

THE GAMECOCK

Budget cuts trigger tuition hike

BY BRANDON LARRABEE
THE GAMECOCK

For the second time in less than six months, the board of trustees Thursday voted to raise tuition, increasing tuition \$98 for most undergraduate students while also raising the rates for graduate students and students in the school of medicine.

The university also dealt cuts between zero percent and 4 percent to all departments.

The tuition hike amounts to an increase of 4.9 percent (from \$1,982 to \$2,080) for resident students and a 1.8 percent jump — from \$5,452 to \$5,550 — for nonresident students. Nonresident scholarship students will see their tuition go up \$54, also a 1.8 percent increase.

While university officials couldn't say for certain if this was the first time the university had ever increased tuition midyear, it was the first such increase in the past 15 years.

President John Palms, who proposed the increases on behalf of the university, said the increases for resident students were capped by the state legislature, while economics controlled the out-of-state tuition increase.

"That's dictated by the kind of market pressures we feel for students out of state," Palms told the board.

Graduate students will see the same rate of increase as undergraduates, while the students in

the school of medicine will pay 9.1 percent more than last year.

In an interview with *The Gamecock* on Thursday, Palms said the university didn't want to depend on tuition alone to address the cuts.

"We're trying to balance [the budget] but not solely on the students' backs," Palms said, adding that the university had increased tuition "a modest amount."

Chairman of the board Mack Whittle said he hoped the effect on students would be minimal.

"Hopefully, it won't have that big of an impact," Whittle said. "I know that tuition is the last thing the board likes to look toward, but given the surprise nature of this increase and this decrease in funding, this really leaves us very few ways to accommodate it."

Whittle said the university exhausted all of its options, including cutting its academic departments and wearing its reserved fund down to \$844,000, but was still forced to increase tuition.

"You saw that we took it out of the surplus, we basically depleted the surplus funds of the university, and we've used all of those except \$800,000 and the only other source we had was tuition," Whittle said.

Provost Jerry Odom said one possible effect of the hike would be to get students involved in the budget process this year.

"One of the things that I hope

◆ TUITION, SEE PAGE 3

DO YOU BELIEVE?



In 1984, the largest crowd to that date watched the Gamecocks defeat FSU to go 9-0 — with a little help from "Black Magic." FILE PHOTO

BLACK MAGIC IS BACK

BY ADAM BEAM
THE GAMECOCK

Greg Bell first became a Gamecock fan in the fall of 1979, when USC defeated Clemson, 13-9. Since then, Bell has followed Gamecock football closely, but says that 1979 game "really started a tradition" for him. That tradition was Black Magic.

The year was 1984, and a phenomenon known as Black Magic was sweeping the country. After a surprising 8-0 start, South

Carolina, led by head coach Joe Morrison, was prepared to prove their No. 5 ranking was no fluke by beating a Florida State ranked 10th in the country.

A letter to the editor that appeared in the Nov. 7, 1984, edition of *The Gamecock* urged all USC students and fans to wear black to the game. The fans were happy to oblige.

"Everybody wore black," Bell said. "I still have the shirt that I wore, a short-sleeved black shirt with a Carolina emblem on the pocket."

Don Clary, who has been attending USC games for more than 40 years and now teaches in USC's College of Engineering, was also at the game.

"The noise was unreal," he said. "I had my portable radio on, and I could not hear my ear phones, it was so loud. It's probably one of the top five games I've ever seen."

Whether it was black magic or not, something was with the Gamecocks that day when they handed Florida State a 38-26 defeat that vaulted USC up to the

No. 2 spot in the national polls, their highest ranking ever.

Is black magic back?

If all goes as planned on Saturday, the Gators will ride into Williams-Brice Stadium staring into a sea of black some 80,000 fans strong. The effort, dubbed "blackout," is being co-sponsored by the Student Gamecock Club and Student Government.

While the Gamecocks aren't defending a perfect record and dreaming of a national title heading into Saturday's show-

down with Florida, they're looking to put themselves into position to win the SEC championship — an idea that, two years ago, would've made sports fans spew milk out of their noses.

"I think if we have a huge advantage in this game, it is the crowd," said Chris Odom, Student Gamecock Club president and chairman of Student Government's athletics committee. "We know we have the

◆ BLACK, SEE PAGE 3

Cuts to hit most areas

Honors College, scholarship fund spared from reductions

BY KEVIN FELLNER AND ADAM BEAM
THE GAMECOCK

The Executive Committee of USC's board of trustees announced Thursday it will reduce funding for various departments in the university's budget from zero percent to 4 percent.

The budget reductions will save about \$2 million. The estimated \$1.2 million generated by the approved midyear tuition increase won't be enough to cover the \$6.8 million deficit USC-Columbia incurred from the 4 percent across-the-board state appropriations reduction on Oct. 30. A budget reserve of about \$3.6 million will cover the rest of the deficit.

Most departments will receive a 1.5 percent reduction in total funding, while the "Cathedrals of Excellence," which include the colleges of business, liberal arts, engineering, and math and sciences, will receive a one-half percent reduction. The law enforcement and safety department suffered only a one-half percent reduction as a result of the increase in national security. The Facility Services Operations also received a one-half percent reduction.

President John Palms said the midyear budget adjustment will be merely a setback and will not alter the university's goals. "We are not giving up wanting to be at the level of excellence to be invited into the AAU," Palms said.

Palms also said the Strategic Directions and Initiatives Committee had a pivotal role in determining the nature of the budget reductions.

"The quality of departments has been taken into considera-

◆ PROGRAMS, SEE PAGE 3

More than 20,000 fans expected for GameDay

BY CHRIS FOY
THE GAMECOCK

South Carolina fans are excited about this weekend's matchup with the No. 4 Florida Gators for reasons other than the SEC East title contention.

ESPN's College GameDay is making its first-ever appearance at USC.

More than 20,000 fans are expected to attend the show.

GameDay, hosted by Chris Fowler, Lee Corso and Kirk Herbstreit, will broadcast Saturday morning from the fairgrounds. The first broadcast can be heard on the radio today at 4:30 p.m.

◆ FOR MORE COVERAGE ON THE FLORIDA GAME, SEE PAGE 9.

The show will be here in conjunction with ESPN's coverage of the highly anticipated matchup.

In addition to GameDay, the highly coveted Sears Trophy will be displayed on the sidelines during the game. The Sears Trophy is given to the national championship team. It goes on an annual tour every year to the top matches of the season.

GameDay will film tomorrow starting at 10:30 a.m. Fairgrounds will open at 9 a.m. Saturday.



Nirmesh Shah, Corey Ford and Brandon Bookstaver, left to right, impersonate ESPN's GameDay hosts Friday afternoon outside the Russell House. PHOTO BY AARON HARK

USC'S PAST

Nov. 12, 1896

Football teams from Clemson and Carolina played in Columbia, thus beginning the famed Big Thursday football series that lasted until 1959. Carolina won 12-6.

WEATHER



Today
Sunny, 72/46



Tomorrow
Sunny, 70/37

INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE

Basketball returns to the hardwood

The *Gamecock* gives you all the information you need.
◆ SEE INSERT



◀ Stoppard comedy comes to USC stage

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead will open to the public on Friday night. ◆ PAGE 6

ONLINE POLL

Captain GameDay

Will Lee Corso pick the Gamecocks?
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT 39%
NOT SO FAST MY FRIEND 61%