

TODAY	SAT	SUN.	MON.	TUE.
High 66 Low 37	High 71 Low 48	High 76 Low 54	High 78 Low 53	High 82 Low 53

CAROLINA BRIEF

USC president's salary to exceed \$500,000

USC's board of trustees has approved a bonus that puts the school president's salary above the \$500,000 mark for the first time.

President Andrew Sorensen, who has been at USC for three years, is paid \$222,525 by the state of South Carolina. A private foundation supplements that salary with \$265,000.

The board recently approved a \$40,000 bonus to reward Sorensen for his success in bringing in research money, gifts and other donations. That takes his pay to \$527,525.

"I don't think anyone can say we're underpaying the president of USC," said Rep. Ronnie Townsend, R-Anderson and chairman of the House Education and Public Works committees.

Townsend said Sorensen is doing a good job, but he was surprised by the figure.

Trustees president Herbert Adams said Sorensen does a great job of communicating with South Carolinians from all walks of life.

"We had the highest annual giving ever this year," Adams said. "He's trying as hard as he can to make the university a better place and we think succeeding."

THIS WEEK @ USC

TODAY

Katie Ipock flute recital: 4 p.m. School of Music 206

USC Opera presents Rossini's "L'italiana in Algeri": 7:30 p.m. Keenan High School, 3455 Pine Belt Road

Theatre South Carolina presents Anton Chekhov's "The Cherry Orchard": Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m.; Drayton Hall; through Saturday, Nov. 19

SATURDAY

Andrae Raffield junior viola recital: 7:30 p.m. School of Music 206

SUNDAY

USC Opera presents Rossini's "L'italiana in Algeri": 3 p.m. Keenan High School, 3455 Pine Belt Road

THE GAMECOCK

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IN PROTEST



Laura-Joyce Gough/THE GAMECOCK

Members of USC's Student Coalition for the Empowerment of African-Americans gathered outside the Russell House on Wednesday.

POLICE REPORT

MONDAY, NOV. 7

Assistance rendered, 10:40 p.m.
Patterson Hall, 1520 Devine St.

An 18-year-old woman said she had severe pain in her leg. First Responders and EMS arrived. The woman was taken to Providence Hospital's ER.

Reporting officer: M.A. Winnington

TUESDAY, NOV. 8

Accidental Damage
Jones Physical Science Center, 712 Main St.

The victim, 18, said she left her wallet in a room, and it was missing when she returned to retrieve it. The wallet is garnet with the Student Government logo on it and contained an ID, a driver's license, a Visa card and a key.

Reporting officer: M.J. Winnington

Collision, 4:40 p.m.

E-5 Lot, Wheat Street
While backing out, a 51-year-old

woman's car struck a vehicle in the road. Her car had a dent on the bumper, and the other vehicle suffered damage to a rear panel.

Larceny of key, 7:30 p.m.

Snowden, 600 Main St.
The victim said someone removed a car key from his room.

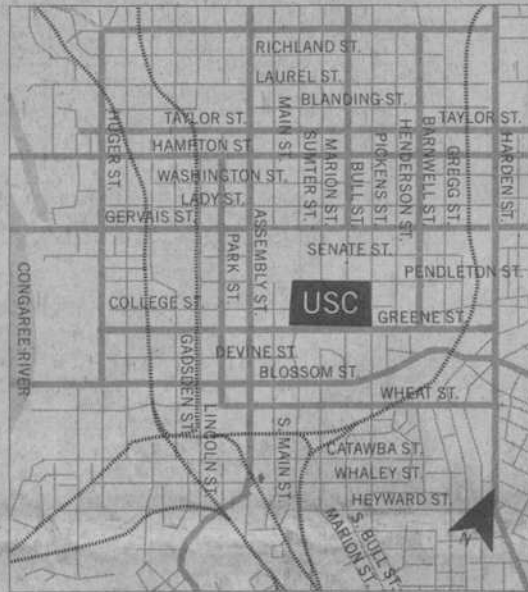
Reporting officer: A. Mitchell

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9

Simple possession of marijuana, unlawful possession of a controlled substance, 12:45 a.m.

400 block of Blossom Street

Reporting officer B. Timbers stopped a vehicle that appeared to be having trouble staying in its lane. Upon approaching the vehicle, Timbers noted a strong odor of burning marijuana. Further investigation turned up a plastic bag with a green, leafy substance believed



Reports are taken from the USC Police Department.

Venus probe launched successfully toward Earth's neighbor

Melissa Eddy
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DARMSTADT, Germany — A European spacecraft left Earth Wednesday on a five-month, 220 million-mile journey to Venus, an exploratory mission that could help spur a new space race.

The European Space Agency said the unmanned Venus Express lifted off from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, and mission control in Darmstadt activated the probe's instruments and immediately picked up a signal to hearty applause in the observation room.

The Europeans then received another signal — a congratulatory note from the Pasadena, Calif.-based Planetary Society, which had monitored the launch from NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab.

The \$260 million spacecraft will take 163 days to reach its destination, where it will drop into orbit and explore the hot, dense atmosphere of Venus.

"The mission is an outstanding success," Gaelle Winters, director of ESA's operations in Darmstadt, told reporters. "We had a perfect launch, the instruments are switched on, the solar panels are deployed, everything is working."

The Venus mission is the latest sign that competition in space is heating up even as NASA is reassessing its own exploration plans.

NASA is cutting some of its programs to focus resources on developing a replacement for the space shuttle.

The space shuttle Columbia tragedy in 2003 caused NASA to ground its fleet for more than two years. Flights resumed in July with the Discovery, but the dangerous loss of a chunk of its insulation during launch has put future missions on hold until at least May, and possibly even next summer.

State

New Testament to go into print in Gullah

ST. HELENA ISLAND —

More than a quarter century after the laborious work began, the New Testament has finally been translated into Gullah, the Creole language spoken by slaves and their descendants for generations along the sea islands off the Southeast coast.

"I think this makes the language universal," said Ervena Faulkner, the co-manager of history and culture at the Penn Center, which is nestled amid spreading oaks dripping Spanish moss on this island just east of Beaufort.

Nation

Not many WWI vets still alive in America

WASHINGTON —

Lloyd Brown remembers Armistice Day in 1918 as few — ever so few — veterans can.

"For the servicemen there were lots of hugs and kisses," recalls Brown, of Charlotte Hall, Md., a teenage seaman aboard the battleship USS New Hampshire, which was in port stateside when the fighting stopped. "We were so happy that the war was over."

Now 104, Brown adds, "There's not too many of us around any more."

No one knows exactly how many of America's World War I veterans will celebrate Veterans Day, which marks the armistice of Nov. 11, 1918, that ended what then was considered the Great War.

World

Liberian woman wins presidential election

MONROVIA, Liberia —

A former finance minister and Harvard graduate claimed victory Thursday in Liberia's presidential election, a win that, if certified, would make her the first elected female leader ever in Africa.

With 90.8 percent of votes counted, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf had received 59.1 percent and former international soccer star George Weah 40.9 percent, the National Elections Commission said.

There was no immediate word from Weah's camp on whether he was conceding defeat in the vote — Liberia's first since the end of a 1989-2003 civil war and subsequent formation of a transitional government.

Earlier, officials called for calm amid Weah's accusations that poll workers stuffed ballot boxes in Johnson-Sirleaf's favor, charges her campaign denied.

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