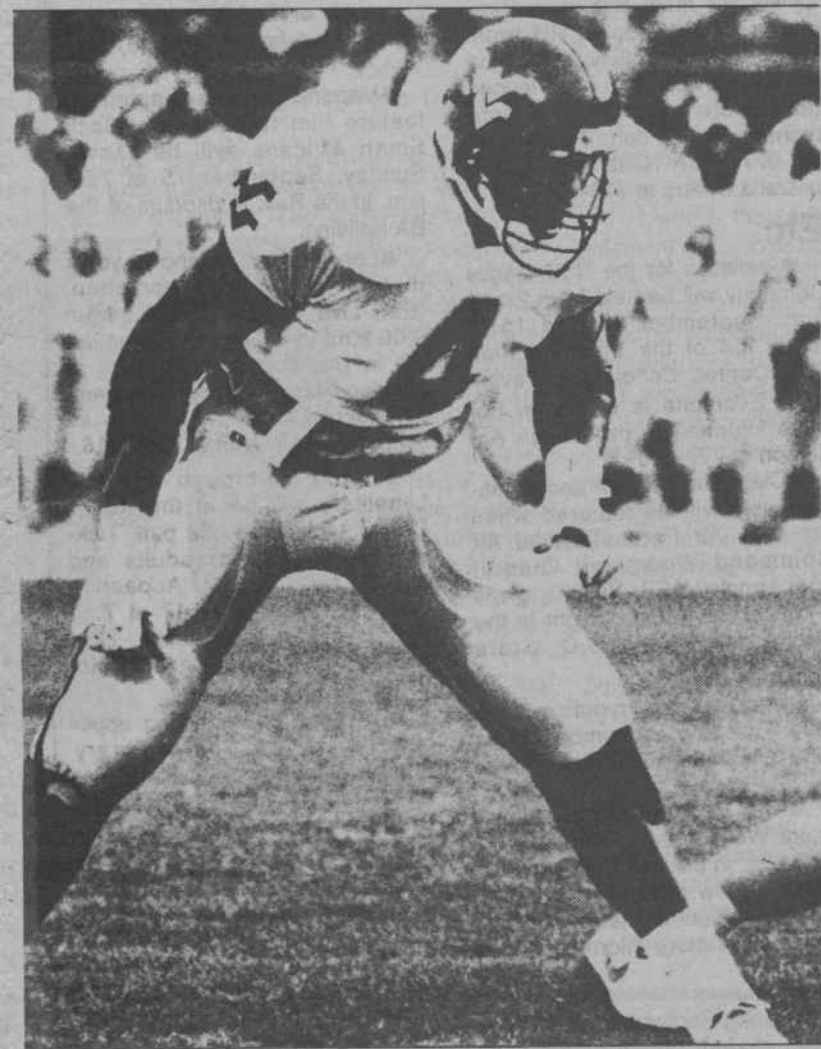


# Gamecocks look to rebound in West Virginia



File photo

West Virginia linebacker Steve Grant led the team in tackles in 1990.

By AARON SHEININ  
Sports Editor

Big questions remain for the Gamecocks as they head into Morgantown, W.Va., to face the Mountaineers in the second game of the season. One question is whether or not a young USC squad can bounce back after tying Duke. Outside linebacker Robert Gibson doesn't think there is any problem.

"We're going to take it as another game. We said at the beginning of the season we had 12 games to play. This is just another one of the 12," he said.

In order for the Gamecocks to advance to a 12th game, a bowl game, they must right themselves against a big Mountaineer squad.

In the opening game, West Virginia was soundly beaten by Pittsburgh, 34-3. The Mountaineers only managed 267 total yards against the Panthers. Spring surprise Adrian Murrell finished the game with 79 total yards, 75 rushing and 4 receiving.

The following week, coach Don Nehlen's Mountaineers rebounded with a 24-17 victory over Bowling Green, to even their record at 1-1. Murrell racked up 152 yards rushing in that contest.

Although West Virginia's starting quarterback, Darren Studstill, is still hurt, senior Chris Gray has stepped up and played well. In two games, Gray has passed for 283 yards completing 25 of 44 passes, with two interceptions and one touchdown.

Michael Beasley, this past season's leading rusher with 607 yards, returns for his senior year. Beasley, who will play a number of positions, and Murrell, will probably be running through or around right tackle a lot this season,

taking advantage of 6-foot-10, 320 lb. lineman John Ray.

Murrell has gained 231 yards on 48 attempts in two games this season, and returned 227 more.

The Mountaineers, who have never had back-to-back losing seasons under Nehlen, will have to rely on the rest of an unproven offensive line to help Ray. Sophomore Rich Braham at left tackle and junior Lorenzo Styles at left guard, both earned starting spots by the end of this past season. Junior Mike Compton is another key, returning after surgery on a broken leg.

