

Online.Poll
Is the GPS system being installed in USC's buses a waste of money?
www.dailygamecock.com
Results published on Fridays.



VIEWPOINTS

"Who's to say how much more extreme that is than what Jesus really received?"
THE REV. TIMOTHY LUJEWSKI
CHAPLAIN OF THE ST. THOMAS MORE CENTER
NEAR USC ON THE GRAPHIC REALISM OF MEL GIBSON'S NEW MOVIE, "THE PASSION OF CHRIST"

In Our Opinion

Student porn not Ivy League

Harvard University's proposed magazine, H Bomb, violates the principles of good taste if it portrays undergraduate students in a pornographic light.

Two weeks ago, Harvard's Committee on College Life approved the new publication that is being billed as an erotic look at campus sex. When Harvard's student newspaper, The Crimson, published an article describing the magazine as pornographic, it drew sharp criticism from supporters of the project.

While H Bomb is intended to explore sexuality on campus, the failure of its backers to define what

The presentation of pornography in a college student publication simply to stretch the bounds of what is acceptable is uncouth.

content will be included threatens to undermine their credibility and ability for the content to be taken seriously.

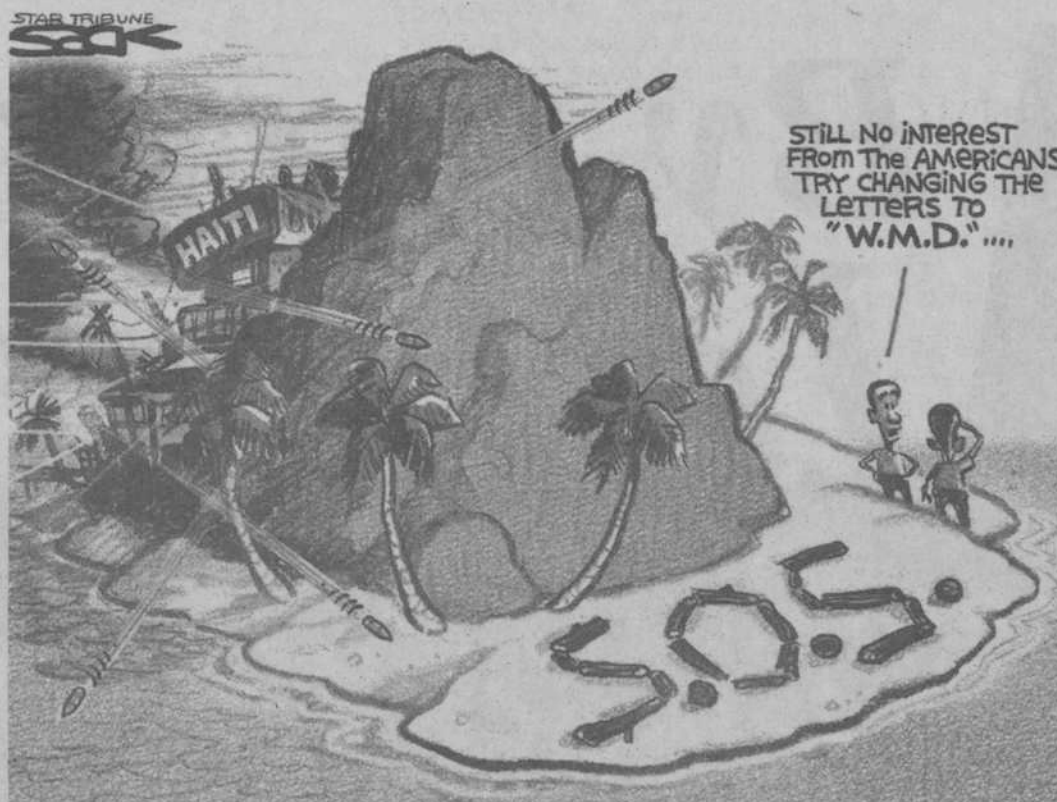
The magazine is modeled on Squirr, a student organization at Vassar which publishes 1,200 copies annually and brings speakers on sex topics to

campus. Unlike Vassar's project, though, Harvard's H Bomb is not in the context of a greater attempt to change people's views on sexuality.

There is a difference between artistic presentations of human nudity and pornography — as the Supreme Court said, we know it when we see it. Presenting pornography in a student publication simply to stretch the bounds of what is acceptable is uncouth, and it would be a poor choice on the part of Harvard to have a role in funding it, even though it has the right, as a private institution.

Also, the magazine's backers stated its first issue could be distributed at graduation in May. Again, this shows poor judgment on the part of the magazine, since it should be distributed to ensure it isn't accessible to minors.

Harvard should present a tasteful face to the world, instead of stooping to vulgarity.



CARTOON COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS

Honing education's future

Michael Porter, a competitive expert from Cambridge, Massachusetts came to our state in December to unveil his Monitor Group's strategic recommendations for South Carolina's economy. One of the things that caught my attention during Porter's visit was his repeated reference to the fact that schools in our state's college and university system are "trying to be everything to everybody."



