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Law dean search continues

BY ADAM BEAM
THE GAMECOCK

USC's search for a Law School dean stalled again this week after the search committee's top candidate withdrew his name from consideration.

Bob Hillman from the University of California-Davis had been negotiating with USC President Andrew Sorensen about coming to take over USC's law school, but according to USC

Provost Jerry Odom, Hillman decided to stay in California and take advantage of the state's retirement system.

"He had 22 years in the system," Odom said. "So if he left right now, it would cost him a lot of money in the retirement system."

Odom said the next step is to hire an interim dean until a new search can be started. The interim would most likely start July 1. "I think it's the necessary step

at this point," said Law School professor and Faculty Senate Chairman Rob Wilcox. "Try to make it as good as you can; we've got to be positive on this one."

Sorensen and Odom met with the Law School faculty Monday and told them to submit their suggestions for interim dean by 5 p.m. today. Odom and Sorensen will look over the suggestions once Sorensen returns from fundraising trips to Florida and Texas. Of the other three external can-

"We are, at this point, rudderless, essentially. We don't have a leader. Whether we like him or not, he at least provides some direction that we can either push for or against."

ELDON WEDLOCK
LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR

didates considered for the job, two took dean positions at other universities, and another took a chair professor position at Southern Methodist University's

law school.

"It just shows you the quality of people we were looking at, and

♦ LAW SCHOOL, SEE PAGE 3

Sorensen opposes tuition ceiling

BY KEVIN FELLNER
THE GAMECOCK

USC President Andrew Sorensen told the Faculty Senate on Wednesday that he does not support an initiative in the state Legislature that would place a cap on tuition increases.

"The reason I'm opposed to that is that we've got a horrendous problem," he said. Sorensen said that more than \$61 million has either been cut from the university's budget in the past 12 months or can be expected to be cut in the next month or two as a result of state appropriations reductions.

"I've got to figure out how to come up with revenues to pay our faculty, our staff, provide scholarship support for our students, the maintenance of our facilities," he said.

To offset the \$61 million cut with tuition increases alone, Sorensen said, tuition would have to increase by 70 percent.

"Clearly, that's absurd and outrageous, and I would never even consider that," he said. "But I'm trying to convey to you the dilemma in which we find ourselves."

Second-year history student Ryan Eubanks said he feels burdened by tuition as it is.

"I personally would agree with a cap on tuition increases," Eubanks said. "Many college students, myself included, live off a tight budget, and when the school significantly raises tuition, it makes it much harder for me to come to school."

