Students react to election's flag issue

staff writer CLAYTON KALE

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In a gubernatorial campaign filled with controversy over issues such as the video poker and education, the debate over the confederate flag has almost become a forgotten one.

Almost, but not quite. The flag, which still flies atop the Statehouse, has separated South Carolinians for many years.

Some voters begrudge Gov. David Beasley for his 1996 efforts to remove the flag from the Statehouse dome.

In December 1996, Beasley made a statewide televised address calling for the removal of the Confederate flag to a monument on the Statehouse grounds. After the push to revive the defeated 1994 Heritage Act, Beasley declared the issue dead.

As a state representative, democratic gubernatorial candidate Jim Hodges supported Beasley's push to remove the flag from the Statehouse but said he will not attempt to remove the flag if elected.

Hodges has presented himself as a favorable candidate for pro-flag voters who have lost confidence in Beasley. Some voters do not believe Hodges' professed neutrality on the issue.

Freshman Ryan Zitzke believes the issue is not serious enough to sway vot-

"I personally don't care [about the flag issue]," said Zitzke. "There are bigger issues that need to be taken care of first."

Freshman Wes Church believes differently

"It is a big enough issue to sway voters because people who want to keep the flag are too stubborn to move past this issue and address more important issues that can better the state," Church said

Many people believe the state should be proud of its history of secession

"I don't see it as a racial issue," junior Amy Norris said. "I see it as a historical issue. I don't think the flag belongs in a museum."

Citizens in favor of removing the flag from the Statehouse don't think it is a matter of being proud of history

"Never is it in order for the military standard of any country to fly above the capitol of a separate state," Church said. "The Confederate battle flag flying over our state capitol is just that and has no place up there. I believe it's time to move the Stars and Bars."

The confederate flag issue was raised during a debate Saturday night between senatorial candidates Dem. Ernest F. Hollings and Bob Inglis.

Inglis said the confederate flag should be removed from atop the state house, and he added that it belongs in a place of "suitable memorial."

spring that they could be expelled for

Traub in the magazine. She is seat-

ed topless near a white wicker chair

on a porch with her lower half part-

engineering student who swims com-

petitively, craves Mexican food and

enjoys the beach. Her ambition is to

The sorority has about 130 mem-

"I don't think a sorority has the

right to tell someone what to do," said

Nicole Planck, a 20-year-old sports

management junior. "It's like Big

Brother in a way. They are kind of

controlling them and it just seems a

puter science freshman, said he-doesn't

think Haselden defamed her sorori-

ty by posing for Playboy because she

Jim Ciallella, an 18-year-old com-

"I would never have known she

Clemson University has no con-

trol over Haselden's posing since all

interviews and photo shoots were con-

become the next Sharon Stone.

ly covered.

bers at Clemson

little unfair."

never mentioned it.

was in a sorority," he said.

Haselden calls herself Veronica

The copy says she is a Clemson

posing for the men's magazine.

Hollings claimed that he said to take the flag down "long ago."

Southern Black church burnings remains mystery

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

WASHINGTON- The team of federal investigators charged with probing a spate of fires at black churches declared itself a success Thursday, announcing that church arsons have dropped from 297 in 1996 to 114 so far this year.

The Church Arson Task Force also announced that after two years of work, it will become a permanent part of the Justice Department's civil rights division, ready to respond instantly to any future church arson.

But as Justice and Treasury Department officials congratulated themselves on 235 convictions of those charged with the church fires, it was clear that no comprehensive explanation is likely to be found for the wave of arson that exploded two years ago and shocked the nation.

Rather, the church burnings, which have disproportionately targeted black churches in the South, seem destined to remain a mysterious, troubling episode in American history.

"I'm just as confused as anyone about this one," said Niathan Allen, who heads the church rebuilding program of the Congress of National Black Churches. "Usually when there is a flourishing economy you don't have these issues.'

The blazes came to the public's attention in 1996, when the number of reported church arsons soared from 51 to 297, with 119 of them at African-American houses of worship. To some, the phenomenon was reminiscent of the attacks on many black institutions in the South during the 1950s and 1960s

Responding to complaints from black pastors, President Clinton ordered the creation of the special task force to investigate the fires and bombings, spearheaded by the Justice and Tre

attention on the part of the National Church Arson Task Force," said Rev. Joan Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches. "I think the decline in the number of burnings of black churches is related to the arrests.

"Up until the local stories became a national story, and the task force was formed, and the churches stood up and said no, burning black churches was something people felt they could do without being punished," Campbell

It now seems clear, as many suspected, that a sizable portion of the blazes were racially motivated.

