organizations will compete for points while entertaining carnival-goers with pie-in-the-face, balloon darts, basketball shoot, a fish pond, dunk tank, and more. Carolina spirit and jubilation will fill the air as we celebrate Homecoming. This kick-off event is one you will not want to miss.

Showcase

Showcase is an evening of elegance at the University of South Carolina. The third annual Showcase promises to be a night to remember as the 1998 USC Homecoming King and Queen are crowned. The 1998 Homecoming King and Queen will serve as ambassadors of the University for the year to come.

The twelve finalists, chosen from over eighty applicants, were selected based on their academic record and leadership/service to the University and community. Each finalist went through an interview with the Showcase judges, where they were asked questions concerning affairs of the USC student body and the University community.

During the event, the contestants will compete in three stages, each individually scored. The first stage is the public presentation competition, or talent portion. Talents range from dramatic interpretations to dancing and singing. After this stage, comes the final two stages of the Showcase, formal wear and the impromptu interview. They are combined on stage but scored separately. Each contestant will be asked a question by a Showcase judge concerning the University and the community. The judges will score each stage separately, and then combine all scores to determine the winners.

The judges' panel this year represents a myriad of talents from Carolina and the Columbia community. The judges include Dr. Peter Graham, a Sports Administration professor at USC; Lawrence Pathel, the Chief of Investigations of the USCPD; Jamie Edens, Ms. Columbia 1998; Mr. Geoff Alpert, a Criminal Justice professor at the University; Eileen Grana, an Admissions Counselor and the 1996 USC Homecoming Queen; and Quinton Tompkins from the Health and Wellness Center.

Bubbles and Mr. Blacklist from WNOK will be joining us as the Masters of Ceremony.

Attendees are asked to bring one canned food as admission to the event. The food will be donated to Harvest Hope Food Bank. Come out for a night that dazzles and celebrates the spirit of Carolina.



Jamfest

It should not have to be explained why Homecoming is the single most important planned event at the University of South Carolina. It is, after all, the one time each year that USC, as an institution, pauses to tip its hat to almost two hundred years of growth, tradition, and excellence. There are many threads that weave into the tapestry that is Homecoming. From yearly events like the Parade and Cockfest, to new additions like the Barbeque, it becomes evident that many different types of events are necessary to capture the essence of the University for past, present, and future members of the USC community. Once Homecoming has given people a chance to take pride in the growth, tradition, and excellence of their school, they need to be given a chance to shake their rumps in celebration. This is the purpose of Jamfest. For the young, and for the young at heart, Jamfest is a chance to have a great time and try out some new moves. This year's Jamfest festivities include an exhibition by the winners of the 4th annual AAAS Step-Off step show competition, Kappa Alpha Psi and Zeta Phi Beta. Their performances should get everyone in the mood to show off a few steps of their own. The evening will be rounded out with a performance by the one and only DJ Kool! If you know all the words to his smash hit "Let Me Clear My Throat," then I'm sure he wouldn't mind you rappin' along as you "get your groove on." As you can see, Jamfest promises to be a memorable evening for Homecoming 1998. To miss it would be to miss a vital part of the tapestry of Homecoming - the part where you get to raise the roof!

Homecoming T-shirts on sale now in the Russell House Bookstore

Curve
LIZ CLAIBORNE



The Governor's House Hotel