

Scott sees Tennessee game as measuring stick for his inaugural season

JIMMY DeBUTTS Sports Editor

With three consecutive wins on the road, the Gamecock football team has assured themselves a winning record away from Williams-Brice Stadium for the first time since 1984.

Carolina has a 2-3 record at home and head coach Brad Scott said sometimes a hostile environment can bring out the best in his team.

"I don't know if it's the fact that our kids have been able to capture a little atmosphere there of playing harder or being up against it," Scott said. "Sometimes being in an uncomfortable environment brings out the best in you."

Although Scott was impressed with the improved play of his defense, he said the team is still struggling. He said he was happy with the way the defense attacked Vanderbilt's running game. The Gamecocks held the SEC top-running team to 184 yards on the ground, 80 yards under their average.

Scott was also pleased with the USC kicking game. Placekicker Reed Morton was perfect on the day, connecting on all four of his attempts.

"It was a great performance by Reed. Although we need to do better in the red zone," he said.

Looking to Saturday's game against Tennessee, Scott said it will be used as a measuring stick for the season. He said the team will "see how they compare to the big boys."

"This game will tell whether we are good or not," Scott said. "It will tell us where we are (as a team) and where we need to be."

He said Tennessee's strength's are its offensive line and team speed. Scott said that turnovers have been the difference in some of their losses and that for the Gamecocks to be successful Saturday they will need to cause turnovers.

Scott also said Carolina must have an effective running game to be successful

against Tennessee. With the return of David Turnipseed last week, the Gamecocks are waiting for just Eric Sullivan to return to action this week. He still has not been cleared to play Saturday, however.

In the absence of Sullivan, Chris Rumph has played extremely well. If the trio can be reunited against the Volunteers, they should be able to cause havoc on freshman quarterback Peyton Manning.

Tennessee head coach Phillip Fulmer said he can tell South Carolina has improved since the last time the two teams met in Knoxville. The Gamecocks came out of last year's game a 55-3 loser at the hands of Heath Shuler and the rest of the Vols.

"South Carolina has obviously made a tremendous amount of progress," Fulmer said. "Brad Scott has done a great job with them."

Fulmer also said Tennessee has been

its own worst enemy, turning the ball over in crucial situations. He said whoever controls the tempo of the game will have the best chance to win.

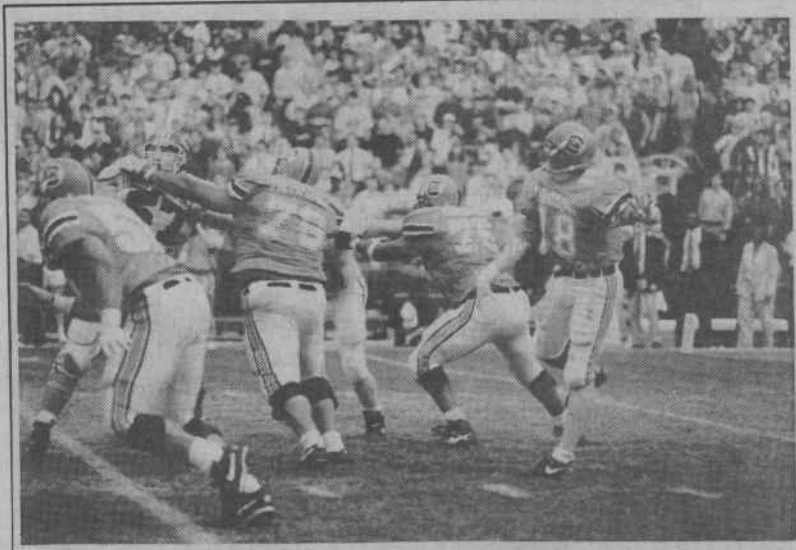
Both teams will try to run the ball, but Carolina should have the advantage in the air with a freshman quarterback running the show for Tennessee.

This game is important for both teams as they fight for position in the SEC. Carolina will be fighting for a .500 home record and Tennessee is looking to get back in contention for a bowl bid.

