

Lady Gamecock fans gather to learn football fundamentals

ACHIM HUNT

POINT AFTER

ladies on Saturday while their envious husbands had to stay home and watch the Olympics. To what do Columbians owe this invasion? The Brad Scott ladies football clinic, of course.

About 640 Gamecock women convened at the PigSkin Park near Williams Brice Stadium to learn firsthand from Gamecock coaches some of the strategies that make up the Gamecock playbook.

The crowd was treated to a 1995 season highlight film and then briefed on some rule changes, including the inception of an overtime period, during a lecture by SEC official Grady Ray. He also showed the ladies some of the penalty signals that officials use during a game.

Then, offensive coach John Reeves went over some trick plays the Gamecocks have used in the last few seasons. This included the "Gamecock Special" which was a key play in the tie against LSU last year.

The crowd also enjoyed a session with Dr. Rod Walters who showed how

Columbia was invaded by a host of Gamecock

some injuries occur, how they are treated and how they are prevented. Walters told the crowd that 80-120 gallons of Gatorade are consumed by the football team during a normal practice.

Linebacker Shane Burnham then put on his pads for the cheering crowd. He started in a pair of shorts and, in a matter of minutes, was completely

meeting rooms and locker room.

This is the third year Coach Scott has sponsored the ladies football clinic and he said he has tried to improve the event each year.

"Each year we try to add some type of benefit for the money and really want these ladies to learn more about the game of football and to get them excited about our team," Scott said.

"We really need some strong support because this year's team is so inexperienced."

The ladies at this clinic learned a lot about football on Saturday. I have watched football for about 10 years now and I feel I know more now than I did before the clinic.

The coaches on hand were not quick to promise a great or even a winning season to the fans, but they did promise a young and talented team, which, like last year's basketball team, will be fun to watch.

Most of the ladies left the clinic not in anticipation of Sept. 7 and the Central Florida kickoff but instead, looking forward to the next Brad Scott Ladies Football Clinic. To be honest with you, I am too.

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Head Coach Brad Scott at the Annual Lady's Football Clinic Saturday

dressed for a football game.

After lunch, defensive coordinator Wally Burnham shared some of the sets and strategies his squad uses in game situations. He also showed the crowd footage of some of the pre-game and practice drills the players go through.

Finally, the ladies broke into three groups and were able to tour Williams-Brice Stadium. The tour included the press box, coaches offices, football



Achim Hunt The Gamecock

Football Head Coach Brad Scott and his son John signs autographs for the lady Gamecock fans that attended the Annual Lady's Football Clinic. Coach Scott entertained the crowd with his humor and taught them some of the fundamentals of football. He and his coaching staff also taught the ladies how to draw-up plays and then toured them through the Williams-Brice Stadium press box, locker room and football office complex.

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