

## Gamecock Sports Round-Up

### STAFF REPORTS

#### Golf

#### Celebrity golf event held May 12-13

The 1997 PMI/Wachovia Celebrity Golf Event is planned for May 12 and 13 in Columbia. The golf tournament, which benefits the American Red Cross, matches up teams of four local players with an NFL athlete.

Former USC standouts Duce Staley, Sterling Sharpe, Robert Brooks, Corey Louchiey, Corey Miller, Gerald Dixon and Harold Green will join other NFL players for the event.

A celebrity auction and reception May 12 in The Zone at Williams-Brice Stadium will kick off the tournament.

#### Women's Tennis

#### Rakic, Bulat ousts Utes

Juniors Tobi Rakic and Karolina Bulat upset Utah, the No. 26 ranked doubles team in the country.

The duo defeated Linda Engbloom and Angie Olson, 8-4. Rakic and Bulat also won their respective singles matches.

Tracy Kotseos, a junior, extended her winning streak to five matches by defeating Kim Kelly 6-3, 6-2.

The Lady Gamecocks won 7-2 over the Utes in Columbia. Other

winner include: Celine Rognier and Sophie Ljueovic. Ljueovic and Kotseos rounded out the scoring with doubles.

#### Baseball

#### Gamecocks 20th in nation

Coach Ray Tanner's baseball team is 20-7 overall and 5-4 in the SEC. The team is currently ranked 20th by Baseball Weekly.

Last week the Gamecocks broke even in four games. They beat Western Carolina and took one game of the series against Miss. St.

This week the team will face The Citadel and Arkansas.

USC's team batting average for the first 27 games is .368. The team has only committed 38 errors for a .965 percentage. From the mound, the Gamecocks have a 4.85 earned run average, struck out 204 and walk 110 in 243 innings.

#### Golf

#### Men finish fourth at Alabama

The 29th ranked men's golf team finished fourth with an eight-under 856 score at the Alabama Spring Invitational last weekend.

Sophomores Mark Catalano and Stewart Ginn led the way with an 11th place finish. Freshmen Eric Ecker, Brent Roof and junior Jake

Kransteuber tied for 37th place.

Next up for the Gamecocks is Carpet Capital Classic in Dalton, Ga., on Apr. 4 to 6.

#### Women recover from Classic before Georgia

The Lady Gamecocks golf team is taking the next two weeks off after the Lady Gamecock Classic last weekend.

The women's team finished 11th in its own tournament but won't be in action again until the Liz Murphey Collegiate in Athens, Ga., April 11 to 13. The team will host the SEC Championships at the University Club April 18 to 20.

#### Men lose to Kentucky, Florida

The men's tennis team lost in close matches to No. 3 Kentucky on March 19 and to No. 33 Florida March 22.

Both matches were 4-3 decisions, marking the fourth time in the last

six matches that the Gamecocks lost by that score. Despite the team defeat, Olof Akesson extended his winning streak to thirteen matches and improved his record to 19-2.

The team traveled to Athens, Ga., March 25 and will play Auburn at home on March 29.

#### Swimming

#### Sheldon heads to NCAA Championship

Chad Sheldon, a freshman on the USC men's swimming team, posted top ten finishes on the one-meter and three-meter board at the NCAA Diving Championships.

With his top finishes, Sheldon will participate in the NCAA Diving Championships March 28 to 30 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Jessica Nixon, a senior on the women's team, finished 10th at the NCAA Championships in the 100 meter Breast stroke.

## Thompson is the model fan for Gamecocks followers

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volleyball, and women's basketball team. If you want to continue to taste a Gamecock victory go see one of these sports that does not have the fan appeal of football, but are just as exciting.

The most exciting may be softball, where pitchers like All-American Trinity Johnson hurl the ball at amazing speeds. With the small playing surface, the game is tense and exciting because any ball has a chance to get through to the outfield.

One fan who never misses a game is a man named Charlton Thompson otherwise known as "He-suse." He is best known for his support of the basketball teams and even though current students may only know our team as a winner, they have had their share of bad teams in the last few years.

Thompson told me that ever since the Carolina Coliseum opened up in 1968 he has tried to make it to every game. That includes men's and women's games.

And the women's teams have had some even worse years than the men. His enthusiasm through the good times has been just as fervent as it

has been in the bad times.

We all could learn from the dedication of Mr. Thompson—a true Gamecock fan in the good times and in the bad.

And now after a long absence I would like to give away an ITK Gameball and Goofball to those that deserve them in the world of sports.

This ITK Gameball goes to Nancy Wilson. The former USC women's basketball head coach may only be remembered by her lack of success in the SEC, but she had some great years prior to that time.

She cleaned up a women's basketball program that was desperately needing it.

The ITK Goofball goes to the NBA officials who thought that they could pull one over on the NBA and the IRS. These officials would receive their first class plane ticket to go to their next ball game and take it to the airport the day of the flight.

Once their they downgraded their flights to coach and pocketed the refunded money. Once the NBA and IRS caught on the officials were soon out of a job, and most likely will be behind bars.

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