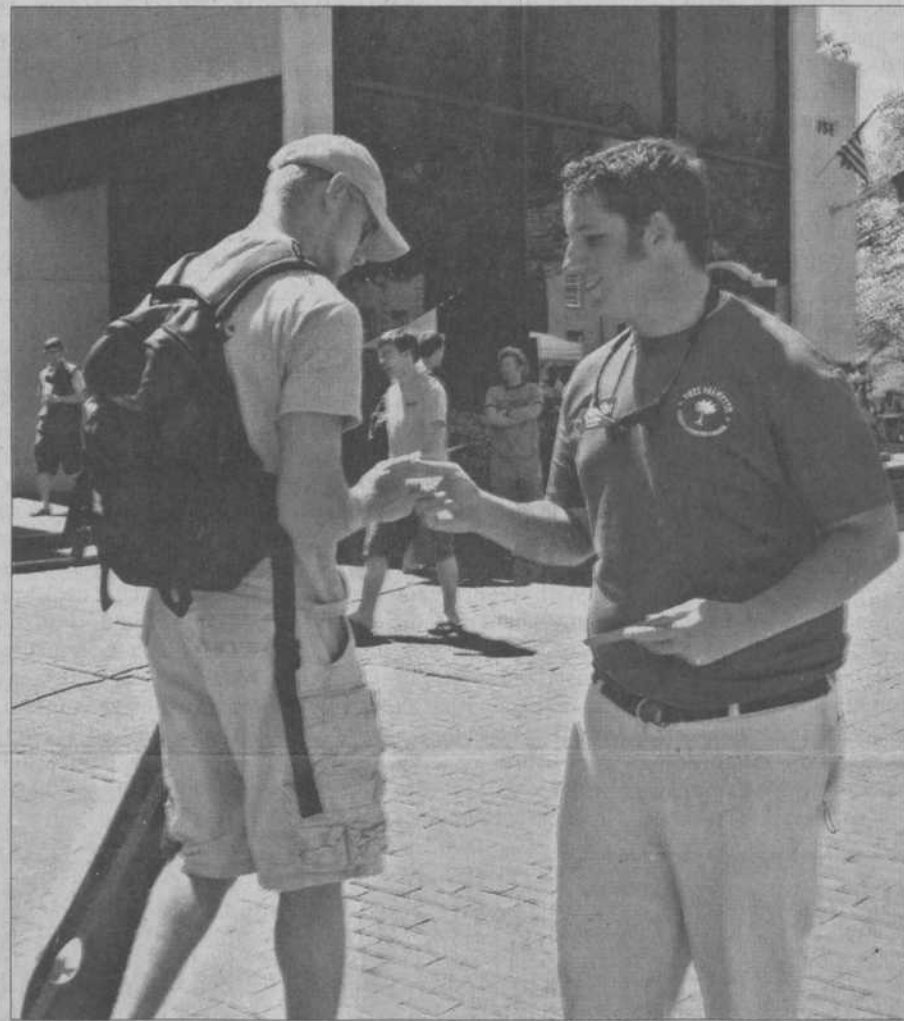
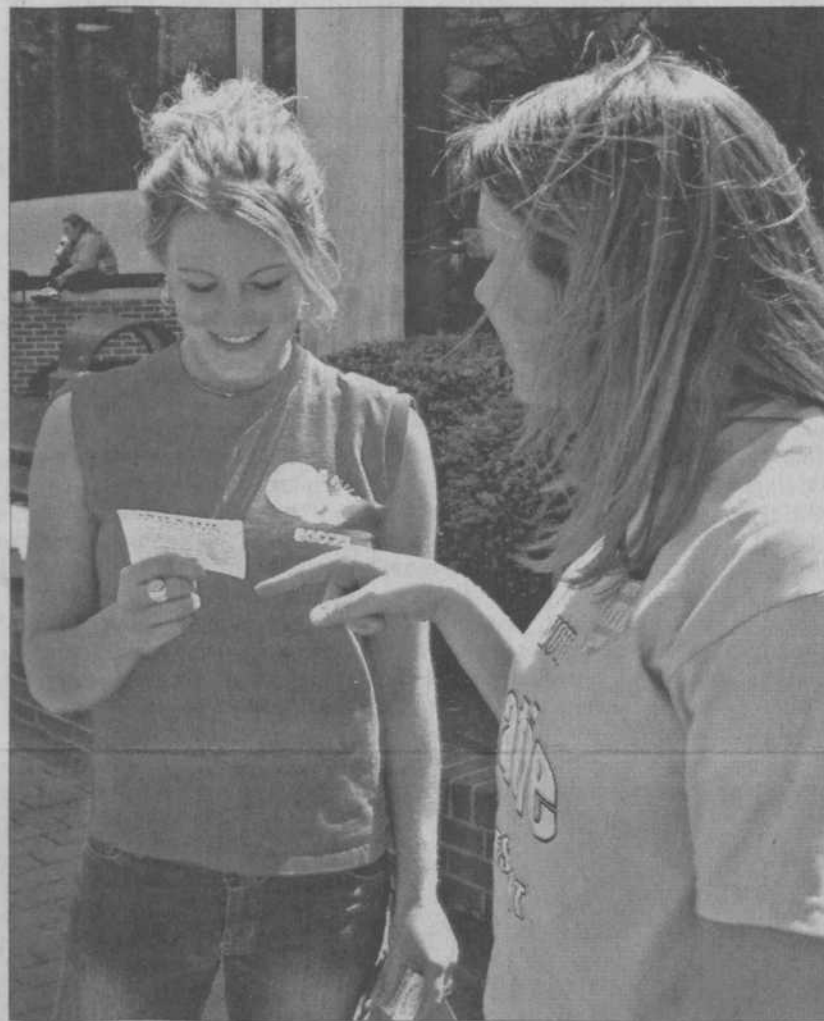
Sorensen's remarks came in a speech to the Faculty Senate about legislation introduced in the South Carolina House of Representatives on Tuesday that would combine the state's three research universities under a research-oversight commission. Sorensen said the commission would allow Clemson University, the Medical University of South Carolina and USC's Columbia campus to avoid some of the "bureaucratic obstacles" caused by rules and regulations of the Commission on Higher Education.

Sorensen told senators about how the legislation would allow the university to lease its property to private companies interested in building facilities for joint research with the university, as well as ease restrictions on faculty bonus pay, and to provide health benefits for graduate assistants.

