Homecoming 2007 full of excitement

Lil’ Wayne, Bobby Valentino concert highlight of week

By THE COLLEGIAN STAFF

Homecoming at SC State is a unique blend of events, step shows, and other events that build excitement towards the big Homecoming football game.

There were plenty of events this year, so just in case if you missed any of the activities, here’s a review of what happened at Homecoming:

**MONDAY: DORM STEP SHOW**

**Crowd favorite places third**

Late paperwork caused the crowd favorites, the Andrew Hugine Suites and University Village group, to place third in this year’s Dorm Step Show.

The group, which performed a futuristic Broadway style production with the theme of “Class of 2040,” suffered a whopping 14-point loss for the late submission.

The Commuters Club, which placed first with their “80’s Babies” theme, and lit up the scene in fluorescent yellow t-shirts. Their winning combination of theatrics and stepping made them the first performers to escape the pockets of booing that sporadically came from the audience.

Truth Hall’s presentation was more modest than Hugine Suites and the UV, but what they lacked in frills, they made up with their fast and upbeat moves.

Though they did not place, the performance of Mays Hall I and II is worth mentioning. Without any frills at all, the group that performed last, put together and excellent stepping routine that was even able to grab the attention of persons making their way out of the auditorium.

Overall, the Dorm Step Show was an excellent display of SC State talent and creativity.

- Dervedia Thomas
Collegeian Managing Editor

PLEASE SEE HOMECOMING, PAGE 3

The Collegian explains why first issue comes out later than usual

Alright, admit it.
You’re probably sitting in the Café or in the Student Center wondering why this, our first issue, is coming out so late.

Well, the full explanation could probably take up this entire paper, so here’s a quick summary:

We didn’t have anyone to print our newspaper.

That’s right. When the contract for printing The Collegian was sent out by the university back in August to various companies, they accidentally sent the contract to businesses that normally print pamphlets and magazines, such as the program books for the Bulldog football games, and not to the newspapers, which normally print our paper.

Why do we only use newspapers to print The Collegian? Because we can only use newsprint, the material that this issue is printed on (and material that only newspapers have), to print our paper. The contract was sent out again by the university to the correct businesses, and we had to wait even longer for someone to accept our contract.

The Times and Democrat, the paper here in Orangeburg, agreed to print The Collegian for this year, and I, along with the rest of the staff, am eternally grateful that they have done so.

Now, with that out of the way, while we were waiting to print, we’ve been making a few changes with the newspaper, some of which we hope you’ve noticed already, such as our new look.

We have more new ideas coming, such as our new sections, like Impact, a section that discusses religious and African-American issues and a new section devoted exclusively to, and for, international students, which will make its debut in November.

As we continue to make more changes for the paper, let us know what you think about the changes and give us any ideas you have to make our paper even better.

Send an e-mail to thecollegian@scsu.edu, or to our new Facebook group (“The Collegian – SCSU’s Newspaper”).

We look forward to serving you….and printing more often.

- Dante Mozie
Editor-in-Chief
**N.C. fire survivor, USC student recounts narrow escape**

By MEG KINNARD
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C. - Fallon Sposato awoke to a blaring alarm and smoke seeping into the first-floor bedroom of the beach house where she and 12 friends had been partying just hours earlier. With her lungs and eyes burning, she ran with her boyfriend through the smoke-filled house, assuming her friends were already outside.

"And then nobody else was out yet," the 19-year-old University of South Carolina sophomore recalled during an interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Seven students died in the blaze. Six others made it out of the house in Ocean Isle Beach, N.C., into the arms of neighbors and rescue workers.

"We were all hysterical. They were holding us back, trying to get our friends," said Sposato, a native of Orlando, Fla.

On Tuesday, officials at the University of South Carolina and in Ocean Isle Beach officially identified those killed in the fire: Cassidy Fae Pendley, 18; Lauren Astrid Kristiana Mahon, 18; Justin Michael Anderson, 19; Travis Lane Cale, 19; Allison Walden, 19; William Rhea, 18; and Emily Lauren Yelton, 19.

Of those who died, six attended the University of South Carolina; Yelton attended Clemson University.

Many of those staying at the house were members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and Delta Delta Delta sorority, and some had attended high school together in Greenville, S.C.

Sposato, a Delta Delta Delta member, said she and Walden, her roommate and sorority sister, joined the weekend getaway after scrapping a trip to Ohio. With her lungs and eyes burning, she ran with her boyfriend through the smoke-filled house, assuming her friends were already outside.

