Sports

Sports Briefs

Lebo won't go to Coastal

USC men's assistant basketball coach Jeff Lebo has withdrawn his name from consideration for the head coaching job at Coastal Carolina.

The decision came Monday after Lebo made his second visit to the Conway, S.C., campus and met again with Coastal athletics director Andy Hen-

"I decided I would stay here," Lebo said. "I don't know if it (the job) was offered to me or not. My wife and I made a decision that we wanted to stay here and be part of the excitement that's around Gamecock basketball."

Peeping Rayfield

Clemson basketball player Rayfield Ragland Jr. was arrested early Monday and charged with violating the state's Peeping Tom/Eavesdropping

Ragland, 22, was arrested around 6:30 a.m. at Calhoun Courts residence complex.

He apparently tore the screen off the window of a female student's apartment and bent the blinds so he could see inside.

Ragland, a Florence, Ala., native, was released on a \$500 bond.

Murray to join pro ranks

California University scoring leader Lamond Murray has said that he will leave school following his junior year and turn pro.

Murray, who was a third-team All-American this season becomes the sixth underclassman to go hardship this year after Cal teammate Jason Kidd, Cincinnati's Dontonio Wingfield, LSU's Jamie Brandon, Clemson's Sharone Wright and George Washington's Yinka Dare.

Around the horn

Woman falls in Texas ballpark

Holly Minter, 26, fell from the upper deck Monday at The Ballpark at Arlington, following the end of the Rangers' game with the Brewers.

Minter was apparently posing for a picture on the right field rail when she slipped and landed in the lower deck, team officials said.

A security guard was on his way to tell her to get down when she tum-

Minter was listed in serious condition at Parkland Memorial Hospital. Kruk returns successful

Just six hours after receiving radiation treatments for testicular cancer, Philadelphia Phillies' first baseman John Kruk returned to Veterans Stadium in time for the team's home opener, getting three hits.

Kruk emerged from the dugout to a standing ovation when the Phillies came out for pre-game introductions. He then singled twice and doubled in five at-bats, despite the Phillies 8-7 loss to the Colorado Rockies.

Injury report:

Cincinnati Reds' relief pitcher Rob Dibble had surgery Monday to repair

his right shoulder. He is expected to miss three months.

California Angels' pitcher Mark Langston had arthroscopic surgery performed on his left elbow Tuesday by team doctor Lewis Yokum. Langston will miss at least six weeks.

Hrbek to retire

Long-time Minnesota Twins first baseman Kent Hrbek announced Monday that he will retire upon season's end. Hrbek is second on the Twins' all-time home run list with almost 300 round-trippers.

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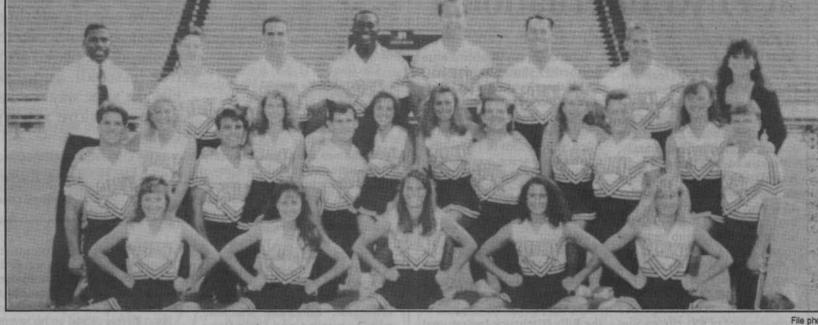
Today's sports on TV

Baseball:

San Francisco at Atlanta, (ESPN, 7:30 p.m.) Toronto at Oakland, (ESPN, 10:30 p.m.)

NBA Basketball:

Chicago at Miami, (WGN, 7:30 p.m.) Cleveland at Atlanta, (TBS, 7:35 p.m.)



The USC varsity cheerleading squad finished 9th in this weekend's 1994 College Cheerleading National Championships in San Diego.

Wedge and Poyner, Cocky win cheerleading titles

By MATT PLODINEC Senior Writer

The USC varsity cheerleaders competed in the 1994 College Cheerleading National Championships Thursday through Saturday in San Diego against the best squads in the nation and returned with a ninthplace finish.

USC's mascot Cocky and two varsity cheerleaders, Pat Wedge and Shelley Poyner, came away with national

Cocky won the national mascot championship over SEC rivals Aubie, the tiger from Auburn; the Wildcat from Kentucky; and Smokey, the dog from Tennessee. The title was the second for Cocky, who won in 1986.

