

## USC looks to avenge tie, travels to Virginia Tech

By DOUG AUBE  
Sports Editor

There is a saying in college football: "A tie is like having to kiss your sister."

Both USC and Virginia Tech have been pondering over such a kiss since last season's 17-17 tie.

This weekend, both teams will get the chance to break the deadlock and end that year-long kiss.

The Gamecocks take to the road for the first time this season as they will play the Hokies in Blacksburg on Saturday.

"I'm very impressed with Virginia Tech on both sides of the football," USC head coach Sparky Woods said. "This will be our first road trip and (it) poses a big challenge for us."

If history repeats itself, the Gamecocks will come out the victor in Saturday's game. USC beat Tech 40-10 in 1987 following a 27-27 tie in 1986.

The Hokies are coming off a 24-23 victory over East Carolina and enter Saturday's matchup with a 2-1 record.

USC is coming off an idle week and is 2-0 on the season.

"The open weekend should allow us the opportunity to get some of the injured players well," Woods said.

The time off allowed running back Mike Dingle and offensive guard Antoine Rivens to recover from a concussion and a sprained ankle, respectively.

Wide Receiver Carl Platt (knee) and offensive tackle Ike Harris (ankle) are both questionable for the game. Defensive back Erik Anderson is out for most of the season with an ankle injury.

Woods expects Tech to provide a physical challenge to USC.

"As always, Virginia Tech has another fine physical football team," Woods said. "We left up

there two years ago with our quarterback (Todd Ellis) getting a concussion."

USC will respond to the physical challenge by fielding a defensive team that is ranked among the best in the nation.

All-American candidate defensive end Corey Miller leads a defense that is ranked sixth in the nation in least yards allowed in a game with a 191.5 average. USC's passing defense ranks seventh (118.0) and the scoring defense (7.5 points per contest) is ninth.

Miller has 18 total tackles (13 solo), two tackles for a loss, one quarterback sack and five quarterback pressures.

Other key USC defensive performers are defensive tackle Marty Dye (16 tackles), linebacker Patrick Hinton (18 tackles, 10 solo, 1 interception) and free safety Leon Harris (15 tackles and one interception).

The Hokies will counter with linebackers Rob Archie Hopkins (24 tackles, 10 solo) and Melendez Byrd (21 tackles) and safety Damien Russell (23 tackles, 12 solo and three broken passes).

Offensively, USC will be looking to get the ball to wide receiver Robert Brooks who ranks seventh for USC on the all-time pass reception list with 76 catches. Brooks has 1,086 yards in receptions and has scored 10 touchdowns.

Gamecock quarterback Bobby Fuller has completed 37 of 59 passes for 425 yards, four touchdowns and one interception.

Running back Mike Dingle is averaging over four yards a carry with 123 yards in 30 carries.

Tech is led by quarterback Will Furrer, running back Vaughn Hebron and flanker Marcus Mickel.

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File Photo

USC defensive tackle Marty Dye closes in on a Virginia Tech player in last season's 27-27 tie at Williams-Brice Stadium. The Gamecocks travel to Blacksburg, Va. Saturday for a 12:10 p.m. game against the Hokies.

## International Olympic Committee selects Atlanta for 1996 Games

By The Associated Press

TOKYO — Atlanta was selected Tuesday as the site of the 1996 Summer Games — the 100th birthday of the modern Games — in balloting by the International Olympic Committee.

Atlanta edged Athens, Greece; Belgrade, Yugoslavia; Manchester, England; Melbourne, Australia and Toronto, Canada.

The decision, read from a sealed ballot by IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, ended the hopes of Athens to stage the '96 Games in the country where the Olympics were born in 776 B.C. and were reincarnated in 1896.

When the announcement was made, the Atlanta representatives

burst into applause and fireworks were set off back home.

Atlanta had entered the final days of the four-year contest generally rated among the front-runners. It received a boost in its formal presentation with a videotaped appeal by President Bush.

Atlanta will be the third U.S. city to sponsor summer Olympics, following St. Louis in 1904 and Los Angeles in 1932 and 1984.

It was the 1984 Games that ushered in an era of unimagined money for the Olympics. The IOC announced last week that the Olympic movement, which was almost broke a decade ago, would make \$1.84 billion in the four years leading up to 1992.

"I am absolutely amazed. I can't

believe Atlanta has gone from a place nobody thought had a chance to really getting those Games," said Michael Lomax, chairman of the Fulton County Commission.

"It made me feel I was making the Olympic team again," said Ewander Holyfield, the former Olympic boxer who is from Atlanta.

"Atlanta's lure was solid facilities built or planned, excellent hotels and infrastructure and glowing reports from various evaluation commissions."

The Atlanta delegation, led by chief organizer Billy Payne, were overcome by joy. Payne had left the session room in tears after presenting Atlanta's final report earlier in the day.

## USC-Ga.Tech to be on ESPN

From Staff Reports

USC was notified by ESPN Monday that the Gamecocks' Sept. 29 football game against Georgia Tech will be televised by the national cable sports network.

The telecast will begin at 4 p.m., and the scheduled announcers are Sean McDonough and Mike Gottfried. McDonough is the Boston Red Sox announcer and a regular on ESPN major league baseball telecasts. Gottfried is a former head coach at the University of Pittsburgh.

The USC — Georgia Tech game had previously been scheduled for a 1 p.m. kickoff.

"We are absolutely thrilled to have our game with Georgia Tech selected by ESPN for a national telecast," USC athletic director King Dixon said. "It provides tremendous exposure for the University of South Carolina and we look forward to this opportunity."

One other 1990 USC game is scheduled to be televised by ESPN. The cable network will televise the Gamecocks against West Virginia from Williams — Brice Stadium on Thanksgiving night.



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