

BUSINESS

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Dow 10,862.54 ▼ 0.84% - 92.65 • Nasdaq 2,215.71 ▲ 0.13% + 2.84 • S&P 500 1,214.91 ▼ 1.09% - 13.39 • Gold \$877.70 ▲ + \$3.00 • Oil \$128.74 ▼ -\$4.44

'Practicing green' is policy at law firm

By NOELLE PHILLIPS
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On Tuesday, employees and clients of the McKeon Goodlock & Choate law firm drank out of their favorite plastic cups.

The firm went through thousands of plastic cups a year, offering drinks to clients and allowing employees to sip water at their desks. Now, though, employees and clients will be using reusable mugs and cups.

The morning, the firm will avoid a new "Wise Wives" program to its employees during a breakfast meeting that is just a national trend of businesses going green, said Jay Curran, a partner in the firm. Through its new efforts to reduce waste, the firm has been recognized as a Law Office Climate Challenge Partner by the American Bar Association and the Environmental Protection Agency.

SEE GREEN PAGE A10

Building Our City

Town homes planned

Residences to be built in historic Gervois building that Publix shares

By KRISTY EPPLEY BUDON
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Developers will build seven three-story town homes in the Public building on Gervois Street.

Home in 511 Gervois: The lofts will start this month and is set to be complete in March. Homeowners will have a front door opening onto the Gervois Street sidewalk and a back door opening into the Public parking lot.

The 3-bedroom, 2½-bath house



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBlix

will be in the heart of the Vista, which has undergone a revitalization in the past decade with an influx of restaurants and shops. The house will be in the portion of the circa-1920 Confed-

erate mint along Gervois Street not taken up by Public. Homeowners will get two parking spaces per unit.

Developer Andy Lullwip said he has considered buying the property for

three years and decided the timing was right now because he could work with his 16-year-old daughter, Meg, an apprentice on the project.

Lullwip said he likes the location, located in the key to success in any real estate deal.

"To say it's close is like saying, 'he said."

Sales have been slow in downtown Columbia as the real estate market has cooled over the past year. But this project is different in two ways, said Nancy Derrick, president of Century 21 Bob Caplan Realtors, which is marketing the property.

He said these are town homes, which means homeowners own the land — unlike condo owners. That

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Ever heard of Folbot kayaks?

S.C. firm's new owners want to raise product's profile

By JOEY HOLLEMAN
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While retail outdoor equipment stores pop up all over the country, Folbot still sells its foldable kayaks only directly to the consumer by phone or online order from its Charleston-based headquarters.

The company builds its boats to individual specifications and does all the work in a shop a stone's throw from I-95 and the Ashley River.

Folbot's new owners, who took over last last year, don't want to change any of that. They would, however, like to sell more boats.

So they've set course on a new marketing campaign. They built a new Web site, put together a card-style brochure and wrapped trailers or trailers in magazines such as *Wired* and *Town & Country*. That's a big step up from the old ads tucked in the back pages of comic books, *National Geographic* and *Popular Mechanics*.

They have an interesting product to sell. Folded up, the frames section and outer ribs of the kayaks fit into an oversized backpack, perfect for airline travel or storage in small apartments.

The aluminum Folbot skeletons go together like a tent frame. The outer skin — a waterproof canvas-like fabric on the deck and a more rubberized fabric on the hull — slips over the frame.

David AnRatich, one of the company's new owners, assembled one of the boats in The State's photo studio in about 10 min-



Folbot co-owner David AnRatich demonstrates how to assemble one of the company's foldable kayaks, which can be carried in a backpack when disassembled.

STATE Briefs

S.C. Bank and Trust posts record income

South Carolina Bank and Trust reported net income of \$6.1 million for the second quarter of 2006. The bank set an income record despite the challenging banking environment, said chief executive officer Robert Hill.

Hill credited the bank's performance to prudent business decisions to stay away from subprime mortgage lending. Shares of ST rose to \$20.45.

scar florida corp.

	2005	2004
Revenue	\$46.4 million	\$43.8 million
Net income	\$2,146,000	\$1,871,000
Per share	0.61	0.61
Traded Nasdaq symbol: SCRT		

Auto supplier will expand in Charleston

Cummins Turbo Technologies is investing \$11 million in an expansion of one of its manufacturing plants in Charleston.

Cummins will hire an additional 100 people to work in its new assembly and machining jobs at one of two facilities in Charleston. Together, the plants already employ 750 people.

Cummins manufactures turbochargers for diesel engines.

Liberty Fellowship selects class of 2010

State Sen. Joel Lounsbury and SLED Chief Reggie Lloyd are among a class of 12 recipients of a Liberty Fellowship announced Tuesday.

The statewide leadership program each year selects about 20 professionals throughout the state to participate.

Sponsored by Hayes Hays, the former chairman and CEO of Liberty Corp., Wofford College and The Angus Institute, the two-year program includes intensive volunteer-based leadership among S.C. young leaders.

Other Columbia-area choices are Peter M. Brinkley, president and COO of First Citizens Bank and Trust; Mia Butler, founder of McLeod Butler Communications; J. Michelle Childs, chief administrative judge for the 5th Judicial Circuit; Bill R. Davis, a vice president for BlueCross BlueShield; James K. Lehoucq, operations manager at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough; and Holly Taylor, dean of USC's Moore School of Business.

Noelle Phillips and Mel White

ON THE WEB

See how the Folbot — a portable kayak — unfolds in a photo gallery on thestate.com.

FOLBOT

The foldable kayak is South Carolina-based.

Founded: 1993, in London; moved to New York in 2002 and to Charleston in 1993

Product: Kayaks with collapsible aluminum frames that fit in fabric skins

Sales: The price company doesn't release sales figures.

Current line: Range from 10-foot Orion for \$1,097 to 25-foot Greenland II for \$2,595

S.C. angle: People all over the world are paddling boats named for S.C. towns — Glen, Rishaw and Cooper.

Information: www.folbot.com

Midlands people & promotions

Log on to thestate.com and click on People & Promotions under the Business column to find out who has been elected chairman of the Rhetorick Park Commission.

Local News Online

Sign up for The State's daily business e-mail newsletter. Go to thestate.com to start having the latest breaking local, state and national news sent to your inbox.

On the Web

Book of Lists: For The State's annual rankings of the Midlands' biggest companies and locations, go to thestate.com/lists.