

Gamecock soccer continues to roll

From Staff Reports

The second-ranked South Carolina soccer team posted its twelfth consecutive victory of the season with a 3-1 overtime win over Clemson Wednesday night at The Graveyard. With the victory, the Gamecocks improved to 12-2 on the season, while the Tigers, playing two men down in overtime, fell to 9-6.

Defender Billy Clifford scored the game winner off a corner kick at the 113:53 mark to put the Gamecocks in the lead at 2-1. Senior midfielder Rob Smith notched his 10th assist of the season and his 38th career assist on the header by Clifford.

"We're the kind of team who fights back when we are down," Clifford said. "When Clemson took a 1-0 lead in the second, we knew it wasn't over."

After a scoreless first half, Clemson took a 1-0 lead off Wolde Harris' 18th goal of the season at the 60:49 mark.

South Carolina struck back six minutes later when Chris Faklaris was brought down inside the 18-yard box, forcing a penalty kick by Smith. Smith drilled the kick to the right of

Clemson goalkeeper Matt Jordan to notch the score at 1-1.

The score remained knotted at 1-1 after regulation, setting up overtime. Neither team scored in the first two overtime periods, setting up Clifford's game winner.

Freshman Clint Mathis added insurance for the Gamecocks at the 119:00 mark when he scored his fourth career goal off of a free kick, giving Carolina the 3-1 victory.

"Our guys showed tremendous composure to come back after falling behind 1-0 to Clemson," said head coach Mark Berson. "We didn't play particularly well in the first half, but we stayed in there and competed hard throughout the game."

Senior midfielder Billy Baumhoff was selected the Umbro/Metro Conference Player of the Week for matches ending Oct. 16. Baumhoff scored three goals and had three assists in the Gamecocks' two wins in the South Carolina MetLife Classic last weekend.

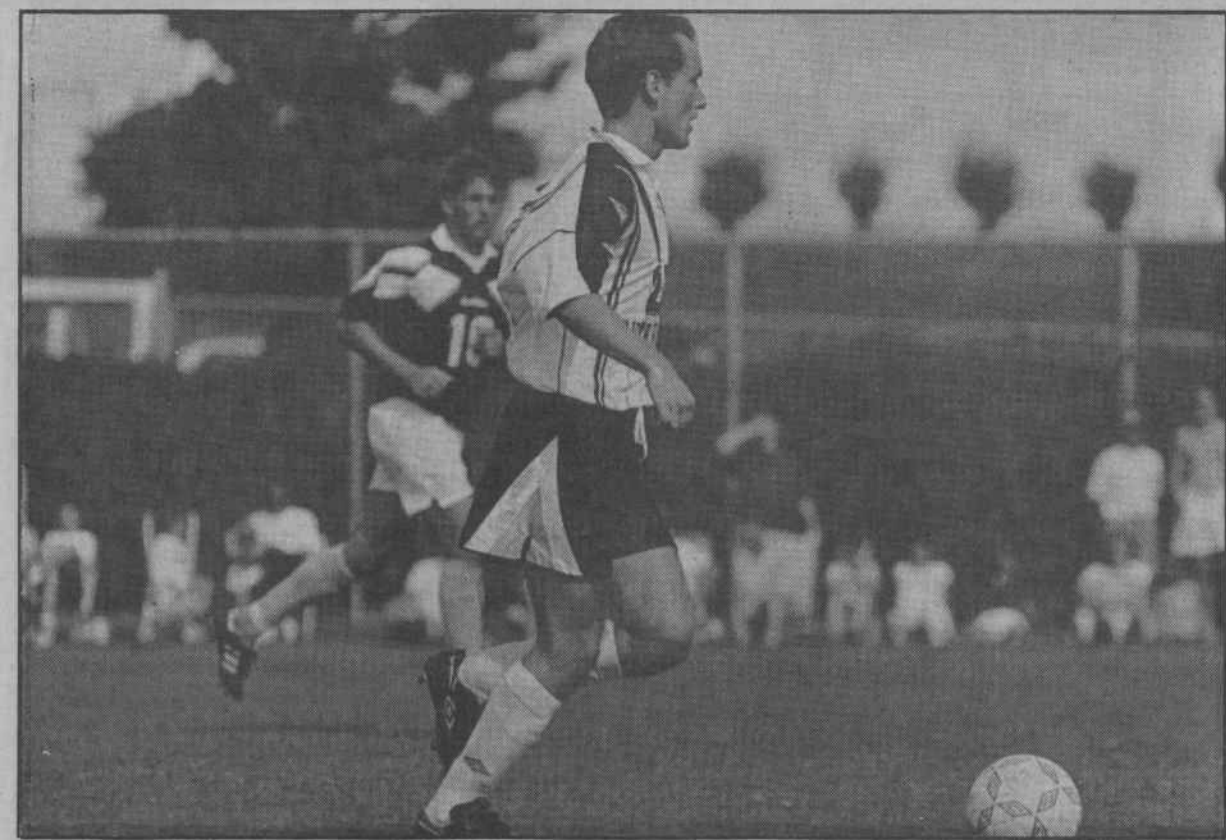
South Carolina owns a 4-1 record over Clemson in overtime matches. In its past 27 overtime games, the Gamecocks have only lost three times, with an 8-3-16 record.

