

Newton signs six recruits for basketball team

By TIM THORSEN
Staff Writer

After losing six seniors, including four starters, to graduation, the South Carolina men's basketball team needed a quick infusion of talent.

Head coach Steve Newton signed six players to national letters of intent to install that talent.

"Our focus was to bring in a balance of high school seniors and transfers who can give us immediate help," Newton said. "Our focus was on offense and guard play, as well as improving our depth. We have a solid foundation, but to be effective in the Southeastern Conference you need 10 to 14 solid players."

Percy Eberhart and Norm Greene each signed with the Gamecocks during the early signing period, and recently South Carolina has received commitments from Cortez Barnes, Shannon Hoskins, Waide Franklin and Terry Bynum.

Barnes, a 6-foot-7, 205-pound forward, has played his last two seasons at Hutchinson Community College in Hutchinson, Kan. Last season, he netted 14.8 points per game, while pulling down six boards a contest in leading Hutchinson to a 27-7 record and a berth in the finals of the Region VI

tournament.

"Cortez Barnes brings in experience and maturity at the college level. When you lose six seniors, you need someone to come in and give immediate help, and we feel Cortez can fill the bill," Newton said. "He brings in good size and ability and is a very athletic basketball player who should help improve our shooting from behind the lines. Inside and out, he is a very versatile player."

Hoskins, a 6-foot-1, 180-pound guard from Manchester Clay County High School in Kentucky, became the third high school senior to sign with the Gamecocks, along with Eberhart and Greene. Hoskins, who placed third in the balloting for Mr. Basketball for the state of Kentucky, was a five-year high school starter.

The first team All-State star averaged 26.4 points and 10.4 assists a game in leading Clay County to the Kentucky "Sweet 16." Hoskins shot 55 percent from the floor, 42 percent from 3-point land and 83 percent from the free-throw line.

"Shannon Hoskins is a highly successful guard from Eastern Kentucky who has achieved much in high school, both team-wise and personally," Newton said. "He is a very unselfish player and has the ability to contribute to the team in

many areas. Shannon is a team player who comes from a very solid program and basketball background. He's just grown up in the gym."

Franklin, a 6-foot-3, 190-pound guard, comes from Gadsden State Junior College in Alabama. In both his seasons at Gadsden State, Franklin led the team in scoring. He knocked in 20.7 points a game his sophomore season along with 4.2 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 1.5 steals per contest, after hitting for 21 points, 4.4 assists, 3.5 boards and 1.5 steals in his freshman season.

"Wadie Franklin is a very solid performer at the guard position. Physically, he is a strong player and has very good shooting range," Newton said. "Wadie is a very consistent player, and he will certainly add to our experience and bring fine offensive skills to our program."

Returning home to Columbia is former Eau Claire Shamrock Terry Bynum, a 6-foot-4, 210 pound guard, returns after spending his last two years at Anderson College. During his sophomore season, Bynum earned second-team junior college All-American honors for averaging 20 points, four rebounds and three assists per game. He was also named Ander-

son College's "Male Athlete of the Year."

