

## SOUND OFF

Create message boards at [www.dailygamecock.com](http://www.dailygamecock.com) or send letters to the editor to [gamecockopinions@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockopinions@hotmail.com)



## VIEWPOINTS

## ONLINE POLL

Should the Gamecocks be ranked higher in the AP football poll? [www.dailygamecock.com](http://www.dailygamecock.com). Results published on Fridays.

IN OUR OPINION

## Duty to Iraq needs limits

President Bush plans to ask Congress for \$87 billion to continue efforts to rebuild Iraq and quell terrorism.

This comes after more than four months of occupation following the end of major combat. During this time, an average of 10 soldiers has been wounded in action a day in the occupation, which costs \$3.9 billion a month, according to the Washington Post.

The United States also has also yet to find weapons of mass destruction or Saddam Hussein.

**It seems there are no limits for the cost of rebuilding Iraq, but this needs to be Bush's last request.**

After overthrowing Iraq's government, the United States carries the responsibility of rebuilding it.

"This will take time and require sacrifice," Bush said.

"Yet we will do what is necessary, we will spend what

is necessary, to achieve this essential victory in the war on terror, to promote freedom and to make our own nation more secure."

It seems there are no limits for the cost of rebuilding Iraq, but this needs to be Bush's last request. The price of nation-building and peacekeeping in this case are becoming a burden on American taxpayers.

Bush said his objectives include "destroying the terrorists, enlisting the support of other nations for a free Iraq and helping Iraqis assume responsibility for their own defense and their own future."

But the United States cannot do everything. Our responsibility lies in establishing a democratic regime in Iraq and getting out.



CARTOON COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS

## College: When is enough enough?



JULIE COOK

GAMECOCKOPINIONS@HOTMAIL.COM

### Overachievement costs us more than our sleep.

We all heard the adages from our parents and high school teachers warning us that college is the last stop before the train of life derails in Realityville. We are almost duty-bound to pull all-nighters, spend every night at the preordained cool college hangouts and bars, and maniacally devote our souls to the improbable success of our football team.

But recently my, dedication to all things collegiate has brought me to this question: Can you really experience all you want to from the college experience? And more importantly, can you survive it?

I know people who consider it a laid-back day when there's a half-inch space free in their planners — people who are literally at every event, from student organization fairs to soccer games. I admit that I'm becoming one of those people.

It's what I wanted, but I can't remember exactly why. As an annoying kind of overachiever, I took most opportunities that came along, starting with that elementary school music club and continuing on to this very column.

I can whine about being busy all I want, but I ultimately chose to take on most every club, staff, team and job that came my way. I have always justified taking on too much by arguing (with my own over-taxed self usually) that all my accomplishments and obligations were making me "well-rounded" and, if nothing else, would at least impress the hell out of those college application readers.

But now we're in college, continuing to run from sunrise — okay, 9 a.m. — to well after sunset and occasionally onto the next sunrise. And for what? Maybe grad school, but that's hardly a rationalization. Because we're irrevocably trapped in a rat race perpetuated by American culture? Possibly. Are we running from something? Afraid to be "out of the loop?" Afraid to be uncool, alone or bored?

As Def Leppard wisely said, "It's better to burn out than fade away." But do we have to do one or the other? Is there a sane medium in there somewhere?

Can you look back as a boring suburbanite with 2.4 kids and remember the "good old days" when you just went to one party a month? And didn't have a job, internship or work study, never chaired any committee, and never even heard the morning birds chirping from outside your dorm room window as you paced around your computer screen hopped up on espresso shots trying to finish a philosophy paper?

Is there a point when the quality of life you're chasing greatly diminishes the quality of life you're stumbling through? I think so. We want it all, but to what expense? Sleep for sure. Balanced meals without a doubt. Is all this just so that we can look back and reminisce? Or is it all so we can feel like we have truly accomplished what we've paid so much to do — go to "college?"

Is this really the train's last party stop or have we already crashed in Realityville, overexerted ourselves with responsibilities and distracted ourselves with fantasy?

College is just one of many stops, with its own pressures and expectations, best survived and celebrated with a degree of balance, somewhere between burning out and fading away.

Cook is a third-year art history and political science student.

