

Price And Student Trainers Help Gamecocks Stay Healthy

By DON HULT
Staff Writer

For thousands of fans across the state, the USC-Clemson game is the most exciting sports event of the year.

These fans correctly recognize that intense pre-game preparations take place as the two teams ready for the big game.

But another factor, equally intense, is the preparation which goes on in the training room of the Rex Enright Athletic Center.

In the Alabama game, for instance, the Gamecocks sustained a number of injuries, and to head trainer Jim Price and his staff went the job of patching up the squad for the Clemson game.

On the injured list were full-back Warren Muir with a strained arch; versatile Ben Garnto with a sprained ankle; John Gregory with an injured shoulder; and David Grant with a charley horse.

Big days in the week prior to the game were Tuesday and Wednesday when the squad scrimmaged at "full go," game-type conditions.

These days were all-important, and hence the Carolina training room became the scene of intense activity.

Injured players were first to arrive for treatment. After applying heat to Gregory's aching shoulder, the trainers gingerly tied on the end's shoulder pads, aided by a sponge pad devised by Price to fit over the wounded shoulder.

Next Ben Garnto hobbled in, with the sprained ankle added to his "old age" infirmities. A session in the whirlpool came first, after which assistant trainer Jay Bender applied the heat treatment. The heat is actually transferred to the muscle tissue via sound waves, eliminating the danger of the player being burned.

Warren Muir was the next "patient." An Alabama lineman, finding Muir's "Achilles arch," had caused the USC fullback to strain a bottom muscle to such an extent that he could not place pressure on the foot. After a session in another whirlpool, Muir had his foot treated by student assistant Craig Hammond, who then taped the back's foot in order to allow some participation in the afternoon scrimmage.

By this time the remainder of the team was on hand, and the trainers were busy. Chris Harris applied heat to Grant's charley horse, and Joe Grugan bandaged Tim Bice's bruised legs. Taping ankles—at an average of one per minute—was next, the whole process taking 20-25 minutes. Also, players reported to student Neal

Wendell, who records player weights both before and after practice.

Often the atmosphere is rather solemn in an antiseptic facility such as a hospital, doctor's office or training room, but at the Round House things are different. Morale is kept high by Price, who remains aware of player problems but can also trade jokes with them all.

When the need arises, however, the head trainer can be very firm, especially when whirlpools are

misused.

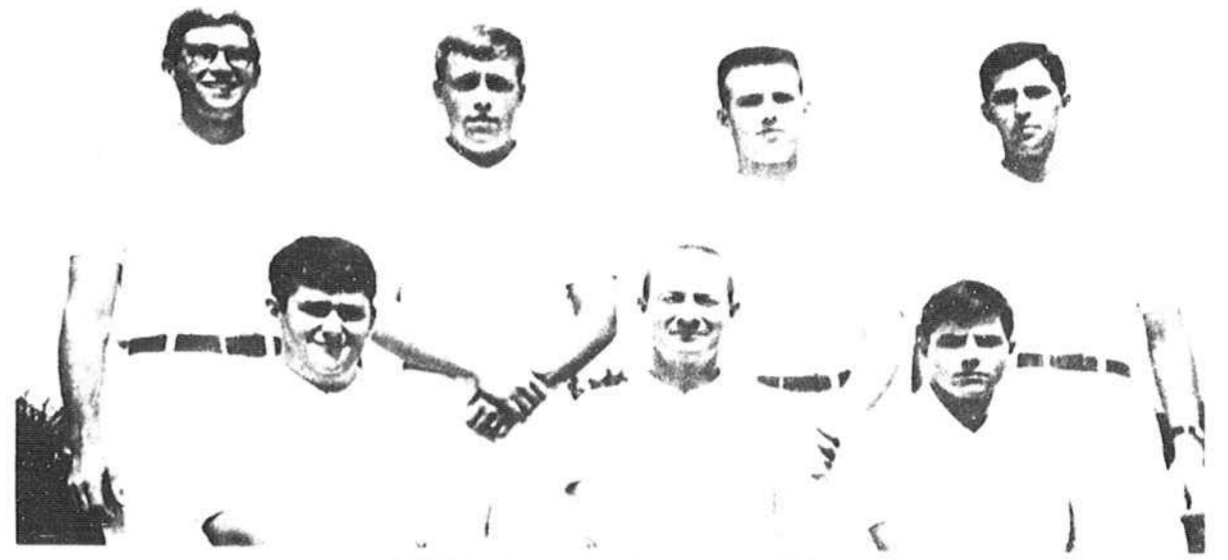
The players are constantly reminded, "You can't make the club in the tub."

Players with a history of knee injuries exercise their legs on a special weight machine, and trainers are also responsible for such equipment as "instant" inflatable splints, the Cold Box used to treat sprains, a portable fan used to revive players afflicted with heat exhaustion, and certain drugs.

The trainers also determine

whether a player's injury is serious enough for him to be sent to a doctor. There are two doctors working in conjunction with Price—Drs. Edward Kimbraugh and Emmett Lunsford, who are on the sidelines for all Carolina games.

Another sign in the training room reads "Out of game Saturday." It is through the ingenuity of Price and his staff that Gamecock personnel are able to both practice and play—despite their aches and pains.



USC Training Staff



Something Simple



... is always in the best of taste and the most remembered of gifts. **Brittons** offers you the finest collection of cardigan, v-neck pullover, or the new sweater-shirt, to make your Christmas shopping **simple and remembered**. In the spirit of the season colours, flame, navy, white, kelly, holly, corn, paprika, black, midi-blue, mustard, and wheat.

OPEN
Monday thru Friday
until
9 P.M.

Brittons

1337 MAIN STREET
254-4324

Free Parking
at
Handy Park
On Washington

5-0 Record Wins Crown For Tigers

By GAIL LOWRY
Staff Writer

This year's ACC football season ended with a bang last week as Clemson captured the conference title and N. C. State accepted an invitation to the Liberty Bowl.

Clemson ended the hopes of N. C. State and USC for a three-way tie for the title by romping over the Gamecocks, 23-12, in the rival game of the year.

That game gave Carolina five wins and five losses for the season and a 4-2 conference mark. Clemson ended with six wins and four losses overall and an undefeated conference record of five wins.

The N. C. State Wolfpack, who ended their season with eight wins and two losses, will play in the Liberty Bowl at Memphis, Tenn. on Dec. 16. The Pack's only losses came on upsets from Clemson and Penn State.

Virginia closed out their season on a winning note Saturday when they beat Maryland, 12-7. That victory gave the Cavaliers a five-win five-loss season. Maryland, who failed to win a single game this season, had an overall record of nine losses.

Duke, who ended their season two weeks ago, had four wins and six losses to show for their season's work.

Wake Forest had a losing season (four wins and six losses) while UNC had only two wins for eight losses for the season. Both of these victories were conference games.