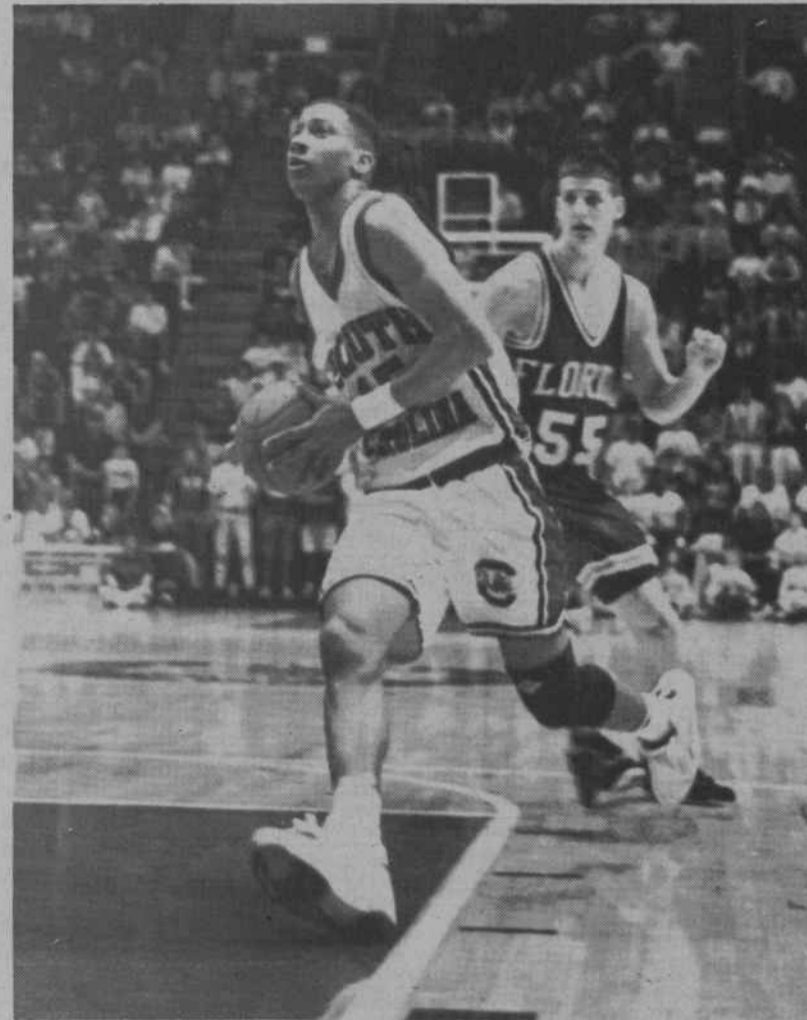
"We are especially pleased that a Columbia native and South Carolinian has chosen to return and join our program," Newton said. "He has excelled at both Anderson College and at Eau Claire High School as a guard and is well known for not only his skills but his great intensity and mental toughness. Terry brings a complete game to our program, and we are enthusiastic about his decision to join the Gamecocks."

Greene, a 6-foot-8, 185 pound forward, was recently named All-State for Michigan, and Eberhart, also a 6-foot-8 forward, was recently ranked 35th among high school seniors in America by recruiting guru Bob Gibbons.

Possibly augmenting the basketball recruiting class is football recruit Steve Tannehill. Tannehill starred for Altoona High School in both football and basketball.

While Tannehill playing basketball would be a definite plus for the squad, coach Newton isn't counting on anything just yet.

"We haven't talked, although he is an accomplished basketball player," Newton said. "We wouldn't reject him if he wanted to take a look at the hardwood."



Eric Glenn/The Gamecock

Jamie Watson will receive help from six newly signed recruits.

Baseball team loses to Winthrop, 6-5

By ROB RODUSKY
Staff Writer

The Winthrop Eagles upset the Gamecock baseball team, 6-5, when sophomore pitcher Steve Kolbert threw a wild pitch to allow the winning run in the 10th inning.

The game was nothing less than sloppy.

The Eagles committed five errors, struck out 13 times, made a wild pitch while attempting an intentional walk and gave up six extra-base hits out of South Carolina's first seven hits.

They also let the potential winning run reach third with one out in the eighth.

"They tried to give it to us, and we refused to take it," South Carolina coach June Raines told The State newspaper. Winthrop made five errors and didn't play real good defense, Raines said. The Gamecocks earned three doubles, two triples, a home run and five runs.

While the Gamecocks hit well and the Eagles played poor defense, Carolina left many players on base. "It's hard to win that way," Raines said.

The Gamecocks, 26-15, got the tying run to second base in the bottom of the 10th when junior pinch hitter Joe Biernat beat out an infield hit and advanced on a wild pitch. However, senior catcher

Dave Willman was retired on a fly ball and junior outfielder D.T. Cromer grounded out to end the game.

"Our pitchers did a great job of not letting them get a big inning and putting the ballgame away," first year Winthrop coach Joe Hudak said.

