

NEWS

'This kid invited me to his office...'



• Editor's note: The Gamecock has invited several members of Student Government to "interview" themselves as a means of introduction to the student body on a less formal level, told in third-person narrative. This is the first of a series of columns by the members themselves.

BY BRANDON ANDERSON
SG VICE PRESIDENT

"Representing you as one of you" was the recurring theme in Brandon Anderson's campaign. And, wouldn't you know it, he was right.

I met him a couple of days ago while strolling through the Student Government office to pick up an application for a university committee seat. I was greeted by a student with curly hair and a big smile on his face. I didn't think much of it.

He asked me what he could do for me. He directed me to what I needed, but I had some questions of my own about student government. This kid invited me into his office.

Office? This guy didn't have a tie on or anything, just a T-shirt and some baggy pants. So I had some time to sit and chat for a while. Brandon and I talked for at least 20 minutes about SG, school in general, life and how he obtained his position.

He told me he was a small-town boy no different than any other student on this campus struggling for a better life, a higher form of education or a plain and simple J-O-B. He had been involved in student government since eighth grade, and he just loved helping people, whether it was through academic legislation or the cure for the common hangover.

He'd been involved in Carolina Productions his sophomore year (heading the film series in the Russell House

Productions his sophomore year (heading the film series in the Russell House Theater), Freshman Council (member and adviser), and he was even in a business fraternity at one point. He told me he wasn't Greek and was one of the first non-Greeks to hold an executive position in SG in the past four years. It didn't matter to me — this guy had a good head on his shoulders and seemed as if he could "hang" with anybody he came across. He was an outgoing and humorous guy; a funny guy with some high goals, too.

Anderson said his first plan of action is to make SG run more efficiently internally. "Communication is the key to motivation, understanding and, ultimately, success," he said.

A SG Web page address is now accessible to officers within SG, as well as to members of the student body if they need to reach any person or officer directly affiliated with SG (questions, comments, you name it - www.sa.sc.edu/SGA/sg.htm). Anderson plans to work closely with SG President Malik Flusser to dramatically improve relations and interaction with other university organizations through programming and outreach.

SARA LADENHEIM THE GAMECOCK

After the little talk I had with Brandon, it made me feel good that we now have someone to relate to and go to with our problems.

Unconventional?

Yeah.

A little untraditional?

Yeah.

A person I can eat with, talk to, call, throw up a hand at, shoot the you-know-what with and count on to represent me as a student of this university to the fullest? There's not a shadow of a doubt. P.S. I highly recommend going by and seeing his office.

Brandon's Picks

• Favorite quote:

"just glidin' and swervin"

• Favorite book:

Can't read — just kidding.

The Catcher in the Rye

• Favorite song (s):

This is a hard one.

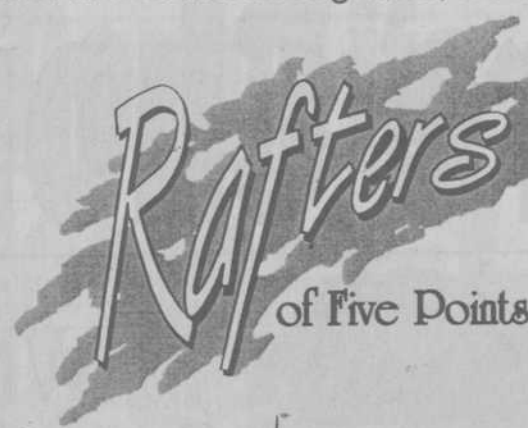
Round The Way Girl — LL

Cool J (because that's what I need) — Lesha — Another

Bad Creation (I want to dance

every time I hear it, and it's a classic)

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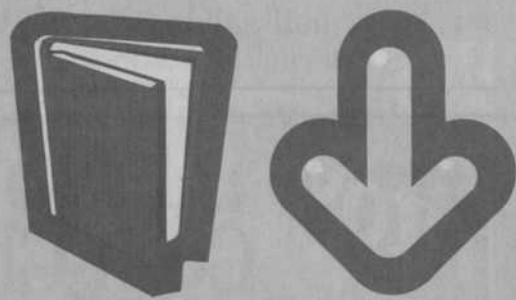
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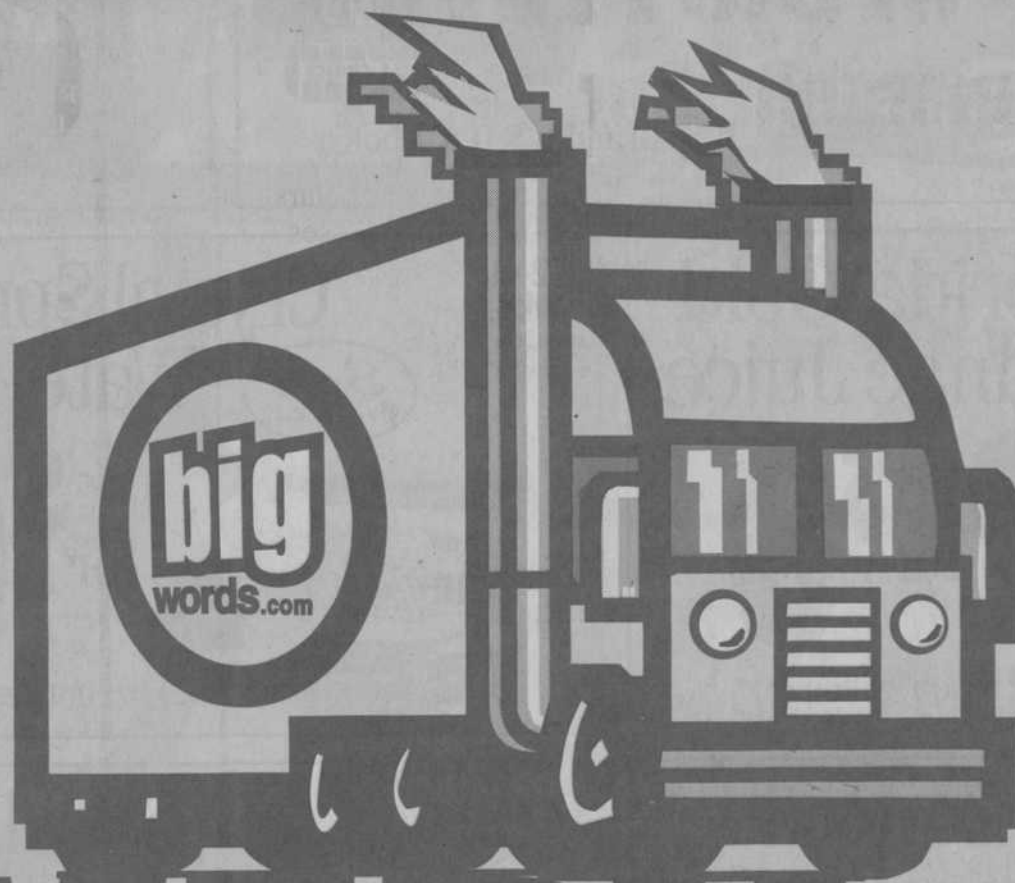
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