

SPORTS LOOK

BASKETBALL

PORTLAND, Ore. — The Portland Trail Blazers fan punched in the face by Vernon Maxwell during a game last month filed a \$4.5 million lawsuit against Maxwell and the Houston Rockets.

Steve George contends Maxwell's actions at the Feb. 7 game were "willful, wanton, malicious, excessive, unlawful and done with total disregard to the safety" of George and other fans.

The lawsuit seeks \$1.4 million from Maxwell for throwing the punch and for the allegedly slanderous comments he made afterward. Another \$3.1 million is sought from the Rockets for failing to control the player.

HOUSTON — Hakeem Olajuwon has anemia and will likely miss the Houston Rockets' next two games. He was joined on the sidelines hours later by Vernon Maxwell, also weakened by fatigue.

Olajuwon, the NBA's most valuable player last season, skipped Monday's practice to get a checkup with team doctor Jim Muntz. Tests revealed Olajuwon's condition, and Maxwell will be tested today.

TENNIS

HAMBURG, Germany — Monica Seles, knocked out of world class tennis two years ago by an attacker who knifed her in the back, feels like a bird imprisoned in a cage, her psychologist testified at the retrial of her assailant.

Guenter Parche is being retried for jumping over a spectator's railing and stabbing Seles during a break in an April 1993 match.

Seles, 21, has not played pro tennis since the attack, although sports psychologist Jerry Russel May said, "she's doing everything possible to come back. She loves tennis."

Parche got a two-year suspended sentence for assault. He has said he wanted to injure the Yugoslav-born Seles so German tennis star Steffi Graf could be No. 1.

The prosecution appealed, and Parche is being retried on a charge of attempted murder.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — Conchita Martinez, the defending champion and No. 2 seed, advanced easily against Elena Makarova in the opening round of the Family Circle Magazine Cup.

No. 7 Lori McNeil, No. 12 Zina Garrison-Jackson, No. 11 Ines Gorrochategui and No. 14 Sabine Appelmans all lost, while No. 6 Iva Majoli and No. 5 Maggie Maleeva advanced.

FOOTBALL

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles released running back Herschel Walker, the team's offensive MVP the past two seasons, after he refused a pay cut.

Walker, 33, became expendable after last weekend's signing of San Francisco's Ricky Watters to a three-

year, \$6.9 million contract.

USC SOFTBALL

The Lady Gamecocks return home to face the University of North Carolina Wednesday April 5. The first 200 students to arrive at the field will receive a free Gatorade sports bottle and a Carolina T-shirt.

In Tuesday's edition of the Gamecock, Darlene Gareis was credited with only one strike out against Toledo, she in fact had 13. The Gamecock regrets this error.

HOCKEY

NEW YORK — Teemu Selanne of the Winnipeg Jets and Claude Lemieux of the New Jersey Devils were suspended and fined by the NHL for separate incidents last weekend.

Selanne was suspended for two games for slashing an opponent and Lemieux for three for punching an opponent while sitting on the bench. Both were fined \$500, the maximum allowed under the collective bargaining agreement.

YACHT RACING

SAN DIEGO — Stars & Stripes rolled out of the repair shed three and one half hours before race time and convincingly beat America3's previously all-women's team aboard Mighty Mary in a crucial semifinal matchup.

The battle was then supposed to head to the protest room, where America3 planned to fight a decision that allowed Stars & Stripes to replace its damaged keel in mid-round.

Stars & Stripes took a 3-2 lead over Mighty Mary in the battle to join Young America in the Citizen Cup final for defenders.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL TOP 25

The Top 25 in the USA Today/National Softball Coaches Association poll.

1. Arizona
2. UCLA
3. Fresno State
4. Cal State-Fullerton
5. UNLV
6. Michigan
7. Cal State-Northridge
8. South Carolina
9. Cal State-Sacramento
10. Southwestern Louisiana
11. Florida State
12. Nebraska
13. California
14. Hawaii
15. Missouri
16. Washington
17. CP-San Luis Obispo
18. Illinois-Chicago
19. Oklahoma State
20. Nicholls State
21. Kansas
22. Notre Dame
23. Oklahoma
24. Texas A&M
25. Princeton

Gamecock Graphics

USC names new USC play-by-play announcer

Staff Reports

Charlie McAlexander, a veteran in the broadcasting business within the Southeastern Conference for nearly 25 years and recognized as one of the premier play-by-play announcers in college athletics, has been named the new play-by-play voice for USC.

Mike McGee, USC athletics director, made the announcement Wednesday.

McGee said McAlexander, who will be employed by the athletics department, will handle the play-by-play duties for Gamecock football and men's basketball and host the coaches' television shows for those two sports. He also will host the "Carolina Call" radio talk show. In addition, McAlexander will serve in a public relations role for the athletics department.

