

SG ELECTIONS

## Dreiling wins SG presidency

BY MICHAEL LAFORGIA  
THE GAMECOCK

Katie Dreiling defeated third-year criminal-justice student Tyler Odom in a runoff election Friday to become 2003-2004 Student Government president.

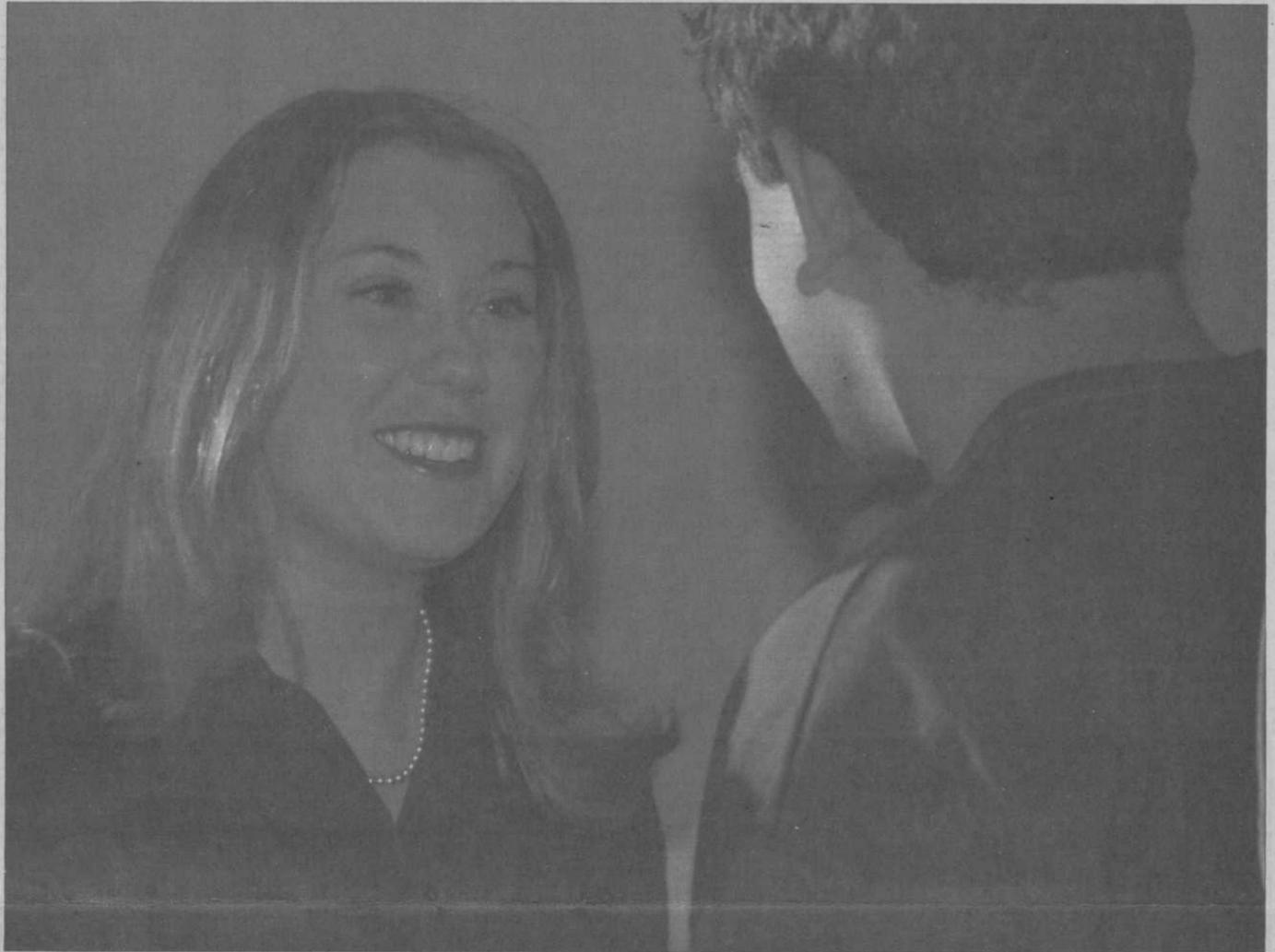
The third-year political-science student won 823 votes to Odom's 640.

Elections Commissioner Brooke Vickery announced the results Friday to a handful of supporters on the third floor of the Russell House.

"It hasn't hit me yet," Dreiling said. "It's been a long week, and I've worked really hard."

Odom congratulated Dreiling on her win. "I'm glad it's over. It's been a lot of fun," Odom said. "I'll just find another way to serve

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Third-year political-science student Katie Dreiling speaks with current SG president Ankit Patel on the third floor of the Russell House after her victory in Friday's runoff election for 2003-04 Student Government president. Dreiling defeated third-year criminal-justice student Tyler Odom by 183 votes.

