

Lawmaker seeks new license requirements

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — A passenger van accident that killed three and injured 10 last month has one lawmaker proposing a study that might lead to new license requirements for drivers of large passenger vans, recreational vehicles and rental trucks.

State Rep. John Graham Altman III, R-Charleston, said the accident in rural Charleston County suggests 15-passenger vans are dangerous.

Altman has filed a concurrent resolution seeking a study by the state Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Public Safety.

He said new licensing requirements could pass this year, although he expects opposition from those who rent or sell such vehicles.

Attendance down for Charleston tourism

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Attendance was down at Charleston's leading tourist attractions last year and industry officials say it may have to do with repeat visitors bypassing attractions on return trips.

Attendance at area attractions dropped 9.8 percent, according to the Charleston Chamber of Commerce. The 16 biggest attractions tracked by the chamber sold 1.89 million tickets in 2003, about 207,000 fewer than the previous year.

The South Carolina Aquarium, the area's most-visited site, saw an 11 percent drop in attendance for 2003 with about 60,000 fewer people visiting.

Nation

FCC chairman wants stiffer TV penalties

WASHINGTON (AP) — The head of the Federal Communications Commission, upset over a growing use of profanity on television and radio, wants to sharply increase the penalties for broadcasters airing indecent programs.

FCC Chairman Michael Powell said at a National Press Club luncheon on Wednesday that the current maximum penalty, \$27,500 for each incident, should be 10 times higher.

Muslim women upset over headwear rule

MONTGOMERY, ALA. (AP) — Some Muslim women in Alabama are upset because state driver's license officials are requiring them to remove their head scarves if they want to get a license.

More than 10 Muslim women from Mobile and Birmingham complained to the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

The Washington-based group wrote to Alabama Public Safety Director Mike Coppage asking the state to end its requirement for women to remove their head scarf, or hijab.

World

WHO blamed for lack of malaria relief

LONDON (AP) — The World Health Organization and other aid agencies are undermining the battle against malaria by funding cheaper and less-effective drugs, contributing to tens of thousands of deaths of children in Africa, researchers asserted.

The scientists, writing in The Lancet medical journal, accused WHO and the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria of promoting programs that use the wrong drugs because they are a tenth the cost of better medicines.

Starbucks makes debut in France

PARIS (AP) — Starbucks has finally arrived in the country that likes to think it invented the cafe.

Almost six years after it began establishing itself in Europe — starting with Britain, Switzerland and Austria — Starbucks Corp. inaugurated its first Paris store Thursday, with Spanish partner Grupo VIPS.

The king of frappuccinos-to-go nevertheless accepts it may not be easy to make ends meet right away in a country where people still like to sit down to drink their "express," preferred short, black, bitter — and above all, cheap.



This day in History

1547: Ivan the Terrible crowns himself the first tsar of Russia.

1919: Prohibition takes effect with the 18th Amendment prohibiting the "manufacture, sale or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes."

Extended Forecast



Friday

HI: 51
LO: 29



Saturday

HI: 57
LO: 44



Sunday

HI: 53
LO: 46



Monday

HI: 54
LO: 31



Tuesday

HI: 58
LO: 27

Coming Up @ USC

Friday, Jan. 16

ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BREAKFAST, Russell House Ballroom, 7:30 a.m.
SEMINAR "UNDERSTANDING MOLECULAR REACTIVITY AT THE SEMICONDUCTOR LEVEL," Dr. Stacey Bent of Stanford University, Jones Physical Science Center, Refreshments 3:45 p.m., Seminar 4 p.m.
LAST DAY TO CHANGE A COURSE SCHEDULE OR DROP A COURSE WITHOUT A GRADE OF "W" BEING RECORDED
APPLICATIONS DUE FOR CULTURAL AWARENESS COMMISSIONER, Russell House 227, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 17

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE CONCERT SERIES, School of Music Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.
USC ROTC'S ANNUAL JROTC DRILL MEET, Eugene Stone III Stadium, 9 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 19