MARK SANFORD
Governor of South Carolina

According to Porter, the result has been far too much waste and duplication in the system and nowhere near enough focus on core missions that coincide with our economic development efforts as a state.

Porter's recommendations for our state's higher education efforts, which I would second, include targeting our research capital in areas of emerging economic growth and building up our state's existing economic "clusters" — while looking out for opportunities to grow new clusters.

Clusters are all about focus — specifically, multiple private businesses focusing resources in a specific industry to gain a competitive advantage. Whether it's

automotive, forestry or tourism-related, that means targeting resources. I think that same principle ought to apply to the dollars we put into higher education.

Unfortunately, politics — not a coherent statewide strategy — has often been the driving force in decisions relating to higher ed. As a result, we currently have 33 colleges and universities operating 79 different campus locations, an unusually large number of state-supported schools given our state's small population.

And as for focus, does South Carolina really need seven communications programs? Or two state-supported medical schools? Or six drama programs? Or 11 psychology programs?

These examples are a big part of the total cost of higher education in South Carolina — which is currently at 110 percent the national average compared to 86 percent for Georgia and 82 percent for North Carolina, both states that have governing boards overseeing their schools. Just last year, South Carolina saw tuition jump 25 percent at Winthrop, 19 percent at Clemson and Coastal Carolina, 15 percent at USC and by varying degrees at almost every other state-supported school.

Earlier this winter, the budget and control board voted to add a satellite campus to Coastal Carolina University. I objected to that decision, not because I faulted the folks who wanted it,

but because it wasn't part of any coherent statewide strategy. Similarly, I don't begrudge people in Beaufort who supported moving USC's satellite campus there from a two-year to a four-year school, but that move wasn't part of a coherent statewide strategy either. So how do we change the system?

I'll be the first to admit that I don't have a monopoly on the answer. I've always felt that we need a governing board that charts a clear course for higher education in our state — one that's driven by core needs and the resources we have available to address them. Some would call this a board of regents, others would call it a strengthened Commission on Higher Education. Whatever form it takes, we need to more efficiently and strategically spend higher education dollars, and this administration is committed to making sure that's what happens.

You'll see a lot more of our direction on higher education in both our upcoming executive budget and the next legislative session. Again, I'm not claiming to have all the answers on this issue, and I'm more than willing to listen to any suggestion that's out there. Our only goal is to make sure that as we move forward, folks are at least considering all of the options on the table — as well as the budget realities that have brought us to where we are in the process.

Holding opinions can be tolerant

Modern society has taken tolerance too far. I'm not referring to the avoidance of making potentially offensive statements — such behavior is expected of civilized people. I'm referring to our societal trend to characterize active disagreement as intolerance. It seems as though it has become impossible to say anything definitively without the Anti-Intolerance Crusaders descending to administer their wrath in the form of "tolerance education."



CURTIS CHOW
Third-year political science student

Many of these Crusaders base their arguments on the notion of "open-mindedness," and defend it with religious fervor.

Regrettably, in their zeal, they have distorted the true

meaning of open-mindedness. To have an open mind is to use your own innate ability to discern for yourself what is true and what is not. It means to listen to other people's opinions and then evaluate and make your own decision as to what is right or wrong. Much to my chagrin, society has spuriously equated open-mindedness to "Listen, believe and accept lest you be labeled a close-minded, intolerant ogre."

I can't even begin to recall all of the instances where I've been unreasonably labeled as "close-minded" or "intolerant" just for rejecting ideology that is inconsistent with my own beliefs. Open-mindedness means that I am willing to listen and objectively discern for myself whether something is right or wrong. If I find it to be wrong, then that is NOT called close-mindedness; rather it is called "believing something to be wrong."

Furthermore, by the very definition of "truth," all conflicting things are false. If someone holds a view that is diametrically opposed to my own (which I believe to be true) by the very definition of truth, I believe his view to be false. This also is not called close-mindedness nor intolerance, but rather "believing something to be true."

There is nothing wrong with believing that people with conflicting beliefs are incorrect. Much of the negative connotation associated with doing so assumes that hatred will follow. If I reject the ideology, it does not necessitate hatred toward the people I disagree with. I can find their beliefs to be ridiculous, morally wrong, and personally abhorrent without hating the person holding the offending beliefs. Just because I reject the ideology does not mean I reject the person.

Being clear about what you believe to be true and false in the face of opposing viewpoints is something to be commended in today's society. Moreover, it is not justifiable grounds for those of you who hawk around for excuses to raise a stink to get offended and go off on "you're close-minded/intolerant" name-calling tangents. This is the epitome of hypocrisy: to have the audacity to label someone as intolerant in a derisive manner, just because he thinks you're wrong.

Ultimately, it is the Anti-Intolerance Crusaders — those who are so quick to assert the universal truth of all beliefs — who also assign a negative label to those who disagree with their assertion.

I can state with impunity that I think that they are absolutely wrong, and this contention is at the very least consistent. Whereas I am selectively "intolerant" of those I disagree with, they are truly intolerant of my "intolerance."

