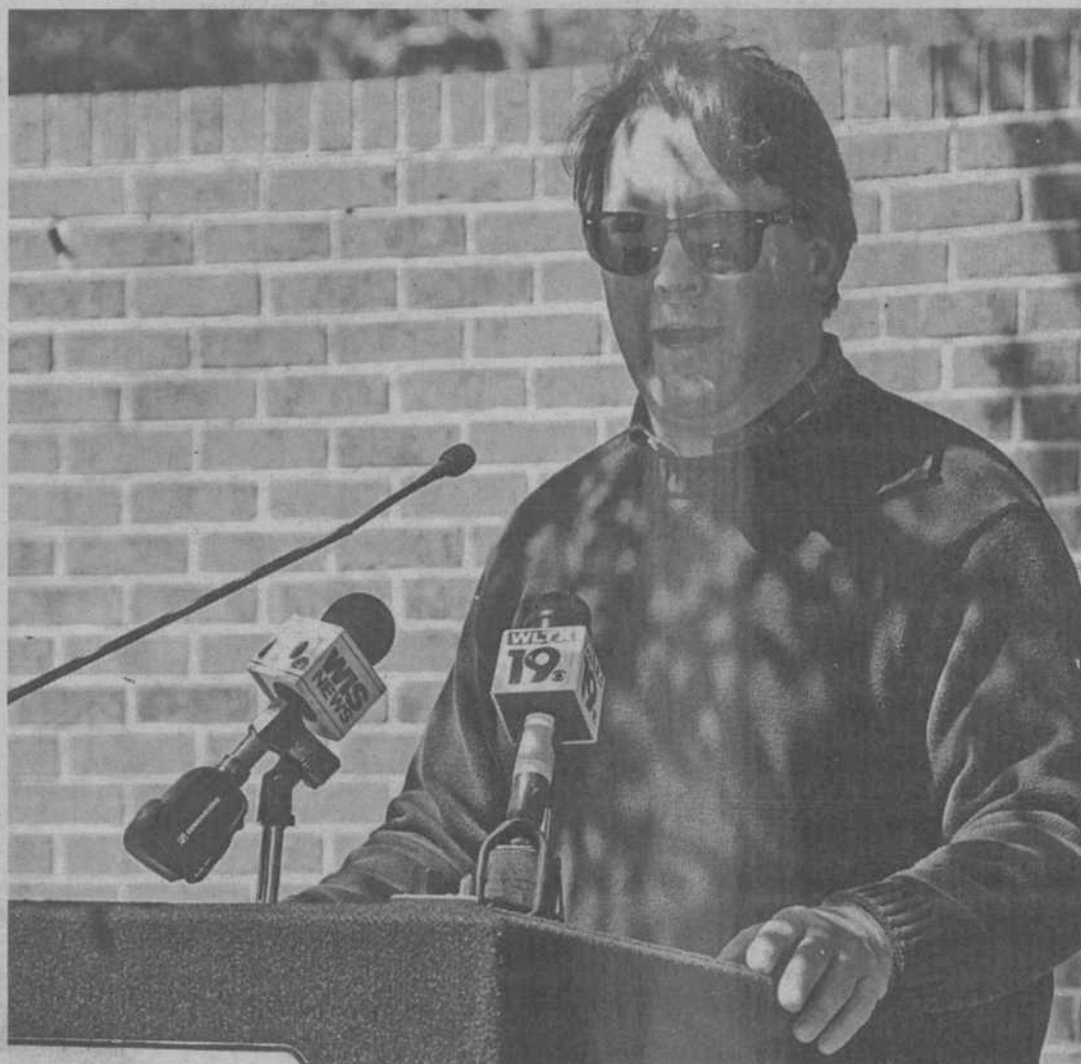


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SKETCHY



Nick Soares / THE GAMECOCK

Syndicated editorial cartoonist Robert Ariail speaks Monday at a news conference on the Russell House patio announcing The Gamecock's plans to go daily in the fall.

State

Report: Education gap grows between sexes

A greater percentage of women than men are finishing high school in South Carolina, but more men are finishing college, according to a recent U.S. Census report.

