

Erin O'Neal/The Gamecock

Marchers participating in the NAACP's "King Day at the Dome 2001" rally walk down Main Street toward the State House. The group was showing their opposition to the Confederate flag, which continues to fly at a monument on the State House grounds.

BY ERIN O'NEAL
THE GAMECOCK

MLK DAY

Groups find different ways to mark birthday of civil rights leader

The theme of the NAACP's "King Day at the Dome 2001" was "A Day of Dignity" as thousands of people gathered at the South Carolina State House to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and call for the removal of the Confederate flag from the State House grounds.

Participants marched from Finlay Park to the State House in recognition of South Carolina's first officially recognized Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People used the holiday to reinforce their opposition to the Confederate flag, which remains on State House property atop a 30-foot pole on a Confederate monument.

King's "I Have a Dream" speech was played in its entirety as the marchers arrived at the State House, waving American flags and signs that read "It's Not About Heritage," "Museum the Flag," "It's About Principle, Not Compromise" and "S.C. Suffers from the Confederacy of the Mind."

"We come to say that the flag is still in the wrong place. If it were in the right place, then you wouldn't need a fence around it," NAACP Conference Branch Director Dwight James said. "We've come today to tell those that sit in the State House that the war is over, and the South lost."

"Celebrate [the flag] in front of your businesses so we'll know where not to spend our money, but don't pimp your heritage in front of our house," James said.

The Benedict College Choir provided entertainment alongside a variety of influential speakers, who reinforced the idea that the Confederate flag remains a symbol of divisiveness.

"The Confederate War may be over, but the Confederate mindset is very well alive," said the Rev. H. H. Singleton of Cherry Hill Baptist Church.

"After the flag has been brought down, all the way down, the furled flag is to be placed in a place of historical significance, not in a place of sovereignty."

Although the NAACP's march was organized to oppose the Confederate flag, other groups around Columbia celebrated the holiday in other ways.

An annual commemoration was held at Martin Luther King Jr. Park and Community Center last night on Greene Street in Five Points. David H. Swinton, president of Benedict College, was the

guest speaker for the event, which focused on King's dedication to civil rights issues and the service he did for his country.

USC also paid tribute to King last night with the MLK Gospel Unity Fest 2001 at the Koger Center. The Anointed Angels and Capital City Chorale, two local groups, performed a sold-out concert.

City Year will hold their 7th Annual MLK Celebration Breakfast today at 9:30 a.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park Gymnasium in Five Points. Elementary students from the Columbia area will gather to participate in many different activities to learn about King's life and work. Mike Woolfolk of WACH Fox 57 will be the keynote speaker.

USC's annual Day of Service, sponsored by the Office of Community Service and the Department of Student Life, will be held Jan. 27.

Valerie Matchette contributed to this article. The spotlight desk can be reached at gamecockspotlight@hotmail.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

- Blue Martini**, Jeff Liberty
- Decisions**, Benjie Ray Acoustic
- Delaney's**, Tadhg O' Cathan Celtic Session
- Elbow Room**, Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom
- New Brookland Tavern**, Acoustic Competition
- Sundance**, Tuesday Night Music Club
- Village Idiot**, Acoustic Challenge

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

- Blue Martini**, Skipp Pearson and Jazzology
- Decisions**, Muddy Quarters
- Delaney's**, Joal Rush
- Dianne's on Devine**, Ross Holmes
- Mac's on Main**, Blues & Jazz Showcase with 4th Element
- Monterrey Jack's**, Lee Barbour Quintet
- New Brookland Tavern**, Pawn Shop

IN THE NEWS

■ Court seeking to extradite murderer

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. (AP) — A judge will decide next month if convicted murderer Kenneth Kimes can be extradited to California to face other murder charges there.

Kimes, who grabbed the national spotlight in October when he took Court TV reporter Maria Zone hostage while he was being interviewed in prison, has challenged his extradition to face trial in the murder of Los Angeles businessman David Kazdin.

Police believe Kazdin, whose body was found in a garbage bin near Los Angeles International Airport, was killed after he learned Kimes and his mother, Sante, had forged Kazdin's name on a loan. They allegedly took \$200,000 from the loan account.

The two were convicted in May of murdering 82-year-old Irene Silverman and conspiring to steal her \$7 million New York City town house and other possessions.

If Kimes, 25, is returned to California, he could face a death penalty trial. If he doesn't get the death penalty, he would be returned to New York to complete a 125-year sentence for the Silverman murder.

A judge has reviewed arguments in the extradition case from Kimes' lawyer and a lawyer from New York state and now wants to hear from California. He's given California officials until Feb. 9 to submit papers.

Sante Kimes is also challenging her extradition. Her case is being heard in Westchester County, where she is serving a 120-year prison term.

