



Gamecocks look to rebound against unbeaten Gators



ROBERT WALTON The Gamecock

The Gamecock defense, led by Robert Smith (44) and Ben Washington (6), face one of their toughest challenges this season against the Florida Gators. The game pits the two highest-scoring teams in the Southeastern Conference.



ROBERT WALTON The Gamecock

Junior Duce Staley needs to have a good day running the football if the Gamecocks are going to keep up with the high-scoring Gators.

OVERTIME

Robbie Meek

The Gamecock football team will face its toughest challenge this Saturday night against the No. 3 Florida Gators. How can it get any worse, you ask?

First, it was a whipping by the Bulldogs between the hedges: 42-23. The next week, this season's SEC West champion Arkansas, got revenge for last season's shut out in a big way, 51-21. Two weeks after that, the Gamecocks were beaten badly by a No. 5 Tennessee team, 56-21 in Knoxville. And now they come home to face the third-best team in the country in front of a national television audience, watching on ESPN.

Carolina enters this week after an open date on their schedule. The Gators enter the game after what could be considered an open week. UF ripped Northern Illinois without starting quarterback Danny Wuerffel. Wuerffel was replaced by back-up Eric Kresser, who had a record-setting day. Wuerffel, however,

was not injured. Coach Steve Spurrier just didn't see any need in playing him against the team from the mighty Big West conference.

Wow, now that's a slap in the face for you. It's not enough for a program with the strength and tradition of Northern Illinois to have to play in Gainesville, but then to have the reserves start against you, ouch!

The Gators are undefeated and looking for a national championship; they are hoping to pick up their third straight SEC championship in the process. The Gamecocks are just hoping they don't become another victim of a Gator attack. The Gamecocks must win both of their remaining games, including Nov. 18 against Clemson, to go to a bowl game.

The Gamecocks will once again be led by quarterback Steve Taneyhill, who might be the best signal caller to ever wear the garnet and black (or at least in my lifetime). Steve has had a record-setting season and is an All-American candidate.

This week he will face the man who stole the SEC offensive player of the week honors from him a month ago af-

ter the Mississippi State game, Danny Wuerffel. Taneyhill had the best offensive performance in the nation that Saturday, or at least "Sports Illustrated" and the U.S. Postal Service thought so, but the SEC honors still went to Wuerffel, whose numbers didn't compare.

This week the two highly touted quarterbacks bring the top two scoring offenses in the SEC to Williams-Brice Stadium for what could be an offensive showdown.

Look for freshman wide receiver Zola Davis and senior wide receiver Monty Means to both have a big day for the Gamecocks. They both have nine TDs each and are one touchdown away from the single season record for touchdowns held by Sterling Sharpe, who scored 10 in 1986.

Wuerffel's numbers on Saturday will depend a lot on his top two wideouts, Chris Doering and Ike Hilliard, who lead the team in receptions with 40 and 36 respectively. The two also have 12 and nine TDs respectively.

The Carolina defense will have to come up big this week if the Gamecocks are to have a chance against the Gators.

The defense will once again be led by senior nose tackle Eric Sullivan. Eric leads the team with eight sacks and two tackles for loss. Defensive back Ben Washington and linebacker Ronnie Smith lead the team in tackles respectively. Washington has recorded 75 and Smith has recorded 67.

Defensively for UF, look out for All-SEC niddlebacker Ben Hanks, who has 53 tackles, two sacks and four tackles for loss. The defensive secondary is also very good for the Gators. The secondary is led by junior all-star candidates strong safety Lawrence Wright and cornerback Anthonie Lott. The two are first and third on the team in tackles with 74 and 66 respectively.

The Gator's lead the series 9-3-3 and have won the last four meetings including the three conference meetings. Last season UF won in Gainesville by the score of 48-21. Two seasons ago Carolina was defeated in Columbia by the score of 37-26.

To have a chance to win, the Carolina offense has to have a good day. Two weeks ago the Gamecocks had the chance to jump on top of Tennessee early but

didn't do it. They must take advantage of every opportunity to put points on the board.

The defense must put pressure on Wuerffel and cause him to make some mistakes. There's a possibility that Saturday could get very ugly for the Gamecocks. I believe Carolina will come out and put up some points, but the Gator offense will be just too much, 49-24. No matter what happens this weekend, don't worry, Gamecock fans, the Tigers come to town next weekend. Go Cocks.

NEED TICKETS?