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY — NO CLASSES MARCH TO THE STATE HOUSE, ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, 801 Washington St., 9 a.m.
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE, Russell House, 9 a.m.
MLK LECTURE BY LONNIE RANDOLPH, School of Law Auditorium, 3 p.m.
MLK GOSPEL FEST, featuring The Jarvis Brothers, Koger Center for the Arts, 6:30 p.m.
FREE MUSIC PLAY CLASSES BEGIN, School of Music 108.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

UNDERSTANDING UNIVERSITY FUND ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING WORKSHOP, Computer Services 309, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Faculty and staff.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

AN EVENING WITH AL FRANKEN, Koger Center, 8 p.m.
EPIDEMIOLOGY SEMINAR: "ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN BREAST CANCER AND CLINICAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT," Bill Butler, director of research and education for the South Carolina Cancer Center, Health Sciences Building 103, 12:30 p.m.
NATIONAL HUGGING DAY

Thursday, Jan. 22

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Aerosmith to rock Super Bowl pre-game

NEW YORK (AP) — Aerosmith will be making a return visit to the Super Bowl.

The headliners of the 2001 Super Bowl halftime show in Tampa, Fla., will perform in the finale of this year's pre-game show at Reliant Stadium in Houston, it was announced this week.

"The Super Bowl is rock 'n' roll! It's slamm'n', it's precision, it's passion and pure energy," Aerosmith's **Steven Tyler** said in a statement.

The Super Bowl will air live on CBS on Feb. 1.

2003 Grammy Award nominees announced

NEW YORK (AP) — Justin Timberlake, Christina Aguilera and The White Stripes are among the first performers to be announced for the 46th annual Grammy Awards telecast.

The Grammy Awards ceremony will air live Feb. 8 on CBS from the Staples Center arena in downtown Los Angeles.

The show also will include a tribute to soul and funk featuring **OutKast**, **George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic**, **Robert Randolph & the Family Band** and **Earth, Wind & Fire**.

'Cold Mountain' star undaunted by divorce

LONDON (AP) — Jude Law says he's emerged stronger and happier from his bruising breakup with Sadie Frost.

Law, who stars with **Nicole Kidman** and **Renee Zellweger** in the film "Cold Mountain," said Wednesday that events such as a divorce "take a lot longer to heal and repair and to put back into order."

USC Briefly

FIRST LEGO tourney comes to Carolina

For a second year, USC will play host to more than 500 South Carolina middle- and elementary-school students for the nation's largest FIRST LEGO League Tournament Saturday, Jan. 17, starting at 9 a.m.

The contest, which involves 75 teams and has the theme "Mission Mars," features LEGO-constructed robots that students have been building since last September overcoming various obstacles.



Guitarist Joe Perry and singer Steven Tyler, shown above, will bring Aerosmith's blistering brand of rock 'n' roll to the Super Bowl pre-game show on Feb. 1.

Law and Frost, who were divorced in October, were married in 1997 and have three children.

Frost, 35, had sought the divorce on grounds of his unreasonable behavior.

Actress Murphy gets engaged to manager

NEW YORK (AP) — Actress **Brittany Murphy** and talent manager **Jeff Kwatinetz** became engaged Jan. 9 at a silent movie theater in Los Angeles, according to People magazine.

The couple started dating after Murphy's breakup with **Ashton Kutcher**, her co-star in 2003's "Just

Married." People says in its Jan. 26 issue.

Murphy, 26, also appeared in "8 Mile" and "Don't Say a Word." Kwatinetz is 34.

Jack White pleads innocent to assault

DETROIT (AP) — **White Stripes** lead singer **Jack White**, who's accused of repeatedly punching the lead singer of another band in the face, pleaded innocent Wednesday to a misdemeanor aggravated assault charge.

White was ordered to stand trial on March 9.

Screen Actors Guild makes odd picks

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Screen Actors Guild flashed some independence with its annual awards nominations Thursday, citing performers from outside-the-mainstream movies such as "The Station Agent," "Whale Rider" and "In America."

Other backslapping groups have mostly ignored those films in the acting categories, despite their widespread critical acclaim.