In the second inning senior Burke Cromer led off the scoring for the Gamecocks after doubling to left field and scoring when the Winthrop first baseman could not hang onto the ball.

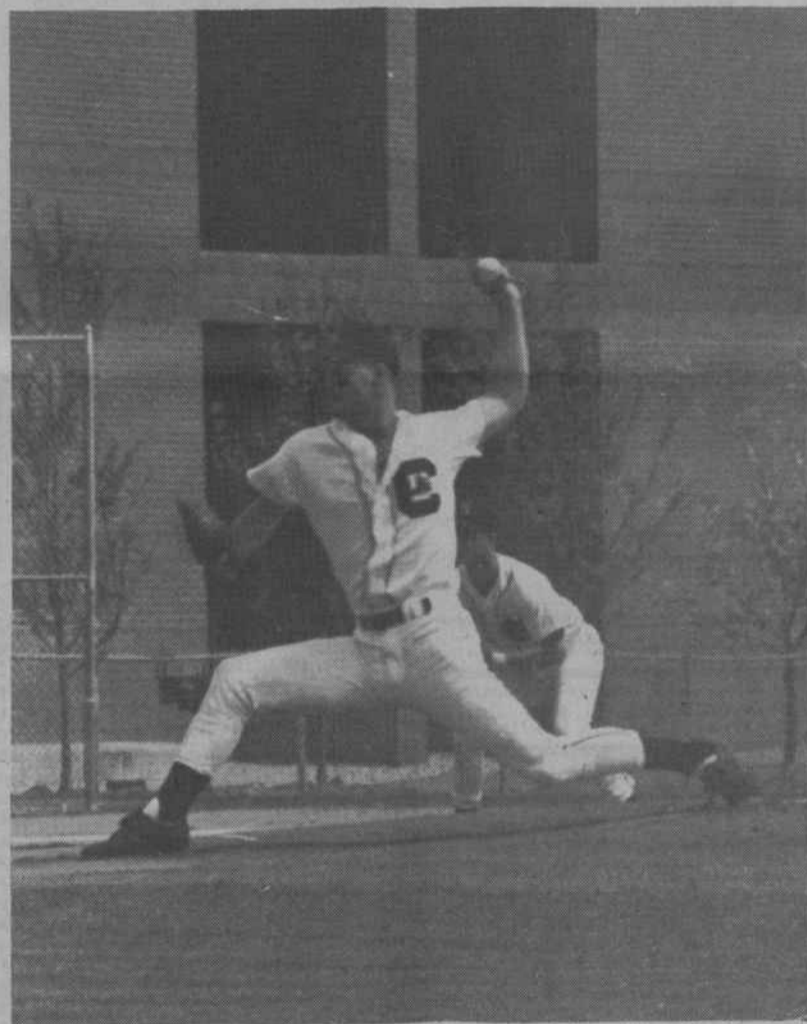
Winthrop scored three times after Gamecock freshman pitcher Jim Stoops retired the first six batters he faced.

Cromer, who also had a pair of singles, smacked his third home run of the year in the third inning to give the Gamecocks a 3-2 lead.

South Carolina took a 4-3 lead in the fourth. Consecutive triples by sophomore outfielder Mac White and sophomore shortstop Randy Thompson tied the game at three. Thompson then scored on freshman outfielder Mark Gugino's groundout.

Winthrop got Stoops, who allowed four hits, walked one and struck out seven in six innings, for the tying run in the sixth.

"We had men on base every inning and couldn't get them in," Raines said.



Renee Meyer/The Gamecock

The baseball team lost to Winthrop on a 10th inning wild pitch.

Lady Gamecocks sweep Winthrop

By CHAD BRAY
Sports Editor

The No. 13 Lady Gamecocks swept Winthrop in a double-header Tuesday.

South Carolina, which will sponsor the USC Invitational against East Carolina and Georgia Southern this weekend, beat the Lady Eagles 4-0, 5-1.

