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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

Metallica attacks Napster Web site

BY JAMES BOOZER
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

CHICAGO — One of the newest and largest online music-sharing sites, Napster, suffered a major blow last week when the rock group Metallica sued it and three universities for copyright and racketeering violations.

The suit claims that Napster, along with Yale University, Indiana University and the University of Southern California, encouraged the trading of copyrighted music over the Internet without prior permission from Metallica.

"It is sickening to know that our art is being traded like a commodity rather than the art that it is," said Metallica drummer Lars Ulrich in a statement on the Elektra Records Web site.

"We take our craft, whether it be the music, the lyrics, or the photos and artwork very seriously."

Napster, a company based in San Mateo, Calif., that grew out of a dorm room at Northeastern University, allows registered users to search and download music directly from the hard drives of other Napster users. The files are stored using the MP3 digital format, which allows them to be transmitted over the Web.

The MP3 digital files allow for the content of an average compact disc to be compressed to one-tenth its original size while retaining its crystal-clear sound quality.

Joining Metallica in its fight against Napster is the Recording Industry Association of America. The RIAA filed a copyright infringement suit against Napster in December of last year. It also supports a new standard, the Secure Digital Musical Initiative, aimed at wiping out music piracy and establishing a copy-protected alternative to the MP3.

"We regret that the band's management saw fit to issue a press release — and to file a lawsuit — without even attempting to contact Napster," said Eileen Richardson, CEO of Napster, in a statement to The Associated Press. The suit marks a new chapter in this music battle by involving three universities.

Officials at Indiana University have yet to respond to the suit because they haven't seen a copy of it. IU blocked access to Napster in mid-February, but restored it last month after fixing its computer system.

Yale University officials alerted its students in February to the requirements of federal copyright laws as they applied to Napster, according to university spokesman Tom Conroy.

"[The school] is firmly committed to respecting intellectual property rights," Conroy said. "We believe that the university has no liability to Metallica."

USC officials couldn't be reached for comment.

Metallica is seeking to have the Napster site shut down, and the RIAA is asking for \$100,000 for each copyright infringement.

It's believed that the RIAA suit could force an amendment to the law governing electronic copyright issues passed in 1998.

With an estimated base of 8 million users, Napster is just one piece of the MP3 empire that continues to thrive and might continue to do so for years to come.

EARTH WEEK Giving Mother Nature a hand



AMY GOULDING PHOTO EDITOR

USC students and Sgt. Went from Fort Jackson remove non-native ivy from the Moore Garden on Blossom and Pickens streets to give indigenous plant species a better chance of survival.

Former dean pleads innocent

Craig Rogers, charged with six counts of embezzlement, faces up to 60 years in jail

BY CLAYTON KALE
NEWS EDITOR



ROGERS

CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. — The former dean of the College of Engineering and Information Technology pleaded innocent Monday to charges that he embezzled state money from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute over a three-and-a-half year period.

Craig Rogers is charged with two counts of obtaining property by false pretenses and four counts of misuse of state funds. The prosecution dropped one count of each charge before Monday's arraignment.

Rogers, former director of Virginia Tech's Center for Intelligent Material Systems and Structures, stepped down as dean of the engineering school after he was indicted by a Montgomery County grand jury last year.

Rogers couldn't be reached for comment, but in a prepared statement earlier this year, he said, "I am puzzled by the nature of the claims, but I have no doubt that my actions will be found appropriate and were indeed in the best interest of Virginia Tech and the research center."

"I am puzzled by the nature of the claims, but I have no doubt that my actions will be found appropriate..."

Craig Rogers

Former Engineering Dean

USC Spokesman Jason Snyder said the university isn't getting involved in the trial.

"This is between he and Virginia Tech," he said. The charges involve transactions between April 1993 and August 1996. Investigators have not disclosed the amount of money involved, but indictments allege thousands of dollars in state funds were handled improperly.

Virginia State Police began investigating after complaints that Rogers was taking funds for the research center and putting them into Paradigm Inc., a private corporation that no longer exists.