The strength of the defense is in the secondary, where four starters return. Sophomore Mike Collins at strong safety and senior Darrell Whitmore at free safety are 195 and 205 lbs. respectively, and are capable of making big hits at any time. The Mountaineers also have a veteran back-up in Tim Newsom to offer relief.

Two returning starters, Cecil Doggette and Kwame Smith, battle for the start at wide corner, with Doggette being listed atop the depth chart. At short corner, junior Leroy Axem will start over a highly-touted redshirt freshman, Tommy Orr.

A pair of talented linebackers lead West Virginia defense in tackles. Senior inside linebacker Steve Grant had 141 tackles in 1990, and already has 26 in two games. On the inside, sophomore Derrick Wiley has 18 stops. On the defensive line, junior Boris Graham will have the job of putting pressure on quarterback Bobby Fuller, while Tarris Alexander will drop back and contain.

The heart of the line, however, was rattled by injuries during the spring. Jim Gray returns as a four-year starter at nose tackle, after Steve Redd

and Todd Robinson were sidelined for the season with injuries. Sophomore Scott Gaskins was the only lineman to escape spring without injury, and will back up Rick Dolly at tackle.

In this past season's matchup, the Gamecocks made Thanksgiving Day turkeys out of the Mountaineers, with what coach Sparky Woods called "a complete game," a 29-10 win in Columbia. Running back Rob DeBoer finished with 98 yards and a touchdown, filling in for injured Mike Dingle. Collin Mackie kicked five field goals in his final game as a Gamecock, and Bobby Fuller passed for 229 yards.

The year before that, however, was a different story. The Mountaineers, behind quarterback Major Harris dominated the Gamecocks in Morgantown, 49-21. West Virginia plays on Omniturf in Mountaineer Field, and this will be USC's only appearance on turf this season. West Virginia leads the overall series 6-3-1, and the last time USC won in Morgantown was 1953.

Another major question is — can a young Gamecock team learn from mistakes against Duke. Woods will try to convince young special team players and a defensive secondary to move on, as Gibson, a senior, said. If the secondary plays to potential, Gray will have a hard time finding receivers, and the load will fall on a more experienced linebacker corp to stop Beasley and Murrell.

The Gamecocks should be prepared to see a lot of gold and blue, the colors that most of the expected 63,000 fans will be wearing. If the Gamecocks are going to challenge for a bowl appearance, a win on the road will be a big step, as USC comes home next week to face a tough Virginia Tech team.

## Soccer team defeats Blue Hose, 2-0

By BRANT LONG  
Copy Desk Chief

A coach whose teams win nearly 75 percent of their games is either in his first season, or is a great coach. Gamecock soccer fans will tell you, that after 14 seasons, Mark Berson is a great coach.

The USC soccer head coach notched his 200th career victory Wednesday afternoon at The Graveyard as the ninth-ranked Gamecocks defeated Presbyterian College, 2-0.

Berson, 38, started his career at The Citadel in 1977, where he led the Bulldogs to an 11-5 record. Then, he came to USC, where he has built one of the nation's best collegiate soccer programs over the past 14 years.

In the previous 13 years as Gamecock coach, USC has had only one losing season, and has advanced to the NCAA Tournament seven times. Berson has been named National Soccer Coaches Association/Metropolitan Life Coach of the Year in the South on three occasions — 1984, 1985 and 1988.

The Gamecocks, 2-0, tried to put the visiting Blue Hose away early for Berson's 200th, missing numerous first half opportunities. Freshman Rob Smith and senior captain Andrew Coggins both missed goal chances on Presbyterian goalkeeper Bret Boulware, as USC outshot the visitors 10-4 in the opening stanza.

Sophomore Matt Haiduk de-

cidated it was time to convert one of those chances at the 25:38 mark. Taking a pass from defender Brian Scott, Haiduk faked a defender and drilled a 30-yard shot into the right corner of the goal past a diving Boulware.

"Haiduk's goal was outstanding," Berson said. "I don't think you'll see a better goal than that this year."

USC's best chance for an insurance goal came in the second half, when freshman Chris Faklaris, junior Hans Lohner and senior Adam Binding all missed consecutive shots in front of a crowded Blue Hose goal.

Sophomore Bret Kurland didn't miss his attempt to notch his first goal as a Gamecock. With 52:02 gone in the match, Lohner crossed the ball to a wide-open Kurland on the right side of the Blue Hose goal. The Clearwater, Fla. native calmly headed the ball past Boulware for the final 2-0 tally.

"We played pretty well," Berson said, "and we kept our composure. We have a young group and PC is a good team. Our guys did a good job."

It was the second straight game where the Gamecocks held their opponents scoreless, as junior goalie Spencer Lueders shutout the Blue Hose. He had five saves to Boulware's seven. The Gamecocks also outshot PC 20-10. The loss evens PC's record at 1-1. The Blue Hose hammered Limestone in their opener 8-0.



