

**POLICE REPORT**

**UNIVERSITY**

**Sunday, Feb. 4**

■ **Harassment**, Patterson Hall. USC student Molly Mayfield said someone left a threatening letter outside of her dorm room. Reporting officer: J. Coaxum.

■ **Larceny of purse**, Russell House. Student Amanda Silva said her khaki-colored purse was removed from The Gamecock newsroom. Items in her

purse included a wallet, a green cell phone, her South Carolina driver's license, her Social Security card, her house and car keys, an American Express card and a Wachovia debit card. A silver Nokia cell phone was stolen from Erin O'Neal as well. Reporting officer: J. Coaxum.

■ **Simple possession of marijuana**, Capstone. Reporting officer J. Aspedon was called to Capstone and advised by an Resident Adviser that he smelled an odor believed to be marijuana. The RA asked the reporting officer to stand by while he did a health and safety inspection. The RA then knocked twice and announced who he was. When the door was opened, the strong smell of marijuana came out of the room. The officer and RA saw in plain view a multi-colored pipe and green leafy

substance. The officer confiscated 14.8 grams of the substance.

**Saturday, Feb. 3**

■ **Grand larceny of computer**, Capstone. Amanda Whaley said someone took several items of hers and \$50 in cash from her roommate. Stolen from Whaley was her Compaq laptop, a Bible, a book by C. S. Lewis, her backpack, a TI-85 calculator and a CD. Reporting officer: M. Craska.

■ **Bomb threat**, South Tower. The Columbia Police Department called the USC Police Department and said an anonymous person had called and said there was a bomb in the incident location. Ten officers arrived, and Director of Law Enforcement Ernie Ellis and the Greek

Life director were notified. Housing staff and officers did a thorough search of the building with no findings. Reporting officer: M. Gass.

**COLUMBIA**

**Tuesday, Feb. 6**

■ **Insecure premises**, Hampton Hills Apartments. An officer was dispatched to the above incident location in response to an alarm. Upon investigation, officer was able to force open a front window. A check of the apartment proved no immediate danger. Officers did not enter, and window was closed. Reporting officer: J. Powell.

■ **Accidental injury**, 277 Farrow Road exit. Reporting officer R. Dulton responded

to incident location in reference to Antonio Sumpier, 32, who was lying on the side of the road, possibly involved in a car accident. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the subject attempted to cross the interstate and tripped over a chain link fence.

■ **Disorderly conduct**, 5834 Ames Road. Ben Jackson, Blue Ribbon Cab driver, said that after a dispute about paying cab fare, his passenger called the dispatch company of the cab and said he planned to track down Jackson's cab and get his money back by whatever means needed. Jackson told police he feels threatened by the statement. Reporting officer: E. Murphy.

**Monday, Feb. 5**

■ **Drunkenness**, 200 Harden St. Reporting officer P. Gibson was dispatched to incident location in reference to a car horn that was continuously blowing. Upon arrival to the scene, USC student Jessica Blanks, 22, was in the passenger seat of a vehicle, blowing the horn. When reporting officer approached, Blanks appeared to be very drunk and was belligerent toward officer's questions.

**Sunday, Feb. 4**

■ **Petty larceny**, 1300 Lyon St. Theresa Garrett said that after a verbal altercation with an unidentified man, she threw her keys at him. The man then picked up her keys and left the scene. Reporting officer: E. Murphy.

**ADMISSIONS**

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"Human common sense says that all things together that are attractive or high-profile send a message to certain groups of people," she said.

Harry Bohli, a member of University Ambassadors, said some prospective students have said USC's successful football season could influence their decision to come here.

"I've had at least five or six comments, just joking around, when I show them Williams-Brice Stadium on the tours, about people coming because of football," Bohli said. "And even two or three of my friends from home that went to Clemson for football are transferring here in the fall because of the team."

But not all national attention to Columbia and the state has been positive.

The state had a fair amount of negative publicity with the Confederate flag issue. The press the state received translated to the school, though not prominently.

Both Char Davis and Wellman said the flag was mentioned at the time, but that it was not really an issue with students or their families.

"Prospective families visiting have made mention of the Confederate flag, but it was sort of like a non-issue," Wellman said. "I don't have any direct information that leads me to believe the flag coming down has had anything to do with admissions."

"The flag issue was not as pervasive here [at the Visitor Center]. People were not saying 'This is a hick state because they have that flag above their State House.'"

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**Derby Days to continue with 'Derby Hunt'**

BY CRISTY INFINGER  
THE GAMECOCK

Sigma Chi's annual Derby Days fund-raiser for the Children's Miracle Network kicked off with a cookout Monday night and continued Tuesday with "Silver Sabotage."

"I love Derby Days, and my sorority is pumped about participating," said Erin Shaw of Delta Delta Delta. "We hope to win this year, and we can't wait until Thursday night's Airband competition."

Wednesday brings the third round of competition. Each of the sororities will pick teams from their group to compete in a Derby Hunt at McBryde Quadrangle. The Derby Hunt will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Sigma Chi had a kickoff cookout Monday night as a meet-and-greet social event for the sororities. Each sorority painted a derby hat with its own letters

and symbols, as well as the words "Derby Days 2001" and "Children's Miracle Network."

Monday's event was also the first chance for the groups to get participation points by signing their names on a piece of paper with their sorority's letters. The lounge was packed, and the competitive spirit was set aside as the groups got their first taste of Derby Days 2001.

"We are really excited about the Derby Days competition," said Megan Robinson of Alpha Chi Omega. "We have been practicing for a couple of weeks now, trying to get everyone motivated and involved. It brings all of the sororities together, as well as bringing our chapter together."

Tuesday brought "Silver Sabotage," an event where each group collects change in a bucket for the cause. The group that raised the most money will be announced Thursday at Airband, the competition's

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**Megan Robinson**  
Alpha Chi Omega member

skit show and concert. All awards for the week will be announced at Airband.

As the end of the week approaches, the sororities are practicing their skits and collecting money by selling Children's Miracle Network balloons. Sigma Chi hopes to raise a record amount to benefit this philanthropic organization while giving sororities a chance to compete against each other and have fun.

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