

GAMECOCK
ATHLETICSBaseball vs. Clemson
Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Sarge Frye Field

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW...

That there are 136 days left until the Carolina football team opens the season at home against Central Florida on September 6th.

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

The Gamecock

Page 5

USC defeats Wofford

Sophomore Jason Pomar just missed a no-hitter on Monday against the Terriers. He held the no-hitter for eight innings.



story by mark piras, staff writer

Jason Pomar rebounded from an inconsistent year and an 8.06 ERA by throwing eight no-hit innings against the Wofford Terriers Monday night.

Pomar, who mixed his curveball frequently with his blazing fastball, struck out eight and walked three in his best outing yet as a Gamecock.

Jeremy Vigna became the Terriers' first base runner in the third with a walk.

Pomar didn't allow another base runner until the seventh when he walked Roy Jacques.

When Pomar took the mound in the ninth inning, the Gamecocks sported a 12-0 lead, and the Terriers were still looking for their first base hit of the game.

Pomar walked the first batter, Matt Wells, on a 3-2 pitch.

The Terriers pinch hit with Matt Crosland, who came into the game weighing 43 pounds more than his batting average (180 lbs., .137 BA). Pomar threw Crosland a 1-1 fastball that was quickly deposited into right field for the first hit of the game.

The 558 fans who attended the

game gave Pomar a standing ovation for his gritty outing.

"I didn't want to give up a hit against this team," Pomar said, admitting that he realized he had a no-hitter going "pretty much the whole game."

Pomar said that he had been inconsistent earlier in the year, but he said, "I've been rolling, and tonight, I just came in with an attitude that I'm going to come in and dominate."

Coach Ray Tanner said Pomar was "sharp tonight and he located better than he's located before. We hope that he gets back on track a bit and helps us down the stretch."

Tanner said that Pomar "is a sophomore with only 30 innings under his belt from last year."

It's an adjustment he's had to make, where you've got to get people out and not strike them out all the time."

The Gamecocks also showed off the nation's top-scoring offense, scoring four runs in the first, three in the fifth and five in the seventh to build the 12 run lead.

Eric Stanton continued his torrid hitting with a three-run homerun

in the fifth and a run-scoring double in the seventh.

He now has 61 RBI, trailing only Ryan Bordenick's 67 for the team lead.

Bordenick's two RBI in the first inning tie him for second place in the Southeastern Conference in RBI with Arkansas' Ryan Lundquist.

Next game.

The Gamecocks are back home on Wednesday for their fourth and final game against Clemson. Clemson leads the series two games to one. Freshman Jamie Poston will start for the Gamecocks.

"This may be the understatement of the year," Tanner said, "but the key for us is pitching. It seems like every time we get a solid effort on the mound, we win."

This will be the Gamecocks last home game until May 6 when the team plays Furman.

"It's going to be an emotional game," Tanner said. "No doubt about it."

College hockey coaches feel that computer rankings are not fair

COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

Craig Dahl and Jim Boeheim should get together sometime. Maybe they could hang out and talk about coaching over a cup of coffee.

Dahl, the hockey coach at St. Cloud State, and Boeheim, the men's basketball coach at Syracuse University, probably wouldn't find much common ground in discussing the finer points of their respective sports. But if the subject ever drifted to computers, hours of chatter would likely ensue.

A couple of weeks ago, Boeheim let the world know what he thinks of the NCAA's use of computerized "power ratings" to determine the 64 teams in the national tournament.

"This power rating crap, you can take it and shove it," Boeheim said.

Despite a 19-12 record, Syracuse missed the cut and failed to make it into the field, mainly because the team didn't fare well in the computer's formula.

Dahl's team is in a similar position heading into this weekend's WCHA Final Five. Despite having the third-best record in the league at 18-10-4, St. Cloud State is the fifth-best WCHA team according to the Pairwise Rankings, the system used by the NCAA to select the 12 teams in hockey's national tournament.

Minnesota (No. 3), North Dakota (No. 4), Denver (No. 9) and Colorado College (No. 13) are all ahead of St. Cloud State (No. 14). For that reason, the Huskies need to win at least once this weekend to have a shot at making the NCAA tourney.

Like Boeheim, Dahl is not impressed by the computerized ranking system. His biggest issues are with the rankings of Denver and Vermont (No. 5).

"I have some problems with how they do things," Dahl said. "How can you play a whole season, finish with a better record (than Denver and Colorado College), and have a lower ranking?"

Vermont lost to Providence last weekend in the first round of the Eastern College Athletic College playoffs, but it is still a virtual lock to make the NCAA tournament because of its high power rating.

"If you lose in the first round of your own playoffs, games that are in your own building, you should be out (of the NCAA tournament)," Dahl said.

Not surprisingly, Denver coach George Gwozdecky has a higher opinion on the ranking system.

"Hey, they're just going by the numbers," Gwozdecky said. "At this point in time, we're looking pretty good."

It's that kind of mentality that Dahl disagrees. He doesn't like the fact that his team's fate lies strictly in numbers in a computer.

"There's no subjectivity," Dahl said. "At least college basketball takes some other things into account."

Boeheim might not agree with Dahl on that point.

Sports Briefs From Staff and Wire Reports

The men's golf team this past weekend competed in the Southeastern Conference Golf Tournament in Auburn.

The team finished fourth in the tournament while the low individual was freshman Brent Roof who finished in seventh place.

Roof in addition to being the

lowest scoring individual for the Gamecocks also was named Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year.

On Friday the Gamecocks shot a team score of 307 to take sixth place before finishing strong on Sunday.

In baseball, the Gamecocks

will face Clemson tonight and will travel to Florida for an SEC series this weekend.

In softball, the Lady Gamecocks face SEC West rivals Auburn and Alabama this weekend. Both will be faced at Lady Gamecock field. There will be doubleheaders both days.

Gamecock Sports. J. R. Ewing's fave.

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APRIL 25...OKAY?