PHOTO BY CANDI HAUGLUM/THE GAMECOCK

## Voting center poses instant runoff method

BY ROB SEAL  
THE GAMECOCK

The Center for Voting and Democracy is urging voting reform on college campuses nationwide to eliminate separate runoff elections.

The center is a national nonprofit organization specializing in alternative voting methods, said John Russell, the center's program associate.

The group proposes a system called instant runoff voting. In this system, voters put their first and second choices for office on the ballot instead of voting only for their first choice, Russell said. If no candidate receives a majori-

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## Kaplan sponsors course giveaway

BY JULIA KNETZER  
THE GAMECOCK

Kaplan is giving free test-prep courses to 30 students nationwide.

Kaplan Test Prep is taking entries for its inaugural "Course-a-Day Giveaway," in which students can enter to win free graduate-test-prep courses, including LSAT, GRE, MCAT, DAT, OAT, TOEFL and English-language

courses. Entering the contest is free.

Karen Blass, Kaplan spokeswoman, said the GRE course regularly costs \$999; the GMAT \$1,249; the LSAT \$1,099; and the MCAT \$1,349.

Kaplan also offers cheaper online courses, as well as stand-alone books and CD-ROMS, Blass said.

Entries will be taken until May 31. Kaplan will give away



### SURF YOURSELF

Students can register for the course giveaway at [www.kaptest.com/giveaway](http://www.kaptest.com/giveaway).

courses in separate random drawings from June 16 to July 15.

Kaplan is doing the giveaway to "encourage students to think about test prep and do whatever

they can to better their chances" of getting good scores on the tests and getting into graduate school, Blass said.

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## Former secretary of civil-rights leaders to speak

BY ALLYSON BIRD  
THE GAMECOCK

The ninth annual Benjamin E. Mays lecture will feature Dora E. McDonald, secretary to Mays and civil-rights leaders Martin Luther King Jr. and Andrew Young, at Amoco Hall of the Swearingin

Engineering Center on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

The lecture, "Journey of a Secretary: From Benjamin E. Mays to Martin Luther King Jr.," will primarily focus on McDonald's work with King.

"The message he taught back in the '60s is so relevant today," McDonald said.

McDonald began her professional life after meeting Mays, former Morehouse College president and mentor to King, at South Carolina State College, where she

was a student.

After working for Mays, she worked for King and then for Young until he went to the United Nations. She finished her career at IBM as a marketing secretary.

McDonald, who was King's secretary when he was assassinated in 1968, stays active in her church

and community and works at the King Center, where she answers the mail of Coretta Scott King, the late Martin Luther King Jr.'s wife.

"My life is changed because of the work of Martin Luther King, of course, and I got a foundation for my work ethic by working for Benjamin E. Mays. My life has not changed; my life has just evolved due to my work with these men,"

◆ LECTURE, SEE PAGE 3

### FACE THE MUSIC



PHOTO BY JUSTINE BULLER/THE GAMECOCK

Steve McMurry, lead singer and guitarist for Acoustic Syndicate, performs at the 3 Rivers Music Festival on Saturday. To read more about the festival, see page 5.

## U.S. Marines seize Saddam's palace, circle Iraq capital

BY CALVIN WOODWARD  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A U.S. military plane landed Sunday at Baghdad's international airport while American forces completed their encirclement of the capital, rapidly chipping away at vestiges of Saddam Hussein's power.

The intense fighting took a growing toll on combatants and civilians, however. Russian diplomats and a convoy of America's Kurdish comrades in arms were among unintended victims caught in crossfire and friendly fire.

A C-130 cargo plane landed at the airport late Sunday, demonstrating that the allies were now ready to put the recently captured tarmac to their own use.

Southeast of Baghdad, Marines seized one of Saddam's palaces, poked through remnants of a Republican Guard headquarters and searched a suspected terrorist training camp, finding the shell of a passenger jet

believed to be used for hijacking practice.

U.S. forces consolidated positions encircling Baghdad and declared they controlled all highways in and out of the city.

On another vital front, British troops thrust deep into Basra, Iraq's second largest city, with a sense they are finally shaking loose the Saddam Hussein loyalists who have hung on for more than two weeks.

But in northern Iraq, U.S. aircraft mistakenly bombed a convoy of allied Kurdish fighters operating with U.S. special forces in a battle at a crossroads south of Irbil.

At least 17 Kurdish fighters died, said Hoshiyar Zebari, a senior member of the governing Kurdistan Democratic Party. He said that among the 45 wounded was a brother of the party's leader.

A convoy of Russian diplomats, including the ambas-

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◆ SPORTS The Gamecocks lose two out of three games to Louisiana State over the weekend. **Page 8**