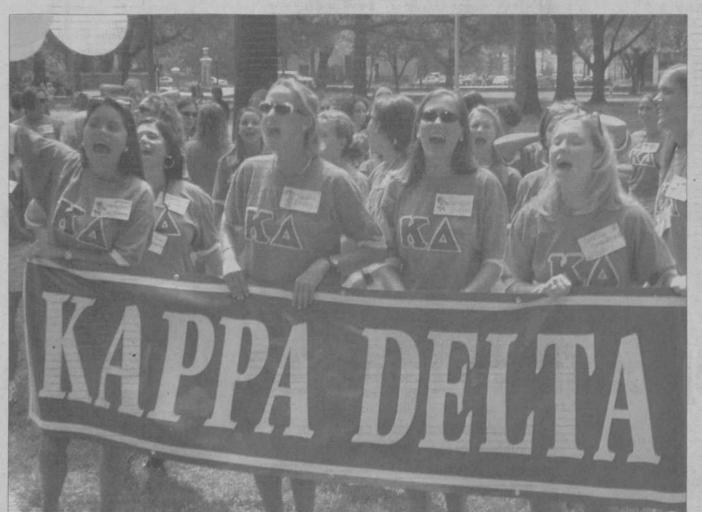
AMEGOCK

BID DAY ON THE HORSESHOE



INVITATION, CELEBRATION

BY ADAM BEAM THE GAMEGOCK

came to life Sunday as screaming sorority women in multi-colored tshirts welcomed their new members on Sorority Bid Day.

rush this year, one of the largest turnouts in 10 years, according to Delta Gamma president Kristen Silvernail. Each pledge class will have around 20 more than last year, said Kacey Wood, vice president of Chi Omega.

"There were so many wonderful women that came through, Silvernail said. "One of the things that we as Greeks always tell every girl that comes through is that they will be in the place that they belong. I think that every girl finds their place in rush. It was a hard time in choosing, but I think that every girl will ultimately go where they are supposed to be.

After participating in a week of rush, the pledges were finally handed their bids on Sunday afternoon and rushed across the Horseshoe to cheers from their awaiting sorori-

"It's definitely relieving that it's

*** KAPPA ALPHA THETA PULLS OUT** OF RUSH IN ROUND THREE, PAGE 4

The Horseshoe, usually peaceful, all over with and that everybody knows where they're going," said Lindsey Warren, who received a bid for Alpha Delta Pi. "It's awesome because it is a whole new be-About 700 girls participated in ginning, and you start all over and make new friends.'

Warren is one of 60 girls handed invitations for Alpha Delta Pi, the sorority's president, Heath Martin, said. She said Alpha Delta Pi was the largest sorority going into rush, with 93 members.

"Well, it was a change [having so many girls], but I think every body was able to adjust to it, and it's actually great for this campus," Martin said. "I think it'll be great for the chapter, and one of the first things we're going to do is plan a lot of things for our new girls to get to know each other better." She said the sorority would now work on its philanthropy.

Greek Life director Gena Runnion said the department had "anticipated, based on enrollment figures, that we could have as many as 700 [women], which we did."

Because the large number of girls caused "a few difficulities"



Kappa Deltas prepare to welcome the women they hope will be their new pledge class, top. PHOTO BY MACKENZIE

Third-year student Laurie Ward, of Zeta Tau Alpha. hugs fourth-year student Tara Bisacco, a member of Alpha Chi Omega, above. PHOTO BY AARON HARK

with transportation, many girls had to wait several hours after rush week events before they could get back to their residence halls.

Just because of the sheer num-

* BID DAY, SEE PAGE 4

Teenagers to be tried as adults

Bond hearing to be held today for four teenagers charged with shooting

BY GREG HAMBRICK THE GAMECOCK

The four teenagers charged in the shooting death of an assistant U.S. attorney will face bond hearings at the Richland County Courthouse today.

The four will be tried as adults and are eligible for the death penalty under South Carolina law, Fifth Circuit Solicitor Barney Giese said.

The four suspects are Abram Douglas Braveboy, 18, of 2113 Tammy Drive; Cichey Levar Mayo, 17, of 8308 Old Percival Road; Bryan Murray, 17, of 7920 Spring Flower Road; and Willie James Murphy Jr., 16, of 125 Leeside Circle.

The Chicago Tribune reported

Saturday that ballistic tests by authorities have confirmed that two handguns linked to the suspects were used in the fatal shooting of Michael C.-Messer, a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, and the injury of his co-worker, Richard S. Ferguson.

The victims, both from Chicago, were visiting the National Advocacy Center.

