

USC gets 'easy' win over Davidson, 85-57

By STEVE JOHNSON
Sports Editor

The Gamecocks coasted to what USC basketball coach George Felton labeled an "easy" 85-57 victory over the Davidson Wildcats Wednesday night at Belk Arena in Davidson, N.C.

"I didn't expect it to be this easy," said Coach Felton after the win.

"I think they made it easy for themselves," said Davidson coach Bob McKillop. "Their defense forced us into bad shots but shooting below 20 percent in the first half doesn't help."

The Wildcats had an extremely sluggish start. They fell behind by a score of 9-0 and didn't hit their first basket until about five and a half minutes into the contest.

Freshman guard Jason Zimmerman broke the scoring drought for Davidson at 14:45 in the first half with a three-pointer. USC then scored on a short jumper by forward Joe Rhett. Davidson responded with another three-pointer, this time by Davidson junior guard Paul Denmond.

USC then committed a costly turnover. To make matters worse, a foul by Jeff Roulston sent Zimmerman hit both shots to cut the Gamecock lead to only three points, 11-8.

Zimmerman followed another Rhett jump shot with two free throws, this time courtesy of a Bo Popovic foul. Davidson once again

trailed by only three, 13-10.

At that point, USC guard Barry Manning refused to let the Wildcats get any closer. Manning scored 10 points in the next 12 minutes, including a three-pointer at the buzzer to end the half on a high note for the Gamecocks.

After the game, Coach McKillop said, "Barry Manning was the catalyst for them both offensively and defensively."

Manning was leading or tying every offensive and defensive category for USC at the half.

The Gamecocks made it look easy in the second half, particularly on dazzling drives by Jo Jo English. The junior guard finished with 13 points overall, 11 of them in the second half.

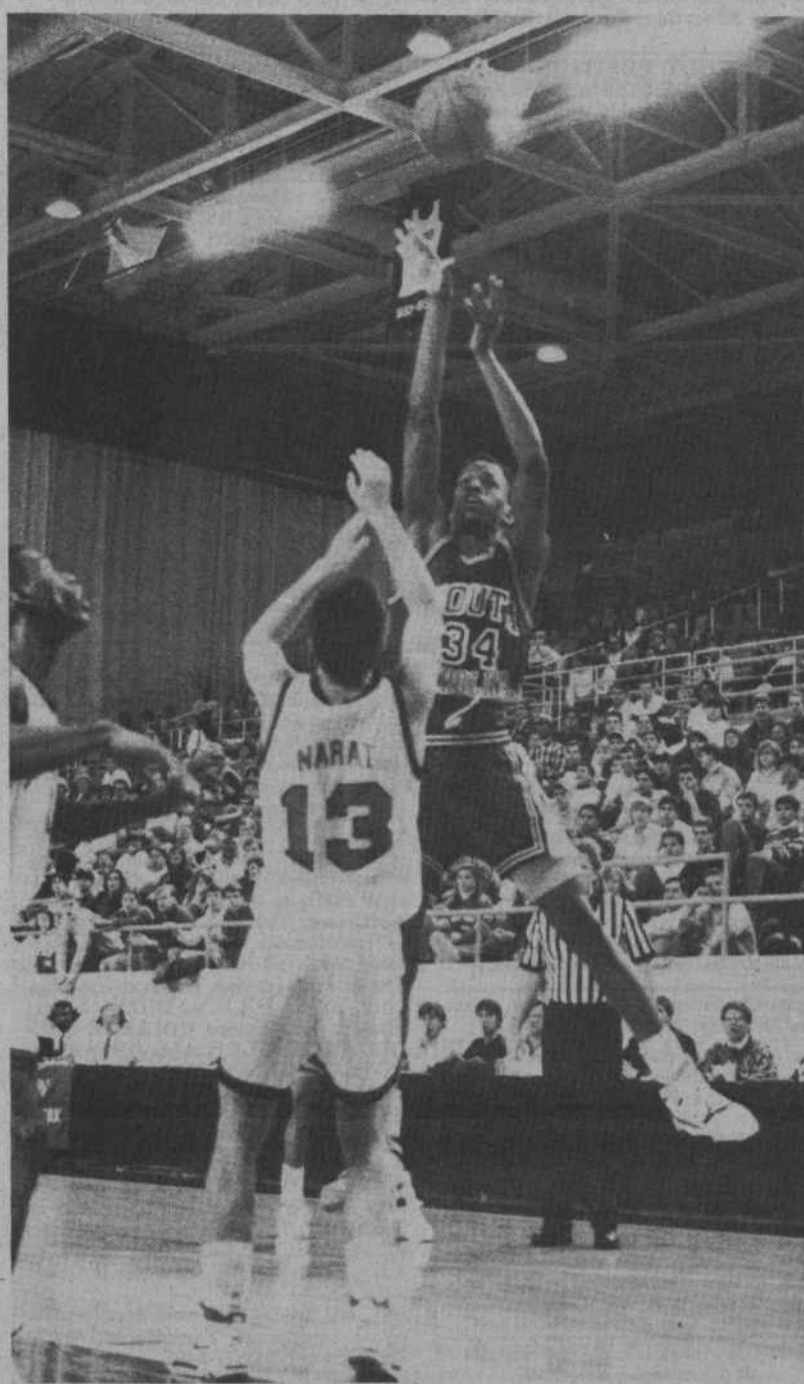
The leading scorer for the night was junior forward Joe Rhett, who tied a personal best by totaling 21 points in the game. Rhett also grabbed a game-high nine rebounds.

