

Banquet honors past, present football heroes

By **TIM THORSEN**
Staff Writer

Stars from Gamecock football history, past and present will come to Columbia for a gala weekend commemorating 100 years of Gamecock football.

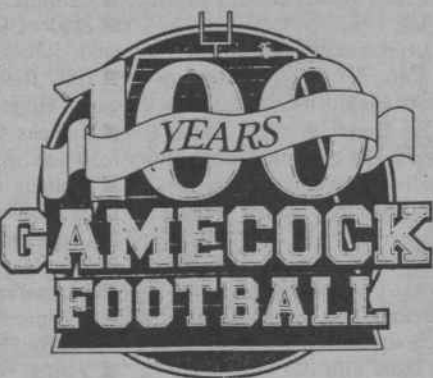
One part of the celebration will be a kickoff banquet session featuring the current and former Gamecock heroes.

The banquet will be at 6:30 p.m. April 10 at the Ellison Building on the State Fairgrounds.

Scheduled to attend the banquet are players and coaches representing every Gamecock football era.

Former coaches Warren Giese, Paul Dietzel, Jim Carlen and Richard Bell will be present, as well as former Athletic Director Bob Marcum and current Athletic Director King Dixon.

In addition, six football players from the USC Athletic Hall of Fame will attend. The members include Heisman Trophy winner George Rogers, quarterbacks Jeff



Grantz and Tommy Suggs and centers Lou Sossamon and Larry Smith.

Eight players representing the players from the decades in which they played will attend as well. They are Tatum Grisette, Larry Craig, Bo Hagan, Alex Hawkins, Stan Juk, Jerry Witherspoon, Brad Edwards and current varsity player Jerry Inman.

Head coaches Sparky Woods and Georgia's Ray Goff each will speak at the banquet as well. Goff is a former Gamecock football assistant coach.

The honored guests are not just Gamecocks, though, as there also will be nationally prominent athletic figures in attendance.

Roy Kramer, commissioner of the SEC, will attend, as will Dick Schultz, executive director of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Students may not want to miss the Spring Game. In addition to giving the public a sneak preview of this year's Gamecock team, there also will be the opportunity to meet Gamecock dignitaries from all eras. All former players and coaches have been invited, and this will serve as an occasion to meet individuals who have impacted Gamecock football.

The game is free for all students with IDs. In addition, students will be allotted the prime East Stand seats for viewing of the game.



Mark Asmer/The Gamecock

Former South Carolina star George Rogers will be a guest at the football banquet Friday.

Men's tennis team loses to Florida

By **NANCY SALOMONSKY**
Staff Writer

The South Carolina men's tennis team was handed its second straight Southeastern Conference loss by the 15th-ranked Florida Gators, 5-1.

Fighting through a back injury suffered in Tuesday's match against Tennessee, Mark Palus was USC's only victor in the match. Palus, a junior, beat David Blair 6-1, 2-6, 6-4. Palus' record improved to 31-8.

Senior Dirk Hahneiser was defeated by the No. 45 player in the nation, Bruce Haddad, 6-3, 6-2. Hahneiser's overall average is 19-16 and 1-6 in the SEC.

Sophomore Johan Sandberg also was defeated by a nationally-ranked player, No. 62 Mark Merklien, 6-2, 6-2. Sandberg is 8-9 for the year and 3-4 in the SEC.

USC freshman Ben Cook lost a close match to Florida's Gary Finnegan 5-7, 7-6 (7-4), 6-0. This brings his overall record to 13-7 and his SEC record to 1-3.

Johan Wiig lost to Florida's Eric Dobsha 6-3, 6-1. Wiig, a sophomore, is 19-8 overall with a 3-4 record in the SEC.

South Carolina freshman Jimmy Panagopoulos was beaten by the Gator's Doug Proudian 6-2, 6-3. Panagopoulos has a