Scott Aston/The Gamecock

USC forward Bret Kurland is helped off the field after being injured in Wednesday's game against Presbyterian.

After the game, USC Athletic Director King Dixon presented an award to Berson commemorating his 200th victory. But Berson's 201st victory will likely be tougher his 200th.

Sunday, USC plays host to seventh-ranked South Region powerhouse (and Berson's alma mater) North Carolina. The Tar Heels, 2-0-1, have already edged ACC rival Clemson earlier this season but

could only manage a tie against Davidson Wednesday night. Berson said the match will be another good game, as usual against the Tar Heels.

"UNC is always a great game," he said. "It is one of the great rivalries. It will be one of the early tests for our team and it should be an absolutely great game."

Kickoff for the UNC match is at 2 p.m. at The Graveyard.

## USC soccer captain leads by example

By AARON COUNCIL  
Staff Writer

Andrew Coggins enters his senior year as captain of the Gamecock soccer team, which is currently ranked No. 9 in the nation.

Coggins is coming off this past year's team as the leading scorer with 10 goals, and this year is a strong candidate for All-America honors.

The 1991 soccer team is very young, and there are a lot of new players. This means inexperience, but Coggins is a leader on the field, which will make the younger players more comfortable.

Thus far the team has done fine by scoring victories over Davidson and Presbyterian. Coggins had a goal in the game against Davidson. However, the real test comes this Sunday against nationally ranked North Carolina.

Coggins played his high school soccer for Middleton High School in Charleston, S.C., which he led the team to three state titles in four years. He also holds the South Carolina high school scoring record

with 127 goals. In his final season at Middleton, he scored 43 goals in leading the team to a 6-AAA State Championship over Riverside of Greenville.

While on the subject of soccer, congratulations go out to Coach Mark Berson for getting his 200th victory over Presbyterian Wednesday afternoon. Coggins believes he owes Berson a lot of credit for being so influential in his development as a soccer player. "He's a great motivator and he's taught me a lot as far as the skills I have learned in college," Coggins said.

Berson commented after the Presbyterian game Wednesday that Coggins "is a good athlete, he's a good example for the young players, he leads by example on the field, and he works very, very hard."

In addition to the accomplishments Coggins has made on the soccer field at USC, he is also a very good student. He is a member of the South Carolina Honors College, where he has maintained a high grade point average.

# KEY LARGO

Surf N' TURF  
\$16

FRESH, CHAR-GRILLED/BLACKENED  
12oz. FISH STEAKS DAILY

WEDNESDAY'S SPECIAL

Oysters \$3.00 per dozen

Steamed Clams \$4.00 per dozen

HAPPY HOUR 4-7

All WELL DRINKS \$2.00

Raw Bar - Oysters \$3.00/Doz. • Clams \$4.00/Doz. 8 days/wk

FULL ABC BAR - \$2.00 BAR BRANDS 4-7

1111 KNOX ABBOTT DR.  
CAYCE • 794-4805

Sun. - Thurs. 11:00am - 10:00pm  
Fri. 11:00 - 11:00 Sat. 4-until

LUNCH SPECIAL DAILY  
All ABC Regulations Enforced

### Imprinted Items

- Promote your organization
- A great fundraiser
- Choice of over 100 items

## CROMERS

1 Block from  
1235 Assembly St., Columbia, S.C.  
Phone: 779-2250

Rentals and Sales

## Power Up

FEEL THE POWER  
of Super Nintendo and  
Sega Genesis

Power Up Video Games Rents and Sells the latest in  
Video Game Electronics.

We're located only minutes from campus at St. Andrews and I-26.  
Take your mind off classes, come see us we'll show you how.

612 St. Andrews Road  
(Ashland Park, Beside Yesterday's) 731-0466

Every three months, the U.S. throws  
away enough aluminum to rebuild our  
entire commercial air fleet.

Before you throw away that  
aluminum can, look around.  
There's probably a recycling  
box right around the corner.

Message by S.A.G.E.

## PUG'S

IN FIVE POINTS

Good times & Great food

JOIN US EVERY MON-FRI NIGHT FOR DELICIOUS DINNER 6-9PM

BIG SCREEN MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL AT PUG'S

BRING YOUR FAVORITE LOUNGE CHAIR

### Beer Specials

15¢ wings • 15¢ hot dogs • 15¢ shrimp

DURING GAME

WEDNESDAY - DRAFT - NIGHT - ROCK - N - ROLL AT PUG'S

Starts at 9:00 • BIG SCREEN TV & DART BOARDS

LIVE JAZZ DOWNSTAIRS AT PUG'S

Serving Lunch & Dinner Mon-Fri

• 11:30 am - 2:30 pm • 6 pm - 9pm •

799-1225
Harden Street, Columbia, S.C.