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Sposato, a Delta Delta Delta member, said she and Walden, her roommate and sorority sister, joined the weekend getaway after scrapping a trip to Ohio. They picked the location closer to home, Sposato said, so the sorority members could be back on campus for initiation activities Sunday afternoon.

"Everybody just kind of needed a break from Columbia," Sposato said.

The group caravanned up to the resort town after classes Friday, listening to music and swimming in a canal behind the house, she said. On Saturday, they went out to lunch and watched the Georgia-Florida game before grilling food on a patio under the house, which was on stilts, and getting ready to watch South Carolina take on Tennessee.

"We just had a good time," Sposato said. Students were drinking alcohol at the house, but no illegal drugs were ever present, she said. "We were just hanging out and listening to music."

The group partied into the early morning on the back deck. Sposato said she was the first to go to bed, turning in at 4:30 a.m. after calling her father to say she had lost her camera.

Several hours later, Sposato and her boyfriend, whom she declined to identify, awoke to the alarms, flames and smoke. Called by neighbors who saw the fire, emergency personnel were pulling up when she got out of the house, Sposato said. Several hours later, Sposato would learn her roommate was among the dead.

Another student who made it out of the burning house told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Tuesday that he decided to jump into the canal behind the house to escape his smoke-filled upper-floor room.

"You knew you had to jump at some point; that was the only option," Tripp Wylie said on the show.

Debbie Smith, mayor of the resort community, has said investigators believe the fire was probably accidental and started in the rear of the house, either on or near a deck facing a canal. That side of the home appeared to be the most heavily damaged. Most of the victims were found in the home's five bedrooms.

Sposato said the fire wasn't a case of careless underage drinking or youthful irresponsibility.

"These are the most responsible of all of my friends," she said. "This group was a solid group, and that's why it's just so unreal that this would happen."

For now, Sposato said, all she and the other survivors can do is tell the story of the friends they lost. Besides Sposato and Wylie, those who made it out of the house are: Eugene Ray Charles, 19; Katherine Elizabeth Auman, 21; Ashley Nicole Perdue, 18; and Andrew Edward Rhea, 19.

"It's just very unreal. It's going to be hard for the six of us, because we lost seven of our closest friends," she said, holding back tears. "But I guess we just have to keep going, and I think that's the hardest part."

Students continued to grieve at the University of South Carolina, Oct. 30. Some paused to pray and gaze at handwritten notes of condolence left at a memorial.

The school's football team honored the victims by placing stickers on their helmets Nov. 3 with the phrase "Forever to thee," a line from the school's alma mater.

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**THE COLLEGIAN CALENDAR: NOV. 5-11**

- **SC State Football Centennial Extravaganza**
  A tribute to the 100 greatest football players in Bulldog Football history.
  **When:** Friday, Nov. 9
  **Time:** 7 p.m.
  **Where:** Smith-Hammond-Middleton Memorial Center
  **Admission:** Tickets are $25
  **For More Information:** Call the SC State Ticket Office, at (803) 536-8579.

- **Scholarship Concert featuring Dwayne Woods**
  With Special Guest Minister Ryan Hughley and the Voices of Triumph
  **When:** Friday, Nov. 9
  **Time:** 7 p.m.
  **Where:** Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium
  **Admission:** Tickets are $15 in advance, $20 on the day of the event
  **For More Information:** Call the SC State Queens Village Community Office, at (803) 268-2318.

- **Henderson-Davis Players Present: Homebound**
  Play written by Javon Johnson and performed by the Henderson-Davis Players.
  **When:** Tuesday, Nov. 6
  **Where:** Henderson-Davis Theatre
  **For More Information:** Call the Box Office, at (803) 536-7123 or (803) 536-8571.

- **“Plagues & Pleasures on the Salton Sea” by Christopher Metzler**
  Part of the 2007-2008 Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers
  **When:** Sunday, Nov. 11
  **Time:** 5 p.m.
  **Where:** I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium
  **For More Information:** Call the I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium, at (803) 928-6851.
ON THE YARD

The Collegian • MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2007

President Hugine named to HBCU Capital Finance Board

Dr. Hugine appointed by U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings

By UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND MARKETING

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings has appointed SC State President Andrew Hugine Jr. to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Capital Finance Board.

"Andrew Hugine brings a wealth of experience in postsecondary education and administration that will be invaluable to the Capital Finance Board in its mission to strengthen HBCUs and maintain the preeminence of these important institutions to the American higher education system," said Spellings.

