

UPGRADE

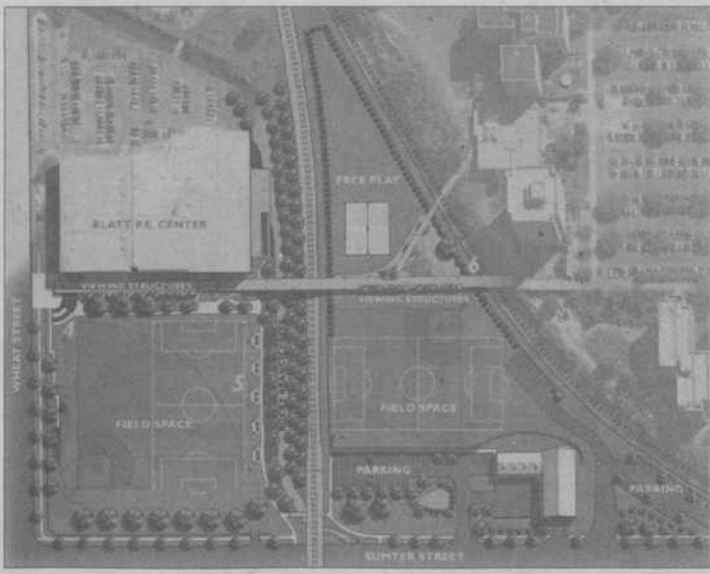
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total renovation of two classrooms in Gambrell Hall.

If approved by the full board, classrooms 005 and 006 will be renovated, including new seating, interior and exterior finishes, and multimedia equipment.

"It is very important that we not only keep our rooms up to par for students and parents that come, but for the technology sake as well," Kelly said. "A lot of classrooms are getting their face-lifts for the first time."

The full Board of Trustees will meet Dec. 13.



SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

A graphical view of the Bates House walkway, which would be renovated with plants and covered walkways for spectators.

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WEST QUAD

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"We moved in and nothing was finished," said Moody, a second-year electronic journalism student.

Luna explained that housing officials decided to open the nearly completed residence hall this fall rather than temporarily place students in hotels.

Moody said malfunctioning fire alarm systems — alarms have awakened her on a handful of occasions in the early morning hours this semester — and plumbing problems have made her regret choosing the apartment-style hall. Last week, Moody said a pipe burst in her bathroom, and water flooded her apartment, ruining rugs and some of her clothes.

To make matters worse, Moody continued, she has had to contend with hoots of "hey, baby" and "mamacita" from some contractors working on West Quad.

"It's something you shouldn't have to deal with when you're walking to class," she said.

Luna said that before campus projects begin, housing officials spell out clear guidelines governing contractors' conduct.

"If there's any inappropriate comments by the contractors to students, and we can identify who that contractor is, we expect them to be removed immediately," he said. "That has happened at West Quad."

Luna also said students have a right to be upset over frequent alarms and burst water pipes.

"Some of those students that are upset in my view have legitimate complaints," he said. "If I'm in their shoes, I would find it not very good either."

Luna said the problems, particularly the false fire alarms, were typical of new buildings on campus.

"It seems to take a bit of time to get all the bugs out of those systems," he said. He said housing officials met with West Quad student staff members last week to address complaints.

While Moody plans to move out in the spring, other West Quad residents say their experience has been positive.

"A lot of people complain about all the stuff that's going on in West Quad,

but I really like it," said Diana Chen, a second-year pharmacy student who lives in building C. "I understand that it's a new building, and there's a lot of problems in the beginning."

And Moody's roommate, second-year hospitality student Valerie Rubenstein, said she's enjoyed her time in the "green" residence hall.

"I don't have that many complaints, besides the flooding and all that," she

said. West Quad, which includes an outdoor amphitheater, a learning center powered partly by a hydrogen fuel cell, a turf roof and a cafe, is the second residence hall of its kind worldwide. Carnegie Mellon University opened the first "green" hall last fall.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

Aide says Arafat 'sleeping'

By LARA SUKHTIAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLAMART, France — Yasser Arafat was not in a coma but remained in intensive care Saturday after undergoing more medical tests, a senior aide to the ailing Palestinian leader said. Test results were expected within days.