At 9:55 p.m. Aug. 20, two men waited in a gray Volvo on Laurens Street while two others attempted to rob Messer and Ferguson, police report. The victims were instructed to lay on the ground, but ran instead.

Johnny Gasser, the lead local prosecutor in the case, told the Tribune that the two weapons, a .25-caliber semiautomatic handgun and a .380-caliber semiautomatic, were fired at Messer and

Autopsy results show bullets fired from both weapons hit Messer, but the fatal wound came from the .380-caliber, which fired a

* SHOOTING, SEE PAGE 6

Aaliyah dies in plane crash

BY TIM AYLEN

MARSH HARBOUR, BAHAMAS -R&B singer and actress Aaliyah and eight others died when their small plane crashed in perfect weather after taking off in the Bahamas. The engines of the

The 22-year-old singer had gone to the Bahamas to shoot a music video and was headed back to Florida, officials said. The pilot and all eight passengers were killed.

Cessna failed, authorities said.

The twin-engine Cessna went down in clear skies with little wind about 6:50 p.m. Saturday, roughly 200 feet from the end of the runway at Marsh Harbour airport, about 100 miles north of Nassau. Some of the brush was still smoldering Sunday morning as investigators searched the mangled wreckage.

It was not immediately clear what caused the crash on Abaco Island. But Bahamian police Superintendent Basil Rahming said one of the Cessna's engines "apparently failed."

Six people, including Aaliyah, died instantly. The three others later died of their injuries, he said.

USC students were shocked to learn the news of Aaliyah's death.

"I couldn't believe that a person so young and so talented could die so soon. I am just extremely shocked right now," said Demarick Thomas, a first-year print journalism major.

"It's a very tragic time for the music world right now. There isn't much to say. My prayers go out to her family," said Venus Johnston, a senior biology major.

Aaliyah, of Detroit, was to begin shooting the video for "Rock



Singer Aaliyah, whose song "Try Again" was nominated for a Grammy, was killed Saturday in a plane crash in the Bahamas. PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

The Boat" this month in Miami, according to her Web site. It was not clear whether she filmed that video while in the Bahamas. Her song "Try Again" earned

her a Grammy nomination this year for best female R&B vocalist. Her second album, released in 1996 when she was just 17, and the single "If Your Girl Only Knew" went double platinum.

Aaliyah made her feature acting debut in last year's film Romeo Must Die, and also was signed on to appear in two sequels to the high-tech thriller The Matrix.

She was born Aaliyah Haughton on January 16, 1979, in Brooklyn, N.Y. She made her stage debut as an orphan in a production of Annie at the age of six. Her uncle was married to the soul singer Gladys Knight, who invited Aaliyah to perform with her during a five-night stint in Las Vegas when Aaliyah was 11.

* AALIYAH, SEE PAGE 2

Preston splits into 'houses'

New system to encourage involvement

BY GINNY THORNTON THE GAMECOCK

Residents and faculty associates of Preston Residential College have developed a "house" system, which has been in effect since students moved in last Saturday, to encourage resident involvement this year.

All 240 Preston residents have been divided into "houses" of 25-30 students and two or three faculty associates. Each house has said Margaret Perkins, Preston a separate weekly meeting, as well as its own social activities.

Students and faculty have already noted a positive response new and returning Preston resi-

"People have already been much more involved than last year," said junior Elizabeth Catanese, a Preston resident and co-creator of the house system.

Each of Preston's eight houses has one or two house heads who inform their houses about college activities and informa-

"It's been wonderful so far," PRESTON, SEE PAGE 5

co-principal. "It's helped tremendously with integrating new res-

This year, integration will be to the house system among both more important for Preston than ever before. The residential college now houses 150 freshmen, in addition to the upperclassmen who are new to Preston.

> Alex Barnette, house system co-creator, cited "phantoms" as a major reason for inventing the

> "We call them phantoms," he said. "By that, I mean the students who live here and never be-

USC'S PAST

AUGUST 27, 1979: The USC Women's Studies program began.

Alicia Beard, a Preston

resident, works in her room,

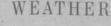
which is part of the newly

Preston took house names

named Gryffindor house.

from the Harry Potter

books. PHOTO BY AARON HARK



Today

Tomorrow Sunny, 95/72 Isolated Tstorms, 90/72

Highly touted recruit goes pro

Baseball's Floyd brothers sign with the Phillies in a latenight deal. ◆ PAGE 12

INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE



✓ Return of the **Jersey Boys**

Jay and Silent Bob are back for an orgiastic film filled with raunchy jokes. ♦ PAGE 8

ONLINE POLL

Do you think Derek Watson was given the correct punishment? Vote at www.dailygamecock.com. Results are published on Fridays.