

Gamecocks and Tigers set to clash

By STEVE JOHNSON
Staff Writer

After a week of hard practices and intense preparation, the Gamecocks (5-4) will close out their road schedule against their cross-state rival, the 17th ranked Clemson Tigers (8-2).

The rivalry, which dates back to 1896, is one of the best in college sports.

"I'm not just going to say it's just another game because it's not," USC Coach Sparky Woods said. "It's a very important football game."

Clemson features a defense ranked first in rushing defense and total defense, second in scoring defense and eighth in passing defense. They have allowed an average of only 70.4 yards rushing per game and 9.4 points per game.

"They're the best defensive team I've ever had the chance to coach against, and I've had the chance to coach against some pretty good ones," Woods said.

Two of Clemson's best defensive players are linebacker Ed McDaniel and senior defensive end Vance Hammond. McDaniel leads the Tigers with 87 tackles and has one quarterback sack. Hammond leads the Tiger pass rush with seven sacks and 16 quarterback pressures, and he is third on the team in tackles with 61.

USC will challenge Clemson's highly touted defense with an offense led by the nation's seventh rated quarterback, Bobby Fuller.

He has completed 142 passes for 1,980 yards and 13 touchdowns this season. Fuller needs only 120 more passing yards to become one of USC's top ten career passers and 222 total yards in the next two games to move into the ninth spot. His yardage total so far has already surpassed the best single season totals by legendary USC quarterbacks Jeff Grantz, Mike Hold and Gary Harper.

When asked if Clemson's defense would make him nervous, Fuller said, "No, you can't really be thinking about that (their No. 1 rating). You've just got to go out and do what you can do."

"If they try to sack me, I'm just

going to take off and run," Fuller said. "If a Clemson player starts running his mouth, it'll pretty much fire me up. I'd just laugh and pick on them by trying to blow a nice pass right by them."

The Tigers will attempt to contain Fuller with the nation's eighth rated passing defense. Leading the Tiger pass coverage is cornerback Dexter Davis, who has broken up nine passes and has six interceptions.

The multi-talented Chris Gardocki handles the kicking and punting duties for Clemson. Gardocki has the fourth best punting average in the nation and has made 18 of 23 field goals, rating him sixth in the nation in field goal percentage.

"In my opinion, Chris Gardocki very well might be the best football player in college football," Woods said. "I don't know of any player that does more for their team than Chris Gardocki does for Clemson."

A distinct challenge exists for the USC special teams in containing the Tigers' lethal return man, senior flanker Doug Thomas. Thomas is the chief reason that the Tigers are ranked sixth in the nation in kickoff returns. He has returned eight kickoffs for 293 yards, two for touchdowns and is averaging 36.6 yards per return.

Also of concern to the Gamecocks is Clemson's offense, which ranks 11th in the nation in rushing. Tailback Ronald Williams leads the Tigers with 144 carries for 790 yards and eight touchdowns.

The Gamecock defense is led by senior linebacker Patrick Hinton and cornerback Cedric Surratt, USC is ranked 20th in the nation in total defense and 23rd in the nation in passing defense. Hinton leads all Gamecock tacklers with 94, has broken up two passes and also has one interception. Surratt has broken up two passes, has two interceptions and has made 43 tackles this season.

The USC-Clemson game is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Memorial Stadium in Clemson. A sellout crowd of over 80,000 is expected.



USC-Clemson Trivia Answers

Q. What is the all-time USC-Clemson series record?
A. Clemson leads 51-32-4.

Q. When did the two teams first meet on the football field?
A. USC won 12-6 on Nov. 12, 1896, in Columbia.

Q. Last season, the Tigers defeated the Gamecocks 45-0 in Columbia. What and when was the largest margin of victory for USC?
A. USC won 56-20 Nov. 22, 1975, in Columbia.