Hugine has served as the ninth president of South Carolina State University since 2003. He has a total of 32 years of experience in higher education, 18 in teaching and 14 in administration.

Prior to becoming president of SC State, Hugine served as the school's interim executive vice president. He has held other positions at the institution, including professor of mathematics, assistant vice president for academic affairs and director of institutional self-study. Previously, Hugine held several positions at Michigan State University and began his professional career as a high school mathematics teacher.

Hugine received a Master of Education degree and Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from SC State, and holds a doctorate in higher education and institutional research from Michigan State University. He has received numerous awards in recognition of his civic, community and fraternal activities.


The HBCU Capital Financing Program provides access to low-cost capital to help schools finance or refinance the repair, renovation and construction of classrooms, laboratories, libraries, dormitories, instructional equipment or research facilities. The Board provides advice and counsel to the Secretary and the designated bonding authority on the most effective and efficient means of implementing construction financing on African American college campus, and advises the Congress regarding progress made in that effort.

Cultural diversity celebrated at SC State

By UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND MARKETING

The SC State community will spend the month of November 2007 celebrating the cultural diversity of the campus and the 40-plus nations represented by its students, faculty and staff.

International Awareness Month will open with a Parade of Nations international flag procession on Monday, Nov. 12, at 11:45 a.m. The parade, which will be led by the Marching 101 Band drumline, will start at the front of the campus, beside the Donna Administration Building, and end at the Student Center Plaza, with a dance performance by student organization UIJIMA.

SC State President Andrew Hugine Jr. will deliver the keynote address at the opening ceremony for International Awareness Month at 12 p.m. in the Bulldog Lounge in the Kirkland W. Green Student Center.

Other activities during the month include a three-panel forum series on "The International Impact of South Carolina State University," and a foreign film festival, featuring eleven films from various nations.

The Forum Series – sponsored by the international programs committee and the Department of Social Sciences – features three panel discussions that focus on some aspect of "The International Impact of South Carolina State University."

The Foreign Film Festival features eleven films from several nations. All films will be screened on their respective dates at 6 p.m. in Turner Hall D-Wing, Room 330, unless otherwise indicated.

For more information, on the events this week, visit SC State’s website, at www.scsu.edu.

Homecoming ’07 a week to remember

HOMECOMING, CONTINUED ON PAGE 1

WEDNESDAY: HOMECOMING CONCERT
GRADE: A

Lil’ Wayne, Bobby Valentino highlight of week

The 2007 SC State Homecoming Concert, featuring Bobby Valentino and Lil’ Wayne, was all that I expected.

Valentino came out and slowed us down with his sensational voice and put on a wonderful performance. The 26-year-old recording artist really showed SC State why we “Got to Have Some Bobby,” which is the title of one of his upcoming singles. He performed several songs from to “My Angel” to “Tell Me,” featuring Lil’ Wayne.

Speaking of Wezzy F. Baby, boy did he take us back to “The Carter,” not to mention how hot it was when he ripped his shirt off.

The crowd was very excited and the performance was worth every penny. We all got a chance to see why they call him Young Moolah Baby (Young Money) because he is a star.

His performance was exciting, but if you blinked, you would have missed it. He put us in the back of his Cadillac with “My Leather So Soft,” and he let us know who he was with “The Best Rapper Alive.”

It was a great concert and most people walked out satisfied. You could tell by the smiles on their faces.

-PLEASE SEE HOMECOMING, PAGE 4

- Darrah Weston and Olavaseun Gbemi
Collegian Staff Writers

PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE MCDUFFIE/Special to The Collegian
Bobby Valentino and Lil’ Wayne perform at the Homecoming Concert, Oct. 24.
THURSDAY: FASHION SHOW

“Flava of Love” star lights up fashion show

Kelly Jay, known as “Beautiful” from the “Flava of Love - Season Two,” looked fabulous in her Apple Bottom high-waist pencil jeans while hosting the 2007 Student Government Association Homecoming Fashion Show.

Students were selected from SC State’s campus, including Jessica Hosey, Miss Homecoming 2007. The models were selected to advertise this year’s most famous urban brands, which included Apple Bottoms, Enyce and two hot new brands, Parish and Brown Derby.

The female models didn’t forget about the football game on Saturday, as they did a “Homecoming Tribute” to the football players.

The fashion show ended with the female models prancing in their “Freak ‘Em” dresses, which was the showstopper of the event.

Besides the free totes and shirts sponsored by Parish and Apple Bottoms, the fashion show was one of the best I’ve seen yet and it was very well prepared. The models were very talented and comfortable in their attire.

