SLED investigates revenue discrepancies

By Mary Jean Bazley
Gamecock Staff Writer

The State Law Enforcement Division is investigating discrepancies in concession revenues from USC's football and spring sports events at the request of university officials, according to SLED officials.

Chief J.P. Strom, SLED director, has promised "nothing will be spared" in getting the information necessary to determine if a crime has been committed, according to Hugh Munn, SLED information officer. Munn said "a thorough investigation" is underway.

USC President James B. Holdeman has declined comment until the investigation is completed.

SLED was requested June 27 to investigate problems which turned up during an internal audit. According to SLED officials, there is reason under such circumstances to check for possible white-collar crime, such as embezzlement, but no one could say this early in the investigation whether a crime has been committed.

Rose Broom Jr., concession manager, said he does not know how much money is involved. Although a story in The State reported the amount at $15,000, Broom said he has been assured by officials that no figure has been released.

Broom said only two Bills, from Cromer's P-Nuts and Coca-Cola, are outstanding at this time. He said SLED agents have contacted him, but declined to elaborate.

Mrs. Aurelia Stevenson of Coca-Cola said SLED had not contacted her as of late Tuesday. She said she has been instructed by Coca-Cola sales manager Buddy Broom to collect all records to turn over to SLED.

STEVENSOn SAID there was a period last year when no money was paid, but that Broom began paying in the fall.

Bills were mailed to the USC Athletic Department, according to Stevenson, but she said she did not know if they were given to Broom or to the treasurer's office. No one in the athletic department could say where the bills went once they were received.

Employees of Cromer's P-Nuts said they have no statement to make at this time. According to one employee, only a small amount of money is involved.

According to a USC press release, the athletic director and representatives of Clarkson, Harden and Gast, the accounting firm engaged by the athletic department to audit its operations, have been asked to join the investigation.

A CASE of this type could take several months, according to Munn. Munn said the process is long and tedious and involves "a great deal of investigating on SLED's part as well as the athletic department's part and the persons involved."

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Projector problem 'heats up'

By Don Fobes
News Editor

Damage in excess of $1,000 to projection equipment in the Russell House University Union Theatre recently represent only part of a larger problem of administrative neglect, according to Harry Bousbourelis, manager for RH technical services department.

Last week on two occasions, several projection tubes failed because of a lack of air conditioning in the projection booth, Bousbourelis said. He added his department has been attempting since 1976 to obtain air conditioning for the booth and for a mechanical room that houses heat-sensitive devices that regulate RH lighting.

"In 1976 when they (building administration) remodeled the Russell House, they were supposed to do a complete job and air condition everything along with crucial electronic control spaces," Bousbourelis said. "Last week was not the first time we've had these problems. Last year we had similar ones."

"AT THAT TIME," he continued, "the building administration was urged to install air conditioning. Broom said he has been assured that the renovation committee would be responsible. My department offered to pay for it. They assured us that the renovation committee would take care of it."

"They told us to save our funds for other purchases. We haven't received any response so far; I think the renovation committee thought there were more important things to take care of."

Bousbourelis claims he has sent memos requesting action on the problem through the office of RH Director Tom Otta for nearly a year with no apparent result.

ACCORDING TO several administrative sources, Bousbourelis' requests traveled the following official route: the office of Tom Otta; the office of James B. Campbell, vice president of student affairs; Harold Brunton, vice president of operations and university renovations committee chairman; and then to the president of the university for final approval.

Brunton said his knowledge of the problem is only a month-and-a-half old — that being the approximate date of the latest letter he has received through Campbell's office.

"Presently, it (Bousbourelis' latest request) has been sent along with a couple of other emergency item requests to President Holderman's office," Brunton said. "I have no doubt it will be acted on immediately."

Brunton continued, "I think it's relatively a small problem. It should be taken care of, though.

"I BELIEVE IT'S just a tempop in the teapot. It's mainly a question of whether funding is available. Should $1,000 be handled by student activities or whether the maintenance department should handle it."

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