

## CAROLINA NEWS

## COMPARING CAROLINA

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as well as three graduate courses; and Florida requires four courses for an associate of arts degree with honors or high honor. Tennessee and UNC don't require honors courses to graduate with honors; graduating with honors for a four-year degree is decided by individual colleges at Florida.

Three of the colleges surveyed have honors housing: USC, Clemson and Florida. Georgia recommends certain halls for its honors students, while Tennessee gives honors students priority registration. UNC has no honors housing.

## STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION

USC's standards for admission aren't set in stone. While students would be "competitive" for admission to the Honors College with a 1300 SAT and 3.0 GPA, it doesn't mean they will be automatically admitted to the college, Honors College Dean Peter Sederberg said.

"It's not, 'Let's admit everyone who meets a benchmark,'" Sederberg said.

He cited Clemson as an example of a school that admits everyone who meets certain standards. This year, Sederberg said, that led to the program to admit 200 more students than was expected.

"That has a tremendous impact on the functioning of your program," Sederberg said.

Other schools also have fluid standards for admissions: Georgia uses past examples to advise students on who might be invited to join the honors program, while UNC admits the top 200 students from the school's incoming freshman class.

All of the universities surveyed also allow enrolled students to join later in their college careers. USC has a waiting list, while other schools require a minimum GPA. UNC encourages students to join after their freshman year, since standards for first-year admission are high.

Clemson has a sliding scale for freshmen to join the honors program their freshman year. A student in the top 10 percent of his class needs between a 1340 and 1350 on the SAT to be admitted. A student in the top 25 percent, on the other hand, needs a 1450 SAT score to get in.

## GRADUATING 'WITH HONORS'

All of the colleges surveyed require senior theses or projects in some cases, though some of the colleges only require this for departmental honors.

Clemson requires 14 hours of honors courses to be taken; students must get an A or a B in the course for it to count toward the total. No more than eight of the 14 hours can be earned in any one discipline. Students must have a 3.4 GPA to graduate with honors.

Florida requires students to take four honors courses to get an associate of arts degree with honors or high honors after two years; to graduate with honors after four years, students must complete requirements set by various colleges. These requirements can include a thesis, an interview with a committee, a seminar or a combination of the three.

Georgia requires students to maintain a 3.3 GPA both cumulatively and in honors courses. Students must take three graduate courses and complete a senior thesis.

UNC requires students to keep a 3.2 GPA to the end of their junior year. Then, students can participate in a senior thesis. A student may do this regardless of whether he's an honors student.

Tennessee allows students to graduate with honors as long

as they maintain a 3.5 GPA, regardless of whether he's enrolled in the honors program.

USC requires students to complete 45 hours of honors work — by far the highest of any of the colleges surveyed — complete a senior thesis and maintain a 3.3 GPA.

Sederberg said the 45-hour requirement is one of the highest he's seen.

## AVOIDING AN 'EXPLOSION'

According to Sederberg, USC and UNC are the only colleges of those surveyed to avoid rapid growth over the past few years.

"We've really had controlled growth," Sederberg said. He said the USC Honors College's number of incoming freshmen grew from 175 applicants to around 250 applicants from 1993 to 1997, and has stayed there since. UNC has grown to just 200 applicants from about the same number.

Clemson, on the other hand, had 600 students enter its program this year, after expecting 350 to join. Georgia and Clemson also experienced rapid growth, according to Sederberg.

"They had an explosion this year," Sederberg said.

He said rapid growth usually raises one or two of three issues: a drop in the quality of students, a drop in the quality of the program or an increase in resources.

"That [rapid growth] begs the question: What are they offering their students?" Sederberg said.

## TOP TEN?

USC was one of three universities surveyed to have its honors program ranked as "excellent" in the 1994 Ivy League Programs at State School Prices. Only 10 programs in the nation received the designation. According to Sederberg, the survey hasn't been repeated since.

Sederberg warned that the survey figures might be inaccurate; only one university from each state, usually the flagship school, was reviewed for the book. He said that led to problems in states like Arizona, where the flagship school — Arizona University — has a weaker program than another school in the state — Arizona State University.

However, Sederberg seemed to agree with one of the book's conclusions.

"I like to think that we're certainly in the top 10," Sederberg said. He said the school was "arguably" in the top five.

## 'THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS'

According to Sederberg, the Honors College is meant to provide "the best of both worlds" for students, providing the atmosphere of a liberal arts college at a research university.

Sederberg said evidence of the approach can be seen in such aspects of honors life as housing. All dorms that have honors housing, with the exception of Maxcy, also have non-honors housing. Another sign of the "both worlds" approach is the fact that most honors students take three honors courses per semester for their first year, then one or two courses per semester in their remaining years.

He said the approach was an implied promise given to students when they enroll in the college.

"The most important thing we can do is honor the implied contract," Sederberg said.