## Rivalry runs in the blood



JOSH WATSON

GAMECOCKOPINIONS@HOTMAIL.COM

### Clemson hatred is an unquestioned mystery.

As a child in the early '80s, more than anything regarding USC, I remember falling witness to Joe Morrison and his Black Magic. Morrison navigated the Gamecocks through most of the 1980s, wearing all black and utilizing a fire-ant defense that most teams couldn't sneak by.

My parents, their friends and almost everyone talked about it, as though a kind of messiah, for a short time, was among us.

That inescapable legend, perhaps, now explains why I would consider it better to live as a leper than a Tiger fan. No admitted Gamecock or Tiger I ever met can give reasons surrounding their distaste for the opposing team.

The reasons, it seems, are usually undetermined. Still, it

seems this Carolina-Clemson hatred is predetermined by the family unit in which fate places an individual.

And unless some extreme form of teenage rebellion occurs, where kids end up the unfortunate victims of foreign brainwashing, they are likely to remain a disciple of one team for life.

There is, however, the danger of growing up in a house of division, one parent Carolina, one parent Clemson. Those situations are much too bleak to discuss.

A new documentary written and directed by Jeff Sumerel and titled "Bragging Rites," dissects the myths, and wonderfully maintains an objectivism, with an equal number of interviews of the fans, former and present coaches, and past players of the rival teams.

Nostalgic photographs mixed with interviews give the century-old rivalry an indescribable full quality, which a single source or a small group of them might lack. Stories from former players, such as Heisman trophy winner George Rogers and Clemson player Jerry Butler, bring a camaraderie to both teams, which lets the film's audience realize how much pleasure these guys took from the rivalry.

Rogers, arguably the greatest

Gamecock running back of all time, tells how every time he has seen a Clemson player from his era they invite him to a picnic. When Rogers' inquires about the location of picnicking spot, his old rivals respond with: "Somewhere you've never been. The Clemson end zone."

Despite the film, I still don't comprehend the mental workings of a Clemson fan, and I assume a Clemson fan would think the same of me. This documentary is quite superb, even featuring Dr. Sorensen's views on the rivalry.

He mentions that sometimes he will meet a couple, where the husband graduated from Carolina and the wife graduated from that other school, and the wife apologizes to Dr. Sorensen for her alma mater.

Dr. Sorensen, a very polite man, whom I've met several times, replies, "You shouldn't apologize for that, ma'am. You should be proud."

I wonder what his response might be, if she asked him to name the best college football team in South Carolina. I hope his answer wouldn't be "Furman."

Watson is a second-year English student.

## College Quote Board

THE REVELLE  
ERIC GREMLION, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

"There lies little incentive for other countries to send their troops to a place they didn't want invaded anyway. They would want a share of the power, and our leaders cannot bear to let any of it go. This just means the Security Council initiative by Bush and Powell will fail, and they'll find themselves at the drawing board again."

DAILY HERALD  
CHRIS ROBBINS, BROWN UNIVERSITY

"There are many arguments against a living wage ordinance, many of them from small business owners and corporations alike. The logical facts speak for themselves, though. Employees who make more money spend more money. Employers who pay employees a reasonable living wage experience less turnover and employee absenteeism, cutting training costs."

## GAMECOCK CORRECTIONS

In Friday's paper, "Quigmans" artist Buddy Hickerson's name was misspelled. The Gamecock regrets the error.

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know. E-mail us at [gamecockopinions@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockopinions@hotmail.com).