"We know that racial motives and religious motives have been part of this story from the beginning," said Bill Lee, acting chief of the civil rights division, who co-chaired the task force. "The motives range all across the board, but racial motives and hate crimes predominate too much."

Initial suspicion that the arsons were the work of a well-organized network of racists has not been borne out. "Right now, we have found no evidence of a national conspiracy," said

It is evident, too, that this is not a case of racism alone. About two-thirds of the churches targeted in the past four years did not have predominantly black congregations. And of the 106 suspects who have been arrested for burning down African-American churches, 37 are black.

Church leaders continue to grope for reasons why these particular crimes increased dramatically in 1996.

"It's a combination of poverty in the white community and a felt lack of opportunity among poor whites and young white men falling into a scapegoating pattern," Campbell said. They know that when you hurt the

Clemson student kicked out of sorority for posing in Playboy

NEWS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEMSON — See what a little picture can do.

Clemson student Mary Elizabeth Haselden was thrown out of her sorority after posing in Playboy's "Girls of the ACC" feature.

Haselden, one of two Clemson women in the November issue, was expelled from the university's Zeta Tau Alpha chapter for not upholding the sorority's standards.

Haselden, from Lexington, did not immediately return a message left at her old sorority number.

The Zeta Tau Alpha national president Alice Mathews says each chapter sets their own rules of conduct. "Obviously they felt at that time she was not upholding those standards and that is what led to that decision," Mathews said.

Mathews said Zeta Tau Alpha supports the chapter's action.

"We regret that this young woman's actions led the chapter to feel they must remove her membership," Mathews said.

Chapter members were warned when Playboy came to campus last ducted off campus.

Deep Space 1 mission costs \$152 million

DEEP SPACE continued from page 1

of xenon gas to run the engine, reducing the size of the probe and, consequently, the cost of the mission.

Here's how the solar-powered ion engine will work:

Xenon gas is bombarded by electrons. The resulting xenon ions are drawn toward high-voltage grids and spewed into space at a speed of more than

Hollings, Inglis face off one final time before November election

DEBATE continued from page 1

On the lottery issue, Hollings called attention to the \$80 million that goes to the Georgia lottery, saying that South Carolina could use it [the money] in public education.

Inglis said he would vote against the lottery, calling it a "particularly poor way to raise money for the education system."

Inglis said the Confederate flag should be removed from atop the Statehouse, and added that it belongs in a place of "suitable memorial."

Hollings claimed that he said to take the flag down "long ago."

During the debate, each candidate was given the opportunity to com-ment on negative ads from the other candidate's party. One ad depicted Hollings in a Hawaiian-style shirt, with sunglasses, a straw hat and a drink in his hand. Hollings commented on the ridiculous content of the ad, saying,: "Looks to me like I was drunk in that there picture. I'll tell you that."

One Hollings ad used children to criticize Inglis' support for cuts in educational spending. Inglis said the ad was done in poor taste.

A recurring theme in the debate was Inglis' reference to Hollings' "scare campaign." Inglis used Hollings' positions on social security and student loans to claim that fear is all he has left to sell to South Carolinians.

Hollings said people should be afraid of Inglis, claiming that he has "devastated Social Security and the budget." He accused the congressman of treating the Social Security trust fund as a "slush fund."

Hollings also accused Inglis of reducing grants and student loans. However, Inglis told The Gamecock he only voted to cut them for the least needy students and to increase them for the most needy ones.

"The student loan business is part of the [Hollings] scare campaign . . . it is a matter of scaring students."

Assistant news editors Brad Walters and KenleyYoung assisted with the article.

Homeless people frequent local libraries

ing there.

HOMELESS continued from page 1

radically, though they've never had any problems.

"There are some who come in here," McNally said. "We don't have the problems the Richland County Public Library has. They have a big homeless problem because

they're right "They have a right to across the street be here, as they have from the Oliver Gospel Mission. a right to be in the

"They've alpublic library." ways been very respectful of the facility and the university librarian for public services students," he said. "They don't

bathe in the bathrooms and such." One night, McNally said, the library

was getting ready to close when a librarian found a homeless man asleep on one of the couches.

The librarian awoke him and asked him to leave, and "he was kind and cooperative, and promptly left."

"They have a right to be here, as they have a right to be in the public library," McNally said.

While homeless visitors have come to the library, the workers in the Grand Marketplace cafeteria in the Russell House say they've never seen anyone there who they knew was homeless.

