an engineer.
Most of the other rafts consisted of inner tubes connected in some fashion to form an almost seaworthy construction. Numerous rafts were simply inner tubes with sheets of plywood attached to the top to form a deck.
Bill Sandow's and Charles Kahaly's raft consisted of four inner tubes with bamboo poles lashed across the top. Extending from the main deck was a flagpole, proudly flying a German World War I Veteran's flag, the men claimed to represent.
The award for "special effects" went to junior Mendel Boykin and sophomore Billy Culler, who must be commended for bravery for negotiating the Saluda on a raft constructed of two styrofoam motorcycle shipping crates.
The "Most creative raft" award went to Captain Richard Ewing and his crew. Their raft was made from nine large plastic chemical drums. In the words of a crewman "It rides like a Cadillac, but it stinks."

One seaworthy craft was being carried up from the river, despair written all over the crewmen's faces. An observer found humor in their misfortune and asked, "What's the matter, did you try your raft out?"

An inebriated mariner was lying on his vessel playing his harmonica, apparently unconcerned that his dubiously constructed raft would not withstand the voyage. "Damn the torpedoes, and hand me another beer," he shouted.

In an effort to protect the cast on his leg, one aspiring seaman had carefully wrapped a plastic bag around his leg.

With the announcement that the race was about to begin, there was a mass migration to the river bank. Very few of the rafts were launched in accordance with Naval regulations. As most contestants approached the river bank, they stepped in the slippery mud and fell into the river, thus christening their ships.

Because the landing area was so small, contestants were informed they had to paddle upstream in order to make room for the other christenings. The sailors were wearing themselves out just preventing themselves from starting prematurely.

The Queen Mary of the rafts was a mammoth construction of some 20 inner tubes, which more closely resembled a large. The luxurious vessel accommodated eight passengers and even had a separate inner tube which housed a full-sized trashcan full of ice and beer.

The 3.5 mile race originated from the WIS radio station near the Saluda River and concluded shortly beyond the rapids across from Interstate 26.

Approximately 200 people gathered on the rocks to watch the seafarers negotiate the treacherous rapids.

First to cross the finish line and totally outclassing all competition were Clayton Dahlen and Mike Tarlton. They won two kegs of beer for their efforts in overpowering the course in a time of 58 minutes.

Second place was captured by Richard Ewing, Steve Phillips, Van Horton, Mark Drenner and Ron Hurden, piloting their "Chemical barrel" over the course in 82 minutes.

Third place overall and first in the independent division went to Jack Hutchins, Erick Drumm, Craig Ellis, Robert Kelly, Gary Morris, Blake Forbes, Bruce Hough and Richard Carter.

The only all-woman raft placed fourth, a tribute to Carolyn Howe and Vicki Harvey. Coming into the rapids they were in a commanding third position, but were sidetracked by the disagreeable currents and lost valuable time.

The raft that had the easiest time shooting the rapids was apparently the "Queen Mary." By the time they reached the ticklish obstacle everyone was so drunk they no longer cared about their finishing time.

Some USC students take advantage of the warm weather by sitting in front of the Russell House basking in the sun, munching on popsicles. Some don't. Somehow, sitting in the reflection pool sipping a beer sounds a little strange, but at least it's refreshing. Staff Photo by Courtney Dicely.

The Real Western Look is at
Moe Levy's

Western apparel & boots

Headquarters for most anything

Moe Levy's

Corner Lady & Assembly

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PURPLE ONION II

Tues.- Pizza Night
Thurs.- 20° Draft Night

714 PUCKETT ST.

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SPRING FASHION SHOW

FASHIONS BY DAVIONS

Wednesday April 10th

Capstone Cafeteria

5-6:30