



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

The toy consists of a rubber ball that's thrown out of and caught in a curved tube.

## Accutrow

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Hicks brought Accutrow to the store, he changed his mind.

"I've been in toys for 15 years," he said. "I've seen a lot of items that were sort of hot, but didn't sell well. Accutrow is simple to learn but challenging once you start. I still sell these every day — it's one of my best-selling toys."

Hicks' invention is a dream come true for him. Having his invention called "the next hula

hoop" is a fitting title in his opinion. His invention has allowed him to be self-employed, a benefit he said is worth all the costs of operation.

Simplicity is key to Accutrow, and it is the driving force behind its inventor.

"You have to have the drive to succeed. I've had it all my life, but I just didn't know how to use it," Hicks said.

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

## McCutchen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

building was renovated," he said, gesturing to the kitchen. "This is now a classroom."

Antun has served every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan, as well as the pope. He has owned eight restaurants and was the official caterer for the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and the governor's mansion in New York before he came to study at USC in 1995. After earning his doctorate, he stayed on to teach in the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management and founded USC's

Culinary Institute in 2001.

According to organizers, each participating student will experience the restaurant industry as front-of-the-house manager running the dining room and back-of-the-house manager running the kitchen.

Danielle Camp, a fourth-year hotel, tourism and retail management student, worked as front-of-the-house manager Wednesday. She said the high-profile customers attracted by the restaurant can be intimidating at times.

"It's a little scary," Camp said. "You never know quite who is who, and you don't want to mess up on someone important."

Jason Spears, a fourth-year HTRM student, worked as a waiter.

"I think it's pretty neat. I like the house, I like working in here," Spears said, though he admitted things got "pretty hectic."

Chet Tucker, a fifth-year HTRM student, said he had fun working at McCutchen House.

"It's a good experience, and it kind of gives us some insight into running a restaurant," Tucker said. "It's a lot of fun working with Antun and Jules."

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## Sanford

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

much as \$1 billion short of meeting more than \$5 billion in spending needs in the fiscal year that begins July 1. Sanford told legislators that restructuring government should be viewed as an opportunity created by hard times.

"He's our leader. Let's get behind him," said Sen. Gerald Malloy, D-Hartsville.

"I thought it was a sobering speech," said Senate President Pro Tem Glenn McConnell, R-Charleston.

But the speech fell flat for some. "I thought it was a good speech if he was still on the campaign trail," said Rep. John Scott, D-Columbia.

Sanford repeated stump talk, urging lawmakers to decrease statewide elected offices and to consider having governors and lieutenant governors run on a single ticket.

Some of the Budget and Control Board's functions also should be moved under a new Cabinet-level administrative office, Sanford said.

Taken together, Sanford's proposals represent a substantial consolidation of power under the governor's office "under the aegis of streamlining government," said Winthrop University political science professor Scott

Huffman. That could be tough to get through a Legislature that tries to keep power for itself, he said.

But the governor lacks power to make change where it's needed most, particularly at the Public Safety Department and its Division of Motor Vehicles. Sanford said he can't fire the people who run those operations and that reduces accountability.

Legislators also need to send him a campaign finance reform package. Sanford noted that Gov. Jim Hodges, the Democrat he defeated in the Nov. 5 election, had vetoed a previous campaign finance bill. "If given the chance, I'll sign it," Sanford said.

Sanford singled out some state employees who could lose jobs if his proposals succeed: lobbyists who work to sway legislators to allocate money to their agencies.

Those employees cost the state \$1.9 million a year and taxpayers can no longer afford that practice, he said. He also said that since taking office, he had eliminated the \$80,000-a-year director job at the Governor's Mansion.

Sanford vowed to meet regularly with legislators and residents outside of the State House and set aside one evening each month for folks to drop by his office.

He also touched on one of the state's biggest budget problems: increased Medicaid spending.

Support is growing in the Legislature to raise cigarette taxes to cover the increases. But Sanford and 66 members of the General Assembly have signed Americans for Tax Reform pledges not to raise taxes.