Nabil Abu Rdeneh, Arafat's spokesman, would not say whether his announcement meant Arafat had emerged from a coma or whether he had not been comatose at all. He also refused to say whether he saw Arafat personally, and he did not specify the nature of the new medical tests.

"He is not in a coma," Abu Rdeneh told reporters after coming out of the French military hospital where Arafat has been treated for more than a week.

"He is under strict medical observation. We hope that in the coming few days we will be able to

know exactly what he is suffering from. So far, nobody could diagnose the situation," he said at about midnight, adding that Arafat's condition was stable.

"Right now he is sleeping."

Doctors have not yet made public any diagnosis, but the Palestinian envoy to France, Leila Shahid, said Friday that the 75-year-old Arafat was in a coma and "at a critical point between life and death."

Earlier, hospital spokesman Gen. Christian Estripeau described Arafat's condition as unchanged from Friday. Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, in a bid to preserve calm, made a rare visit to the Gaza Strip for talks with rival Palestinian groups.

Qureia met for four hours with representatives of the 13 major Palestinian factions, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad, as well as security chiefs, lawmakers and officials of Arafat's Fatah faction. Such a broad gathering is extremely rare.



PHOTO SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

Emile Griffith corners Benny "The Kid" Paret in the 1962 welterweight championship. Paret died during the nationally televised fight. A USC alumnus' film explores the fight's ramifications.

FILM

Continued from page 1

"maricon," a Spanish slur for gays.

"In a way, not much has changed in 40-plus years," Klores said. "How many openly gay male sports figures do you know?"

Klores describes his film as a story of both love and violence.

"There are some very sweet and loving moments because it is a story about the love these men had in their lives, but it is also very violent," Klores said.

Klores said he had considered making a documentary about this event for many years.

"I was always intrigued by the story because there are so many layers and elements — love, violence, sexuality," Klores said. "I think if one of those layers had not been there I would not

have been so interested."

Although Klores said he does not know how students will respond to the film, he anticipates seeing their reaction. He said he thinks students who enjoyed his first documentary, "The Boys of Second Street Park," which he screened at USC last fall, will also appreciate "Ring of Fire."

"In many ways this film is a better film because it is more layered, but there is a similarity in terms of emotion," Klores said. "If you liked 'Boys,' you'll really love this."

Matt Sefick, a media arts graduate student who is helping to coordinate Klores' visit, said the opportunity to see a filmmaker premiere his film months in advance should attract viewers.

"Not only do students have the chance to see the film before anyone else, they also have the filmmaker on hand to answer questions," Sefick said.

"Anyone interested in film or television should be interested in being a part of that experience."

Media arts professor Karla Berry, coordinator of media arts, said viewers would not have to be boxing fans to enjoy the documentary.

"Yes, it is a boxing film, but the characters are really the heart of this story," Berry said. "The film invites you into their lives, and you see their past."

Berry said the film evokes the past through the use of footage and music from the time, allowing people to see and hear what the era was like.

Klores said the documentary has been purchased by a major network and would air in early spring. The film will also be shown at film festivals starting in January.

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IRAQ

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Kurdish-ruled areas in the north.

Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said the state of emergency is a "very powerful message that we are serious" about reining in insurgents before elections set for late January.

"We want to secure the country so

elections can be done in a peaceful way and the Iraqi people can participate in the elections freely, without the intimidation by terrorists and by forces who are trying to wreck the political process in Iraq," he told reporters.

Allawi said nothing in public about the beginning of the attack in Fallujah, although U.S. commanders have said it would be his responsibility to order the

storming of the city.

Insurgents, meanwhile, waged a second day of multiple attacks across the restive Sunni Triangle north and west of Baghdad, storming police stations, assassinating government officials and setting off deadly car bombs. About 60 people have been killed and 75 injured in the two days of attacks.

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