

SPORTS

BASKETBALL
SCOREBOARD#1 Kansas 73
Connecticut 65#11 Maryland 54
#2 Wake Forest 51#10 Louisville 85
#23 Texas 78College hoops on the
tube today, baby!Syracuse vs. Villanova
7:30 p.m. ESPNOklahoma St. vs. Texas Tech
9:30 p.m. ESPNUNLV vs. Fresno St.
11:59 p.m. ESPN

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The Gamecock

Monday, January 20, 1997

Gamecocks stay undefeated in SEC

VICTORY page 1

All told, McKie accounted for seven points in seven seconds. But more importantly, he gave the Gamecocks momentum they wouldn't soon relinquish.

"I really don't know what happened," McKie said of the tide-turning trip. "It was a play that I was supposed to go back-door, and I was fouled, and I just threw it up on the other side." McKie then quipped, "I practice that all the time."

The spark led the way for USC's second-half explosion, as the Gamecocks made 13 of 22 field goal attempts for a 59.1 percentage; a big change from their 21.4 percent first-half effort.

USC extended its lead to as much as 15 when Stack hit two free throws with 4:11 left to give the Gamecocks a 69-54 lead.

USC's postseason outlook, which looked bleak after December's upsets to UNC-Asheville and Charleston Southern, has made positive turns during the recent string of wins.

"We're just still taking it one game at a time, and we're still taking that positive attitude and positive approach into every game that we feel we have a chance to win," McKie said. "As long as we play as a team, play together and play unselfish and believe in each other, we believe anything is possible."

The win over Georgia was also made possible by senior guard Larry Davis, who scored a game-high 22 points despite shooting only 3-of-10 from the field. The catch? Davis went 15-of-17 from the free-throw line,

helping the Gamecocks connect on 38-of-53 attempts from the charity stripe.

"I think my concentration level was there," Davis said. "But the shots just weren't falling. I'm shooting them the same way. I just hope that [3-of-10] was for this game."

Davis, McKie and Melvin Watson, USC's heralded "Triple-Threat" trio, lived up to their billing, combining for 50 of USC's 82 points. McKie came in second to Davis in scoring, registering 21 points, while Watson scored seven points and notched seven assists.

Sophomore guard William Gallman was solid as usual, scoring 10 points and pulling down six offensive rebounds (nine total), a team high.

USC's bench also had a hand in the effort, having combined for 16 points and 17 rebounds.

Basketball Notes

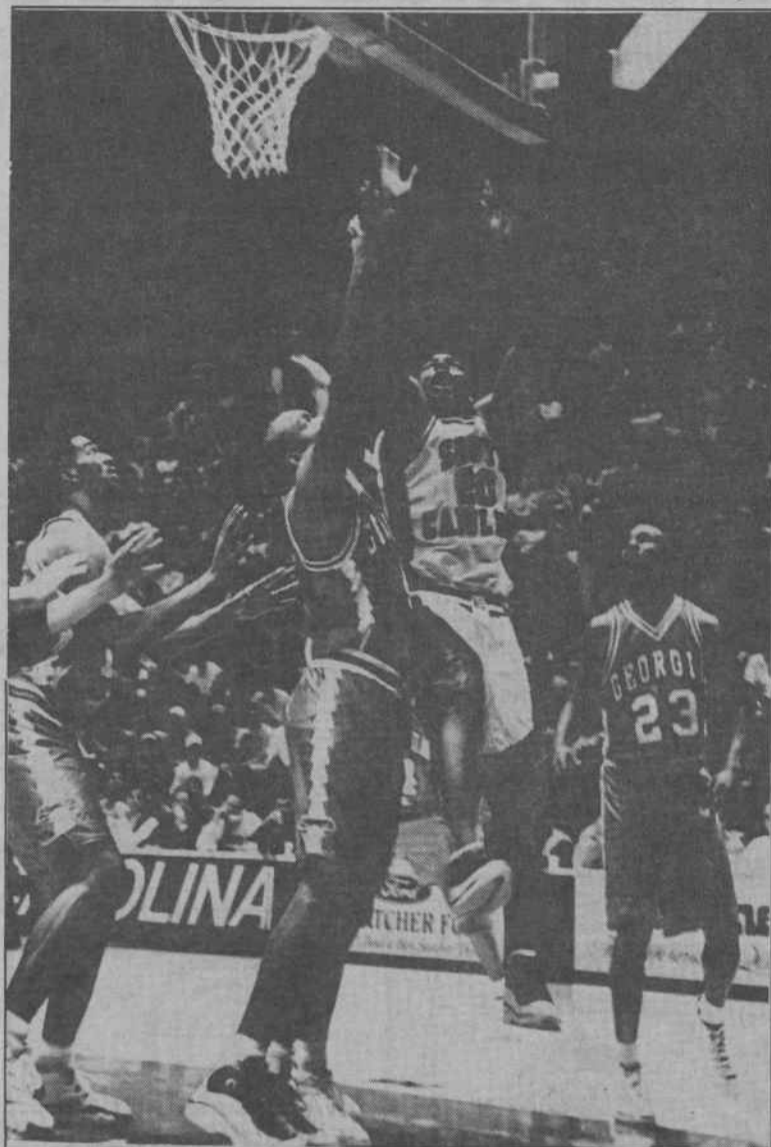
South Carolina will try to improve their conference record to 6-0, and their road record to 3-0, Wednesday when they travel to Alabama. The Crimson Tide (11-6, 1-3) dropped an 85-66 decision to Florida Saturday.

