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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

City Year holds 6th Serve-a-thon

BY KELLY HAGGERTY
STAFF WRITER

City Year's sixth annual Serve-a-thon took place Saturday morning.

Rochelle Brown, City Year's director of public relations, said the Serve-a-thon unites the Columbia community while giving people the chance to do service work throughout the city.

"It's an excellent opportunity for everyone to get involved with the community, to make a difference and to see what the community needs," Brown said.

"I think it is an absolutely wonderful event. I just fell in love with it and City Year when I volunteered in '95," she said.

About 85 teams and 1,500 participants worked together at various locations around Columbia for about five hours.

City Year planned 50 service projects for Saturday. Teams participated in projects like cleaning and organizing Gallery 701 community center, tutoring people at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice No. 3, planting trees along Main Street, serving as shelf readers at the Richland County Public Library and helping with Walk for Mental Health Awareness.

According to Brown, several USC organizations created teams this year.

"Typically, we have 10 to 15 groups from USC come out each year and do the event," Brown said.

A liberal arts University 101 class was one of those groups to participate. Peer leader Maryanne Rhett had participated in the event for two years, and she got students and NADA residents involved. University 101 students have a requirement to perform community service, and residents of NADA, an on-campus international living community, also have a requirement to fulfill.

"I thought it was a great way for my University 101 students to meet some of the international students and give back to the community," Rhett said.

The students separated into different groups and worked at the Carolina's Children Garden, part of Clemson University's research program to teach children about gardening.

"I planted the front part of the children's garden. It wasn't that bad. I felt pretty good about helping out," international studies freshman Ingrid Mitchell said.

Working with a team from WIS, Rhett's team helped do basic gardening. They planted pansies, pulled weeds and did

mulching. They also helped to rebuild some fences.

"By the end of the day, I think everybody had a lot of fun. They'd gotten a lot out of it," Rhett said.

Another University 101 peer leader, Allison Smith, agreed with Rhett.

"We did a lot," Smith said. "We got so much done, it was unbelievable. I think everyone felt really rewarded."

Rhett's team helped get pledges, as did all participants. Through such fund raising, City Year hopes to reach its goal of \$60,000. The money gained will be used by City Year Corps for its projects over the next seven months.

"We are fairly confident that we will meet our goals this year," Brown said.

In 1998, the goals were met, and the Columbia branch got an award for best Serve-a-thon in the nation. Columbia is the only City Year chapter in the South of the 11 City Years nationwide.

City Year is for young people ages 17 to 24 who dedicate 10 months of their time to community service. Each of the 50 members performs 1,700 hours of community service a year.



MATT LUKENS THE GAMECOCK

Jamie Gethen works barefoot at Finlay Park on Saturday during the annual City Year Serv-a-thon. Gethen said she was barefoot so she wouldn't get her new shoes dirty.

Food prices: A comparison

BY MACKENZIE CRAVEN
SENIOR WRITER

Students who compare USC Dining Services' prices with those at other vendors will find campus prices to be higher.

According to Liz Bohlke, Marriott's resident district manager, the prices for on-campus food are competitive with such convenience stores as Citgo.

Every year, Marriott Dining Services does a comparative analysis with those stores and keeps the prices at USC the same or lower, Bohlke said.

Still, some on-campus prices are higher than those at local grocery stores. For example:

- A 15-ounce box of Kellogg's Corn Flakes Cereal costs \$1.99 at Food Lion; a 10.9-ounce box costs \$5.09 at the Country Store.

- Dannon Yogurt is 99 cents on campus, but 69 cents at Bi-Lo

- A small bag of chips is 79 cents on campus, but 30 cents at Publix.

The cost of a 2.5-ounce Celebrity Turkey sandwich at Andy's Deli, on Greene Street, is \$2.25, while the price of the same size Healthy Choice sandwich at The Grand Marketplace is \$3.05. Rising High Natural Bread Company, on Harden Street, sells 2.75-ounce Sara Lee turkey sandwiches for \$4.99.

According to Bohlke, higher prices at The Grand Market Place are caused in part by labor costs.

Prices aren't always higher on campus, though. For example, Chick-Fil-A sells grilled chicken sandwiches for \$2.51 at off-campus locations and \$2.39 on campus.

Comparing grocery prices

The Gamecock priced food items from the Rosewood Drive Piggly Wiggly, the Harden Street Food Lion, the Five Points Citgo and the Russell House Country Store.

Item	Piggly Wiggly	Food Lion	Country Store	Citgo
Jif 18 oz. peanut butter	\$1.99	\$1.99	\$3.29	\$2.25
Chef Boyardee 15 oz. beef ravioli	\$1.29	\$1.09	\$2.19	n/a
Campbell's 11 oz. vegetable soup	\$1.39	\$1.39	\$1.69	n/a
Del Monte 8.5 oz. fruit cocktail	n/a	\$0.65	\$2.03	\$0.89
Lay's 5.5 oz. potato chips	\$0.99	\$1.49	\$1.49	\$1.49
Sunbeam bread	\$1.79	\$1.79	\$1.35	\$1.89

Source: Gamecock research

BRAD WALTERS GRAPHIC EDITOR

Pizza Hut sells a personal pan pizza with any topping for \$3.14 off campus and between \$2.60 and \$2.90 on campus.

Bohlke said all students won't benefit from eating on campus.

"It depends on the eater," she said. "It's definitely convenient. Students don't have to prepare anything. Additionally, students don't have to go anywhere. We offer what you can get somewhere else."

Nevertheless, some students prefer to buy groceries and prepare their own meals.

