+ THURSDAY

Low 68



ON THE WEB

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Look for these stories in Tuesday's online edition:

NEWS On-campus group sponsors alcoholfree events for the under-21 crowd.

SPORTS Look for a Gamecock football update following Lou Holtz's news conference. CASH

YOUR

NOTES

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STATE

Research agency pays employees top salaries

The top 10 employees of the South Carolina Research Authority were paid nearly \$10 million last year. That included more than \$276,000 in pay for Research Authority President Larry Druffel. The agency is supposed to bring high-paying research jobs to South Carolina. The agency says a study shows its pay is low compared with what executives earn at similar operations elsewhere. Legislators have previously asked that the state Legislative Audit Council review the authority. State Representative Roland Smith of Langley says pay was one of the concerns prompting calls for the review.

Archived letters link woman to Thurmond

The letters are worded carefully and lack anything personal, but they show the link between the late U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond and his long-secret biracial daughter, Essie Mae Washington Williams.

For all their businesslike tone, the letters show Thurmond took an interest in Williams' life and the lives of her children, his grandchildren.

Reporters from The State newspaper uncovered the records, most from the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, in Thurmond's archives at Clemson University, which contain about 8 million pages of the late senator's letters and other documents.

NATION

Troubled US Airways files for bankruptcy

ARLINGTON, Va. - US Airways Group Inc., the nation's seventhlargest airline, filed for bankruptcy protection Sunday for the second time in two years. The company's president vowed to continue restructuring the airline into a low-cost carrier during the bankruptcy process.

The Chapter 11 filing in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Alexandria came after US Airways was unable to obtain \$800 million in annual cost cuts from its workers' unions that the airline said it needed to stay afloat.

Last Monday, a deeply divided pilots union refused to allow its membership to vote on a company proposal that would have cut pay by 20 percent and retirement plan contributions by 50 percent.

WORLD

S. Korean officials say cloud wasn't nuclear

SEOUL, South Korea - A huge mushroom cloud that reportedly billowed up from North Korea was not caused by a nuclear explosion, South Korean and U.S. officials said Sunday, but they said the cause was a mystery.

The South Korean news agency Yonhap reported Sunday that a mammoth explosion in North Korea produced a mushroom cloud more than 2 miles across Thursday. It said the blast was stronger than an April explosion that killed 160 people and injured an estimated 1,300 at a North Korean railway station when a train carrying oil and chemicals

apparently hit power lines. "There was no indication that was a nuclear event of any kind," Powell said of Thursday's incident. "Exactly what it was, we're not sure."

Dozens die in surge of Baghdad violence

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents hammered central Baghdad on Sunday with one of their most intense mortar and rocket barrages ever in the heart of the capital, heralding a day of violence that killed nearly 60 people nationwide as security appeared to spiral out of control.

At least 37 people were killed in Baghdad alone. Many of them died when a U.S. helicopter fired on a disabled U.S. Bradley fighting vehicle as Iraqis swarmed around it, cheering, throwing stones and waving the black and yellow sunburst banner of Iraq's mostfeared terror organization.

BRIEFS FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

De Niro defends Italian film roles

VENICE, Italy - Robert De Niro dismissed accusations that his Mafia roles have smeared the image of Italian-Americans, arguing that he plays realistic characters including many who could not be construed as stereotypes.

De Niro's defense Friday came after the Order Sons of Italy in America, a fraternal organization of Americans of Italian heritage, wrote a letter to the Italian government, urging it to cancel its plan to award the actor honorary citizenship. The government rejected that request, and is expected to confer the honor next month.

"The characters that I played are real, they are real. So they have as much right to be portrayed as any other characters," De Niro said, during promotion Friday of the animated feature "Shark Tale."

He added, "There are other characters that I've played other than those ones that have been called stereotypes or whatever."

Jeffrey Katzenberg, the producer of "Shark Tale," came to the actor's defense. "The interesting thing is that the people who've said this, not one



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robert De Niro arrives at Venice's St. Mark's Square for the screening of his latest movie "Shark Tale."

of them has seen the movie." De Niro, whose paternal

grandparents were born in Italy, expressed delight at the Italiancitizenship honor.

"I am part Italian, I'm not all Italian. I'm part Dutch, I'm part French, I'm part German, I'm part Irish. But my name is Italian," he said. "And I probably identify more with my Italian side than with my other parts. ... Italy is such a great, wonderful country. I'm very proud and honored to be asked to be a citizen."

De Niro has appeared as an Italian-American mobster in "Goodfellas" and "The Godfather Part II." In "Analyze This" and "Analyze That," he performed a comedic send up of the mafia tough-guy persona.