In 2000, 76.9 percent of South Carolina women 25 and older had at least a high school diploma — slightly more than the men. Only 19.4 percent of them had bachelor's degrees compared with 21.6 percent for men.

Nation

Officials drop charges against drunk teacher

NEW ORLEANS — Prosecutors have dropped charges against a retired teacher who was beaten by New Orleans police during an arrest caught on videotape shortly after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city in August of 2005, he and his lawyer said Monday.

Robert Davis, 64, had been charged with public intoxication, resisting arrest and battery on a police officer.

World

Iran dismisses reports of possible U.S. attack

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran shrugged off reports that the United States is drawing backup plans for military action, saying Monday they were an attempt to scare it into halting its nuclear program and warning any attack would bring a "suitable response."

A top European Union official, meanwhile, rejected any use of force against Iran in the confrontation over its nuclear program.

Weather Forecast

TODAY	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
High 76 Low 50	High 78 Low 56	High 82 Low 59	High 85 Low 65	High 86 Low 65

CRIME REPORT

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Flood damage,

9:29 a.m.

Humanities Office Building, 1620 College St.

Because of a burst pipe, there is extensive water damage to floors six through nine.

Reporting officer: C. Knoche

Assistance rendered, 11:24 a.m.

Student Health Center, 1401 Devine St.

The victim, 18, was having trouble breathing and was taken to Baptist Hospital.

Reporting officer: M.D. Evans

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Suspicious activity, 4:48 a.m.

Bates House, 1423 Whaley St.

The victim, 21, said someone threw water into his room while he was sleeping.

Reporting officer: N. Husbands

Grand larceny, 2 p.m.

Humanities Office Building,

1620 College St.

Someone entered the construction site and removed a black Whiteman motor mixer.

Estimated value: \$2,500

Reporting officer: M.D. Evans

Grand larceny of laptop, 11 p.m.

Capstone, 902 Barnwell St.

The victim, 19, said someone took her laptop computer.

Estimated value: \$2,500

Reporting officer: J.E. Silcox

MONDAY, APRIL 10

Trespassing after notice, 2:45 a.m.

Bates House, 1423 Whaley St.

The complainant said Issac James, 18, was in a room although he had been forbidden from all university housing for assaulting a resident.

After being admitted by a resident, the officer found James naked, hiding in a closet. James was arrested and transported to Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

Reporting officer: S. Wilcox

Italy heads toward split parliament in struggle involving former president

Alessandra Rizzo

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROME — Italy's parliament appeared headed Tuesday toward a split between the conservative coalition headed by Premier Silvio Berlusconi and one led by his center-left challenger — an election result that could stall the formation of a new government.

Final results in the two-day vote ending Monday showed Romano Prodi's center-left coalition winning control in the lower house of parliament, with 49.8 percent of the vote compared to 49.7 won by Berlusconi's conservatives. The winning coalition is automatically awarded 55 percent of the seats, according to a new electoral law.

According to the results, Berlusconi's conservative allies held a one-seat lead in the Senate, although six

seats elected abroad were still to be counted.

"We have won, and now we have to start working to implement our program and unify the country," said a jubilant Prodi, speaking to his supporters.

"I am grateful to all of you because it has been a very difficult battle," Prodi said. "Until the very end we were left in suspense, but in the end victory has arrived."

Berlusconi's spokesman contested the victory claim, and Prodi's allies conceded after his announcement that results in the Senate were still not complete.

During his tenure, Berlusconi, a flamboyant billionaire, had strongly supported President Bush over Iraq despite fierce Italian opposition to the war. Prodi, an economist, said he would bring troops home as soon as possible, security conditions permitting.

Police Bulletin

USCPD is seeking your assistance.

If you were in the vicinity of Five Points (Jungle Jim's), or any area between Five Points and the Coker Life Sciences building or Towers area between 2 and 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, please call Capt. Streater at 777-5102.

You might have information that would be helpful in an investigation.

Want your organization's meetings to be on the calendar on Page Two? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu



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