The fashion show was informative for those who have a love for fashion and I would have encouraged everyone to come.

- Denna Harrison
Collegian Fashion Editor

RED CARPET CABARET

Red Carpet Cabaret an elegant affair for all

The Red Carpet Affair was a great success. From Kelly Jay, “Beautiful” from “Flavor of Love – Season Two” taking picture with the guests, to having everyone doing the Soulja Boi, people were dressed to impressed in the latest “grown and sexy” attire.

Even Portia Gifford, Miss SC State and Student Government President Jeremy Rogers were enjoying the festivities.

This was truly a night to remember!

- Jessica Toomer and Stephen Davis
Collegian Impact Editor and Staff Writer

FRIDAY: GREEK STEP SHOW

Greek Step Show full of energy, creativity

The turn out at the Greek Step Show was amazing this year. The tickets were sold out two hours after the sale began; the crowd, however, was not as participative as the crowd last year. Despite that fact, it was a lovely experience.

The show, hosted by DJ Cleve and Big Marcus, began with the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. The steps seemed original, although the theme of resurrection was not very evident in their performance.

Next up was the Zeta Phi Beta sorority. They exuded confidence, and although their steps weren’t so innovative, they kept the crowd interested with their theme, which was taken from the movie “Saw.”

Following them were the brothers of Phi Beta Sigma, their theme was “Crazy,” and did they do it justice! They had some minor wardrobe malfunctions, but still went on with the show that earned them loud applause at the end of their performance.

The ladies of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority had an army theme and shocked the crowd with their rugged look and outstanding performance.

The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha had the most creative and interesting show. Their theme was “Talladega Nights,” and they did it justice with their immaculate precision and costumes. We wouldn’t expect anything less from the six-time Step Show champions.

And of course, last but not least were the ladies of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, whose theme was, “The Chocolate Factory.” They had crowd participation and, most importantly, the best steps and creative costumes.

- Adaeze Oputa
Collegian Round Up Editor

Students dance during the Red Carpet Cabaret, Oct. 25.

Tau Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. performs during the Greek Step Show, Oct. 26.
As the “Jena Six” rally came and went, a particular article came to my attention on MTV.com, in which rapper/actor Mos Def said the following: “Shame on everybody who’s not here.” Def fumed, “I’m f---in’ mad. I’m disappointed to always be coming to these things and it’s only one or two people [from the industry here]. If you ain’t gonna use your voice, then be quiet. I’m disappointed and ashamed.”

Well, in a way I couldn’t have agreed with him more.

It’s pathetic to know how outspoken Oprah Winfrey is about the African school she built and how rap is detrimental for the youth and yet hasn’t been vocal about the “Jena Six.” This billionaire can’t lend a few dollars to help her own people or won’t mention the situation on her TV show. Funny, eh?

What’s really pathetic is to know that we have so many conscious rappers like Common, whose Afro-centric rhymes led many to believe that he actually cares for his people, but ironically he hasn’t spoken on the issue or apparently hasn’t donated to the “Jena Six” Defense Fund.

It angers me to know that Russell Simmons is the first one to defend rap when people say it’s bad for the youth, and attack President Bush when things seems right but wouldn’t stand up or help six young men who are being heavily discriminated against.

When Kanye West uttered the infamous line, “George Bush doesn’t care about black people,” I, for a while, thought that maybe popular artists weren’t overly spoiled and selfish pre-Madonnas but real people like me. Maybe he is materialistic but caring. Maybe he was trying to get more people to buy his album, which was released around the same time. Whatever your opinion may be, what’s true was that Kanye didn’t money up for the six, either.

And these are the public leaders of Black America? So much for helping your brother when in need.

I could say that 50 doesn’t care about Blacks, but that’s obvious due to the fact that he has said in numerous interviews that he is not only a Bush supporter, but a fan of the Republican Party and that if he didn’t have a felony that he would in fact vote for him if he had the chance. Oh yeah, did I mention that he felt the Katrina catastrophe was an act of God? So with “Fiddy,” I really didn’t expect him to come out of pocket to help pay for their [the Jena 6] bonds.

With the estimated 20,000 people who went to Jena, you’d think some rappers and highly paid Blacks would lend a hand; but maybe they’re too caught up in their Ferraris and ten million dollar homes, or maybe pleasing the white executives who own them (yes, even Oprah is owned by white executives, but that’s for later). With all these things, I still feel conflicted; the twenty-year-old male in me says, “So what? I’ll go with the rest of society,” but the black conscious male in me says, “Forget all them because at the end of the day, they do nothing for me nor my people.”