"Tonight some shots just fell for me," said a modest Rhett, "and I played a little more aggressive."

The 25th-ranked Gamecocks improved their record to 14-4 while Davidson dropped to 5-12.

GAME HIGHS

- Points... Joe Rhett (21)
- Rebounds... Joe Rhett (21)
- Assists... Barry Manning (4)
- Blocks... Jeff Roulston (3)
- Steals... Pat Holloway (2)



Renee Meyer/The Gamecock

USC forward Joe Rhett tied a career-high 21 points in Wednesday's 85-57 win over Davidson College in Davidson, N.C.

Metro match pits USC and Tigers

By TONY MIZZELL
Staff writer

Elliot Perry, the lightning-quick, do-everything point guard for Memphis State, is definitely a familiar face for the USC basketball team.

In three Tiger victories over USC this past season, Perry scored a total of 57 points for an average of 19 points per game.

The most heartbreaking loss of all occurred in Frank McGuire Arena this past season. With four seconds left, the Gamecocks took a one point lead after two free throws by Eric Sykes.

On the ensuing possession, USC guard Bojan Popovic slipped near midcourt leaving Perry wide open to shoot a 22-foot jumper from three-point land at the buzzer to defeat the Gamecocks 74-72, in front of 9,000 heartbroken USC fans.

The win was the first in Columbia under Memphis State head coach Larry Finch, breaking a three-game losing skid at Carolina Coliseum.

"We can't go up with revenge, though," said Joe Rhett after the Davidson win. "We're still trying to win the regular season in the Metro, and I believe we've got the team that can do it."

This season is not a reflection of the one a year ago. The Gamecocks are coming off an impressive road win against Davidson, 85-57.

A sellout crowd of 11,200 is expected to be on hand Saturday at

the Mid-South Coliseum in Memphis, Tenn. USC (14-4) will be taking on the Memphis State University Tigers (9-7) in a Metro Conference matchup. The Tigers lead the series 12-5.

Memphis State has posted conference wins over Louisville and Tulane while losing conference matchups to Virginia Tech and Southern Mississippi on the road.

Anyone familiar with the USC program knows the starting five is made up of four local town heroes from the Columbia area, with the fifth product, Jeff Roulston, from Summerville. Memphis State will have their own share of local heroes in their starting lineup Saturday night.

USC's backcourt of JoJo English and Barry Manning, both from the Columbia area, will match up against the Tiger backcourt of Elliot Perry and Tony Madlock, both of Memphis.