The game, which begins at 8 p.m., is being televised by Jefferson-Pilot, which is WIS-TV 10 locally.

The game can also be heard on radio. Charlie MacAlexander and Casey Manning will call the game on WVOC-AM 560.

Next home game

USC's next home game is Saturday against Ole Miss (11-4, 3-2 SEC). It's also being aired by JP. Tipoff is at 1 p.m.



NIKKI THORPE The Gamecock

Sophomore William Gallman puts a shot up in the second half of Saturday's basketball game against Georgia. With the 82-71 victory, the Gamecocks improved to 11-5 overall and 5-0 in the SEC. Gallman had 10 points and nine rebounds in USC's sixth-consecutive victory.

'The Blitz' offers up possible New Year's resolutions for '97

Shawn Singleton SAFETY BLITZ

As I was freezing my butt off in Times Square on New Year's Eve, my mind was shifting to those dreadful New Year's resolutions that I probably wasn't expecting to follow anyway. These are some of the things I was thinking about while I was waiting for the Korb champagne to kick in.

As a result, The Blitz will welcome in the New Year by checking out the New Year's resolutions of some sports celebrities and also-rans.

Barry Switzer: Increase Christmas bonuses for Dallas judges. Also, must clip strings cast upon thee by that wonderful puppet master Jerry Jones.

Michael Irvin: Stay away from Erik Williams, strippers and the Carolina Panther defense.

Dom Capers and Tom Coughlin: Keep up the good work. You guys have nothing to be ashamed of, but the road does get harder for you.

Brad Scott: Invite third graders to try out for the position of punter this year. This should scare Courtney Leavitt into making 30-yard punts this time.

David Stern: Stop drafting high school kids and college freshmen. Employ a draft system similar to the NFL in which only juniors can leave early.

Jeff Maier: Play hooky on the day of the school trip to Baltimore, for obvious reasons.

Dennis Rodman: Lighten your hair. Pastels are in this year. Also, get with Jackie Chan to work on your kicks and headbutts. After all, you've got eleven games to think about it.

Bud Selig: Get a real commissioner. Even though you weren't the worst (that award goes to Fay Vincent), there is much room for improvement.

Marge Schott: Become a guest commentator on the Rush Limbaugh show. That's the perfect place to display those idiotic and racist comments.

Tommy West: Attend more of his players' parole hearings. Looks like those road games at Attica and Shawshank might be tough.

Kevin Greene: Kiss and make up with Ric Flair. You won't be able to deal with the tougher NFL schedule and the New World Order at the same time, so this should facilitate things.

Finally, this New Year's resolution is for all the real sports fans here and all around the general area.

Take your games back. Sports have become a disgusting anomaly of luxury boxes and exorbitant ticket prices made for wine-and-cheese crowds who probably think the word "score" was something they did at their last fraternity or sorority party in college.

You made this game and it belongs to you.

Don't let greedy owners and players who think that loyalty is a four-letter word ruin the sports you love so much.

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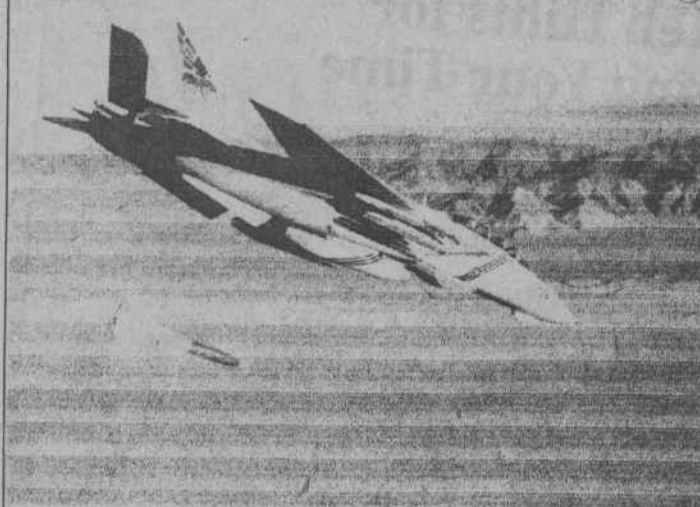
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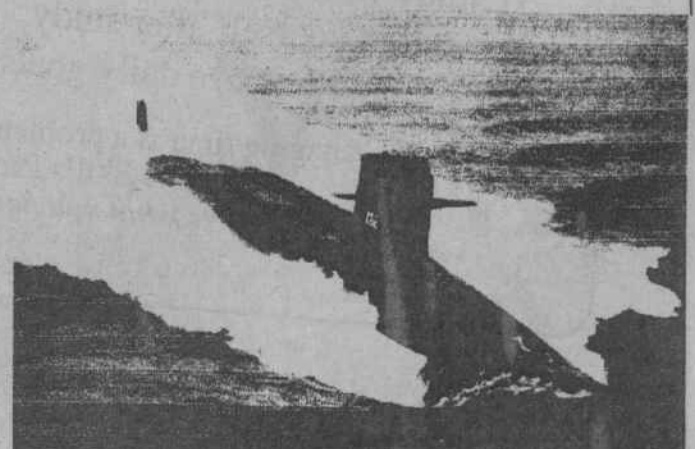
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