

Track team ready for Challenge

staff writer JOE QUINN

To be the best, you have to compete against the best. The South Carolina men's and women's track and field teams travel to Gainesville, Fla., this weekend for the ACC-SEC Challenge — which will feature five Top 15 teams for the men and five Top 15 teams for the women, including No. 1 LSU.

The meet pits the ACC's finest (North Carolina, Clemson, Florida State and Georgia Tech) against the SEC's best (Auburn, Ole Miss, LSU, South Carolina, Florida and Georgia).

South Carolina is currently ranked No. 3 on the men's side and No. 8 on the women's side by Trackwire.

"We saw Tennessee and Kentucky the past two weeks so after this weekend we will have a better understanding of where we stand both in the SEC and on the national level," USC head coach Curtis Frye said. "This is a good preview for us because this meet includes all the SEC heavies, with the exception of Arkansas.

"We will be able to see where we stack up. The teams are coming together. I am proud of the progress we have made in just the past two weeks."

The two teams have combined for 13 NCAA automatic and provisional performances. In fact, three of their performances are currently No. 1 in the

country — Terrance Trammell in the 55 meter hurdles, Brad Snyder with the shot put and Lisa Misipeka with the 20-pound weight.

"We are looking pretty solid in a number of areas," Frye said. "I am pleased with the progress Corey Bridges has made. He is a more confident sprinter, and adding Terrance Trammell to the mix has helped. Marvin Watts is running more mature and Brad Snyder certainly is a dominate factor in the shot put.

"On the women's side, I like what I've seen of Tonique Williams this year. Tonique and Charmaine Howell will help us stay a top five team with fine performances. Lisa Misipeka and Crystal Brownlee are the mainstays and have been performing outstanding," Frye said.

In the latest ranking from Trackwire, several Gamecocks are ranked highly. In the 55 meters, Bridges is ranked No. 2 in the nation, while Trammell is ranked No. 8. Watts is ranked No. 2 in the 800 meters, just 0.01 seconds off the leading time.

Trammell is No. 1 in the 55 meter hurdles and Snyder is the top-ranked shot putter in the nation. In the men's weight, Bert Sorin is ranked No. 5.

On the women's side, Williams is ranked No. 3 in the 400 meters. Kylene Nixon is No. 4 in the pole vault while Crystal Brownlee is No. 5 in the shot put.

In the weights, USC women are ranked first and second. Misipeka is the top-ranked thrower and Michelle Fournier is second.

This past weekend, competing at the Virginia Tech Invitational, three USC men and four USC women won seven events and set two track records.

The men had one NCAA automatic performance and six NCAA provisional performances, while the women had three NCAA automatic performances and two provisional marks.

In the women's weight throw, Misipeka won the event with a 1998 col-



Special to The Gamecock
Corey Bridges is ranked second in the nation in the 55 meters.

legiate best of 69'7. Fournier threw 63'9 3/4 — establishing a new Canadian record.

Bridges won the 60 meters with an NCAA provisional mark of 6.65. Trammell was the runner-up in the 60 meters (6.74) and the 60 meter hurdles (7.81). Both are NCAA provisional marks.

On the women's side, Williams won the 400 meters with an NCAA provisional mark of 54.03. Rodena Barr was second in the 60 meters.

In the men's weight throw, Sorin threw 65'9 1/2 — breaking the track record. Sorin's mark is an NCAA automatic standard and a personal best.

In the women's shot put, Brownlee won with a 53'4 1/2 toss — an NCAA provisional mark. Misipeka placed second with a throw of 50'2 1/2 — an NCAA provisional mark.

Snyder won the men's shot put with a mark of 63'7 3/4 — an NCAA automatic mark.

In the women's pole vault, Nixon won the event with a vault of 10'6. Teammate Becky Studebaker was second.

Singleton: Super Bowl, Souled Out and students



shawn SINGLETON
Singleton 3:16

After spending a week or so in alcohol rehab, I returned to the liquor store to watch the biggest blowout of the year. At least I

thought I was going to watch the biggest blowout since the Pamela Lee tape.

To paraphrase Ben Franklin, only three things are certain: death, the chances that the president will be involved in another sex scandal, and the NFC runs away with the Super Bowl. That is, until this past Sunday.

This may have been the most exciting Super Bowl since my Giants beat Buffalo in 1991. Unless you were a Denver fan or some poor sentimental fool who wanted John Elway to finally win one, no one gave the jerks from the Mile High City a chance.

Green Bay was a 12-point favorite in this game. They were the defending world champions. Combine this with the facts that the NFC had won 13 straight against the weaker AFC and that Elway was 0-3 in Super Bowls, losing by a combined total of 136-40, and you would think your money was safe, right?

Hell no! Vince Lombardi must be doing the Bossanova in his grave right now. It is so ironic that the trophy with his name on it would be lost by the team with whom he won the first two of these. The only really good thing about the game for me was Marilyn Manson killing Hanson and the Spice Girls during the halftime show.

Green Bay ruined the party for the rest of the NFC. Their offensive line played like they all got jackknife power bombs from Kevin Nash. Brett Favre should go back to the painkillers; he performed better. Gilbert Brown should

start dating Jenny Craig, and Reggie White gave a performance as The Invisible Man that H.G. Wells would have been proud of. Lay off the Chunky Soup, Reggie.

Memo to all Washinton Redskins fans: the monkey is finally off your backs thanks to the cheese graters from Denver.

However, in fairness to the victors, let me congratulate John Elway. After 15 years of getting the Heimlich Maneuver in big games, he finally got a piece of the championship pie that he could swallow. This was his Holy Grail; and just when you thought he had nothing left, he found enough heart left to win it all. Enjoy it, John. You've waited long enough.

It is now time for me to move away from one football team to just a bunch of lazy students. I'm not even going to introduce the idiot award for there are too many of you out there. Instead, you idiots will feel the full wrath of Singleton 3:16.

Word is more than 1,200 tickets available for Wednesday's game against Florida and 1,000 tickets available for 17th-ranked Cincinnati on Saturday.

This is a real shame, people. All I heard during football season was how you students were waiting for basketball season because the football team was had a bad season. Now you have the chance to get back what you're paying in activity fees, and you're not picking up the tickets.

This is not right. Save that attitude for the easy skins you try to hit at Tallyho. Support this team. This is your team so leave the apathy to the rednecks at Clem Tech.

I don't want to have to say this again.



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- ✓ Is your partner constantly putting you down or making you feel inferior?
- ✓ Does your partner cause family and friends to be concerned about your safety?
- ✓ Do you worry about how your partner will react to things you say or do?
- ✓ Does your partner have a history of fighting, uncontrollable anger, or bragging about mistreating others?

If you can check one or more of the above, you may be in a abusive relationship.

The office of Sexual Assault Services offers assistance with these issues. A dating violence group is forming now. For more information call Jennie or Mary Ann at 777-8248 by February 6, 1998.