

USC Football Preview

Game 3: West Virginia (1 p.m. Saturday at Mountaineer Field, Morgantown, W.V.).

Records: USC, 1-0-1, and West Virginia, 2-0.

Last week: USC tied with Virginia Tech, 17-17; West Virginia defeated Maryland, 14-10.

Series history: The Mountaineers lead 5-2-1 (3-2 at Morgantown).

The last meeting: Dec. 30, 1969 (at the Peach Bowl, Atlanta). West Virginia defeated the Gamecocks 14-3, as Mountaineer fullback Eddie Williams rushed for a career-best 208 yards. Robert Gresham put the Mountaineers on the board first with a 10-yard touchdown run. Quarterback Tommy Suggs drove the Gamecocks to the West Virginia ten before a fumble ended the drive. Before the half ended, Gamecock kicker Billy DuPre connected on a 37-yard field goal for USC's only points of the game. The Mountaineers scored with just 23 seconds left in the game on a James Braxton one-yard run. Jim Carlen, who was head coach for

West Virginia, would later serve as head coach of the Gamecocks from 1975-81.

The coaches: In his first season as USC head coach, Sparky Woods is 1-0-1. In his five years at Appalachian State, Woods compiled a 38-19-2 record and was named Southern Conference Coach of the Year three consecutive seasons between 1985-87. His overall record stands at 39-19-3.

West Virginia's Don Nehlen is in his 10th season with the Mountaineers and is the winningest coach in West Virginia history. His record while coaching the Mountaineers is 71-36-1. Before coming to West Virginia, Nehlen coached nine seasons at Bowling Green, where he compiled a 53-35-4 record. His overall record is 124-71-5. Nehlen has never faced the Gamecocks.

Next week: USC returns to Williams-Brice Stadium to take on the Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech. West Virginia travels to Louisville to take on the Cardinals.

Fearless forecaster returns with picks

By CHRIS SILVESTRI
Sports Editor

After a brief hiatus last week, the predictions column returns.

In my first week of predictions, only nine of my picks appeared because of a lack of space. My record for that week was 7-2 for a percentage of .778. And I don't mean to gloat, but I did pick the upset special correctly by choosing Texas A & M to beat LSU, and also, my prediction for the USC-Duke game was 27-20 in favor of the Gamecocks. Of course, the actual score was a 27-21 USC victory, making my prediction off by only one point.

However, this week has a number of tough games, including a battle between the nation's top two teams, and I'm afraid all you Gamecock fans will not like my pick for their game this week. Here we go:

USC AT NO. 12 WEST VIRGINIA: This mountain will be too high for the Gamecocks, as Major Harris picks apart USC's suspect defense... West Virginia, 28-16.

NO. 1 NOTRE DAME AT NO. 2 MICHIGAN: The luck of the Irish will prevail, even at Ann Arbor... Notre Dame, 24-23.

CALIFORNIA AT NO. 3 MIAMI, FLA.: The potent Hurricane offense will have another easy day... Miami, 38-10.

UTAH AT NO. 4 NEBRASKA: The second-ranked Cornhusker rushing offense will run up the score on poor Utah... Nebraska, 43-14.

SOUTHERN MISS AT NO. 5 AUBURN: Southern Miss already used up their big upset against Florida State; another one is out of the question... Auburn, 27-17.

NO. 6 OKLAHOMA AT ARIZONA: Probation hasn't affected the Sooners on the field yet, and it won't this week either... Oklahoma, 34-7.

NO. 7 CLEMSON AT VIRGINIA TECH: The Tigers will have an easier time with the Hokies than USC did... Clemson, 24-9.

NO. 10 ILLINOIS AT NO. 8 COLORADO: If the Fighting Illini can win away at Southern Cal, then they can win at Colorado... upset special... Illinois, 17-16.

NO. 9 ARKANSAS AT TULSA: The Razorbacks will have no problem with Tulsa... Arkansas, 22-6.

ARMY AT NO. 11 SYRACUSE: The Cadets may be saluting the Orangemen after this game... Syracuse, 28-10.

UTAH STATE AT NO. 13 SOUTHERN CAL: The Trojans are fuming after their loss to Illinois, and will take out their frustrations on Utah State... Southern Cal, 31-3.

PURDUE AT NO. 15 WASHINGTON: The Huskies will try to continue their winning ways by beating the Boilermakers... Washington, 23-14.

MEMPHIS STATE AT NO. 16 ALABAMA: The Tide will roll in their season opener... Alabama, 45-7.

DUKE AT NO. 17 TENNESSEE: The Volunteers will outgun the Blue Devils in this shootout... Tennessee, 37-31.

NO. 18 HOUSTON AT ARIZONA STATE: The Cougars will remain undefeated with their win over Arizona State... Houston, 30-13.

NO. 19 N.C. STATE AT WAKE FOREST: Dick Sheridan's Wolfpack will leave Wake Forest howling... N.C. State, 31-3.

NO. 20 UCLA AT SAN DIEGO: The Bruins rebound from their loss to Tennessee... UCLA, 27-0.

FLORIDA STATE AT LSU: The Seminoles will win this battle of winless preseason top twenty teams... Florida State, 26-23.

VIRGINIA AT GEORGIA TECH: The Cavaliers will remain on a high after beating Penn State... Virginia, 28-20.

BAYLOR AT GEORGIA: The Bulldogs will make a bid for the top twenty after winning a blowout in their season opener... Georgia, 28-3.

NORTH CAROLINA AT KENTUCKY: The Tar Heels continue to roll, and it isn't even basketball season... North Carolina, 28-9.

Dr. Donald Jones — USC AT WEST VIRGINIA: Too much Major Harris to 6'6" Reggie Rember, and a defense that returns seven starters. Injuries may slow a few key Gamecock players, but the kicking game will keep USC close... West Virginia, 17-12.

Upcoming events in Gamecock athletics

Football: The Gamecocks, 1-0-1, are traveling to West Virginia Saturday, to take on the 12th-ranked Mountaineers, 2-0. The game is scheduled for a 1 p.m. kickoff.

Volleyball: The Lady Gamecocks will be competing in the Colorado Tournament in Colorado Friday and Saturday. USC, 5-2,

will be competing against Colorado, Indiana and Pepperdine in the tournament.

Cross Country: The cross country team begins their season Saturday, when they participate in the Seahawk Invitational in Wilmington, NC.

Men's Golf: The Gamecocks will begin their season this weekend by participating in the

William Tucker Invitational in Albuquerque, N.M.

Women's Golf: The Lady Gamecocks also begin competing this weekend in the Lady Tar Heel Invitational in Chapel Hill, NC.

Soccer: The Gamecocks, 4-1, will face North Carolina Sunday at The Graveyard. The game is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.



A host of Gamecock defenders tackle Hokie running back Jon Jeffries in their 17-17 tie with Virginia Tech this past weekend.

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he found someone
who's either the love
of his life...
or the end of it.



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