Sorensen said combining the three research universities' efforts works well for his vision as president of the Columbia campus but doesn't address his goals for the university's three four-year campuses and four two-year campuses.

♦ TUITION, SEE PAGE 3

LAST-MINUTE EFFORTS



PHOTOS BY MORGAN FORD/THE GAMECOCK

From left: Emily Mercavich, a second-year art-studio student, surveys an election filer from presidential candidate Katie Dreiling, a third-year political-science student. Fourth-year marketing and management student Eric Bandholz receives a campaign filer for presidential candidate Tyler Odom from campaign supporter Brant Tosi, a fourth-year marketing student. Voting in the runoff continues today until 5 p.m.

SG censures Odom over election T-shirts

BY ADAM BEAM
THE GAMECOCK

In a unanimous vote, the Student Government Elections Commission has issued presidential candidate Tyler Odom an infraction for handing out T-shirts on election day.

SG elections code 411.26 prohibits handing out any paraphernalia on election day except fliers, stickers and buttons. Two members from Dreiling's campaign staff testified at the Elections Commission's meeting last night that an unidentified USC student asked them whether they were handing out T-shirts. She had an Odom T-shirt and said a member from Odom's staff handed it to her. "Campaign staff, as well as the



Dreiling



Odom

writing by someone not on the Commission.

candidates, are responsible for knowing all of the election rules," Elections Commissioner Brooke Vickery said.

This is the first violation for either candidate in the election. A candidate is thrown out of the election for five infractions. The Elections Commission can rule on an infraction only if it is brought to it in

USC NAACP SG Report Cards

The presidential candidates rated the following issues with 1 being the most important to them and 7 being the least important to them.

STUDENT CONCERNS

	TYLER ODOM	KATIE DREILING
Housing (The availability of housing for incoming freshmen)	7	5
Diversity (Diversifying Student Government and USC)	4	1
Parking	5	6
Balance in student-organization funding	3	2
Eliminating an increase in tuition	2	4
Restructuring Student Government	1	7
Recruitment and retention of minority faculty and staff	6	3

NAACP: What major program do you want to implement if you win the position you desire?

Odom: I want to make the student voice heard through efforts to instill a voting member on the Board of Trustees and to lobby the state Legislature through organized lobbying efforts.

Dreiling: I want to set a standard for Student Government to follow in the future. I want to set up a series of boards that deal with actual student concerns. These would be boards that continue all year long with members that continue to serve as active participants. The boards would deal with safety, parking, community service, minority affairs, lobbying the state and many other areas.

NAACP: What do you think is your biggest weakness?

Odom: Stubbornness.

Dreiling: The realization that everyone doesn't see things as I see things.

NAACP: What do you think is your biggest strength?

Odom: Dedication to the task at hand.

Dreiling: The amount of knowledge I have gained being the student-body vice president and working with other organizations.

SOURCE: USC NAACP

Voting ends at 5 p.m. today.
See www.dailygamecock.com

on Friday evening for election results and photos.

Index

Comics and Crossword	6
Classifieds	8
Horoscopes	6
Letters to the Editor	4
Online Poll	4
Police Report	2

Weather

TODAY



High 84
Low 59

TOMORROW



High 79
Low 55

In This Issue

♦ **NEWS** Maymester provides a new route to success through Celebrity Profiles course. **Page 2**

♦ **VIEWPOINTS** David Stagg investigates Carolina's pollen problem. **Page 4**

♦ **THE MIX** Three Rivers Music Festival offers three days of nonstop music for \$30. **Page 5**

♦ **SPORTS** The baseball team falls 4-2 to the Tigers, as Clemson takes a 2-1 lead in the season series. **Page 7**

Troops battle for Baghdad airport

BY DAVID ESPO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Army forces launched a nighttime attack on Saddam International Airport just outside Baghdad on Thursday and fought running battles with Iraqis along the city's southern fringes. "A vise is closing on the regime," President Bush told cheering Marines stateside.

Some front-line units went on heightened alert against the threat of chemical weapons, ordered to wear rubber boots and suits despite temperatures that soared into the '90s.

There was fierce fighting in Kut, to the south of Baghdad, where desperate Iraqis armed with rifles charged tanks in a sui-

♦ IRAQ, SEE PAGE 2



PHOTO BY DAVID LEESON/KRT CAMPUS

Secondary explosions from a destroyed Iraqi SA-6 surface-to-air missile shoot across the sky on the outskirts of Karbala, Iraq.