The USC Athletics Department announced there were 200 student tickets remaining for the Florida game. These tickets will go on sale on a first-come, first-served basis Saturday at noon at the Student Ticket Office in the northeast corner of Williams-Brice Stadium.

CAROLINA GAMECOCKS



BEN WASHINGTON
So. Strong Safety
6-1, 190
H R & T Admin.

1995-All-SEC candidate...rates as one of the top defensive backs in the SEC...was moved to strong safety from free safety during spring practice and successfully made that transition...Fierce hitter with outstanding athletic ability...recipient of the Most Outstanding Defensive Back award following spring practice.
1994-Much-improved freshman who came on to become a starter at free safety the last five game of the season...named to SEC All-Freshman team...received the team's Scott Sinclair newcomer award for defense...had 53 total tackles (21 solo).

FLORIDA GATORS



LAWRENCE WRIGHT
Jr. Strong Safety
6-1, 201
Building Construction

1995-The starter at strong safety for the second consecutive year...named to the CFA "Goodworks Team" for his work with underprivileged kids.
1994-Registered 84 tackles (51 solo) and nine pass deflections...SEC Academic Honor Roll selection and named to the GTE Academic All-District III team...started 10 of 13 games at strong safety...his 84 stops was second on squad.
1993-Had 62 tackles (38 solo) and two interceptions...named to SEC Academic Honor Roll...earned spot on SEC All-Freshman Team...received the Gene Ellenson Award which goes to the squad's most inspirational player

Jefferson-Pilot picks up Clemson-Carolina game

Staff Reports

The University of South Carolina announced Thursday that its home football game against Clemson Nov. 18 at Columbia will be televised live by the Jefferson-Pilot Sports Network covering all markets in South Carolina and Charlotte. Air time is 12:30 p.m. with kickoff scheduled for 12:37 p.m. This marks the fifth time this sea-

son Carolina has been televised by JP Sports, carrier of the Southeastern Conference Game of the Week. Previously, the Gamecocks had been televised in home games against Kentucky and LSU and road games with Georgia and Tennessee.

Carolina's home game with Florida this Saturday night at Williams-Brice Stadium will be televised live nationwide by ESPN.

Want to write or take photos? Call us at 777-7726.

GAMECOCKS

Sports Calendar

This Week in Gamecock Athletics

• **MEN'S BASKETBALL** •
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13
vs Nancy France at 7:30 pm
Frank McGuire Arena
exhibition game

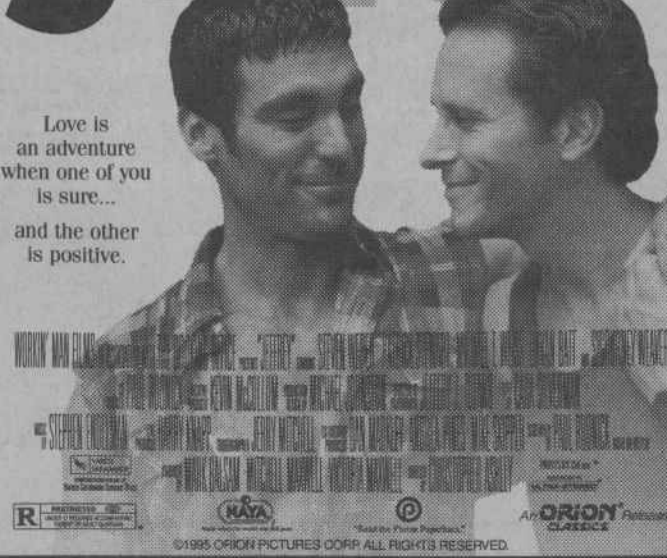
• **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** •
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
vs Champion at 7:30 pm
Frank McGuire Arena
exhibition game

• **VOLLEYBALL** •
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12
vs. Georgia at 2 pm
Last match at Blatt RE Center

FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL • 777-4274
FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: USC SPORTS INFORMATION 777-5204

STEVEN Weber PATRICK Stewart SIGOURNEY Weaver

Jeffrey



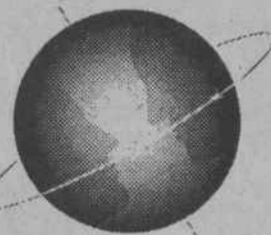
Love is an adventure when one of you is sure... and the other is positive.

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Capitol 8 Cinemas 1:55-4:10 • Capitol Centre 7:25-9:40
788-4638 \$4.75 w/student ID (after 6 pm)

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<http://songs.com/noma/phil>

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