"I choose to buy my own groceries because the campus meal plan is way too expensive," psychology sophomore Sabrina Moss said.

"It's cheaper to buy my own food off campus and to make it myself. That way I know I will eat it because the campus

meal plan food is not very good," she said.

Another concern of students is the way the meal plan is structured. The more meals per week students have on their meal plans, the less they pay for meals.

For example, a student with a 21-meal plan pays about \$2.72 per meal. Students with a 14-meal plan pay more than \$3.83 per meal, and students with a 5-meal plan pay \$5.69 per meal.

Bohlke said the 21- and 16-meal plans are the better deal.

"Overall, it's very easy to go over on your meal plan because things tend to be overpriced," nursing sophomore Jennifer Johnson said.

There's a food advisory forum for stu-

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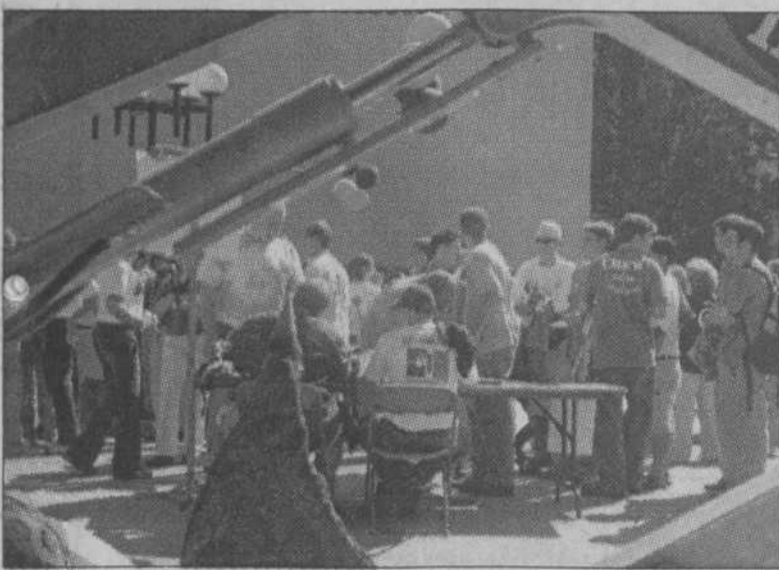
STEP OFF '99 AAAS, Greek organizations celebrate their heritage



AMY GOULDING THE GAMECOCK

Zeta Phi Beta perform their first-place-winning step routine Friday at the annual Step Off competition in the Carolina Coliseum. Zeta Phi Beta took first place and \$1,200, while Alpha Kappa Alpha won second place and \$400. For fraternities, Alpha Phi Alpha won first place and Kappa Alpha Psi won second.

VOLUNTEERS The first Campus Cleanup



TRAVIS LYNN THE GAMECOCK

Volunteers gather Friday in front of the Russell House to participate in USC's first Campus Cleanup.

U.S. ambassador promotes school safety, global thinking

BY JOHN HUIETT
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain and Northern Ireland visited Columbia on Wednesday, encouraging schools to focus on safety and business leaders to think globally.

Philip Lader, a South Carolina native, gave the keynote address at the Safe Schools Conference to about 1,000 of the state's teachers at the Clarion Townhouse Hotel. He urged them to take action against the nation's recent trend of school violence.

Lader said that by implementing character education for students, tragedies like the Columbine shootings in Littleton, Colo., could be prevented.

"We shouldn't have to wait to have 70,000 people mourning at 13 funerals before we focus on the roots of violence

in schools," Lader said. "Students should better understand the consequences of their actions."

Lader said the keys to understanding are offering more public-service opportunities for students, as well as teaching them the basics of right and wrong in the classroom through literary classics.

"There needs to be more emphasis on connecting the 'me' with the 'we,'" Lader said, adding that each child must be made to feel he or she is part of the community. "We should not allow any student to feel isolated."

In the afternoon, Lader turned his attention to U.S. and British trade issues in an effort to "help schools, colleges and businesses develop more links with Europe."

Lader addressed a group of 300 representatives from USC, Columbia Col-

lege, Benedict College, the Columbia Urban League, the League of Women Voters and the World Affairs Council, emphasizing the importance of global trade.

He said Columbia needs to adopt a more global perspective in order to thrive in the current European-dominated economy.

"One in 12 American factory workers are employed by European companies," Lader said. "Just drive along I-85, and you'll see that."



Philip Lader
U.S. Ambassador

Lader said few people realize the importance of British and American trade.

"More than 1 million Americans go to work every day for British companies [like] Holiday Inn, Burger King, Haagen-Dazs and Pillsbury," Lader said.

While global trade might be of little interest to college students who don't study business administration or political science, Lader said that eventually, every aspect of international business would be impossible to ignore.

"Every one of these issues will impact the careers and security of USC students," Lader said.

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Gamecock soccer wins Sunbeam Classic

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DATEBOOK

OCTOBER 18 TODAY
• Homecoming Week kickoff, 7 p.m., Greene Street.
• Fraternity Council, 4 p.m., RH 322/326
• Sorority Council, 5 p.m., RH 322/326.
• Carolina Productions, 3:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 19 TUESDAY
• AAAS, 6 p.m., RH Theater.
• FOCUS, 8:15 p.m., Women's Club.
• S.C. Student Legislature, 9 p.m.
• Dance Marathon, 8 p.m.
• Spring Board, 5:30 p.m.
• RHA, 7 p.m., RH 307.

ONLINE POLL



Are you fed up with this year's hurricane season?

Go to www.gamecock.sc.edu to vote in this week's poll.