



LEO TOLSTOY: "What a strange illusion it is to suppose that beauty means goodness."

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'Cockapalooza' Twelve bands to play for students

BY MEGAN TREACY
THE GAMECOCK

This year students will have something to do during the downtime between moving in and the first day of class. Carolina Productions is hosting its first ever "Cockapalooza" on Aug. 19, an all-day concert featuring 12 local and regional bands.

The event, which will take place on Davis Field next to Longstreet Theater, features a diverse mix of the talent in the Columbia music scene, from singer-songwriters to hip-hop, as well as bigger regional acts Danielle Howle, Evoka and the Working Title.

"Hopefully people who are coming out for Danielle Howle will come and see the lesser known bands as well and those bands can gain some new fans," Concert Commissioner Nate Welker said.

The local bands chosen were those that have already begun to make a name for themselves on the Columbia scene. "We wanted to nurture the already existent buzz on some of these artists and hopefully help to take it further," Welker said.

The event was thought of last spring by then Concert Commissioner Josh Terry after he noticed the success of the annual Music Crawl, sponsored by the Free Times and downtown bars.

"There hadn't been much success with other welcome events and we wanted to plan something people would want to attend," Welker said. "All the bands were really receptive to the idea and wanted to get involved."

"Carolina Productions usually does pret-

ty good promotion for whatever they host and draw a good crowd," said Tigerbot Hesh lead singer and guitarist Nate Austin.

The idea is that the event will not only draw those who have heard about it in advance, but also those who happen to be walking around campus that day.

"It's like a lottery; who knows who's going to be there listening to you," said Bolt guitarist Heyward Sims.

But he doesn't consider that to be a bad thing. "It's always a good idea to play in front of people who haven't heard you before," Sims said.

Other bands agree with Sims and are excited about the exposure that this event will give them.

"We just want to play for as many people as possible," Dejavooodoo bassist Bobby Dread said. Dejavooodoo is the one hip-hop act on the bill and Dread describes them as "a local super group looking to take over the world."

The six-piece band includes trained musicians that play a little bit of everything. "We play funk, rock, jazz, reggae. We do everything but country, but we might throw that in to mess people up," Dread said.

Everyone involved is hoping this event will stimulate more interest in the Columbia music scene.

"Especially with the incoming freshman, they'll be able to realize there's a lot of good music in Columbia that they can go out and listen to," Austin said.

"It's a good idea to support live music in any form or function," Sims said.

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Where the hell can I park around here?

Don't get stuck with having to pay the meter

BY BRIAN RAY
THE GAMECOCK

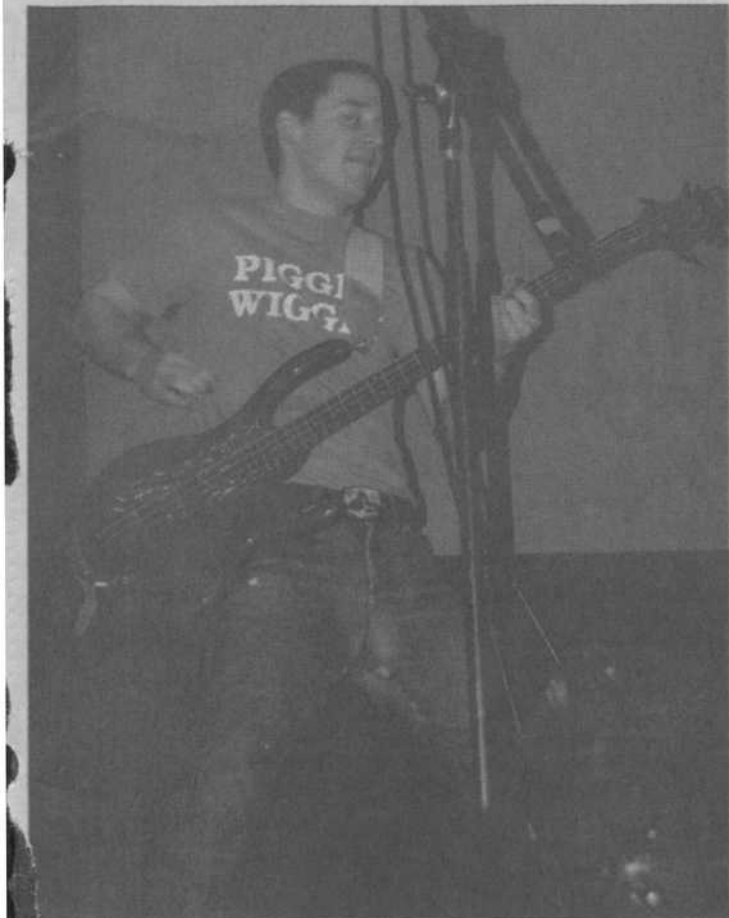


While you were gone this summer, USC slated four parking lots for sacrifice — one behind Preston College, a faculty lot and two student lots on Pendleton Street. But, before you have a hissy fit, they've added two lots behind the Carolina Center, about 500 spaces each, and one 300-space lot at 1600 Hampton St., four city blocks up from the BA building. Calculating the give-and-take, everyone's coming out slightly ahead despite our recent losses.