The first game was a shining period for freshmen on the Gamecock squad.

Freshman sensation Darlene Gareis picked up her 21st win in the shutout. Gareis, who has only lost five games this year, allowed four hits and two walks and two strikeouts in the game.

Freshman catcher Dana Fulmer also showed her potential as a future star with her 11th triple and 53rd RBI of the season in the third inning. Fulmer is now 19th in the nation in RBI.

Junior shortstop Tiff Tootle, sophomore center fielder Toinette Reed and senior left fielder Kris Kordonowy also scored runs in the game.

Freshman second baseman Shani Cannon and Tootle each committed an error for South

Carolina while Winthrop committed three errors in the game.

Winthrop's Kristen Gebhart (10-9) allowed five hits and three earned runs.

South Carolina scored three runs in the third and one in the sixth.

In the second game, junior hurler Charity Ballard allowed five hits, one run and one walk. Ballard improved her record to 8-1 with five strikeouts.

Reed lead the Lady Gamecocks with two RBI and one run. Kordonowy went 1-for-3 and had two runs off a hit and a walk.

Winthrop's Lauren Paul (8-25) allowed two hits, four runs and six walks in five innings of baseball.

The Lady Eagles' Gebhart allowed two hits and one run in two innings of relief.

Cannon committed two errors for South Carolina. Winthrop committed six errors — three by third baseman Aubrey Cohen's and three by shortstop Crissy Martin.

Tennis team loses to Clemson

By NANCY SALOMONSKY
Staff Writer

The South Carolina men's tennis team lost to No. 21 Clemson, 5-2.

Senior Dirk Hahneiser won his 20th game of the year with his 6-2, 6-2 victory over Clemson's Mike Williams.

The only other South Carolina win came from sophomore Johan Wiig. Wiig beat Bryan Twente 6-1, 6-4. Wiig has an overall record 20-8.

The Tigers' George Lambert was a straight set winner over South Carolina's junior Mark Palus 6-1, 6-4, while freshman Ben

Cook was defeated by Clemson's Bas Wild 5-7, 7-5, 6-3. Cook has an overall record of 13-10.

Jimmy Panagopoulos was beaten by Frank Salazar in straight sets 6-2, 6-1. Panagopoulos, a freshman, is 18-20 on the season.

South Carolina fell to 8-11 overall. This was the first time since 1989 Clemson has defeated South Carolina in men's tennis.

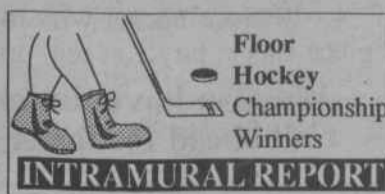
The Gamecocks will next meet the Ole Miss Rebels on April 17 at the Sam Daniel Tennis Center. South Carolina will continue its homestand on April 19, when they take on the Arkansas Razorbacks.

USC intramural season to end with softball, soccer

By SEAN RYAN
Assistant Sports Editor

South Carolina spring intramural competition in floor hockey, swimming, basketball and track ended this week, with softball and soccer left to play.

In floor hockey competition, the Yankees, captained by Brian Hemke, dropped their first game before reeling off seven straight wins to win the competition. In the finals, the Yankees took a 5-1 decision over the Tracers to win the championship.



"The first game of the season was a motivator," team member Tim Depelteau said. "Everyone knew their role and did it to perfection. I think that was the big key."

Alpha Tau Omega put pressure on Zeta Beta Tau, the leaders in

the fraternity division, with first place finishes in the track and swimming competitions, Brian Bundy, Joe Christopher and John Narang were noted by captain Mark Lerner as giving strong performances.

"It was important for the intramural championship because we're in second place behind ZBT, and ahead of Sigma Alpha Epsilon," Lerner said.

The swimming and track competitions were also big wins for Alpha Delta Pi in the women's di-

vision. The winners edged Delta Delta Delta for the swim meet championships, and won the track meet over Kappa Delta.

"One of the assets for the swim meet was the the new members who performed well," captain Ashley Gunderson said.

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