

Gamecocks sign N.Y. prep star

Carolina announced the signing of another prep star, Bill Mathias, a 6-7, 235 pound forward from Rockland, N.Y.

Mathias averaged 29.6 points a game in his final season at Clarkstown High and scored 1,488 tallies during his entire career in high school. He also set a host of school and conference records during his tenure at Clarkstown.

He was named twice to the All-Metropolitan team of the New York Daily News, as recognition of

his abilities which led Clarkstown to 55 consecutive league victories.

Mathias was tabbed by Carolina mentor Frank McGuire as, "a strong, mobile forward we need up front. I think he's going to develop into a fine college player."

He joins Dreher's Alex English, Martinsville's (Va.) Mark C. tright and South Mecklenberg's (N.C.) Mark Greiner as the fourth recruit signed by McGuire and his staff.



Signs star

Eye in the Keyhole

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that gets a charge out of making obscene remarks to McGuire and his players while throwing his program at the Gamecock bench.

As much as the traditionalists hate to admit it, the basketball rivalry between USC and Clemson really hasn't existed in recent years. It seems that everyone expects Clemson to pull off some kind of an upset, but they always drop the game because they flat can't compete with Carolina.

No one argued with the fact that Furman was dropped off the schedule. That school is also in this state. Ah, but USC doesn't face Furman on the football field, the only real place where a Clemson-USC feud actually exists. No one suggested that the state government force McGuire to play the Paladins in a senseless display of tension.

If Carolina is forced to dip back into the ACC for opponents, what in the world is the purpose of playing one of the league's annual doormats? If the hatred that exists need be present for the season to be successful, why not play at least a good team like Maryland, North Carolina, or North Carolina State?

It's always nice to have a few laughs on the schedule, but Clemson just isn't worth the emotional strain the game puts everyone through. They lack the raw ability in the frontcourt to withstand USC's inside game, and their guards can't compare with Brian Winters or Kevin Joyce.

Having hopefully given the side of the argument that most have failed to realize, let us touch upon the absurd possibility that South Carolina's state government will insert its nose where it really isn't needed. Already this year, we have all seen what members of SLED have done for the national opinion of Carolina basketball. During USC's last game with Clemson at the Coliseum, a couple of SLED agents were calmly perched on press row. This shows two things. First, that people expect a fight to break out every time Clemson and USC meet. Second, that the state government, following the Marquette fiasco, ought to stay out of athletic affairs altogether.

Granted, this is a state supported institution. And the state should be allowed to air its opinion on certain occasions, for whatever it is worth. But to legally force Clemson and Carolina to play basketball is an act that this school should not and cannot tolerate.

If the legislature gets so upset with something like this, which in the long run is really none of their business, their standard of values must be pretty strange. There are undoubtedly a number of pressing problems that this state faces without our representatives attempting to dictate the basketball program.

State control can just go so far. And so can USC's basketball rivalry with Clemson. The latter has gone the route, and Carolina has taken the step to eliminate it. Perhaps this school should do the same in regards to the state government.

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