

USC cross country track teams have similar goals

By DOUG AUBE
Sports Editor

USC's cross country track teams are gearing up for the 1990 season with slightly different perspectives, but both the women and men's teams have bright outlooks.

Head coach Greg Kraft will have all seven runners returning on the women's team from a group that has won the Metro Conference championship two years in a row.

On the men's side, USC returns All-Metro performer Mike Hedgecock and with a good recruiting class, Kraft hopes to improve on the team's third-place finish a year ago.

The women have five returning All-Metro performers and all seven USC runners were among the top 14 in the metro last season.

Kraft will look to Danielle Adams, Wilma Depoire, Dana Purser, Jill St. Peter and Shannon Wyont to again lead the team in their quest for a third consecutive metro title.

In addition to the group of returning runners, Kraft has the number one 1988 runner back in Gwen Sherwood. Sherwood missed all of last season due to an injury but should contribute strongly to the team this season.

"We feel like we are the definite favorite (to win the metro title), with the return of all seven runners and the addition of Gwen Sherwood," Kraft said.

The men started the 1989 season with only four runners. Seven runners are needed to field a team.

"We definitely had a long road last year, but by the end of the season we had a great meet at the metro," Kraft said. "We finished a distant third, and this season we look to move up from that."

Trivia

1. How many Gamecock football players have had their numbers retired?
2. Which former Gamecock football player holds the record for the highest punting average in a game? What is the average?

Kraft believes that, with the recruiting class that USC brought in, his team should be more competitive with the metro front runners.

"Virginia Tech has dominated (the metro) and they lost two of their top runners. Florida State had a fine recruiting year. They added the Irish National Junior champion to the team, and I think they are going to be very talented. I think that we can give them a serious run. It just depends on how we develop."

In addition to Hedgecock, Kraft will be looking for the same form from Paul Laymon that earned him the most valuable player award for USC last season. That is only if Laymon will be around to contribute.

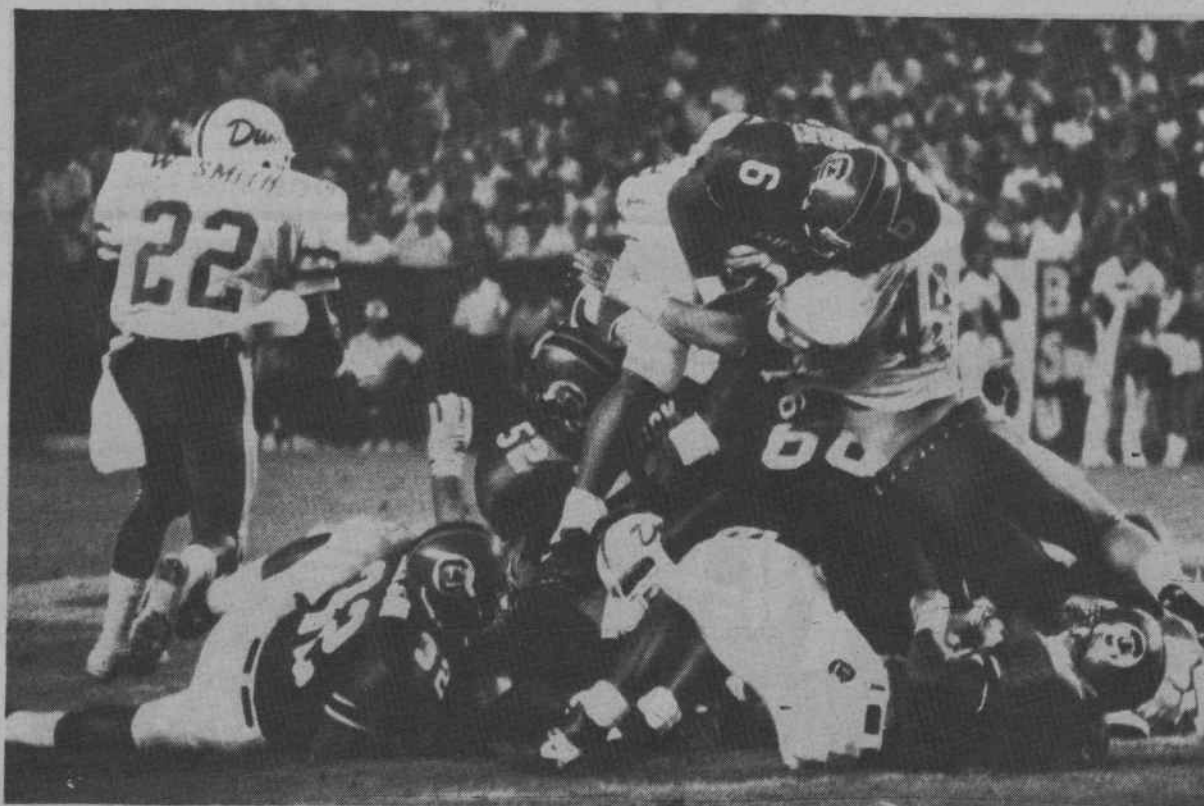
"Laymon is on telephone alert. He is in the Air National Guard as an assistant crew chief to F-16 fighter jets," Kraft said. "If they call him, he has one week to get processed. It's a real possibility that we could lose Paul to the conflict that we have in the Middle East, but we hope that isn't the case."

