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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

USC student named Rhodes Scholarship finalist

BY PATRICK RATHBUN
SENIOR WRITER

A USC student was nominated by the State of South Carolina Rhodes Committee to compete in the Rhodes District competition Friday and Saturday in Washington, D.C.

Carolina Parler, a chemical engineering senior and South Carolina Honors College student, is one of the finalists from six states including South Carolina, North Carolina, Delaware, Maryland/Washington, D.C., Virginia and West Virginia.

The Rhodes Scholarships are the oldest of the international study awards available to American students.

The scholarship provides two years of study at the University of Oxford in England, with a pos-

sible renewal for a third year.

All education costs, including matriculation, tuition, laboratory and other fees, are paid on the scholar's behalf by Rhodes Trustees.

Scholars also receive maintenance allowance to pay for term-time and vacations, as well as costs of travel to and from Oxford.

Criteria for the scholarship are high academic achievement, integrity of character, a spirit of unselfishness, respect for others, potential for leadership and physical vigor.

Cecil Rhodes, the scholarship's creator, said Rhodes Scholars should "esteem the performance of public duties at their highest aim."

Rhodes Scholars are chosen in a three-stage process. First, candidates must be endorsed by their college or university. Committees of Selection in

each of the 50 states then nominate candidates who are interviewed by District Selection Committees in eight regions of the United States.

Parler has a near-4.0 grade point average and earned the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for undergraduate research in science and engineering.

She also received the highest awards for leadership from both USC (Steven M. Swanger Award) and from Omicron Delta Kappa, a national society for leadership, for National Leader of the Year.

Parler was also selected as 1997 Homecoming Queen, 1999 USC Outstanding Woman of the Year, 1999 Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities and 1999 Outstanding USC Senior in Chemical Engineering.

Parler has also performed in the USC Dance

Company since 1995 and is an original member of the Djoliba Don West African Dance Company founded in January 1999.

She has held leadership positions in Chi Omega Sorority, Omicron Delta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi (national engineering honor society), Mortar Board Senior Honor Society, USC Student Government and other campus organizations.

Jan Phillips, assistant director in the Office of Fellowships and Summer Programs, said the Rhodes nomination is a "big deal." To make it into the state and district competitions is "phenomenal," she said.



Caroline Parler will be competing in the Rhodes District competition Friday and Saturday in Washington, D.C.

Library hours frustrate students

BY PATRICK RATHBUN
SENIOR WRITER

Students and administrators have different views on what USC's library hours should be.

The Thomas Cooper Library will close at 2 a.m. during the weeks before and of finals. The closing time is later than the normal midnight closing, but some students say they feel even this extension is not sufficient. They say the library should offer 24-hour access all the time.

Computer engineering freshman Brandon Booker said he sees the need for the library to be open around the clock.

"I think they should stay open 24 hours," he said. "I know people that are up until 3 [a.m.] and 4 [a.m.] working on their papers. I've been in that situation."

Media arts sophomore Carly Roberts agreed that the library's hours should be extended.

"[Extension of the library's hours] would really help you out," she said. "Sometimes you can't get to the library until late, and you need to be there after 12."

Psychology sophomore Hayes Edmunds said the extension of library hours would have a positive impact.

"It'd be very beneficial if [the library] were open 24 hours, even if it was just during exams," she said. "During the regular year, [an extension of hours] might make me study more."

Tucker Taylor, head of Thomas Cooper Library's circulation department, said 24-hour access would be "costly" and might not be a realistic need.

"We don't have people clamoring [to use the library]," she said. "We don't see people here at late hours. If people come, then we'll adjust our hours."

Taylor also said there are many considerations in keeping the building open for a few extra hours, including increased security and costs. Computer labs are the "most heavily used" of the library's resources, and there are a lot of considerations for running a 24-hour computer lab, Taylor said.