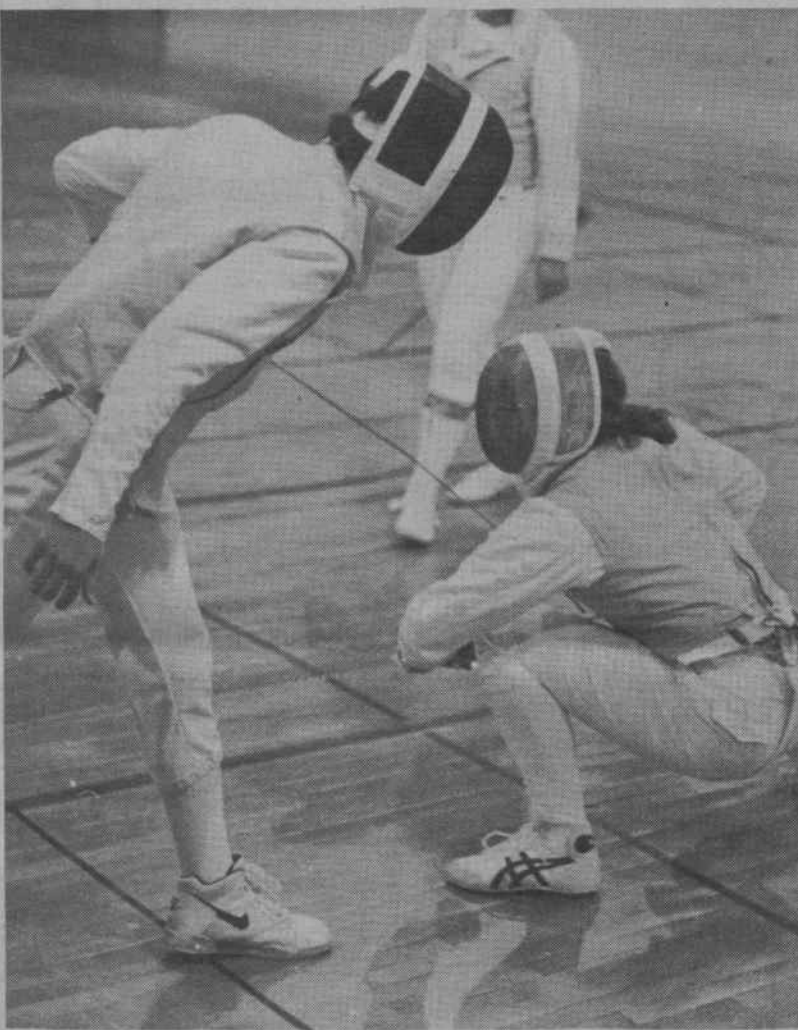
19-17 overall average and is 4-3 in the SEC.

After the singles competition the winner already was determined. Therefore the doubles were not played.

With the loss to Florida, South Carolina's record drops to 8-8 overall, and 3-4 in the SEC.

The Gamecocks next will face their highest-ranked opponent yet when they face the Georgia Bulldogs. The third-ranked Bulldogs will visit Columbia for a 2 p.m. match-up Wednesday afternoon.

Georgia is 12-2 on the season and is currently on a 10-match winning streak. Georgia most recently defeated second-ranked Texas Christian University 6-3 and 15th-ranked Miami 5-4. Georgia is tied with Louisiana State University for the top spot in the SEC with a record of 6-1.



Lea Clayton/The Gamecock

The fencing club tied its match with Wofford this weekend.

Fencing club even in duel with Wofford

By **CHAD BRAY**
Sports Editor

South Carolina's fencing club tied Wofford this weekend in competition with three different types of weapons.

In what was to be the South Carolina Invitational, USC defeated Wofford in the foil and sabre competitions, but were beat in epee competition.

Originally, South Carolina, Wofford, Clemson and the Citadel were supposed to compete Saturday at the Sol Blatt P.E. Center.

However, Clemson could not field a large enough team, and the Citadel squad had a drill this weekend.

In sabre competition, South Carolina's Andy Powell defeated Wofford's Jason Myers, Jim Ford and Chris Grose.

USC's William McElven beat

Grose and Ford, but lost against Myers. USC's Patrick Smyrl lost three to Myers, Grose and Ford.

In foil competition, South Carolina went 6-3. USC's Matt Tolbert beat Wofford's Amy Overstreet and Matt Ward, but he was defeated by Myers.

South Carolina's Gito Picus defeated Ward and Overstreet, but lost to Myers. USC's Rick Delmer beat Ward and lost to Myers, and McElven defeated Overstreet.

Finally in epee competition, South Carolina was defeated all around. Smyrl lost to Ward and Ford, but came back to beat Grose. Delmer lost to Grose and Ford, but tied Ward.

USC's Teddy Pelchat was the only bright spot for South Carolina in epee competition. He defeated Grose and Ward, but dropped a match to Ford.



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