According to affidavits filed in the Montgomery County Circuit Court, the employees provided documents to support their claims.

Rogers is being tried without a jury. The trial before Circuit Judge Ray Grubbs is expected to last until today, defense attorney Jimmy Turk said. If convicted, Rogers could be sentenced to 10 years in prison on each count.

The Associated Press and Associate News Editor Brandon Larrabee contributed to this article.

COMPARING CAROLINA

Campus quarters

This week and next week, The Gamecock will explore how USC compares with other state-supported schools in the immediate region. This week, we look at housing. Next week, we will look at honors programs.

BY KELLY HAGGERTY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Each housing department at the five regional state-supported schools boasts unique programs and policies. For example, the University of Florida has unique pet and visitation policies, and the University of Georgia has a top-notch security system. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill offers nine housing areas with themes, and the University of Tennessee has one of the nation's best offerings in family and graduate housing. USC is the only one to have a residential college. In other areas, the universities had both their good and bad qualities, with no specific university standing out as offering the best overall living experience.

COST
Compared with the other five universities, UF will offer the widest range of prices for next year's students, including the cheapest and most expensive rates. USC and UNC will offer about the same variety in prices, which will

HOUSING SEE PAGE A2



FILE PHOTO

Almost 50 percent of USC students live in residence halls, like the University Towers, pictured above. Newer dorms have been built to provide more apartment-style housing, which is in demand by students.

Comparing Carolina: HOUSING

Cost statistics below are for the 2000-01 school year.

UNIVERSITY	UNDERGRADUATE DORMS	PERCENTAGE STUDENTS ON CAMPUS	DORM COST PER SEMESTER	TOTAL ROOMS AVAILABLE
CLEMSON	28	52%	\$885-\$1,420	3,000
FLORIDA	23	25%	\$722-\$2,200	3,127
GEORGIA	17	18%	\$1,353-\$1,663	3,000
TENNESSEE	13	30%	\$1,000-\$1,400	3,750
UNC	29	28%	\$1,310-\$2,135	3,538
USC	31	48%	\$1,004-\$2,000	3,925

BRAD WALTERS THE GAMECOCK

RHA officers sworn in

BY CHARLES PRASHAW
SENIOR WRITER

The chandeliers were turned down low, the men were sporting tuxedos and the women wore evening gowns. No, it's not someone's prom night, but one could almost confuse the annual Resident Hall Association Awards Banquet for one.

About 100 people filled the meeting hall at the Holiday Inn-Coliseum for the formal RHA Awards Banquet at 7 Tuesday night. The event is held every year to recognize outstanding RHA members and induct the new members of the RHA Executive Board, the National Resident Hall Honorary and Community Service Committee.

"This is a big transition night for many of us. This is a close-knit group and for some people, this is their last night in their positions," RHA President Jason Wade said.

The inductees to the RHA executive board for the 2000-01 terms are President Olivia Gillcrease, Vice President Myra McPhee, Treasurer Adam Wilson, Secretary Brad Dawgert and National Communications Coordinator Lakita Robinson.

For NRHH, the new Executive Board members are President Lakita Robinson, Vice President Sean Chisholm, Treasurer Shavonne Delbridge, Secretary Tamekiar Pereira and Lauren Vaughn for special events.

For Community Service Committee, the new Executive Board members are President Michael Harmon, Vice President of Operations Douglas McCartha, Vice President of Membership Holly Hughes, Secretary Rachel West, RHA Treasurer Tasha Reid SGA Treasurer

RHA SEE PAGE A3

WEATHER

TODAY
79
57
THURSDAY
85
63

INSIDE



Encore!
gets drawn
in by
Magnetic
Fields
ENCORE!

DATEBOOK

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 19
• Student Senate, 5 p.m.,
RH Theater
• University Ambassadors, 8 p.m., Visitor Center

THURSDAY

APRIL 20
• Awards Day, 2 p.m.,
Horseshoe

ONLINE POLL



Should the NAACP continue its boycott if the flag is moved from the Statehouse dome?

Vote at www.gamecock.sc.edu. Results will be published Friday.