Meanwhile, the prestige pictures "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" and "Cold Mountain" picked up only cursory mentions.

USC Academic Team succeeds in Georgia

The USC Academic Team competed in Georgia on Saturday, Jan. 10, ending the competition with a record of 9-1 and an average score of 322.5 points per game.

The competition included 12 other teams from the Southeast, including 3 from Kentucky and 2 from Georgia Tech. The academic team will be competing in a tournament at UT-Chattanooga on Jan. 24 and the ACF Southeast Regionals on Feb. 14.

Police Report



Each number on the map stands for a crime corresponding with numbered descriptions in the list below.

DAY CRIMES (6 a.m.-6 p.m.)

- Violent
- Nonviolent

NIGHT CRIMES (6 p.m.-6 a.m.)

- Violent
- Nonviolent

CRIMES AT UNKNOWN HOURS

- Violent
- Nonviolent

These reports are taken directly from the USC Police Department.

Monday, Dec. 8

① **LARCENY OF BICYCLE**, CAPSTONE HOUSE, 902 BARNWELL ST. The victim said someone removed his secured bicycle from a bicycle rack. The bicycle was locked with a cable-style lock. Estimated

value: \$115. Reporting officer: D. Pardue.

Saturday, Dec. 20

② **SIMPLE ASSAULT**, COLONIAL CENTER, 801 LINCOLN ST. The victim said

he and John Shoedel were involved in a verbal altercation at which time Shoedel grabbed the victim by the throat with both hands and began to choke him. The victim also said the subject made several verbal threats toward him in the past. Reporting officer: T. Means.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

③ **LARCENY OF WALLET**, EAST QUAD, 1400 WHEAT ST. The complainant said someone removed her black wallet from the bench at the rear of East Quad. The wallet contained her university student ID card. Estimated value: \$6. Reporting officer: Morant.

④ **LARCENY OF PURSE/PARTIAL RECOVERY**, 1600 HAMPTON ST. The victim said someone removed her small, rectangular black leather Express purse from her desk. The victim received a call from a witness saying she had found a purse belonging to the victim at the SCE&G building downtown. Reporting officer J.B. Coaxum escorted the victim to the

witness's location to recover the purse. Upon receiving the purse, the victim said the only items missing were \$5 in cash and a MasterCard. Estimated value: \$55. Estimated value recovered: \$50.

⑤ **LARCENY OF PURSE/RECOVERY**, RUSSELL HOUSE, 1400 GREENE ST. The victim said she left her purse on the table when she went to class and that when she returned later to check on it, it had been turned in to the dining facilities office. Missing from the purse were a black leather wallet, Visa check card, Capital One credit card, South Carolina driver's license, Blue Cross and Blue Shield health card and a black leather Guess purse. Estimated value: \$158. Estimated value recovered: \$98. Reporting officer: M.L. Gooding.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

⑥ **ILLEGAL USE OF TELEPHONE**, COLUMBIA HALL, 918 BARNWELL ST. The victim said an unknown female called her room using profane language. The victim hung up

and then received another call by the same female attempting to disguise her voice as a male. Reporting officer: J.L. Meador.

⑦ **MALICIOUS INJURY TO PERSONAL PROPERTY**, 700 BLOCK OF COLLEGE ST. The complainant said someone put a large scratch on the rear driver's-side door of the victim's vehicle. Estimated value: \$600. Reporting officer: J.L. Meador.

⑧ **SIMPLE ASSAULT**, RUSSELL HOUSE AREA, 1400 GREENE ST. The victim said that while walking from the Russell House he was approached by an unknown white male. The victim said the subject grabbed him and struck him on the left side of the face with his fist, then left the scene. Reporting officer: D.W. Friels.

⑨ **LARCENY OF WALLET**, BLATT P.E. CENTER, 1400 WHEAT ST. The victim said someone took his brown wallet with his university student ID, South Carolina driver's license, State Farm Insurance card, CPM bank card and a BP gas card from the gym. Estimated value: \$20. Reporting officer: D. Hare.