Q. What are the official colors of the Clemson Tigers?
A. Burnt Orange and Northwest Purple.

College Football Pickem's Panel

	Jeff Wilson 32-14-1	Dave Bowden 31-15-1	Brant Long 31-15-1	Steve Johnson 30-16-1	Doug Aube 29-17-1	Rich Taylor 28-18-1
USC @ Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	USC	USC	USC	USC
Penn St. @ N. Dame	N. Dame	N. Dame	N. Dame	N. Dame	N. Dame	N. Dame
UNC @ Duke	UNC	UNC	Duke	UNC	UNC	UNC
Illinois @ Indiana	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois
Miss. @ Tenn.	Tenn.	Tenn.	Tenn.	Tenn.	Tenn.	Tenn.
LSU @ Miss. St.	Miss. St.	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Sou. Cal @ UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	Sou. Cal	UCLA	UCLA
Brown @ Columbia	Brown	Brown	Brown	Brown	Columbia	Columbia
Missouri @ Kansas	Kansas	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri	Kansas
Texas @ TCU	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	TCU	Texas

USC readies for Wolfpack

By BRANT LONG
Assistant Sports Editor

USC travels to Raleigh, N.C., Sunday for the second round of the NCAA Soccer Tournament.

The Gamecocks are coming off of a 3-0 upset to fourth-ranked Clemson and now face the South Region's top seed, N.C. State Wolfpack. The Pack are ranked second nationally and received a bye in the first round.

USC Head Coach Mark Berson said the Wolfpack (16-4-0) present different concerns than the Tigers.

"N.C. State is an excellent team," he said. "The challenge they present to us is a different type of game than Clemson. Where Clemson was vulnerable in the midfield, N.C. State is strong in the midfield. Where Clemson hasn't scored a tremendous amount of goals, N.C. State has been very strong this year in the attack."

The ACC Champion Wolfpack's strong midfield contains the ACC Player of the Year in Henry Gutierrez, but Berson has faith that the USC defense can keep him in

check. "Our players will recognize some ways to shut down their best players," he said.

N.C. State Head Coach George Tarantini knows the Gamecocks have been in the NCAAAs many times before.

"We will be playing one of the premier teams in the U.S.," he said. "The experience South Carolina has in the NCAA tournament is tremendous."

USC is the only team in the South Region to appear in six straight NCAA tournaments.

"It will help coming off of a good win," Berson said. "Our players know what NCAA experience is all about. That can only be a positive factor."

"N.C. State is hard to predict. They have had a chance to rest. We're also playing up there so that balances all the scales."

USC has won the last four meetings between the two schools, including a 1-0 overtime NCAA tournament win in 1987.

Kickoff is at 1 p.m.

Sports Briefs

USC swim teams face Florida today

The USC men's and women's swim teams will face the Florida Gators today at 4 p.m. at the Carolina Natatorium. The Lady Gators are ranked seventh nationally while the Florida men are ranked ninth.

Both Gamecock teams are 3-1 on the season. The men are led by Mark Smith and Rick Havekost and the women have been paced by Michelle Smith and Isabelle Amould.

Surgery a success for USC center

USC basketball sophomore Edmond Wilson successfully underwent knee surgery Tuesday and is expected to begin rehabilitation immediately.

Wilson injured the knee in the first half of the USC-High Five America exhibition on Nov. 5. He is expected to return to action in 2 to 3 weeks.

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Aqua Aerobics		
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Stretch & Tone		
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The last aerobic session before Thanksgiving Break is Monday, November 19. Sessions will resume Monday, November 26.
The last scheduled aerobic session for the Fall 1990 semester is Tuesday, December 11.
*Swimming skills not necessary. You must rent a locker if you are taking Aqua Aerobics (.25/daily or \$10/semester), contact the Blatt PE Center at 777-3186 for more information.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

For more information or to register, stop by the Office of Campus Recreation, 102 Blatt PE Center, 777-5261

Activity	Entries Open	Entries Close	Play Begins
Wrestling	Monday, November 26	Thursday, November 29	Sunday, December 2
Basketball	Monday, December 3	Thursday, December 6	Sunday, January 20

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