SOUND OFF
Create message boards at www.dailygamecock.com or send letters to the editor to gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

Gamecock Corrections

In Monday's News, Rachel Keisler should have been identified as the SG elections commissioner.

In Monday's News, www.vip.sc.edu was incorrectly listed.

In Monday's News, a photo of the Russell House should have been credited to Jason Steelman.

In Monday's News, The Dixie Chicks were misidentified.

In Monday's Viewpoints, Captain and Tennille was misspelled.

In Monday's The Mix, Richard Ormrod's name was misspelled. The Gamecock regrets the errors.

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu.

About The Gamecock

Editor in Chief
Adam Beam

Copy Desk Chief
Gabrielle Sinclair

Design Director
Shawn Rourke

Asst. Design Director
Staci Jordan

News Editor
Michael LaForgia

Asst. News Editor
Alexis Stratton

Viewpoints Editor
Patrick Augustine

The Mix Editor
Meg Moore

Asst. Mix Editor
Jennifer Sitowski

Sports Editor
Wes Wolfe

Asst. Sports Editor
Jonathan Hillyard

Photo Editor
Morgan Ford

Asst. Photo Editor
Johnny Haynes

Page Designers
Erin Cline, Brad Senkiw, Mary Pinckney Waters, Chaz McCarthy

Copy Editors
Allyson Bird, Jennifer Freeman, Jessica Foster, Steven Van Haren

Wire Editor
Z'Anne Covell

Online Editor
James Tolbert

Senior Writer
Kevin Fellner

CONTACT INFORMATION

Offices on third floor of the Russell House.
Editor in Chief: gamecockeditor@gwm.sc.edu
News: gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu
Viewpoints: gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu
The Mix: gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu
Sports: gamecocksports@gwm.sc.edu
Public Affairs: gamecockpr@yahoo.com
Online: www.dailygamecock.com
Newsroom: 777-7726
Editor's Office: 777-3914

STUDENT MEDIA

Director
Scott Lindenberger

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

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

In Your Opinion

Downloading has unforeseen costs

I get a little frustrated reading Lauren Adams' recent column ("Music piracy good for listeners," Monday) from a technical standpoint, considering all the crap I get to hear students moan about on a regular basis.

Yes, I believe in file sharing, but I don't believe in it the way so many college students have taken it out of context. When you download music, you are taxing the resources of many people. I am all for sharing, but Adams makes a mistake by saying "I can't afford to pay \$20 for a 16 track CD," which was preceded with "I'll go to a concert and pay \$40 for a T-shirt, and \$12 for a glass of tap water." Sounds a little misleading if you ask me. So even after wasting that \$52 on a concert, you can't afford a full CD? Why not use a legitimate service to download your music — Apple iTunes or Napster 2.0, for example.

I hate to say it, but bootlegging these days will cost you a little more than \$16 bucks if you're the average techno-illiterate college student. Telling students that piracy is a good

thing is a very unintelligent thing to do. You might be downloading nothing more than John Tesh's greatest hits, but sorry, you get caught, you're going to get a cease-and-desist followed by a subpoena. There's an old saying to this — "If you dance to the music, be prepared to pay the fiddler."

PATRICK BLAKE
THIRD-YEAR ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT

Liberals two-faced over gay marriage

Just a week ago San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom gave the green light for marriage licenses to be issued to gays. Proposition 22 in California states that marriage is only between a man and a woman.

Gavin Newsom completely disregards the law in violating Proposition 22. What makes the matter worse is the hypocrisy on the part of liberals and liberal organizations such as the People for the American Way and the ACLU. When Roy Moore broke the law by displaying the 10 Commandments in the rotunda

of the Alabama courthouse, liberal organizations and liberals demanded that he be punished, and even arrested.

Now that Gavin Newsom has broken the law in San Francisco, these same liberal groups and persons who were crying foul about Moore are completely silent about the San Francisco fiasco. Their silence makes apparent their hypocrisy. The aforementioned fact is nothing more than blatant, partisan duplicity.

These same liberal people and liberal organizations should be crying foul since Gavin Newsom has broken the law. However, by their refusal to do so, they have shown their bias and bigotry to conservatives by only condemning the issues they are against while condoning the issues they support.

RAYMOND COBLE
FOURTH-YEAR POLITICAL SCIENCE 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@gwm.sc.edu. Letters will be edited for space, possible libel and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Call the newsroom at 777-7726 for more information.

Winners and Sinners



LIBYA Tired of playing the aloof loner, gives up nuke program to rejoin world community.
BRIAN WILSON Decides to release "SMILE" 37 years after it was recorded; mentally disturbed surfers delighted.
AL HURRA Washington-sponsored channel plans to win Arab support by playing dubbed episodes of "ER" in the Middle East.



GARY BARNETT University of Colorado football coach awarded paid vacation after saying raped kicker played like a girl.
GREEK OLYMPICS Way behind schedule for 2004 games after baking baklava instead.
RALPH NADER Dethrones Dennis Kucinich as the least electable candidate in the 2004 presidential race.