■ Armored truck driver steals vehicle

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The driver of a Brinks armored truck apparently took the money and ran.

James P. Parker drove away in the truck — carrying several hundred thousand dollars — after a co-worker left the vehicle to pick up a deposit at a home-improvement store.

The truck was found later with the engine running in the Brinks parking lot, but Parker and the cash remain missing.

Parker's pickup truck was also missing from the lot.

The heist appears to have been carefully thought out.

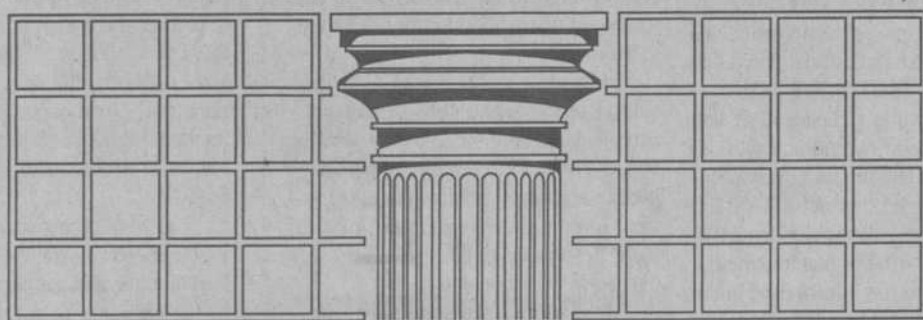
"It went off without a hitch," said Sgt. James Troiano of the county Sheriff's Office.

Parker began working for Brinks about five weeks ago and had no arrest record, the officer said.

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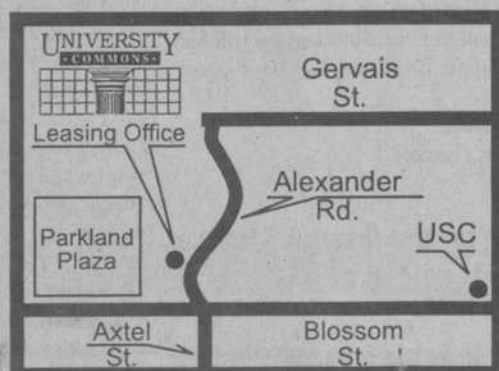
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USC to welcome the Boston Pops for Bicentennial

BY AMANDA SILVA
THE GAMECOCK

As a part of USC's yearlong Bicentennial celebration, the Boston Pops will perform March 7 at the Coliseum. Conductor Keith Lockhart leads the Boston Pops, an orchestra that performs America's best-known traditional music.

Lockhart, who became the Pops' conductor at 35, has continued the orchestra's success with a 1999 Grammy nomination for "The Celtic Album." Lockhart succeeded conductor John Williams, who wrote movie scores for *Jaws*, *Star Wars*, *Schindler's List*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *E.T.*

The Boston Pops debuted in 1885 as the Boston Symphony, whose performance format was modeled after European concerts and led by European conductors.

The development of American music during the 1890s changed the dominant European style, and more American composers were featured in the concert series.

"The Pops began as a copy of a German institution, but within its first century, it became one of the things that define our American experience," critic Richard Dyer said.

In 1899, the orchestra adopted John Phillip Sousa's 1897 composition "The Stars and Stripes Forever" as the regular finale to the concert series.

In 1929 came the debut of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's most-heralded conductor, Arthur Fiedler. Fiedler led the orchestra for the next 50 years, and by 1979, affirmed the Pops as a national institution, a musical ambassador abroad and as the most-recorded orchestra in the world.

The Boston Pops plays at Symphony Hall during May and June, with the concert series "Holiday Pops" throughout December.

The blend of light classical com-

'The Pops began as a copy of a German institution, but within its first century, it became one of the things that define our American experience'

Richard Dyer
Critic

positions and popular American music is nationally televised for the annual "Pop Goes the Fourth!"

The Boston Pops will open its 116th season this May, marking Lockhart's fifth anniversary as conductor.

Lockhart has conducted more than 300 concerts and made 33 television shows, including "Holiday at Pops" and "Pop Goes the Fourth," in addition to leading nine national tours and one 1997 tour to Japan and Korea.

The Pops has also released five albums conducted by Lockhart. The latest is "The Latin Album," an American symphony's celebration of the recent popularity of Latin music.

The recording combines dance numbers adapted from Latin American folk traditions and new orchestrations, including popular song, big band, film scores and a new arrangement of the Pops' sinash hit "Jalousie."

Tickets for the March 7 concert are on sale for \$15 and \$30 at the Coliseum box office and Capital Ticket outlets.

The spotlight desk can be reached at gamecockspotlight@hotmail.com