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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA, S.C.

Blood battle with Clemson begins

BY CHARLES PRASHAW
THE GAMECOCK

The week before the annual Carolina/Clemson football game is traditionally known as Spirit Week at USC, a week of annual events that celebrate USC and the long-standing football rivalry.

For this Spirit Week, three big events are taking place: the annual Carolina/Clemson blood drive, the grand opening of the Gamecock-themed Bi-Lo on Devine Street and the annual Tiger Burn.

USC has won the annual blood drive for the last two years, with around 2,000 pints of blood donated by students, professors and community members each of those years.

The event, which is sponsored by the

Red Cross and the Fraternity and Sorority Councils, pits Greek Life from the two schools against each other in a contest to see who can get members of their communities to donate the most blood.

The blood drive will take place all this week at the Russell House Ballroom and in a Red Cross bloodmobile outside the Darla Moore School of Business between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

To get more students to give blood this year, Greek organizers are giving Gamecock T-shirts to donors. The shirt says "I bleed garnet" on the front.

According to Director of Greek Life Gena Runnion, there will also be free food, and some professors are giving extra credit for donating blood.

"It's a great cause. It's something that

is a very healthy competition for both schools," Runnion said. "We can't all play football, but we can all support the effort and support the cause."

Runnion also gave advice to those wishing to donate this week.

They should remember to eat food high in iron, like oatmeal, cream of wheat, grits and leafy green vegetables, according to Runnion.

"If someone doesn't have a high enough iron count, they can't donate," she said.

The grand opening of the Gamecock-themed Bi-Lo on Devine Street will take place Wednesday between 5-7 p.m. The managers of the Bi-Lo plan to hold a celebration in the parking lot with free food, discounted prices, "Cocky," cheerleaders

and fireworks.

According to Russell House Director Carmela Car, the grand opening of the store just happens to take place during Spirit Week.

The Tiger Burn, the last event of Spirit Week, takes place at the South Carolina Fairgrounds at 6 p.m. Thursday. The Tiger Burn is the annual pep rally and bonfire before the Carolina/Clemson football game.

Admission is free to both the Tiger Burn and the grand opening of the Bi-Lo.

The university desk can be reached at gamecockdesk@hotmail.com.

Three in a row?

USC has beat Clemson in the Carolina-Clemson blood drive for the past two years, and will try for a third victory this year. The totals in the previous two years:

1999	USC Clemson	2,018 1,904
1998	USC Clemson	1,657 1,433

BUILDING A BETTER USC



Travis Lynn THE GAMECOCK

Work continues on the Strom Thurmond Fitness and Wellness Center, which is scheduled to be completed by January 2003. The Fitness and Wellness Center is just one of many construction projects being undertaken by the university over the next five years.

USC 2005: GOALS

Trustees' goals include campus beauty, safety

This is the final installment in a series by The Gamecock examining the goals the USC board of trustees recently agreed to try to achieve by 2005.

BY BRANDON LARRABEE
THE GAMECOCK

While the main focus of the board of trustees' goals for 2005 rests on improving the quality of students, teachers and the university as a whole, there are also other areas the goals target.

One of these is the campus's appearance, with the board setting goals to improve the learning environment and safety around campus.

Even before the goals, USC had planned several construction projects. The university is pumping hundreds of millions of dollars into such projects

as the Strom Thurmond Fitness and Wellness Center, the new Greek Village, the Vista Arena, a new Law School and a new facility for the school of public health.

However, one of the most immediate and far-reaching projects being undertaken is a "streetscaping" project that will lead to changes along many of USC's streets, including Sumter, Blossom, Green, Bull and Pendleton.

"That's [the streetscaping project] is very comprehensive," said Charles Jeffcoat, director of facilities management

at the university.

The plan involves adding lighting and trees to streets affected by the project, narrowing several of the streets, removing some university parking and moving sidewalks further off the roads. The university will also add a left turn off of Blossom Street onto Bull Street.

While the university is planning on removing parking on some of the streets encompassed by the plan, Jeffcoat said that won't always be the case.

"In most cases, the parking's remaining along the street," he said.