## ABOUT THE GAMECOCK

Editor in Chief  
Charles Tomlinson

Managing Editor  
Adam Beam

News Editor  
Michael LaForgia

Asst. News Editor  
Alexis Stratton

Viewpoints Editor  
Gabrielle Sinclair

The Mix Editor  
Meg Moore

Sports Editor  
Brad Senkiw

Asst. Sports Editor  
Wes Wolfe

Photo Editor  
Morgan Ford

Asst. Photo Editor  
Trisha Shadwell

Head Page Designers  
Shawn Rourk, David Stagg

Page Designers  
Justin Bajan, Samantha Hall, Staci Jordan

Slot Copy Editors  
Amy Genoble, Alyson Goff, Tricia Ridgway

Copy Editors  
Mary Waters, Steven Van Haren

Online Editor  
James Tolbert

Public Affairs  
Kimberly Dressler

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Offices on third floor of the Russell House.  
Editor in Chief: [gamecockeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockeditor@hotmail.com)  
News: [gamecockdesk@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockdesk@hotmail.com)  
Viewpoints: [gamecockopinions@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockopinions@hotmail.com)  
The Mix: [gamecockmixeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockmixeditor@hotmail.com)  
Sports: [gamecocksports@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecocksports@hotmail.com)  
Public Affairs: [gckpublicaffairs@hotmail.com](mailto:gckpublicaffairs@hotmail.com)  
Online: [www.dailygamecock.com](http://www.dailygamecock.com)  
Newsroom: 777-7726  
Editor's Office: 777-3914

### STUDENT MEDIA

Director  
Scott Lindenberg

Faculty Adviser  
Erik Collins

Creative Director  
Susan King

Business Manager  
Carolyn Griffin

Advertising Manager  
Sarah Scarborough

Classified Manager  
Sherry F. Holmes

Production Manager  
Amber Justice

Creative Services  
Whitney Bridges, Robbie Burnett, Sean O'Meara

Advertising Staff  
John Blackshire, Adam Bourgoin, Ben Sinclair, Jessica Johnson, Ryan Gorman, Laytoya Hines

The Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer, with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Gamecock are those of the editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of The Gamecock. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization. The Gamecock is supported in part by student-activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.

### TO PLACE AN AD

The Gamecock  
1400 Greene St.  
Columbia, S.C. 29208

Advertising: 777-3888  
Classified: 777-1184  
Fax: 777-6482

## Gay marriage hurts no one



JOHN RABON

GAMECOCKOPINIONS@HOTMAIL.COM

### It's time to reassess this "victimless crime."

I remember sitting in a Sunday school room back at my home church after the Supreme Court struck down the anti-sodomy laws and the widespread panic started over gay marriage.

I was probably the only liberal in the place, and if you ever want to feel like you're fighting an uphill battle, try to convince a bunch of conservatives that gay marriages aren't going to bring society crashing down around them.

Not too long afterwards, our President was quoted as saying he would seek whatever means possible to create laws banning this kind of union.

If you could have watched me

read the paper that day, you probably would have seen steam coming out of my ears like a Daffy Duck cartoon.

This came as quite a shock to my system, and it insulted me to no end that our government would try to regulate and control the morality of individuals based on personal beliefs.

Isn't there supposed to be a separation of church and state in this country? Aren't we supposed to be entitled to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?"

I'm afraid I don't see where it says, "except for those whose lifestyles or definitions of happiness we don't agree with."

Before we go any further, I wish to point out that I am quite familiar with what the Bible says about homosexuality, and as a Christian myself, I won't disagree with what it says.

Now, I am not saying that we should allow for stealing, rape, murders, etc.; after all, these are crimes in which someone is unquestionably injured by the actions of another.

These crimes tend to be universal evils, things that any person regardless of religion would say are wrong.

LET YOUR OPINION BE HEARD. SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR AT [gamecockopinions@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockopinions@hotmail.com)

When two consenting adults choose to enter into a same-sex relationship, there is no victim.

There may be studies that say it has a damaging effect on society, but who's taking these studies, and how do we know there aren't similar studies that say the exact opposite?

Certainly if homosexuality is illegal, it is a "victimless crime," and it is therefore ludicrous to have secular laws against this practice.

We choose the kind of lifestyle we wish to live. When we choose to become Christians, we also choose to accept all of God's laws. We also believe that God grants us a right to choose whether to follow His words.

In my 20 years of churchgoing experience, I have yet to find a biblical passage making it morally acceptable to force a particular lifestyle upon others.

I don't think there's a legal justification to ban gay marriages. Laws should be made according to what's best for the most people, not according to a specific group's beliefs.

A truly representative society lends a voice to the entirety of its people, respects their opinions and never denounces any one person or group just because someone else does.

Think about it.

Rabon is a second-year English student.

### Submission Policy

Letters to the editor should be less than 300 words and include name, phone number, professional title or year and major, if a student. E-mail letters to [gamecockopinions@hotmail.com](mailto:gamecockopinions@hotmail.com). Letters will be edited. Anonymous letters will not be published. Call the newsroom at 777-7726 for more information.