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Clemson football player sentenced for fake bills

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) — A former Clemson football player has been sentenced to three years probation, including 200 hours of community service, for his part in a counterfeiting scheme that produced more than \$1,400 of fake bills, the U.S. attorney's office said.

Paul White Jr., 20, of Columbia, was sentenced Monday for conspiracy to defraud the United States, U.S. Attorney Scott N. Schools said. White was also ordered to pay a \$200 fine.

The Secret Service became aware of the scheme after a fake bill was passed at a Clemson sandwich shop.

White was among seven people that pleaded guilty in connection with the counterfeiting scheme.

Derrell S. Gray, 21, of Greenwood, was sentenced in May to a year in prison and three years of supervised release, Schools said. Michael A. Fruster, 19, of Easley, and Lateef Crippen, 19, of Clemson, were both sentenced to three years probation.

Eugene Koon Jr., 20, is awaiting sentencing, the U.S. attorney's office said.

White received a reduced sentence for giving investigators information about the a series of break-ins at campus dormitories that he and others were involved in, the U.S. attorney's office said.

White had been dismissed from Clemson's football team by coach Tommy Bowden.

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drink when they are 18, so they don't feel the need to rebel, like students here in the United States. I think they should lower the [drinking] age here."

But not all students feel this way. Many students echoed the sentiments of Melanie Chou, a biology major, who said, "Alcohol is a disease, and it is the starting point for other drugs. I don't think they should lower the age for drinking."

Mindy Miller, a 20-year-old pharmacy major, agreed. "I feel most

18- to 20-year-olds are not prepared to handle the potential dangers of alcohol. I think the legal age of 21 is just fine."

Before 1984, states had control over the minimum drinking age. About 30 states had a minimum drinking age of 18 until the National Minimum Drinking Age Act was passed, requiring every state to raise the minimum drinking age to 21 or face the consequence of losing federal highway funding.

*The news desk can be reached at
gamecockudesk@hotmail.com*

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year student Curtis Hutto said. "Maybe this will give some people more incentive to do better in school."

USC-Columbia won't be the only campus to feel the effects of the budget cut and tuition increase, if approved by the full board of trustees. All other USC-affiliated schools will have to brace for this increase, including the USC School of Medicine, which will receive an

almost \$2,000 difference in tuition per year.

Other schools in South Carolina are also dealing with the budget cuts by raising tuition and cutting programs.

Clemson University could possibly raise tuition by more than 15 percent, and Winthrop University has already increased tuition by 9.5 percent.

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gamecockudesk@hotmail.com*

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