USC's library hours aren't much different from other universities in the South-

LIBRARY SEE PAGE 2

FINALS WEEK Students scurry to finish their final assignments of the fall semester



SEAN RAYFORD PHOTO EDITOR

Students crowd the fifth-floor computer lab in the Thomas Cooper Library during the last week of the fall semester to complete assignments for their respective classes. Though the hours have been extended, some students would like to see the library open 24 hours.

Closed classes causing registration problems

BY CHARLES PRASHAW
STAFF WRITER

You're just about ready to smash your computer screen, snap your keyboard in two or throw the phone across the room because it seems like every class you wanted for next semester is already closed.

Don't feel bad; you're among some of the 15,000 USC-Columbia students who registered for classes in the past three weeks but weren't able to get the schedule they wanted.

Although the registrar's office said no major problems were reported with the registration process this semester, many students have complained that too few classes were open and the process of getting an override into a full class took too long.

"We give the information to the students and the colleges; it is the college

that has control over how many sections are offered and how many students are allowed in a class," registrar Barbara Blaney said.

Those who received the class schedule they wanted were likely among the first to register on Nov. 15.

According to Blaney, registration appointment times are based on grade point average and credit hours.

Clair Boatwright, director of Student Services at the College of Journalism and Mass Communications, said she doesn't think the current system is sufficient.

"We need to look at a multi-tier selection process for getting people into classes they need," Boatwright said.

"We need a system that looks at several criteria for a student to be selected for a class."

Blaney said the registration process isn't likely to change soon. But she said

the registrar's office might look into having a university-wide waiting list and allow electronic overrides on the Visual Information Processing Web site.

And Blaney said there are other changes being considered for the VIP site.

Potential additions include allowing students to request official transcripts online and allowing professors access to class rolls with names, addresses and phone numbers of students.

Carolyn Jones, director of the undergraduate division at The Darla Moore School of Business, said the business school has seen an increase in enrollment over the years, while the number of resources has decreased.

"It seems this year a lot of classes filled up very quickly," Jones said.

Darla Moore is one of USC's schools

SCHEDULE SEE PAGE 4

SG codes create online voting

BY BRANDON LARRABEE
STAFF WRITER

Election codes creating an online voting system for Student Government were passed Wednesday by student senate and are awaiting approval from USC President John Palms.

The system would be on USC's Visual Information Processing system at <http://vip.sc.edu>.

Under the bill, students can vote only online, unless they are casting a write-in ballot.

"It pretty much does away with paper voting," said Sen. Patrick Gearman, who co-sponsored the bill.

Under the bill, if a student wants to cast a write-in ballot, he or she will have to go to the SG office, cancel the online ballot and vote for all candidates on paper.

Gearman said Palms has to sign the bill before it becomes official.

"Personally, I'm hoping he signs it over the break," Gearman said. "Odds

SENATE SEE PAGE 2

Going home for the holidays

Where are you going for the holidays? More than likely, if you're not staying in South Carolina, you're going to one of the following states — they're the top 10 out-of-state sources of USC students.

State	Number of students
GEORGIA	775
N. CAROLINA	659
VIRGINIA	466
NEW YORK	361
PENNSYLVANIA	339
NEW JERSEY	336
FLORIDA	298
MARYLAND	240
OHIO	204
CONNECTICUT	128

Source: USC's Department of Institutional Research and Planning, Fall 1998 statistics

BRAD WALTERS GRAPHICS EDITOR

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Money banks on Christmas.

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DATEBOOK

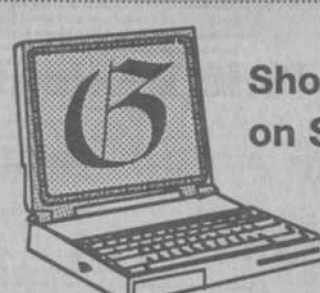
DECEMBER 3 TODAY

- Last Day of Classes
- Stress Blowout, 6 p.m.-midnight, Blatt P.E. Center
- Entries for basketball intramurals

DECEMBER 4 SATURDAY

- Hanukkah
- Reading Day
- Round Table Gaming Society, noon to 11:45 p.m., RH

ONLINE POLL



Should exams be held on Saturdays?

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