Wedge, a junior from San Marcos, Calif., and Poyner, a junior from Cypress, Calif., defeated 10 other pairs in the Partner Stunt Competition. The title was USC's third in the Partner Stunt and the second-consecutive title for Wedge, who won last year with

Casey Ward.

Based on the video used to select squads for the nationals, USC was ranked sixth in the nation entering the competition. Last year, the squad finished fifth.

The varsity team placed No. 9 out of the 20 squads competing, making it eight of 11 years the Gamecocks have finished in the top 10. Between 1989 and 1993, the squad finished no worse than fifth. The team's best finish was a third-place effort in 1989.

Both cheerleader coach Andrei Grier and co-captain Jodi Baglino attribute the team's success to the support it has received from the Athletics Department.

"We get treated just like any athlete," Baglino said.

Another key to the team's success has been the unity of its members. Between school and practice, they have little free time for socializing, but what time they have is often spent to-

"We don't hang out with anybody

but them," cheerleader Carol Edmondson said.

The team's preparation for San Diego included working out in the weight room, running and improving gymnastic skills, in addition to practicing its competition routine two to three hours a day.

The squad is a diverse group of students. Many members have transferred from other schools, attracted by the squad's reputation. Five team members transferred from George Mason University, and others have transferred from such schools as Methodist and Villanova. While many cheerleaders are recruited, a large number are walk-ons. Squad members come from as far as Idaho and as near as Cayce.

The success of the USC program has brought a wealth of talent to the squad. Most of the transfers came to Columbia because of the cheerleading squad's reputation.

"We have a program that everybody wants to be in," Grier said.

"It's really highly regarded," squad member LeRoy McCullough said.

This talent allows Grier to select some of the best cheerleaders in the nation and has led to a squad he calls "incredibly talented" and a "crowd pleaser."

Unfortunately, the USC squad can't always escape danger, which struck one varsity cheerleader in practice before the championships.

Nicole Thompson, an Irmo native, suffered a fracture of the first cervical vertebrae following a Friday accident in practice. Thompson, who is hospitalized, has no neurological deficits or loss of motor functions, according to medical personnel. USC athletics trainer Rod Walters will travel to San Diego to coordinate her return.

The National Championships were sponsored by Universal Cheerleaders Association and ESPN. The competition will be broadcast on ESPN and ESPN2 beginning May 29.

Men's tennis ranked 14th

The USC men's tennis team is tied for 14th with Notre Dame and Ole Miss in the Rolex Collegiate Tennis Rankings released Monday.

The Gamecocks (16-4, 10-0 Region II) moved up four spots from the April 4 poll on the strength of wins against No. 2 Georgia and No. 13 Ole Miss. The No. 14 ranking is the tennis team's

highest since September, 1991, when it was also ranked No. 14.

In the individual rankings, senior Johan Sandberg moved up 19 spots in singles to No. 23, the highest ranking of his career.

Sophomore Maxsy Jimenez moved up to No. 47. Jimenez is an impressive 6-1 against nationally ranked opponents and 18-6 overall.

Tennis

Rolex Collegiate Tennis Poll

11. Kentucky Southern Cal Stanford Mississippi State

TCU

Pepperdine Duke

Georgia

Miami

T14. South Carolina T14. Ole Miss T14. Notre Dame

Auburn North Carolina California\



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APR 14

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APR 16

APR 19

APR 15

2-6am Rave Nite Casual Insanity w/Phydeaux

APR 17

Lay Quiet Awhile

APR 18

Paradise City Guns n Roses Tribute Lookout Rec. Artists

Fifteen

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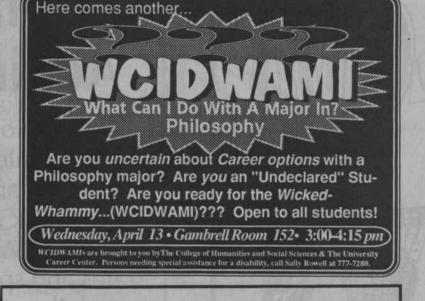


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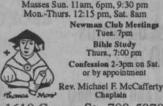
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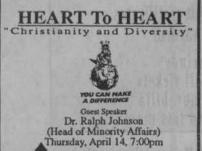
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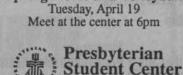


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Rev. Rich Biega, 771-7300

Wednesday, 5:30

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Thursday, 9:00pm

Worship and Dinner Sunday, 5:30 pm

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