"We've attracted them because of the promise we've made," he said.

## Video poker ban survives court test

BY RICHARD CARELLI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has refused to interfere with South Carolina's scheduled July 1 ban of video gambling, a \$2.8-billion-a-year industry in that state.

The justices, without comment Monday, rejected an appeal that challenged the way the ban was approved last year.

The appeal had been filed by Joytime Distributors & Amusement Co., a Greenville-based corporation that owns 164 video gambling machines in several counties.

"We thought it was a substantial issue that at some time the court needs to look at," Joytime lawyer Gaston Fairey said. "We're disappointed that the court chose not to do it."

The South Carolina General Assembly last summer passed the ban on video gambling unless a majority of voters in a planned November referendum approved continued payouts from the machines.

The South Carolina Supreme Court struck down the referendum, ruling that the General Assembly had violated the

state constitution by delegating its decision-making power. But the state's highest court upheld other parts of the law, effectively ending video gambling as of July 1.

"I do not believe we left any loopholes in the law to give them an extended life," said Rep. Terry Haskins, R-Greenville, who wrote the bill.

After unsuccessfully seeking the state court's reconsideration, lawyers for Joytime filed the appeal acted on Monday.

"The court below infringed fundamental First Amendment freedoms of the South Carolina electorate by first enjoining the referendum on video gaming and then itself deciding that such gaming should be outlawed," the appeal said.

The amendment protects freedom of speech and the right to petition the government.

The state court wrongly views voters "no differently from an administrative agency," and therefore "submission of a legislative matter to referendum is forbidden," the appeal added.

State Attorney General Charlie Condon and his staff urged the justices to re-

ject Joytime's appeal. They noted that the First Amendment argument never was raised when the case was before the state Supreme Court.

The state's lawyers also argued that no First Amendment violation occurred.

"The Supreme Court has correctly ruled that video poker is a state matter and should be dealt with by the state of South Carolina, not the federal courts," Condon said. "This state's long video poker nightmare is over."

Gov. Jim Hodges said he was not surprised by the ruling because "I believed all along this was a state matter for the state of South Carolina to work out."

Columbia lawyer Richard Gergel helped set the state court's action in motion with a federal court lawsuit against the industry by people who said they were addicted gamblers.

That case, which remains pending, led to enforcement of a \$125 daily payout cap that prompted video gambling operators to first seek help from the Legislature and to support the referendum.

## Nike rethinks donation to University of Oregon

COLLEGE PRESS  
EXCHANGE

EUGENE, ORE. — The University of Oregon's plans to join the Worker Rights Consortium, an anti-sweatshop group, have prompted Phil Knight, chairman of Nike Inc., to rethink a multimillion gift to help renovate the university's stadium.

Knight, an alumnus of UO, was planning to donate or raise \$30 million toward the \$80 million stadium project, but apparently changed his mind last week after university officials announced their decision to join the consortium. In a statement, Nike said it wouldn't discuss Knight's private philanthropy. While Oregon officials confirmed that Knight had made no formal pledges, they also said they were left with the distinct impression that he wanted to be significantly involved with the project.

Nike, based in Beaverton, Ore., has doggedly opposed the consortium, which is made up primarily of students and labor groups bent on excluding apparel manufacturers from the organization's power structure. Nike favors the Fair Labor Association, which evolved from meetings between apparel makers and the U.S. Labor Department and considers about 130 universities among its members.

"The WRC is a loosely formed organization whose operating tenets include a 'gotcha monitoring' system and an ambiguous living-wage provision," the Nike Web site states. "Neither Nike nor any of our competitors can even join the WRC because they exclude companies from participating in their process — which we believe demonstrates the lack of depth and commitment to serious reform of factory conditions."

"The U. of O., despite its unique re-

lationship with Nike and Phil, is free to align itself with the WRC," the statement continued. "However, it does not mean that we are required to support those efforts with which we have fundamental disagreements."

Consortium supporters maintain that the only ways to objectively monitor manufacturers' working conditions is to have outside sources do the monitoring — and by keeping manufacturers off the group's governing board.

In the past couple of months, Nike has moved to end its contract to supply uniforms and equipment for Brown University's men's and women's hockey teams after that institution also pledged to join the WRC. Oregon University decided to join the consortium two weeks ago after a year of deliberations and votes by student government leaders and the university senate.

The  
CAROLINA  
ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATIONSALUTES  
OUR  
GRADUATES!

## Graduation Fair

Thursday, April 27, 2000

11:30 am-1:30 pm

Alumni House Garden

## Official Ring Ceremony

Honoring Juniors and Seniors

who have purchased

a class ring.

Thursday, May 4, 2000

2-3 pm Rutledge Chapel

## Graduation Gala

Friday, May 5, 2000 8-11 pm

The Zone at

Williams-Brice Stadium

\$15/person; families welcome

Call 777-4111 for more information.