However, many students said they had seen them on the perimeter of campus. Student Body Vice President Chris Dorsel started the "Second Serving"

never seen any homeless persons din-

program on campus, which takes leftovers from four USC dining halls to the homeless at the

Oliver Gospel Mission. Having worked with the homeless at the mission, Dorsel said, "I've never seen any of **Thomas McNally** those people on

our campus." Other stu-

them on their way to class. Psychology freshman Carrie Dannelly said she's seen the homeless in downtown Columbia, but she said she might feel threatened if she saw

"I'd probably feel a little frightened

dents said they had seen homeless people hanging around bus stops and gas stations on the outskirts of campus, and some said panhandlers had stopped

them roaming around campus.

because of the connotations given," Dannelly said. "I'd be afraid maybe they'd rob me, and I'd feel safer during the day than at night . . . but if there's a problem, it should be looked into."

Students agreed they had



The Gamecock • Monday, October 26, 1998

Departments.

The group reported Thursday that, with the help of local and state police, it had made 308 arrests and 235 convictions.

Those may seem like small numbers, considering that 607 churches have been left in ashes over the past four years. But officials pointed out they have achieved more than twice the usual arrest rate for arson, which is a particularly difficult crime to solve because the evidence is incinerated.

Church leaders have praised the task force's record.

"We really appreciate the aggressive

black church, you hurt the people."

Officials speculated that when a few church blazes seized public attention, that spurred copycat crimes and led more churches to report the arsons they experienced.

Allen, of the Congress of National Black Churches, noted that the fires are still occurring, and said the government's efforts must continue.

"Communities are still experiencing the stress and the trauma," Allen said. "We just have to keep moving forward. This is not the time to relinquish our responsibilities."

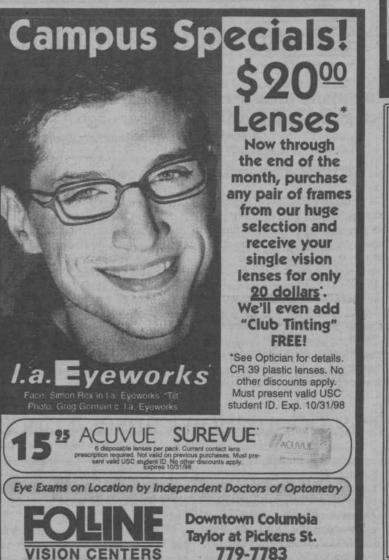
62,000 mph. This glowing blue stream of xenon ions is what provides the gentle yet constant acceleration for months, even years.

"In 'Star Trek,' they refer to ion propulsion as being even faster than the capability that the Enterprise had and NASA isn't quite ready to fly a faster-than-light spacecraft yet," Rayman said, smiling.

But he added: "It's been known for a long time that it has the potential to provide very, very high velocity, and that aspect of it was accurately reflected in 'Star Trek' and is what we'll be doing with Deep Space 1.'

The \$152 million mission is supposed to end next September, but will continue until 2001 with one or two comet encounters if the National Aeronautics and Space Administration supplies more money.

Deep Space 2, the next New Millennium mission, is scheduled to fly in January. Two small soil-penetrating probes will be launched aboard the Mars Polar Lander and shot into the planet's south pole.



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Order forms can be picked up in the Office of Student Affairs, RH room 112. Deadline is Nov. 2. If you have any questions, call 544-0448.

Master of Public Administration

Student Association

Sigma Theta Tau

Sigma Iota Rho

Tau Beta Pi

Offshore worker reachers settlement in sexual harrassment suit

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS - A man who said he was sexually assaulted, battered and threatened with rape by two supervisors on an offshore rig reached a settlement in his sexual harassment lawsuit against his former employer.

Joseph 'Jody' Oncale's lawsuit had been scheduled for trial in U.S. District Court on Monday, nearly eight months after the Supreme Court ruled that it could proceed to trial.

A judge dismissed the suit Oncale filed in 1994, and a federal appeals court upheld the ruling, saying the civil rights law used to prosecute on-the-job harassment cannot apply to people of the same sex.

But the Supreme Court ruled March 4 that on-the-job torment can be illegal sexual harassment, even when the offender and victim are the same sex.

Oncale and Sundowner Offshore Services Inc. agreed not to disclose terms of the settlement which was reached Wednesday before Magistrate Lance

Africk after two mediation sessions. "It's been so long . I'm glad it's over,"

Oncale said from his home, which is across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans. He now works on an offshore rig for another company.

Oncale, 27, accused his direct supervisor, John Lyons, and a second supervisor, Danny Pippen, of sexually harassing him in 1991. Co-worker Brandon Johnson was also accused in one of the alleged incidents.

Africk's order gives the defendants 30 days to deliver money to Oncale. Oncale said he was not seeking a specific amount of money, but wanted to be compensated for being run off the job in 1991.

Oncale said he reported the harassment to the highest supervisor on the rig twice, but nothing was done. He said he quit because he feared the harassment would escalate to rape.

The defendants portrayed their conduct as hazing or lockerroom horseplay.