

Pep Talk

By Chris Silvestri



A changing of the guard has occurred among quarterbacks

A new generation of elite quarterbacks are infiltrating the ranks of the National Football League. The days when consummate drop-back passers dominated the league are ending. There was a time when drop-back passers such as Roger Staubach and Terry Bradshaw were the most exciting quarterbacks in football. That time has ended. The best pocket passers today, such as Joe Montana, Dan Marino, Jim Everett and Jim Kelly are certainly exciting to watch. But they pale in comparison to the thrill one gets from watching Randall Cunningham, John Elway and, at times, Warren Moon run and pass circles around the defense. The new age quarterbacks of the NFL are ones always on the move. They are quarterbacks that can run as well as pass. Their ability to run makes their passing games that much better. Defenses are constantly bewildered. Just as a defensive lineman is about to record a sack, one of these agile quarterbacks will quickly slip the tackle and run for an easy first down.

Defenses often have to resort to using their free safety to be a watchdog on the quarterback in case he scrambles, which leaves one-on-one coverage on most of the receivers. Cunningham's Eagles, Elway's Broncos and Moon's Oilers have all met with general success over recent years. It isn't just coincidence; these guys produce. Cunningham and Elway have an innate ability, because of their superb athleticism, to absolutely dominate a football game. Montana also has this ability, but he is the exception among pocket passers. Marino could have this ability, too, but he rarely has a chance to show it because of his lack of a supporting cast. The emergence of the pass-and-run quarterback can be seen filtering into college football also. Two of the nation's best, and most successful, college quarterbacks can run the ball as well as pass it. West Virginia's Major Harris

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USC, Pirates know each other well

By STEPHEN GUILFOYLE
Staff writer

East Carolina is one of four teams on USC's schedule that has a new head coach in their first year.

USC's own first-year head coach Sparky Woods has already faced, and beaten, one of the newcomers — Georgia head coach Ray Goff.

The transition that comes with new staffs leads to some irony. And if this were Wall Street, college football coaches might be accused of trading insider information:

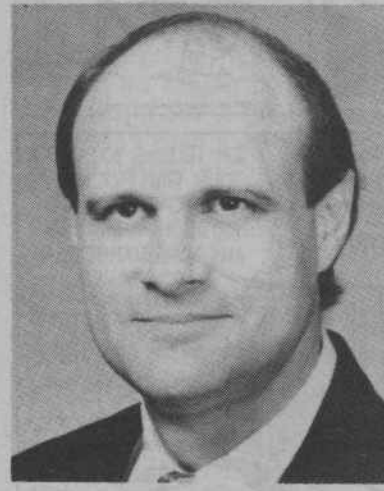
— irony, like the fact that Goff hired as his defensive coordinator a man for whom he once worked right here at USC — former USC head coach Richard Bell;

— and inside information — Goff also hired a person who knows as much about USC players as USC's current staff does — Frank Orgel, the inside linebacker head coach who left former head coach Joe Morrison's staff to head 'twixt those infernal hedges and to coach the same position for Goff.

The inside information didn't seem to help Georgia out much as the Bulldogs lost to the Gamecocks, 24-20.

Maybe that's because Gamecock assistant coach Eddie Williamson, who is responsible for USC's offensive line, was an assistant head coach at Georgia in 1984, so he knew a little about the system and some of the players also, Woods said Monday at his weekly press conference.

This week, almost the same thing is going on. USC will know a lot about the



Sparky Woods

abilities of most of East Carolina's players — USC Associate Athletic Director Art Baker, who also serves as executive director of the Gamecock Club, was head coach at East Carolina from 1985 to 1988.

He was replaced by former Georgia defensive coordinator Bill Lewis, who went out and hired former USC secondary coach Tom McMahon to coordinate ECU's revamped 5-2 defense.

McMahon's "Multiple Eagle" defense is supposed to be very similar to the "50" defense he helped former USC defensive coordinator Joe Lee Dunn coach with the Gamecocks for the past two seasons.

Many USC players liked and respected McMahon, said Gamecock senior quarterback Todd Ellis.

"With all the upheaval that went on here last year, a lot of us were real happy to hear that Coach McMahon got a job," Ellis said. "We're real happy to have

AP Top Twenty

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Notre Dame (57)	4-0-0	1,497	1
2. Miami, Fla. (3)	4-0-0	1,426	2
3. Colorado	4-0-0	1,344	5
4. Nebraska	4-0-0	1,324	3
5. Michigan	2-1-0	1,234	6
6. Tennessee	4-0-0	1,193	12
7. Arkansas	3-0-0	1,118	8
8. Pittsburgh	3-0-1	961	10
9. West Virginia	4-0-1	939	9
9. Southern Cal	3-1-0	939	11
11. Auburn	2-1-0	892	4
12. Houston	3-0-0	879	14
13. Alabama	3-0-0	807	13
14. N.C. State	5-0-0	669	15
15. Clemson	4-1-0	665	7
16. Oklahoma	3-1-0	637	16
17. Syracuse	2-1-0	496	18
18. Illinois	2-1-0	419	20
19. Texas A&M	3-1-0	375	22
20. Air Force	5-0-0	371	24

Sports Editor's Note: USC received 45 votes in the poll.

Coach McMahon with us," Lewis said via a phone hookup at Woods' press conference.

"We have a tremendous challenge on our hands in coming to South Carolina," he said of USC's Homecoming matchup with the Pirates Saturday. "Our timing of this ball game wasn't very good this week with them coming off their tremendous win in Athens. I have an appreciation for Coach Woods and his staff and football team, and I congratulate them for what they did to a very fine Georgia football team."

"I not only thought they won, but I think they won very significantly. They dominated almost every aspect of the game; it was a very solid, very sound win for them."

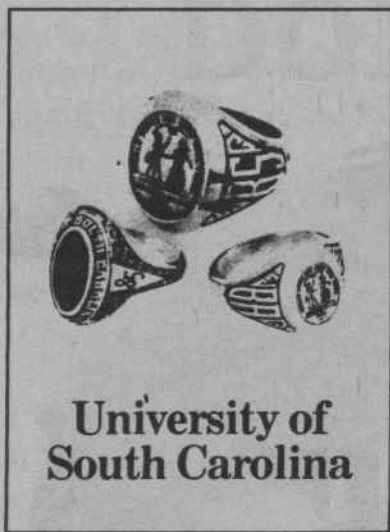
"We feel as a coaching staff that we are playing a team that deserves a Top 20 ranking this week," he said.

McMahon will not be able to tell Lewis what kind of plays to expect, because the defense has changed. Neither will Baker be able to tell Woods what ECU will do on any given situation, Woods said.

But both will be able to tell the new head coaches about what to expect from the players, Woods said.

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