

## In tactical battle, flag goes to the sciences

Science's strategies ensure a victory in fourth humanities vs. sciences capture the flag game.

By **NICOLE DAILO**  
Daily Trojan

As their standard bearer waved a flag marked by an image of William Shakespeare, the cardinal-clad Sciences team charged into Hahn Plaza Friday, victors of the Academic Culture Assembly's campus-wide Capture the Flag competition.

They had no formal strategy, but the Sciences team, which defeated a team of Humanities students, won by deciding to use tactics that capitalized on the unique abilities of those within their ranks, said Jamie Vann, a senior majoring in philosophy and history and a member of the Humanities team.

"We'd been trying to wing it, but that wasn't working," he said. "[The Humanities team] had their flag really well defended. We took advantage of everyone's talents: The fast people were runners, the smaller people were spies and everyone else was there for support."

The Humanities versus Science majors Capture the Flag game is billed as a test of wits between USC's liberal arts and science students. The game, which spanned the entire campus, saw about 75 students square off Friday evening.

After discovering that the Humanities team had hidden its flag in the bleachers of Cromwell Field, the Sciences team snatched the coveted prize and slipped through the

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**The Bard** • Science and humanities students squared off Friday in a battle of the majors. Humanities students painted Shakespeare on their flag, but weren't able to win.  
Nicholas Muellerleile | Daily Trojan

## Students start to weigh in on Master Plan

New student group aims to give students a voice; plan has frustrated many community members.

By **CALLIE SCHWEITZER**  
Daily Trojan

The USC Master Plan, a long-term roadmap for the university's expansion in South Los Angeles, has been creating a stir among community members since it was drafted in 2004. But for the first time, there is an organization on campus to facilitate student input on one of USC's most ambitious and controversial projects.

Campus and Community United First called for students to speak up and get involved in creating a relationship with the community in its first public meeting Thursday.

CCU members said they want to make students aware of the Master Plan and give them a voice in the development process, while fostering a partnership with the community.

At the meeting, the organization stressed the idea that the Master Plan is in a conceptual stage, making it important for students to get involved now, before construction starts in 2011.

Students, faculty members and representatives from various community organizations attended the meeting that kicked off the three-week-old organization's efforts to get more students involved in the community's future.

The Master Plan, which aims to accommodate the physical growth of the USC campus, will create new university-owned housing for students. It is also expected to provide less expensive housing than the options USC currently offers.

The plan calls for turning the University Village into student housing and higher-end retail, and for making Jefferson Boulevard into a two-lane, more pedestrian-friendly street. The plan has drawn criticism from some community members who don't want to see residents pushed of the area by high property values.

USC administrators have held meetings with community organizations to solicit feedback, but

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## With conventions over, campaigns turn attention to enthusiastic youth

Young voters are an increasingly important demographic for both candidates, who each expect a large youth turnout in their favor.

By **CATHERINE LYONS**  
Daily Trojan

Fresh off the Democratic and Republican national conventions, Republican presidential nominee Sen. John McCain (Ariz.) and Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama (Ill.) face one of the cycle's toughest challenges yet: keeping the enthusiasm generated from the conventions alive and well for the next two months — especially with young voters.

In this election more than in those past, the youth vote is expected to be a critical base for winning the White House — especially for Obama, said Dan Schnur, director of the USC Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics and McCain's communications director in the Arizona senator's 2000 presidential bid. As a result, both sides are paying more attention to voters between the ages of 18 and 29.

"There's a much greater level of interest among young voters in this election than in past years, meaning it is likely there will be more voters," Schnur said. "Because the youth vote is one of two critical components for an Obama victory, if the same voters who turned out in 2004 turn out in November, then the race is more difficult for Obama. So the campaign is putting more effort in getting the young voters and African-American voters."

Ann Crigler, director of the Department of Political Science and a professor of political science at USC, agreed that youth voters are targeted because they are not yet devoted to either party.

"The youth vote is really important because it is traditionally not aligned with a party or candidate yet, so people want to get them to participate because they

haven't traditionally," Crigler said. "It is easier to attract those who aren't already committed to a party."

With both candidates and their campaigns counting on a large youth turnout on Nov. 4 — similar to the 6.5 million under-30 voters who participated in the 2008 primaries — campus groups are seeking to do their part in winning the support of Generation Y for their respective candidate.

The USC chapter of Students for Barack Obama, in partnership with the USC College Democrats, is organizing a large voter registration effort on campus. Every Tuesday and Thursday, the groups set up a table on Trousdale Parkway to either register voters in California or encourage students to vote absentee, particularly for those from battleground states such as Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Jon Carpenter, president of the

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### ELECTION 2008

## INSIDE THE YOUTH VOTE

### YOUTH VOTE (18-29) TURNOUT

2000	2004
40%	49%

This is the first time since the voting age was lowered to 18 that youth turnout has increased three election cycles in a row.

### THE YOUTH CHOICE

	Obama-McCain	Kerry-Bush
<b>Democrat</b>	55%	54%
<b>Republican</b>	32%	45%

Sources: Harvard University Institute of Politics, The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement

Leon Russo | Daily Trojan

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