A recent survey showed people were willing to support legislators and the governor if they didn't

keep their promise. "Unfortunately, the polls do not change my mind, nor do they release me from my pledge," Sanford said.

The governor, just elected in November, said he was willing to consider a cigarette tax increase only if there are major changes in the state's Medicaid system — the prime beneficiary of current proposals — and if the Legislature agreed to lower income taxes.

## STATE

### Snow, record cold force closings

COLUMBIA (AP) — Snow fell across much of South Carolina early Thursday morning, forcing the closing of schools and state offices in many areas.

The National Weather Service reported nine inches of snow in Clover near the South Carolina-North Carolina border by 6 a.m.

Other amounts ranged from just a dusting in the western parts of the state to up to seven inches in Fairfield and Lancaster counties.

Schools were closed in more than a dozen counties. Some individual school districts are also closed in Anderson and Florence counties, while districts in the Midlands and points south closed early.

The snow caused big problems around Columbia. Forecasters originally called for a dusting, but by 9 a.m., two to three inches of snow had fallen in Richland County, forcing school officials to send children home.

## NATION

### CIA hunts al-Qaida cells, sympathizers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIA is hunting down al-Qaida country by country, cell by cell, the agency's spymaster said Thursday in a rare public statement.

"Now, with al-Qaida flushed from its central haven, we are in a long and perilous phase of hunt and pursuit of its cells and sympathizers," said Jim Pavitt, the CIA's deputy director of operations.

Pavitt directs the agency's clandestine service, which manages spy networks to gather information and conducts covert operations. He spoke to national security lawyers and reporters in Washington.

Pavitt said the danger of new attacks remains high.

"As we move and adjust, so do our enemies. They adapt. They regroup," he said, noting recent terrorist strikes believed linked to al-Qaida in North Africa, Yemen and Indonesia.

The overall number of people in al-Qaida remains small, Pavitt said, but their ruthlessness make them dangerous.

## WORLD

### Inspectors to give Iraq report Monday

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. weapons inspectors will deliver their long-awaited assessment of Iraq's compliance over the past two months in speeches, not formal reports, and won't present samples taken during their search, the top inspector said Thursday.

"It's an update, not a separate formal report but my speech will be written and available to the council," Hans Blix told The Associated Press after meeting his board of directors at U.N. headquarters.

Blix, who heads the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, will brief the council on Monday along with his counterpart, Mohamed ElBaradei of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Monday's report to the council will be crucial for the United States' decision whether to press for military action against Iraq. Under U.N. Security Council Resolution 1441, Iraq could be found in "material breach" if it doesn't disarm.

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7:00-8:00 AM	Step		Step	Body Sculpt	Step		
7:00-8:00 AM		Spinning		Spinning			
Noon-1:00 PM	Step Express	Step Express	Step Express	Body Sculpt	Step Express	Instr Choice	Instr Choice
Noon-1:00 PM	Spinning	Spinning	Spinning	Spinning	Spinning		Spinning
1:05-2:05 PM	Fac/Staff Fitness		Fac/Staff Fitness	Fac/Staff Fitness			
3:00-4:00 PM	Pilates	Pilates	YOGA	YOGA	Body Sculpt		
4:05-4:20 PM	Ab Express	Ab Express	Ab Express	Ab Express	Ab Express		Ab Express
4:30-5:30 PM	Step	Advanced Step	Advanced Step	Step	Adv Step		Advanced Step
4:30-5:30 PM	Spinning	Spinning	Spinning	Spinning			
5:30-6:30 PM	Water Exercise	Water Exercise		Water Exercise			YOGA 5:45 PM
5:30-6:30 PM		YOGA BA 2nd Floor		YOGA BA 2nd Floor			
5:35-5:55 PM	Ab Express	Ab Express	Ab Express	Ab Express	Ab Express		
6:00-7:00 PM	Body Sculpt	Body Sculpt	Adv Step	Body Sculpt	Adv Step		
7:15-8:15 PM	Advanced Step	Step	Kick boxing	Advanced Step			
8:30-9:30 PM	Step	YOGA	Step	Step			

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