If you're new here or you've never had to deal with morning parking, you might opt for the expensive but more convenient parking option — a garage space or a bag of nickels, dimes and quarters. But even quarters might not be the way to go, since some streets are lined with two-hour meters instead of those handy five-hour ones.

This article outlines the basics of parking, helping to find a cheap place to stash your car while you're cramming for exams or scrawling out notes on your professors' monologues.

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FILE PHOTO BY MORGAN FORD / THE GAMECOCK

Tigerbot Hesh bassist Dawson Huss gets into the groove, and will be performing with the rest of the band on August 19.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF COCKAPALOOZA BANDS PLAYING ON FRIDAY, SEE PAGE X.

Record shops would make Nietzsche proud

BY J.P. STEPHENS
THE GAMECOCK

Nietzsche said without music, life would be a mistake. Keeping in mind Nietzsche's pronouncement, clearly one of the most important things we can know in life is where to find a good record store. Fortunately for us, around the USC area there are a number of vendors who are ably prepared to provide the oh-so-necessary soundtrack to our lives.

Each music store has its own strengths, and certain tastes are going to be better represented at one store than another. In assessing the stores, I looked for seven albums that I felt represented the bulk of popular musical tastes. Representing classic rock is Led Zeppelin "IV"; Minor Threat's "Complete Discography" for punk; John Coltrane's "A Love Supreme" covering jazz; Nickel Creek's Grammy-award-winning "This Side" enveloping bluegrass and folk simultaneously; and "Vertigo" from Charleston's Jump, Little Children to make sure that local artists have a presence. Finally, to represent top-40: Christina Aguilera's "Stripped,"

and 50 Cent's "Get Rich or Die Tryin." The stores were evaluated based on distance from campus, selection, average price of the seven CDs I looked for, and employee knowledge.

The first store I went to was Papa Jazz. Located on Greene Street, Papa Jazz is an easy walk from campus. Of the seven CDs I sought, I found all but "Stripped" and "Vertigo," though they did have "Magazine" by JLC, and other local artists were represented as well. The five CDs I found averaged out to \$14.17 a piece, giving them the second lowest prices of the stores I visited. The store is small, limiting selection somewhat, but if you're looking for old vinyl or, unsurprisingly, jazz, there is no other store for you. The employees at Papa Jazz have forgotten more about music than you'll ever know, so just try not to be intimidated.

Located on the Rosewood extension by Blockbuster, Sounds Familiar offers something akin to a mall record store that's not in a mall. They had everything I was looking for in stock, but had the

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PHOTO BY TRISHA SHADWELL / THE GAMECOCK

Willie May, a tenth grader at Dreher High School, said "Papa Jazz is the Place to shop for music."

Banjos galore at parlor

BY GABRIELLE SINCLAIR
AND JOSH WATSON
THE GAMECOCK

Friday nights at Bill's Pickin' Parlor, in West Columbia, banjos are tuned and guitarists eagerly flat-pick familiar bluegrass riffs, waiting for the weekly jam session to begin. 7:30 p.m. signals the start of this performance, which includes musicians of all ages and experience. Walking from my car, I could already hear a high tenor voice mix with that of a lead guitar, a youthful mandolin and maddening banjo accompanying it in the opening chords of "Leftover Biscuits."

Perhaps this is how Bill Monroe, the father of bluegrass music, intended the art form to endure and evolve nearly three quarters of a century ago through improvisation and tradition. Bill Wells, the owner of Bill's Music Shop and Pickin' Parlor for the past fifteen or so years, works to keep the great art of bluegrass alive by this weekly practice.

Distance is no deterrent for jammers and enthusiasts who drive weekly from as far away

as North Carolina, Charleston, Florence and Rock Hill. Some have been coming almost religiously since the beginning, all those 15 years ago.

The dividers in the large open building create six separate rooms, giving a sense of intimacy. At only \$2 to get in, it's a wonderful bargain for what you get to hear, which are essentially musicians playing their instruments for the love of music in its purest form. The jam session officially starts at 7:30 p.m. and runs through midnight. The night averages about 175 people and it gets kicking around 8:30. It winds down around 11 or so, but if you drive by around 2 or 3 a.m., you'll probably still hear some of the hardcore bluegrass lovers in the parking lot rocking out.

Bluegrass, or "country music in overdrive," as described by Wells, is entirely acoustic and consists of six instruments: the guitar, fiddle, banjo, dobro, bass and mandolin. Bill's Music Shop specializes in selling and repairing all of these,

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PHOTO BY PASCALE SEATON / THE GAMECOCK

Staff at Sane Jose Mexican restaurant greet guests with smiles.



PHOTO BY TRISHA SHADWELL / THE GAMECOCK

Musicians of all ages and levels of experience play weekly.