



THE GAMECOCK

USC studies athletics

Evaluation part of NCAA rules for certification

BY KEVIN FELLNER
THE GAMECOCK

USC President John Palms announced this month that the university is beginning a year-long study of its athletics programs as part of the NCAA Division I certification process. This will be the first time that USC has undergone the NCAA's revised certification process, which focuses more on self-evaluation.

"While academic accreditation for colleges and universities is

common, athletics accreditation is relatively recent," Palms said. "We are very proud of our athletics programs, and we welcome this opportunity to evaluate them and their relationship to the mission of our university."

Areas that will be studied include academic and fiscal integrity, governance and compliance, commitment to equity, student-athlete welfare and sportsmanship.

According to the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification, the certification process is designed to help ensure integrity in the institution's athletics operations. It opens up athletics to the rest of the university community and the public.

College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management Dean Pat Moody will chair the committee that will study the USC athletic department. "The goal is not only to be certified with the approval of the NCAA, but, in the process, to do anything we need to do to improve any weaknesses that might exist," Moody said. "It will be a very thorough and very intense study. We certainly expect it to be successful."

Moody added that the study would ensure that the university is complying with all NCAA governing principles as well as recruiting guidelines. The study will also analyze topics such as gender equity in USC athletics. The study

will determine the financial health and predict the stability of the program in the future.

Moody will chair the steering committee of ten faculty and staff members. Four other committees of faculty members will be responsible for each designated topic in the self-evaluation.

Sports Information Director Kerry Sharp said most Division I athletic programs now view this certification process as the new standard procedure for determining athletic integrity. "We certainly think that we will be judged favorably by the NCAA," Sharp said. He added that USC's partici-

◆ ATHLETICS, SEE PAGE 3

Jailed soldiers of bin Laden stage uprising

BY BURT HERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan — Hundreds of Osama bin Laden's foreign legion were killed after staging an uprising with smuggled arms in a northern alliance prison Sunday, officials said. U.S. airstrikes helped quash the day-long insurrection.

A U.S. special forces soldier inside the fortress was taped by a German television crew saying an American may have been killed, but the Pentagon said later that all U.S. forces in Afghanistan had been accounted for and that none had died.

The U.S. Central Command, which oversees the war in Afghanistan, declined to say whether U.S. forces were inside the Qalai Janghi fortress when the fighting began.

The fighters, about 300 Chechens, Pakistanis and Arabs who surrendered Saturday from the besieged city of Kunduz, had smuggled weapons under their tunics into the fortress and tried to fight their way out, Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Dan Stoneking said.

The alliance said most of the prisoners were killed.

The uprising began about 11 a.m., witnesses said. Alliance spokesman Zaher Wahadat said the prisoners seized other weapons from their guards and captured an ammunition depot, using its contents to fight the troops sent in to put down the revolt.

Yahsaw, a spokesman for northern alliance commander Mohammed Mohaqik, said the prisoners broke down the doors and tried to escape.

As outnumbered guards perched on the compound's walls fired wildly down at the prisoners, a U.S. special forces soldier could be seen in footage by a Germany television crew using a telephone to call in airstrikes and reinforcements.

"There's hundreds dead here at least," the man, who identified himself only as David, can be heard saying on Germany's ARD television network.

◆ UPRISING, SEE PAGE 3

State of War

Other major developments this weekend related to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks:

◆ **AT LEAST EIGHT U.S. BOMBS** reportedly exploded on Pakistani territory during a raid on Taliban positions along the frontier with Afghanistan. Witnesses say at least 13 Afghans were killed. The reports could not be independently confirmed.

◆ **PRESIDENT BUSH**, in his weekly radio address, says the effort to root out terrorism will take time and may expand to more countries: "The fight we have begun will not be quickly or easily finished."

◆ **U.S. AIRSTRIKES** continues pounding suspected terrorist hideouts among Afghanistan's tunnels and caves.

◆ **THE MOST SENIOR TALIBAN MEMBER** to defect so far blames Osama bin Laden and Taliban hard-liners for transforming Afghanistan into a terrorist haven and bringing on a disastrous war with the United States.

◆ **THOUSANDS OF MOURNERS** packed the cathedral in Catania, Sicily, for the funeral of Italian journalist Maria Grazia Cutuli, who was killed Monday along with three colleagues on the road from Jalalabad to Kabul.