Forwards Michael Glover and Joe Rhett, another pair from the Columbia area, will match up against Memphis State forwards Earnest Smith and Anthony Douglas, also from Memphis.

Center Jeff Roulston will go against center Todd Mundt, a 7-foot, 240 pound product of Jackson, Tenn.

This game is very important for USC as the Gamecocks need to gain some ground on Metro-leading Southern Mississippi. The game will be broadcast live on the Gamecock Sports Radio Network, including WVOC-AM 56 in Columbia.

Soldiers anxiously awaiting Super Bowl Sunday

television."

Maybe the United Nations could pass a resolution calling for a cease-fire agreement to take effect an hour before the Super Bowl kickoff this Sunday so neither side will have to miss the big game.

Our military experts may not be able to pinpoint the exact location of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein but they have a hunch he'll be somewhere where he can watch the game.

Not unlike country star Lee Greenwood, I, too, am "proud to be an American" and if I can show my support for the troops by watching the Super Bowl, then heck, I'll do it.

In case you missed it (under-

standably so, many viewers had their eyes glued to the war updates on CNN Sunday) the Buffalo Bills and the New York Giants each won their respective conference championships.

The last time these two teams met was on Dec. 15, 1990. The Bills prevailed in a close game over the Giants in front of a hostile, sellout crowd at Giants Stadium.

True, the Bills barely won, but the Giants are now without their offensive leader and starting quarterback, Phil Simms. They also won't be playing at home.

Forget the fact that Giant backup quarterback Jeff Hostetler is coming off the biggest win of

his life against a team that was expected to "three-peat" in the Super Bowl.

A brief history lesson proves back-up quarterbacks can get up for an important game one week and completely flop the next. This season Oiler backup "Commander Cody" Carlson led Houston into the playoffs one week and fizzled in the playoffs the following week.

The last time the Giants were in the Super Bowl, starting quarterback Simms won the Super Bowl MVP en route to leading New York over the Denver Broncos by a score of 39-20. The only thing Simms will be throwing on Sunday is one of his crutches in disgust after the Giants lose.

To compare the two, Buffalo starter Jim Kelly is the highest-rated quarterback in the NFL while Hostetler ranks below even Bill second-stringer Frank Reich. (Will it be long before people start praising the Kelly/Reich combo the way people have praised Montana/Young?)

Beyond the passers though, the Bills dominate in almost every other category too. Leading the ground attack for Buffalo is running back Thurman Thomas, who was first in the AFC in rushing with 1,297 yards this season and arguably is the best all-around back in pro football today. Buffalo averaged 130 yards per game as a team in '90. The Giants are close

behind, though, with veteran running back Ottis Anderson leading a ground game that averaged 128.1 yards per game.

Bill receiver Andre Reed is both fearless and peerless. (Is there anyone more lethal going over the middle?) New York's receivers aren't worth mentioning.

For all the hype and attention given to Giant linebacker Lawrence Taylor, the best pass rusher in this game is defensive end Bruce Smith. With apologies to "LT," (who is a bona fide future hall of famer and worthy of mention along with the elite defenders of all time, Dick Butkus and Joe Greene) Smith has simply had a better season. Smith registered 20 sacks this season to LT's 10.5.

The one area the Giants do excel at over the Bills is pass coverage. Veteran Giant cornerback Everson Walls gambles at times but is always capable of making the big play. His six interceptions were third in the NFC this season. He and his counterparts won't get any rest against Kelly and Reed on Sunday, though. The Bills will win 24-17.

The New York Giants and the Buffalo Bills are set to clash at 6:18 p.m. this Sunday in Tampa Stadium in front of a sellout crowd of over 72,000. The game will be broadcast live by ABC-TV, channel 25 in Columbia.



By STEVE JOHNSON
Sports Editor

What is the rallying cry of American troops in the Middle East?

CHARGE!
Scud-busters!

Would you believe "play ball!"?

