# VIEWPOINTS



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# IN OUR OPINION One week not enough for crucial donations

It might seem like small consolation after Saturday's loss to Clemson at Williams-Brice Stadium, but we hope students take some solace in that our school won the annual Carolina-Clemson blood drive.

We applaud the students, faculty and staff members who gave blood last week, and we encourage everyone who didn't to give blood sometime soon.

Hurricane Katrina and the other recent disasters have underscored the importance of donating blood to emergency response efforts.

While the sense of competition between Carolina and Clemson during rivalry weekend makes for a great excuse for the Red Cross to stockpile pints of blood, the need exists year round. So give blood, even when the distinction of beating Clemson

at something doesn't come

### One unit of blood can save as many as three people's lives.

attached. Are you scared of needles or do you feel faint after shots? Suck it up, eat a big breakfast and give

anyway. It only hurts for a second, and the thought of doing tremendous good ought to be enough to calm you for the few minutes it takes to donate.

One unit of blood can save as many as three people's lives. This goes especially for students with rare blood types.

Is the pain really too great to help a dying man, woman or child?

Don't forget that many people would give their left foot to donate blood but they can't for any number of reasons. Students who can give should.

And while disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and Sept. 11 have illustrated why giving blood is so important, they shouldn't be the impetus for donating.

People need blood every day of the year, regardless of whether disaster strikes.

Besides, they give you free juice and cookies- not to mention various and sundry other free stuff- for donating only a little



# Stopping racism starts with social education

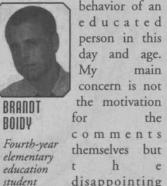
**Offensive remarks should** hold consistent, harsh punishment for everyone

My column this week is personally addressed to USC President Andrew Sorensen. It is in direct response to the recent racial issue of message board remarks. While I realize the issue has been swept to the past and lacks concern, I would like to comment on it nonetheless. My focus is not specifically the latest issue and its handling, but the response to Carolina's overall racial issues and problems.

Week after week at least one article of racial dilemma is published in The Gamecock, everything from the ridiculous Facebook group, to Five Points bar discrimination, to current issues of fraternity comments.

Never in my life have I encountered such a large group of educated people, stemming from all types of different racial backgrounds, having so many problems. South Carolina has a predominant, and extremely influential, black population. However, their presence seems to lack the respect it certainly deserves.

The recent comments of certain fraternity members are appalling but only not completely



the motivation the comments themselves but e disappointing actions by the university in response to these

remarks. In the rest of our nation these type of remarks forfeit jobs, respect and beg for immediate consequences.

Racial remarks by Atlanta Braves relief pitcher John Rocker earned him a hefty suspension without pay for 14 games. When Mississippi Sen. Trent Lott made racial remarks condoning segregation, he quickly was forced to resign from his position of Senate Republican Leader.

The rest of America refuses to put up with racial comments, mistakes or slips, whatever they might be. They are simply not tolerated. Sadly, at this university, that is not the

I was in shock after reading investigating this matter was

conversation with individuals who publicly displayed these comments, in an effort to determine their reasons for the remarks. I highly doubt the individuals would step forth for that conversation, and I highly doubt that this response was intimidating, threatening, and at the very least an effective measure to later prevent such inappropriate comments.

If this university is going to advance into the educational future, then it must first educate itself on social advancement. Swift action needs to be taken, and it needs to be taken consistently. All racial issues need to be taken seriously and resolved with consequences for those who deserve them. No longer can this university turn its head. If it continues to, the problems will never cease, but rather spawn into new ones with little regard for what will come of the events.

I realize this is the South and that carries the burden of a racially conflicted past, but that is not an excuse and the South is not alone with this burden. USC can stand as a model of the old South or as an example that the response of those of the new, but the decision lies with future action and

#### Monday, Nov. 21, 2005

## United we can register, divided we get confused

Multiple advisers make planning ahead for next semester more difficult

Well, now that class registration has come and gone, I no longer need to

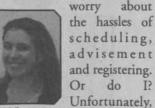
about

I?

do

because I am in

the S.C. Honors



PAIGE MARTINEAU First-year

College, I am psychology responsible for student somehow

combining the needs of my major and the needs of the college. This is marginally accomplished by meeting with my two advisers, one each from the major and the Honors College, and neither knows enough about the other program to allow me to have only one visit. This is understandable, especially for my major adviser, who is responsible for hundreds of students and their individual needs.

However, it is also frustrating and ultimately inefficient, since I have had to go back and forth between my major adviser and my honors adviser five times already. I still do not have all the issues resolved. I still do not know if some of my honors courses meet major requirements, and I do not know if major requirements are offered as honors. Four weeks into the process, I have at least one more meeting with each department.

Why should advisement between two different departments be SO incongruous? Again, each is handling hundreds, maybe thousands of students, each with complex plans and agendas. In the case of the Honors College and other majors not to mention double majors - there should be meetings or at least communication between the two. The Honors College should provide students with a worksheet that shows ways to combine courses for their major and the Honors College. While I am still only going into my second semester, I have no idea if I will graduate with honors, when I will have my general education requirements out of the way or even when I will graduate. Certainly I might be expecting too much at such an early stage, but at the same time it is wildly difficult to concentrate on classes for this term when it takes a third of the semester setting up classes for the next. College officials say that if students want to study abroad, participate in internships OL. take alternative paths of study, students need to plan as far ahead as possible. With the disjunction and lack of communication between departments creating such a maze and puzzle of course registration, I don't ever want to try to plan ahead again.

blood

And from where we're sitting, that's not such a bad deal.

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unacceptable that they were seeking a prevention.

doing.

IN YOUR OPINION

to help. Many who could

speak English expressed their

views of the invasion of Iraq

and the use of terrorism by

They did not believe that

terrorism was justified, nor

did they believe that another

conflict in the region was

going to solve anything.

Previously, a full-fledged

supporter of the war, I now

see it in a different light, and

I am not so sure that the

decision to go to Iraq with

force was the next logical step

in fighting the terrorist

exposed to information and

experiences that would have

never happened here in the

States. For example,

While abroad, I was

threat.

to

me,

fundamentalists

condemning both.

#### Life abroad changes political perspective

For many Americans, the Muslim world is a far-off place where terrorism resides and foreigners are unwelcome.

Islam is viewed by many as hostile and fundamentally different from Christianity and Judaism. To some, Arab Muslims are viewed as primitive and unable to adapt to life in the 21st century. For those who believe any of the above stereotypes, as a Christian-American, couldn't disagree with you more.

In light of the fact that last week was International Education Week, I would like to talk about how my study abroad experience has affected my world view.

During summer 2005, I spent two months studying Arabic in Cairo, Egypt, and another two weeks studying terrorism in Israel with the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies.I arrived with no Arabic and left with the

Online

Poll

ability to go to a bazaar (marketplace) and buy food

driver where I needed to go, or simply say hello and ask someone how they were received the I found the Egyptian people to be extremely holy place for Muslims. hospitable and always willing

hand, the lack of opportunity that exists for young Egyptians. The amount of poverty in Cairo is between the economy in the Western world and in Egypt is a source of frustration for many. Perhaps we should these more often when we talk about the war on terrorism.

#### **ANTHONY BUSCH**

Second-year business 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. Anonymous letters will not be published. Call the newsroom at 777-7726 for more information.

Do you think global warming is a more serious threat than terrorism?

or other goods, tell a taxi

climbed Mt. Sinai before sunrise, and when I reached the summit, not only did I find a small church, but a

mosque as well. It turns out that the place where Moses Ten Commandments is also a

I also experienced, firststaggering, and the difference consider problems such as