Some of the parking could also be moved.

On Sumter, a gated median will be added in addition to the other streetscaping elements, Jeffcoat said. The sidewalk will be moved further away from the curve, and a grassy area will take its

place.

Another major change affects Greene Street. The university is no longer considering opening Greene Street during some hours when it is currently closed, Jeffcoat said.

"Our plan is to continue that schedule," he said. Instead, the gates that block traffic when the street is closed might be moved outward.

"We may move those further west and place them on the corner of Sumter and Greene," Jeffcoat said.

The streetscaping plan also calls for the narrowing of Greene Street and the removal of the parking spaces on that road between Sumter and Bull streets. The spaces between Bull and Pickens "more than likely will stay," but those

BUILDINGS SEE PAGE 3

SLED picks up \$990,000 grant

Money will help improve communications network

BY KRISTIN VON
KAROWSKY
THE GAMECOCK

The U.S. Department of Justice awarded the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division a \$990,000 federal grant, U.S. Sen. Fritz Hollings announced Oct. 25.

The funding, which is part of the Justice Department's National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP), will be used to improve and upgrade SLED's communications network. The Justice Department's program seeks to improve public safety by making criminal record information complete, accurate and immediately accessible to law enforcement.

The NCHIP receives its funding through the Crime Identification Technology Act (CITA). According to the Department of Justice website, CITA provides assistance to states to upgrade or establish identification technologies and criminal justice information systems. CITA expands on the National Criminal History Improvement Program administered

by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and provides assistance "for virtually every" technology-based, criminal justice identification, information and communications need.

SLED chief spokesman Hugh Munn said with the new funding, smaller courts, such as magistrates and city judges, will now be able to get depositions to SLED faster with the new technology.

"A problem we were having here was that smaller summary courts had to mail the information to us before," Munn said. "There was no automated system from the summary courts. Now, it will be easier for smaller courts to send us the information electronically. I want to stress the timelines. This will really move things along for us, in terms of electronic switching equipment and improved software."

Munn also said criminal histories included in the data base will include "all criminal histories," and not strictly violent criminal histories.

When asked if the new communications system might help deter crime, Munn couldn't say for sure.

"I really don't know, but it will sure help in detecting and investigating crimes in a more timely manner," Munn said.

According to the Justice Department's website, a public law passed on Oct. 9,

SLED SEE PAGE 3

Big Brothers, Sisters hold extravaganza

BY EUGENE RODILLO
THE GAMECOCK

Children and volunteers met this past Friday for the fifth annual Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Columbia Midnight Extravaganza held at USC's Blatt P.E. Center.

From 11:00 p.m. Friday to 8:00 a.m. Saturday, children and volunteers participated in various activities such as basketball and arts and crafts, giving the children a chance to interact with possible mentors.

Barron Damon, spokesman for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Columbia, said the gathering was a way for the children to have a night out, estimating more than 250 people participated in the event this year.

According to Damon, the program began only for boys who were on a waiting list to meet possible mentors. After

the females found they didn't have a similar opportunity, it was decided to combine the program for both boys and girls.

This year, the program was full of activities to keep children busy.

"Everything is done simultaneously," Damon said. "They'll be moving the whole time, from station to station. We even have a book station out there in case there are some of them who just want to read, because some of the kids are a little introverted."

Along with these activities, there was a karaoke machine and a motivational speaker named Eric David.

"He [encouraged] the kids to stay off the streets and stay off drugs," Damon said.

The volunteers played a big part in this event, with many being students from USC and other colleges. Damon said there

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INSIDE



Spotlight looks at the movie "Men of Honor"

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Democracy is the worst form of government- except for all those other ones."

— Winston Churchill

DATEBOOK

MONDAY

NOVEMBER 13
• Spirit Week begins
• Carolina/Clemson Blood Drive, RH Ballroom
• Sigma Chi Derby Days

TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 14
• Spirit Week continues
• Carolina/Clemson Blood Drive, RH Ballroom
• Sigma Chi Derby Days
• Hunger Banquet, 6 p.m., Capstone Campus rm