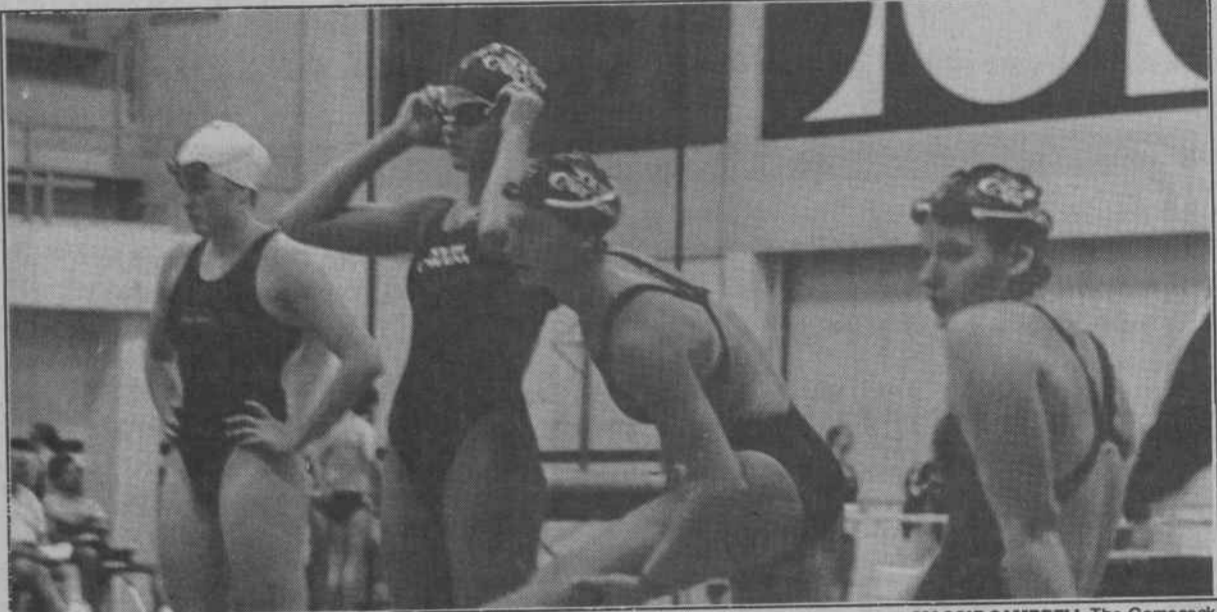
USC linebacker Ronnie Smith said the team is not worrying about it as a home game, just as a game to win.

"We're not thinking that we've got to win at home," he said. "We're thinking about trying to win, period. That's our attitude this week."

The game will be televised on a pay-per-view basis. Contact your local cable operator for more information.



KIM TRUETT The Gamecock
The Gamecock offensive line will have the difficult task of protecting quarterback Steve Taneyhill as USC faces Tennessee Saturday.



MAGGIE CAMPBELL The Gamecock
The South Carolina swimming and diving teams posted wins against the College of Charleston and George Washington last weekend. The women's team travels to UCLA this weekend for their next match.

Students starting new football pick up league

From Staff Reports

A group of students at USC are looking for 25 to 30 players to join their "organized backyard football" league.

William Hall already has a team formed and is interested in competing against teams composed with other students. He would like to get six teams formed with five men on each team.

Hall would like players who could commit to playing on Sunday's to call him at 256-8034 or the Commissioner's home at 790-0567. The league plans to play their games at A.C. Flora high school.

The league is not associated with the USC intramurals, and would stick more to the official rules of football in their flag

football league than intramurals. Hall said teams would be able to substitute players week to week and would not be bound by their original lineups.

The league would like to start competition Nov. 6 and requests all players interested contact them by Nov. 2. The "pick up football league" want players who are looking to have fun playing flag football without strict regulations.

Hall would like to field a six team league to compete against each other and hopes to have a tournament and determine a champion.

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

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