COLLEGIATE TOP 20

The following is the Soccer America Men's Collegiate Top 20 as compiled by the editorial staff of Soccer America, the National Weekly. This poll takes into account games through Oct. 16

RANK	TEAM	RECORD
1	Indiana	14-1-0
2	South Carolina	11-2-0
3	North Carolina	11-3-0
4	Boston University	11-0-1
5	Virginia	12-2-0
6	UCLA	12-1-0
7	Penn State	11-1-1
8	St. Louis	11-2-0
9	James Madison	12-1-0
10	Fresno State	12-1-1
11	William and Mary	13-1-0
12	Creighton	10-1-1
13	North Carolina State	9-4-0
14	SMU	10-2-1
15	Florida International	10-1-1
16	Santa Clara	8-2-1
17	UNC Charlotte	11-2-0
18	Portland	9-3-1
19	Seton Hall	9-3-0
20	Duke	7-5-1

AP/GAMECOCK GRAPHICS



KIM TRUETT The Gamecock

Midfielder Sigmund Scheving and the No. 2 Gamecocks defeated arch-rival Clemson 3-1 Wednesday night at the Graveyard. The Gamecocks also won the MetLife Classic Tournament Oct. 16 by beating nationally-ranked North Carolina and Texas Christian.

Florida falls to Bowden's Tigers, Penn State mysteriously overtakes Nebraska



RYAN WILSON
Point Blank

Just when you thought a week might go by the Gamecock Sports staff decided not to run the "Point Blank" column, it shows up in a Friday edition. For those unfamiliar with my misguided view of the sports world, mainly bad picks and deriding bad players, this column usually appears on Wednesday. Due to the holiday known as fall break, the Gamecock was not published two days ago. Did you really think such a huge week in sports would go by without me having something to say? Come on now, you should know me better than that!

Still second best. Correct me if I'm wrong (and I know you will), but if the best team in the nation loses than it should follow that the No. 2 team would take over the top spot. Well I witnessed a strange phenomena, now to be identified as "poll vaulting," this week. As everyone knows, the mighty Florida Gators lost to Auburn Saturday, but second-ranked Nebraska won its game.

Somehow or another, the third-ranked Nittany Lions of Penn State jumped the Cornhuskers and are now ranked No. 1. I must have missed

something, but I thought it was customary that the No. 2 team would be first in line for the top spot. Well, you learn something new every day.

Three's a charm. As I just mentioned, Penn State is now the top team in the nation. I really don't agree with this for two reasons. The first reason is the fact that Nebraska should be the top team. The second reason I'll get to later. Add the fact that the Lions are idle this week, and the polls really start to stink.

My roommate says that I don't give the Lions any credit, and it's true... I haven't. I will humbly admit that the Lions did beat Michigan in Ann Arbor.

The battle of the runningbacks was won by Kijana Carter, but Wheatley made his mark as well. In his two touchdown runs, Tyrone Wheatley displayed the talent that makes him one of the top backs in the nation.

On second thought. After watching the Florida game Saturday, something came to me. Auburn is undoubtedly the best team in the nation.

Apparently Bear Bryant has pissed God off, because the Tigers have not lost a game in a year and a half. That feat alone should count for something. They were simply the better team in Gainesville Saturday.

Since I'm on the subject. I think I cursed Florida's Terry Dean last week by saying he was

a Hesiman hopeful. At the beginning of the season, I downplayed his ability as Florida drubbed opponent after opponent.