◆ **THE EUROPEAN UNION AND PAKISTAN** agree there can be no talk of deploying a multinational force in Afghanistan until a multiethnic government has been agreed upon for the country.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELECTRICAL FIRE BLOCKS TRAFFIC



A downed powerline blocked traffic both ways on Sumter and Pendleton streets between 2-3:30 a.m. on a drizzly Saturday. "That little buzz that you hear, yeah, it's an electrical fire," said USCPD officer Nick Beza. The line spewed sparks and an occasional fireball, igniting a pole, fallen leaves and charring a nearby tree. Columbia firefighters hosed down the spot where the line fell, preventing a larger fire. Power was out in Cornell Arms, Sammi's Deli and Beezer's for half an hour. SCE&G cut power to the damaged line and started repairs around 3:15 a.m. Streets were reopened before 10 a.m. on Saturday. PHOTO BY MARTHA WRIGHT

MEDICINE 'LIKE SPEED TO THEM'

Experts don't know whether USC students misuse Ritalin

BY GINNY THORNTON
THE GAMECOCK

Fourth-year biology major Annie Lee doesn't keep her medicine in prescription bottles anymore.

Lee started hiding her Adderall, prescribed to her for attention deficit disorder (ADD), after it was stolen from her last year. Though she hasn't had any similar incidents since, she says she's now more aware that the drug is abused.

"I just don't understand," she said. "It upsets me and disgusts

me that people would abuse something I need."

Adderall and Ritalin, a similar drug, are stimulants used to treat attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity. Since 1996, Ritalin has ranked on the Drug Enforcement Administration's "most stolen" list.

"For people without ADD, Adderall is like speed to them," Lee said. "Anybody who takes it and gets hyped up doesn't need it."

Statistics on Ritalin and Adderall use in college are hard to find, and statistics on the abuse of these drugs in college are nearly nonexistent. But rumors of college abuse prompted a 1998 University of Wisconsin-Madison study.

In a student survey, 1 in 5 students who responded admitted to past or present misuse of Ritalin. Misuse can vary from using more of the drug than prescribed to

stealing it for illegal use.

USC's Student Health Center has filled only 27 prescriptions of Adderall and 15 of Ritalin since Aug. 1, according to pharmacist Tammy Batson. But many students might get their prescriptions filled in commercial pharmacies, which keep no statistics on college use. "Where you go all depends on your insurance plan," Batson said.

"The drug definitely has potential for abuse," pharmacy professor Dr. Tom Oppelt said. "But it's hard to tell how much of a problem it is in college. We focus mainly on children."

Sean Dozier, a first-year pharmacy student, agreed: "Most of the information I get from class is about children."

Students now might have more reason to reconsider abusing stimulants. A recent University of

Buffalo study found that Ritalin might cause long-term changes in the brain, similar to those caused by amphetamines and cocaine. This contradicts the popular belief that Ritalin is a short-acting drug.

"I don't know how I feel about anyone using Ritalin," Oppelt said. "Doctors are also using other drugs to treat ADD now. Anti-depressants like Wellbutrin and Effexor seem to be less abuseable, although sometimes they don't work as well."

Lee still uses Adderall to help her focus. During busy weeks, such as exam time, she said she has to write a note to remind herself to take it.

"That's why I know I'm not addicted," she said. "I don't depend on it or feel like I can't live without it, but I know it does help me study."

Lee, who says she doesn't even drink caffeinated drinks, tries to avoid taking unnecessary drugs. "I don't like to put anything unnatural in my body, so it's hard for me to understand abusing drugs."

"I can understand how society looks down on using drugs for ADD," said Lee, who thinks students who abuse Adderall and Ritalin probably don't understand how helpful the drugs are for those who need them. "They're giving what I need a bad name. But I don't think there's anything wrong with it, and other people probably wouldn't if they understood it."

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockdesk@hotmail.com.

USC's Ritalin, Adderall numbers

While the number of students who misuse Ritalin and Adderall at USC is unknown, the university does know how many prescriptions it has filled.

◆ **27 Adderall prescriptions** since Aug. 1
◆ **15 Ritalin prescriptions** since Aug. 1

But studies show Ritalin misuse is a problem at the nation's colleges. In a 1998 University of Wisconsin-Madison survey, 1 in 5 college students admitted to past or present misuse of the drug.

USC'S PAST

November 26, 1949

The board of trustees named a new building housing the school of law for James L. Petigru, an 1809 graduate and distinguished Charleston attorney.

WEATHER



Today
Partly cloudy,
80/59



Tomorrow
Partly cloudy,
82/56

INSIDE TODAY'S ISSUE

Lady Gamecocks pick off Duke

Women's basketball team surprises many by defeating No. 7 Blue Devils. ◆ PAGE 7



◀ A One Eared Cow and some glass

Visit the One Eared Cow glass gallery, where Columbia artisans blow glass into bowls, vases and more. ◆ PAGE 5

ONLINE POLL

One more time

Is human cloning a good idea? Vote at www.dailygamecock.com. Results are published on Fridays.