"Our first goal is to provide live radio broadcasts for every soldier. In war, we'd try to keep radio on the air," commented Armed Forces Radio and Television Service deputy director Melvin Russell. "But we wouldn't worry about

THE GAMECOCK

THE GAMECOCK is the student newspaper of The University of South Carolina and is published three times a week during the fall and spring semesters (MWF) and on Wednesdays during both summer sessions (with the exception of university holidays). The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher. The Office of Student Media is the parent organization of THE GAMECOCK.

Opinions expressed in THE GAMECOCK are those of the student editors and authors and not those of The University of South Carolina, its Board of Trustees, nor its advertisers.

Change of address forms, subscription requests and other correspondence should be sent to THE GAMECOCK, Box 85131, The University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. Subscription rates are \$20.00 for (1) year, \$10.00 per fall or spring semester and \$5.00 for both summer sessions. Third class postage paid at Columbia, SC.

THE GAMECOCK is a licensed student organization of The University of South Carolina and receives funding from student activity fees.

HELP WANTED

1. Would you like to work for yourself?
2. Would you like to set your own hours?
3. Are you self-motivated?
4. Are you a bit of an entrepreneur?

If you answered YES to all of the above, you are just the person we're looking for! As an American Passage Campus Representative, you will be responsible for placing advertising on bulletin boards. You will also have the opportunity to work on marketing programs for such clients as American Express, Ford, and Boston University. There are no sales involved. Many of our reps stay with us long after graduation. For more information, call or write us at the following address:

AMERICAN PASSAGE NETWORK
1-800-727-6783
218 West Harrison
Seattle, WA 98119-4107

OPERATION DESERT STORM SUPPORT GROUP

Have friends or loved ones assigned with military units in the Gulf? Uncertainty, loneliness, and stress are associated with events such as this. If interested in becoming a member of a support group, call Julie Harden, Coordinator for Veterans Affairs, in the Counseling and Human Development Center, 777-5223, 2nd floor H.W. Close (BA) Building.

VA-007

\$50 MINIMUM EACH DONATION

Your plasma is needed if you have or recently have had any of the following infections!!!

- 1) Mononucleosis
- 2) Strep Throat
- 3) Chickenpox or Shingles
- 4) Measles
- 5) Mumps
- 6) Chlymidia or Herpes (must be free of other STD's)



2719 Middleburg Dr.
Suite 105
Columbia, SC 29204
(803) 254-6537

WESTSIDE WOMEN'S SERVICE

OB/GYN CERTIFIED PHYSICIAN



- Abortion & Counseling Services - Ask about the new, more comfortable, up-to-date method
- Free pregnancy • testing
- Ultrasound
- Complete physical - lab tests, blood pressure check, & pap smear
- Culture & treatment of sexually transmitted diseases

BIRTH CONTROL

Birth control services plus one pack of pills
\$40 student rate (Reg. \$75)

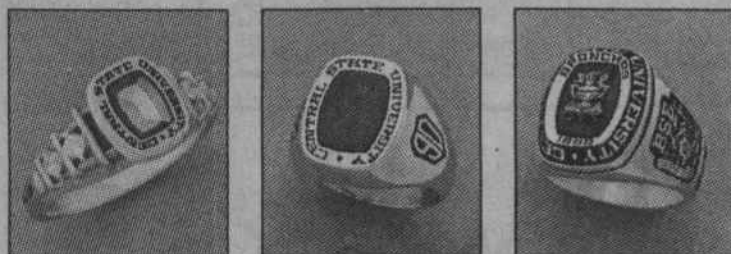
Call 798-9299 or toll free 1-800-922-3730
2301 F Bush River Road - Across from Outlet Point

Ring Sale

Save UP TO \$100

"LAST CHANCE TO BUY AT '90 PRICES!"

Stop by and visit your ArtCarved representative during this special event. Check out our awesome collection of styles. ArtCarved will customize a college ring just for you with thousands of special options. Don't delay -- see your ArtCarved representative before this promotion ends.



ARTCARVED
COLLEGE JEWELRY

January 28, 29, 30 Mon. - Wed. 9am-4pm
University Bookstore Russell House

Special Payment Plans Available