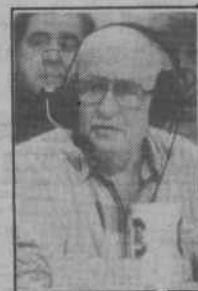
"We had the opportunity to visit with a group of outstanding candidates for this position, and we are pleased to announce the selection of Charlie McAlexander as our next radio play-by-play voice," McGee said. "Charlie's credentials are

top-flight and he brings a strong and impressive track record to our program. He comes highly recommended and is extremely well-thought of in the Southeastern Conference. After a thorough search, Charlie's name kept rising to the top of our list. We look forward to having him join the Carolina athletic family, and we look forward to introducing him to our Gamecock supporters."

McAlexander, better known as Charlie "Mac," comes to South Carolina from Lexington, Ky., where he has handled University of Kentucky television play-by-play duties for Host Communications, in addition to hosting The SEC Football Report on radio and The NCAA Today that appeared on ESPN.

"My family and I couldn't be happier with joining the University of South Carolina and having the opportunity to serve in this capacity as the play-by-play voice of the Carolina Gamecocks," McAlexander said. "I've been so impressed with the development of the Carolina athletic program and the direction it is heading under Mike McGee. This athletic program is getting ready to take off, and I can't wait to be a part of it. I look forward to the days ahead, when I can get out and meet the Carolina fans."

For the second straight year, McAlexander served as the play-by-play



FULTON

past basketball season he also was the color analyst for the CBS NCAA radio game of the week.

McAlexander is the first announcer in SEC history to be named by the National Sportscasters and Sportscasters Association (NSSA) as Sportscaster of the Year in three different states, and during his career he has won that award six times. After being in Kentucky for only eight months, he was named the state's Sportscaster of the Year in 1992. He also has won that award in Kentucky for the past two years (1993, '94), making him a three-time winner in that state.

McAlexander was voted Sportscaster of the Year for Tennessee in 1990 and '91 and for Mississippi in 1975.

During his career, McAlexander has also been identified by TV and Radio

Age magazine as being one of the top sportscasters in the nation.

McAlexander served as the radio play-by-play voice for the Vanderbilt Commodores for football and basketball for more than 13 years. From 1978-91, he also produced and hosted all of Vanderbilt's coaches shows. During that time he also worked as the Sports Director at WSM-TV in Nashville.

He was the sports director at WLAC Radio in Nashville for six years. He hosted a Celebrity Golf Tournament and Sports Auction for the American Cancer Society and the Ronald McDonald House for four years.

McAlexander was the play-by-play announcer for Ole Miss from 1972-76, in addition to hosting and producing the football coaches' television programs. He was sports director at WLBT-TV in Jackson, Miss., and later at WREG-TV in Memphis, Tenn., during his tenure with Ole Miss.

A native of Holly Springs, Miss., McAlexander is a graduate of Delta State University. He coached high school athletics in Mississippi before he entered the broadcasting business.

McAlexander is the successor to Bob Fulton, who is retiring from his play-by-play position after 43 years with the Gamecocks.

Krzyzewski returns to Final Four as CBS analyst

Associated Press

RALEIGH — Mike Krzyzewski will return to college basketball this season after all, but it won't be as a coach.

After spending most of the season recuperating from back surgery and exhaustion, the Duke coach will travel to Seattle this weekend as a Final Four analyst for CBS.

"I think I'm as excited as I have been when I'm taking my teams there," Krzyzewski said in a telephone interview Wednesday.

Coach Krzyzewski received clearance Friday from doctors to make the trip. It will be his first long flight since he announced his decision not to return to coaching this season.

Krzyzewski wouldn't venture a bet on who will win the tournament, but he did say he expected some excitement.

"I think the Oklahoma State and UCLA game is a classic matchup of contrasting styles," he said. "You got two teams that are excellent in what they do, but what they do is completely opposite one another."

Krzyzewski called UCLA the most explosive of all the teams, adding that the Bruins may have to adapt to Oklahoma State's half-court game.

As for the Arkansas-North Carolina game, Coach Krzyzewski said it would be tough to pick a winner.

"In Carolina you have an incredibly efficient offensive team," he said. "Arkansas is not that type of team. I think they rely on their manpower, their depth.

The question is can they make Carolina play a game that will make them use their depth?"

Krzyzewski said he is looking forward to his foray into broadcasting.

"I just want to get back and be a part of it," he said. "It's been incredibly frustrating not being a part of college basketball."

But being away has given the coach an opportunity to spend time with his family.

"My kids actually know who I am," he said. "They may even be tired of me, I don't know."

Krzyzewski said it was particularly his wife, Mickie, that made him realize the difference between getting better and just getting back.

In a Wednesday night interview with ESPN's Roy Firestone, Krzyzewski and his wife talked about his recovery, the strain on his marriage and his offer to resign.

"He looked like he was 80 years old. He was hunched over, and he was kind of gray looking ... and I was scared," Mickie Krzyzewski said.