Then, just recently, I started to believe he was as good as everyone claims. What does he do? Four interceptions against Auburn only to be rescued by Danny Weurffel in the second half.

You can always tell a Heisman hopeful from a hopeless when a big game comes around, and four INTs in a big game does not help Terry's cause.

Ken's Sunday supper. I was first disheartened by the fact that there was a college game on Sunday night. After I heard it was going to be Rice against No. 12 Texas, I was even more appalled.

Enter Ken Hatfield and the Rice Owls who haven't beaten Texas in 29 years. (My parents had just graduated from high school back then.) The Owls surprisingly beat Texas and became the front runners for a Cotton Bowl berth.

Ken Hatfield better be careful; he gets fired if he wins too much.

Skip to my Lou. Someone once said I am biased against certain teams. Imagine that, a biased editorial. One team that deserves my comments more than anyone else is the Notre Dame Fighting I Wish.

Let's face it, this team is not that good, and Powl-wus is at least two years away from being

a dominant force. The loss to BYU really showed the many weaknesses the team has.

I also believe Lou Holtz's career in South Bend is coming to a close. His teams have consistently taken themselves out of the national championship race.

No average Joe. Monday night's Broncos-Chiefs game was one for the books. It was Mr. Comeback John Elway against Mr. Quarterback Joe Montana. The last three minutes were a typical Bronco game made for Elway. He executed a perfect, apparent game-winning drive, only to be bested by Big Joe. Montana's drive covered more yardage in the same amount of time, a drive that showed why Joe is one of the best QBs in history.

Big hoopla. The NBA is gearing up for another season and once again injuries are holding back some star players. Charlotte's Larry Johnson is hurt again, as is Shawn Bradley of the 76ers. Both players missed most of last season due to injury.

As Big Dog Glen Robinson holds out for the Bucks (the team and the money), other rookies are making waves. None of the rookies are proving to be more of a force than Detroit's Grant Hill.

The rookie from Duke, who I would argue was the best college player a year ago, is making a quick adjustment to the NBA. Four words:

Rookie of the Year.

Don't look back. That is exactly what the Carolina soccer team has done this season. The team opened with two losses, but have won every game since and are currently No. 2 in the nation.

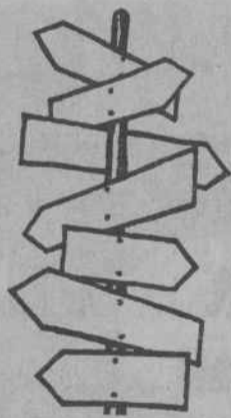
Wednesday's win against Clemson at the Graveyard drew a huge crowd. The Gamecocks are rolling through their regular season schedule and look like they could be Final Four bound. Congratulations to Coach Berson and the team for their accomplishments.

200 and going strong. Congratulations to head volleyball coach Kim Hudson on her 200 careervictory earlier this week against Tennessee. Coach Hudson is already in one hall of fame. If her winning ways continue, she will probably end up in another.

Name game. Because of the recent death of Coach Frank McGuire, there has been much talk about changing the name of the Carolina Coliseum to McGuire Coliseum. I believe this should have been the obvious choice back when the arena was dedicated to him.

How long will it be before the red tape will be cleared away and the Coliseum be named for the person that is synonymous with Carolina Basketball? I don't think there will be much objection to the name change.

EXPLORE THE
POSSIBILITIES...

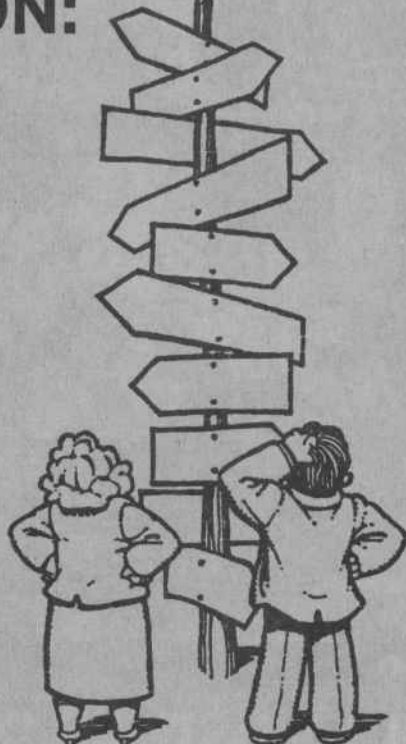


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