Monday, September 13, 2004

"It's everything you want to do when you're a little kid: play in the sewer, eat lots of pizza and kick lots of ass."

MATT TYSON

PICTURE OF THE DAY



ESPN GameDay co-host Kirk Herbstreit signs a fan Saturday on the State Fairgrounds.

Tale" "Shark premiering in a special screening at Venice's St. Mark's Square on Friday night. The cartoon movie is a seabased tale about Mafia sharks, with De Niro providing the voice-over for finned mob boss Don Lino. Other voice-overs for the movie include Will Renee Zellweger, Angelina Jolie, Jack Black and Martin Scorsese

P. Diddy to form new TV girl band

NEW YORK - P. Diddy is back to "Making the Band" this time, with all women.

For three seasons, P. Diddy, a.k.a. Sean Combs, developed the now-disbanded hip-hop ensemble Da Band in the show's second incarnation.

During the first season of "Making the Band 2," Puffy and his Bad Boy Entertainment team searched the country to construct the music group while the second and third seasons chronicled Da Band on the road and in the studio. But Da Band received da ax at the end of the third season when P. Diddy disbanded the group.

"We watched P. Diddy work magic with his last group Da Band, who despite their issues working together, still managed to take their very first album gold," said MTV Series Entertainment Executive Vice President Lois Curren. "We can't wait to see what he has in store for us as he forms a girl group in a whole new music genre."

This won't be P. Diddy's first time crafting an all-girl pop group. He was the mastermind behind Dream, a pop quartet who sang the hit "He Loves Me Not."

COMING

TODAY

BROTHERS OF NUBIAN DESCENT SAME-SEX DISCUSSION FORUM: Russell House Ballroom, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION GRADUATION FAIR: Russell House Bookstore, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

CAREER FAIR BLITZ: Carolina

Coliseum 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. USC WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. CLEMSON: Stone Stadium, 7 p.m. VOLUNTEER FAIR: Greene Street, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY WORKPLACE WORKSHOP: Computer Services 309, 8:45 a.m. to noon.

QUANTUM REFERENCE FRAMES LECTURE: Jones Physical Science Center 409, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY ROSH HASHANAH

FRIDAY

USC VOLLEYBALL vs. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: Basketball Practice Facility, 7 p.m.

USC BRIEFS

Forum to focus on homosexuality

The Brothers of Nubian Descent will offer a forum at 7 p.m. in the Russell House Ballroom.

The forum, "How can the Christian community embrace Homosexuality," will feature a discussion with local preachers and members of the Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Straight Alliance. Refreshments will be served afterward.

YWCA program offers career advice

The YWCA is offering a symposium called "Women and Career" as part of a new quarterly symposium program.

The event will take place Sept. 22, 1:30-5 p.m., at the YWCA at 1510 Barnwell St. Ann Caulkins, president and publisher of The State, will Known Then What I Know Now."

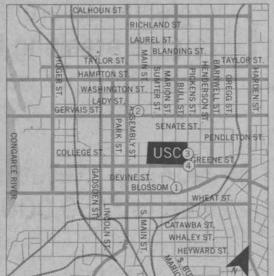
The second half of the program, "Juggling Family & Career," will be co-facilitated by Tre Taylor, on-air personality and promotions director for WLXC, 98.5 KISS FM and Pam Roberts, litigation partner of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough.

To register for the symposium, call the YWCA at 252-2151.

Journal to hold interest meeting

The Lettered Olive student literary journal will hold an interest meeting Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the USC Studio for Book Arts on the first floor of McBryde building AB.

POLICE REPORT



Reports taken from the USC Police Department.

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.)

Nonviolent CRIMES AT UNKNOWN HOURS

■ Violent

■ Violent Nonviolent

THURSDAY, SEPT. 9

(1) Grand Larceny of Laptop, East Quad Room 434B, 1400 Blossom

A grey IBM laptop was removed from the unsecured location. Estimated value is Reporting officer: P. Morant

(2) Information Report, Engineering building sidewalk, 300 Main St. A suspect, possibly homeless,

wearing dark clothes became irritated and cursed at the victim after the victim said he had no money to give him.

Reporting officer: P. Jones 3 Suspicious Activity, B.A. Building Room 571, 1701 College

complainant walked through the shut door to his office to find someone looking through his files. The suspect said he was looking for a phone. Then he ran out of the door. Reporting officer: N. Dehaai

Information, North side of Leconte, 1523 Greene St.

(4) Two subjects with brown hair and wearing Carolina T-shirts were stopping females and asking if they could take their pictures. Reporting officer: Wheeler

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