She said she told him to meet her at the doctor's office in January. When he said he couldn't miss practice, she issued an ultimatum: "Michael, I've never said this to you in our whole married life, but it's me or basketball right now."

For Krzyzewski, it was only then that he realized he couldn't hope to fully recover unless he stepped back from the court. The next day, he was admitted to Duke University Hospital for treatment.

"It was our 26th year of marriage ... I realized that for her to say that means she sees something that I don't see or don't want to see," Krzyzewski said.

Krzyzewski admitted in the interview that his physical problems prompted him to offer his resignation to Duke Athletics Director Tom Butters.

"I was scared when I said that, but I knew I needed to say that in order to have the peace of mind going into my rehabilitation," Krzyzewski said.

Much to Krzyzewski's relief, Butters didn't want his resignation.

But the coach's decision to take much of the season off did set the rumor mill in motion. Asked why he didn't hold a news conference to set the record straight, Krzyzewski said he wanted to act on what he had learned.

"If I did that, that would have been a good example of what I had always been doing, of answering the bell," he said. "And the bell just keeps ringing and ringing."

One bell went off the day his mother called and said she didn't want to take up his time.

"That's one of the days I cried, you know, because it was a best example to me of 'You stupid idiot, your mom's 82, 83 and how can she feel that way?'" he said. "It's the changing of priorities. That's a huge lesson to learn. I'm 48 years old, (and) for me to learn that lesson right now in my life, I'm incredibly lucky."

Top ranked Sanchez Vicario advances in Family Circle Cup

Associated Press

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, the world's top-ranked tennis player, overcame a shaky beginning to her clay court season and beat Ruxandra Dragomir in the Family Circle Magazine Cup Wednesday.

However, third-ranked Gabriela Sabatini lost to France's Lea Ghirardi, 3-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

Sanchez Vicario trailed the 64th-ranked Dragomir 3-1 in the third set before recovering for a 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 victory.

"It definitely was a wake-up call," said Sanchez Vicario, who also battled flu-related congestion and an unfamiliarity with clay. She had not played on clay since winning last year's French Open title against Mary Pierce.

Sanchez Vicario said Dragomir's play, combined with her own lack of preparation, put her behind from the start.

"She was playing very well, very tough, not giving me a chance to get in to the match," Sanchez Vicario said. "In the second set, she got a little more aggressive, and I began to take advantage."

Also winning was No. 16 Irina Spirlea. No. 4 Natasha Zvereva and No. 10 Amada Coetzer had later matches.

Eighth-ranked Sabine Hack of Germany lost to American Ginger Helgeson-Nielson 6-3, 6-4; No. 9 Judith Wiesner of Austria fell to Kristie Boogert of the Netherlands 7-6 (7-2), 4-6, 6-4; and No. 13 Lisa Raymond, a former two-time NCAA singles champ, fell to Sandra Cacic 1-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Sabatini, a two-time Family Circle champion, received treatment for an an-

kle injury during her second-set tiebreak. But Ghirardi, a wild-card entry, said she knew early on that Sabatini was having trouble.

"I thought I could beat her because she was coming from hardcourts to clay," Ghirardi said. "And early on, I could see she was not feeling comfortable."

Sanchez Vicario looked confused against Dragomir at first, losing three of her four service games. The Spaniard, who also won the U.S. Open last season, hit three forehands into the net and another far past the baseline in the last game of the opening set.

Dragomir was a point away from going 2-0 in the second set, but Sanchez Vicario rallied to tie. The next game, Dragomir argued a service winner with officials then lost the game and seemingly her concentration.

The Romanian, who had lost twice previously to Sanchez Vicario, said she let her opponent control the match's pace.

"I had a feeling in the second set that it was almost over," Dragomir said. "I thought, 'She's mine. I can do whatever I want.' But she started to play a little harder and hit the ball deeper."

Sanchez Vicario charged back after falling a break behind in the final set. Her ground strokes became crisper, and she got to the net far more frequently in capturing the last five games.

"It was a good, tough match that gives me a lot of confidence for the rest of the tournament," said Sanchez Vicario, who is taking medication prescribed by WTA trainers to clear up her congestion.

She said she did not expect it to disrupt her remaining matches.

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Presented as a public service message by the Selective Service System.

The Women Students' Association and The Office of Women's Student Services offer their

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COURTNEY STROMAN

for being selected **OUTSTANDING WOMAN OF THE YEAR AT USC**

Finalists:

- Kerry Fraas
- Lisa Pruitt
- Jessica Runyan
- Cassie Sturkie

SAIL INTO SUMMER

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The Workshop will focus on:

- Task analysis: what needs to be done in each course
- Time analysis: conversion to real hours
- Developing a daily study plan
- Textbook study techniques
- Organizing and using lecture notes

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Russell House Room 303 Monday April 3 6-9 pm