This situation shows that if something happens involving black injustice due to white arrogance, some blacks won’t be around. What I’m saying is, don’t count on Oprah to do a special on your mother that may have been tortured by six crazy white people.

Sure, you have people like David Banner and T.I. lending support, but it’s still a small number compared to the thousands of other multi-million dollar artists who could have ended this situation in a day.

As an African American journalist, my responsibility is to make sure my people are represented well in the media. When it comes to the wealthy or highly influential blacks of the world, it is their responsibility to be as vocal as possible about social issues as well.

Say what you will about Rev. Al Sharpton and Jessie Jackson being media hounds, at least if a black gets discriminated against in Alaska, they’ll be there.

Ural Garrett, a student at Southern University, writes for the Southern Digest.
Bullovs lose to Hornets in heartbreaker

By DONTA' LEGETTE
COLLEGIAN SPORTS EDITOR

Delaware State (6-0, 7-1) came to town Oct. 27 to continue on their trek to an undefeated season, while SC State (4-2, 4-4) looked to avenge their 10-9 loss to the Hornets last year in Dover, Del.

The Hornets came out strong in the first quarter on their first couple of offensive drives, converting on two third down conversions, and even one fourth down conversion on a fake punt. The Bulldog defense looked a little complacent the first half, with the Hornets moving the ball on the ground and through the air.

On the Hornets fourth drive, they scored on a 13-yard pass from quarterback Vashon Winton to wide receiver Shaheer McBride.

Meanwhile, the Bulldogs couldn’t find the end zone in the first quarter. But in the second quarter, SC State’s offense came out and moved the Hornets defense on every snap. The Hornets defensive line look tired as the Bulldogs offensive line was man handling them.

The Bulldog running game was on point and by halftime the back field had already had a total of 195 yards, with the halftime score as 10-7, with SC State in the lead.

In the third quarter, the Bulldogs continued to score, with two field goals by place-kicker Stephen Grantham, which gave the Bulldogs a 16-7 lead.

On the next play, McCoy fumbled the ball on an attempted scramble, which put the ball, and the Bulldogs’ dreams of a MEAC championship, in the Hornets’ hands with 2:43 left.

On the next play, Winston connected with McBride on a 23-yard pass over the Bulldogs’ zone defense, which set up the game winning field goal by kicker Peter Gaertner and the Hornets defeated the Bulldogs for the second year in a row, by one point.

In the second half, the defense was getting off the ball faster than they did the first half. Linebacker Tony White provided two crucial third down sacks to end the Hornets’ drive in Bulldog territory.

SC State’s offense just couldn’t complement the defense with a scoring touchdown. The ground game was there, but the passing efficiency wasn’t, with a couple of over throws by McCoy, and a few missed reads.

“The run is there, but if our team ever was in a situation where we were down and needed a touchdown, the passing game isn’t there yet,” said SC State Head Coach Buddy Pough.

In the fourth quarter, the Hornets scored quickly on a 1-yard run by Adam Shrewsbury, making the score 14-16, with the Bulldogs in the lead.

On fourth-and-one, with 3:30 left in the game, the Bulldogs went for a first down and converted after the defense jumped offside. McCoy passed it to Phillip Morris for a 20-yard play which offset the offside penalty by the defense.

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IN PRISON: You spend the majority of your time in an 8X10 cell.  
AT WORK: You spend the majority of your time in a 6X8 cubicle.  

IN PRISON: You get three meals a day.  
AT WORK: You only get a break for one meal and you have to pay for it.  

IN PRISON: You get time off for good behavior.  
AT WORK: You get rewarded for good behavior with more work.  

IN PRISON: The guard locks and unlocks all the doors for you.  
AT WORK: You must carry around a security card and open all the doors for yourself.  

IN PRISON: You can watch TV and play games.  
AT WORK: You get fired for watching TV and playing games.  

IN PRISON: They allow your family and friends to visit.  
AT WORK: You can’t even speak to your family.  

IN PRISON: All expenses are paid by the taxpayers with no work required.  
AT WORK: You get to pay all the expenses to go to work and then they deduct taxes from your salary to pay for prisoners.  

IN PRISON: You spend most of your life looking through bars from inside wanting to get out.  
AT WORK: You spend most of your time wanting to get out and go inside bars.  

IN PRISON: You must deal with sadistic wardens.  
AT WORK: They are called managers.