

How La Liberbad “Covers” Clemson

By [fitsnews](#) • on June 9, 2009



The credibility of South Carolina’s “mainstream” media took (or rather gave) another blow today as *La Liberbad* (a.k.a. *The Greenville News*) showed that it can perform journalistic fellatio on its hometown University every bit as well as *La Socialista*.

Seriously, people ... “be true to your school” is fine and dandy if you’re humming along to the Beach Boys, but not if your job is to hold public institutions accountable to the people who are forced to pay their ever-escalating tabs.

Anyway, after a well-regarded higher ed magazine objectively exposed Clemson University President James Barker’s [petty attempt](#) to artificially inflate his school’s standing in the *U.S. News & World Report* college rankings - along comes *La Liberbad* “reporter” Anna Simon to help put out the University’s PR firestorm.

Simon’s headline?

[“Barker rated Clemson below top score.”](#)

Huh?

We suppose that's accurate, but it's misleading to the point of spawning a gag reflex - and it's further evidence that the *Greenville News* isn't interested in covering Clemson University objectively.

Barker indeed rated Clemson "below (the) top score," but in giving his own school a 4 out of 5 on a *U.S. News* peer review survey, he rated the school ahead of every other University in the nation ... including private schools like Harvard, Yale and Stanford and public schools like Cal-Berkeley and Chapel Hill.

That's right ... nobody else got a "4" from President Barker. Only lower rankings.

Clemson's [ongoing obsession](#) with gaming the *U.S. News* rankings has produced reactions of shock and disgust from fellow educators, but not *La Libertad*, which apparently views its role in this process as providing crisis management PR assistance to the Barker administration.

So much for explaining to Greenville residents why Clemson's ridiculous obsession means that fewer of their children will get to go to college - or that the few who do will have to pay through the nose for the privilege.

As we've said before and will say again, rather than hiding behind so-called "standards" and "integrity" in spinning for what we believe, we at least put an "Unfair, Imbalanced" tag on everything we write.

That way you know we're trying to convince you of something, which in this case was pretty easy to do ...

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