

# Sports

## Gamecocks leading SEC despite poor attendance

As the college baseball season begins to wind down, something odd is occurring at the top of the SEC standings.

South Carolina is leading the East Division, and the Gamecocks have the best record in the conference.

The USC baseball team is doing something that no other USC sports team has been able to do — win the SEC! USC is finally making their presence felt in the league.

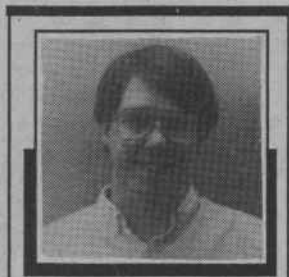
Since joining the conference last year, our teams have finished either last or near the bottom of the league in every sport (see basketball).

Finally, a team the campus can get behind. But will they? Probably not, unless Jeff Parnell grows his hair out to the middle of his back and changes his name to Steve Taneyhill, or the team has a revolt against June Raines.

Granted, baseball is not as exciting, and an average game takes three hours to complete, but the team is winning.

Head Coach June Raines has never had a losing season, and this year is no different. USC's "boys of summer" have compiled a record of 31-12-1 on the year, yet the bleachers remain empty except for a few students, some diehard fans and the "World Famous Third-Base Hecklers."

Alright, that is enough begging for students to support the only consistently winning program at



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the school. Now, back to the team itself.

Barring a miracle, the Gamecocks will finish in first place going into the East Division tournament to be played right here at Sarge Frye Field. With the home field advantage, USC is strongly favored to win the tournament and the entire conference.

The team is led by potential all-conference players Joe Biernat, Mac White and Jeff Parnell. Biernat has been on a tear lately, hitting a team-high .393. He has gone 18 for his last 29 at-bats, including a grand slam against Vanderbilt last weekend.

USC is not just a team of strong bats, though. They do have good pitching to go along with their powerful hitting. Carolina's best arms are seniors Matt Threehouse and Rich Pratt and freshman Jason Haynie. With closer Rob Mosser coming out of the bullpen, USC rarely loses a lead late in the game.

## Defense leads lacrosse club to 3rd place finish

By **ROB RODUSKY**  
Assistant Sports Editor

The USC lacrosse club placed third out of nine teams last weekend in the Southeastern Lacrosse Conference tournament.

In the opening round, Carolina dominated the Clemson Tigers, winning 6-3.

The second game of the tournament for South Carolina proved to be the most controversial. The Gamecocks jumped out to 4-1 lead. A fifth goal by Jeff Calabrese was

disallowed by an inadvertent whistle.

This seemed to take the wind out of the sails for South Carolina as the Commodores scored five unanswered goals to win 6-4.

"After the non-goal, we went through a period with penalties," coach Dave Basile said. "It was very disappointing."

The Gamecocks later faced Georgia Tech in a battle for third place.

Kevin Edwards and John Houck helped South Carolina tie the game

at 6 and send the game into overtime. Edwards sent a screaming shot past the goalie for the game winner.

"You would have thought we won the championship the way we celebrated," captain Doug Carl said. "It was a hell of an effort by our team."

The Gamecocks, who finished the season with an 8-5 record, used the motto "Defense Wins Games" to win in the tournament. This was evident when Houck was awarded

the Defensive Most Valuable Player of the Tournament.

"That was the best goalie play — ever," Basile said. "He kept us in every game."

Coach Basile is very optimistic about next season.

"I am looking forward to next year," Basile said. "I would like to see some new players come out and help us build a team concept. I hope that we can build on this, and I see no reason that in two years we can't win the tournament."

## USC fraternity sponsors local little league team



By **NANCY SALOMONSKY**  
Sports Editor

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity has taken the meaning of community service to a new level.

The USC chapter is sponsoring a little league baseball team in the Irmo City League. The team of 11- and 12-year-olds are named the Pikes.

The fraternity provides the team with coaches, jerseys and fan support. The Pikes wear the same garnet and gold jerseys their USC

group wears for intramural action.

"It makes you feel better when you help someone else learn something that they already didn't know," Junior Joseph O'Keefe said.

O'Keefe said the fraternity keeps score, records batting averages and helps the team make plays.

"It's great involvement with the kids, and the guys can come out and watch the games," said Robbie Carrol, chapter president. "The kids really get a lot out of it."

"The guys (in the fraternity) have really taken the program in," member Lanny McCormack said. "Every time we get back from a game or practice, the guys say 'How did we do?' The guys come out to watch the games and support the team."

## Kenny accepts volleyball coaching job at UMass

From Staff Reports

Bonnie Kenny, former USC volleyball coach, was named head women's volleyball coach at the University of Massachusetts Tuesday.

"I'm excited about the challenge of returning to the Northeast and working for Bob Marcum (Massachusetts athletic director)," Kenny said. "I am anxious to start the development of the volleyball program at the University of Massachusetts and competing in the Atlantic 10 Conference."

In the nine seasons that Kenny was coach, the Lady Gamecocks posted a 171-137 (55.5 percent) record that ranks her as the all-

time winningest volleyball coach in South Carolina history. Her best season was in 1984 when her team had a 28-8 record and earned a bid to the NCAA tournament.

"I think it's great to have a volleyball coach of Bonnie's quality joining our department," Marcum said. "She has Division I experience, and we look forward to her return to the Northeast."

In addition to her accomplishments at South Carolina, Kenny is heavily involved as a volleyball lecturer on the national level.

The University of Massachusetts will be reactivating the sport of women's volleyball this fall.

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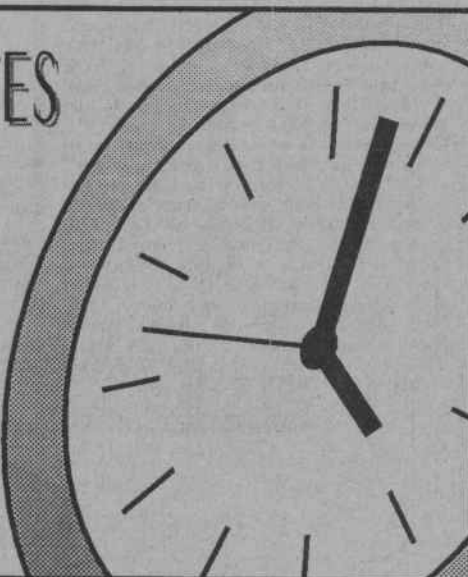
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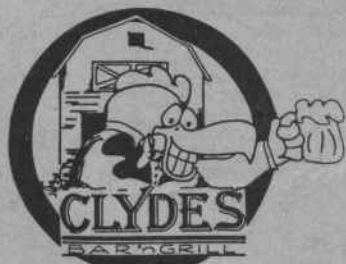
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