



**Admiring the Maxcy Monument,** senior Morgan Gates admires the historic statue in the famous University of South Carolina Horseshoe. Gates will be attending Caldwell Community College in Boone, North Carolina next fall and plans to transfer to a four-year university after her freshman year. "Instead of paying a university's tuition all four, or more, years I decided to take my general education classes at a community college so that my parents and I won't be in as much debt," Gates said.

# WHERE'S the MONEY?

money and location play a major role in picking the right college

SPREAD BY FARLEY WICKRE, MORGAN GATES, EMMA STRICKLAND & NINA HOLLY  
PHOTOS BY MORGAN GATES & FARLEY WICKRE GRAPHIC BY NINA HOLLY

For most seniors, checking the mail and finding out you have been accepted into your dream school is one of the best feelings. After the initial wave of excitement comes the realization that this education will have to be paid for. The option of going to an in-state public college is the route most people take. Some students such as senior Jack Green base their decisions solely off of factors including cost and location.

college experience. Students such as senior Anna Gregoire choose to obtain higher education outside their home state.

"I love the South but I also want to get out of it, so that is why I chose Boston University. I want to live in a big city," Gregoire said "The cost did not affect anything. My parents are happy that I am going out of state. They value a higher education and are willing to pay for it."

"I chose the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill because I have a lot of family history there," Green said "I liked the lower price of Chapel Hill because of the in-state tuition and it being a public college. I looked strictly in-state because of cost and distance."

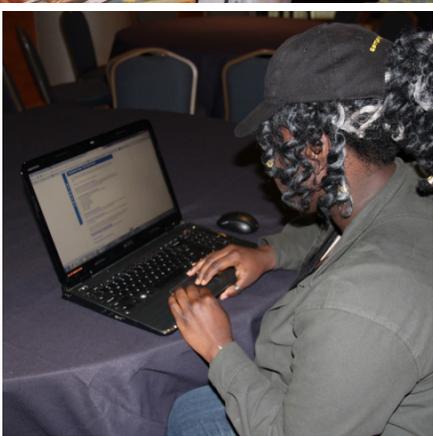
When making the monumental choice of where to further your education, cost and location are important factors. Some choose to stay in-state while others are ready to travel far to receive their education. Not everyone is dependent on scholarships and financial aid, but those who are are thankful for the opportunity to further their education without student loans dragging them down into adulthood.

Even though there may be many colleges within their home state, some students want to explore new places for their

## IN & OUT of state tuition costs for SELECT UNIVERSITIES



**Conversing with the a representative,** senior Matt Simpson learns about The University of South Carolina's Journalism School. "I was hoping to check out USC and find out more information on tuition while I was here so it was nice and helpful to have all the information I need right here in the hotel," Simpson said.



**Checking out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid website,** senior Aiesha Desarne checks over her current application. She is currently waiting to be accepted to her top two college choices, Vanderbilt University and New York University. "The FAFSA is the government showing a little love and saying 'Hey we're going to help you'," Desarne said. "I hope to be a struggling college student living off Ramen in the next couple months."

## Q&A WITH J.....

teacher Justin Fabiano shares his experience of paying for college

**Where did you go to college?**  
"I went to the University of South Carolina."

**When did you graduate from college?**  
"2011"

**Did you have to apply for any student aid or scholarships?**  
"I got the Palmetto Fellow scholarship and USC gave me the Capstone scholarship and the rest of it I used a student loan."

**Are you still paying off your student loans?**  
"Oh, yeah."

**How much longer do you think you will be paying the loan off?**  
"I will probably be paying off my loans for about ten more years. It is expensive to go to school."

**How did you set up your loan?**  
"I pay close to about \$300 a month. I started paying it off six months after I graduated."

**What advice do you have for upcoming college freshmen?**  
"My best advice I would give them is apply for scholarships. If you want to go out of state, see if the school will help you out with in-state tuition. Go online and apply for little scholarships that will add up. Look for anything and everything and apply for it. It is going to take time but it will help out in the long run because the cost is going up."



## WHAT SCHOLARSHIPS are YOU hoping to RECIEVE?



**NATALIE CHUCK '16**  
"I plan on going to the University of Alabama. I have applied for literally every single scholarship that you could ever possibly see on the internet, senior Natalie Chuck said. "It has become my dad's infatuation to get me as many scholarships as possible."



**SAMANTHA MICALLEF '16**  
"I plan on attending the University of Florida. I applied to one scholarship for sportsmanship and service in your community for \$5,000. I also applied to two different scholarships through the Kiwanis club that were \$1,500 dollars each for community service."



**TIERNAN O'NEILL '16**  
"I applied for the Jefferson Scholars Program at The University of Virginia, but I didn't get it. Otherwise I've kind of been sleeping on scholarships. I need to step it up. And I applied to 18 different schools in 12 different states."



**PATRICK RICKLES'16**  
"I plan on going to Auburn University in the fall. I applied for the Madison County Auburn Alumni scholarship as well as The Spirit of Auburn Scholarship, an academic scholarship, which awarded me just under the tuition amount, 32,000 dollars."