The Gamecocks will have a limited schedule this season to allow the teams to rest and properly train between meets.

"You can't race week in and week out for 6.2 miles and then come back and train hard. What we try to do is train hard for a week and then back off and get ready for the next meet."

Despite the different levels of returning talent, both the women and men cross country track teams have their sites on similar goals: winning the metro title.

3. Which former Gamecock holds the record for scoring the most two-point conversions in a game?
 4. Which former USC player holds the record for most net yards rushing gained in a season as a freshman?
- Answers on Friday.



USC running back Mike Dingle leaps over the Duke defense in Saturday's 21-10 victory over the Blue Devils.

Solid defensive effort leads USC

By STEVE JOHNSON
Staff Writer

A strong defensive showing by the USC football team and some timely passing by Gamecock quarterback Bobby Fuller spelled a 21-10 victory for the Gamecocks in their Saturday opener against Duke.

Before a Labor Day weekend crowd of 71,606, sophomore defensive tackle Cedric Bembery started the defensive show of strength when he sacked Duke quarterback Billy Ray early in the first quarter for a loss of 11 yards.

Linebacker Patrick Hinton played a starring role as he came up with 8 tackles and helped seal the victory with an interception of Ray with 3:12 remaining in the 4th quarter.

On the other side of the ball, the Gamecocks were able to effectively pass and run the football against the Blue Devils. Fuller completed 16 of 23 passes for 177

Perhaps the crowning achieve-

ment of the night was the way the yards and 2 TDs against Duke. Robert Brooks led the receiving corps with 4 catches for 1 TD and 70 yards including a 43-yarder that set up a one-yard touchdown vault by tailback Mike Dingle.

Dingle led the ground attack for USC Saturday with 22 carries for 113 yards, including a career-long run of 31 yards at 6:28 in the first quarter.

USC defense shut down Duke tailback Randy Cuthbert, who is normally a threat whenever he has the ball. On Saturday, Cuthbert rushed for only 57 yards and caught only 3 passes for a total of 10 yards.

The Gamecocks next meet UNC in the "Battle of the Carolinas" this Saturday night at 7 p.m. at Williams-Brice Stadium.



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Wednesday	September 12	3:30-5 p.m.	
Monday	September 17	3:30-5 p.m.	
Wednesday	September 19	3:30-5 p.m.	

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RENEWAL FORMS FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS IS: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1990 AT 5 P.M. IN THE CAMPUS ACTIVITIES CENTER.

Pep Talk

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man who didn't have a lot of luck against the USC defense.

I want to stray from Sparky's report card for a moment to talk about SportsNet, the company that broadcast the USC-Duke game on tape delay.

If you didn't see any of the telecast, you missed an interesting evening. I only watched a part of it, but here are some of the quotes I caught. I'll embellish a little at the end to add to the colorful humor of them:

"Fuller is over talking to coach Sparky Anderson, and he's telling him to sacrifice Dingle in from third."

"Here we are at Brice-Williams Stadium, home of the Aggies."

That's just a couple I remember. Besides that, neither commentator seemed to notice when a substitute came in. They usually called the same name, whether his number changed or not. And poor Jim Thacker, the play-by-play man for the telecast, seemed to be on another planet. I heard somewhere he had a stroke in recent years.

I guess I should be happy. At least, most of the USC games are on TV, whether it be live or tape delay. It was just kind of funny to watch Thacker and his colorful commentator Max Runager (my hero for the Philadelphia Eagles) in their first broadcast.

Back to Sparky. I was surprised, impressed and pleased by the performance of the Gamecocks (like Sparky's going to say, "Uh-oh, Brant's not happy with me."). Overall, I give Sparky and the Gamecocks a B+ on the first game of the 1990 season.

"B+", you are probably screaming. "After you built up the victory so much?"


Yes, B+. The seven sacks were a little much, but if Ike Harris returns, on the offensive line, that could help. The defense played superbly. I just didn't like Billy Ray faking his way upfield when he should've been dropped for a loss.

Besides that, Sparky, you've done well. But remember, you have a lot of the semester left to go. Take this home and have it signed by your parents, and I'll see you in class on Saturday.

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