

Check out how the men's and women's track and field teams fared at the National Outdoor Championships in Buffalo, N.Y.

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SPORTS

The Gamecock

B.J. SAYS...

B.J. says he needs writer for the summer issues. If you want to write for *The Gamecock* this summer, call him at 256-5057 after 5 p.m. and set up a time to meet with him.

Page 9

Baseball team falls short of goal

senior writer **ACHIM HUNT**

It's been a while since you filled in the last bubble of your last final exam in the spring, and if you have not been following USC athletics since, then you have missed out on a lot.

The USC baseball team had a quick trip to their SEC Tournament in Birmingham, Ala. The Gamecocks lost a close one, 9-8 against Mississippi State on the first day of the tournament, and then were eliminated by future NCAA College World Series participant LSU 6-0.

After losing out on a close bid to host a regional to arch-rival Clemson, the Gamecocks found out they were heading to the sunny south beaches of Miami, Fla. Everybody wondered if the "Chicken Curse," which had already reared its ugly head during tournament play, would reappear in time for the NCAA regional.

The Gamecocks made a statement in the first round of the regional with a 21-9 win over Florida International. The Gamecocks got two homeruns in the game from senior catcher Ryan Bordenick and a rare inside the park grand slam from Jay Lambert.

The next night was one to remember for the Gamecocks. Everyone's worst fears about the "Curse" had come to fruition. The Texas Tech Red Raiders were up 8-2, and the Gamecocks were running out of time.

In the top of ninth, all Carolina fans were hanging by the skin of their ears as WVOC's Steve Stewart was describing the action from Miami. When the Gamecocks loaded the bases with two outs it was time for the senior and the leader, Bordenick, to take his cuts at the plate. Bordenick took a 1-1 pitch over the outfield wall of Mark Light Stadium as he gave the Gamecocks a 9-8 lead and the eventual win over the Raiders.

With North Carolina defeating Miami, the Gamecocks faced the Hurricanes Saturday night and were overwhelmed by their mighty offense on the way to a 14-2 loss.

That set up an elimination game on Sunday against the Tar Heels who won 4-2 on a Mark Roberts home run. The ACC Player of the Year, whose father Mike was fired by North Carolina, is now transferring and the speedster from Chapel Hill, N.C., has South Carolina high on his list.

HUNT page two

Everett selected 12th by Red Sox

sports editor **BRYAN JOHNSTON**

South Carolina shortstop Adam Everett became the first Gamecock to be selected in the first round of the Major League Baseball draft since Mike Cook in 1985 when he was taken by the Boston Red Sox as the 12th selection Tuesday.

"It's a real honor to be drafted by such a fine organization as the Red Sox," Everett said. "I hope to go out and play every day."

Everett is considered one of the top collegiate shortstops and was named to the All-SEC First Team, *Baseball America* All-America First Team, All-South First Team, NCBWA All-America Second Team, TPX All-America Third Team and SEC Academic Honor Roll.

This past season, the Kennesaw, Ga., native was a defensive stalwart up the middle in starting all 62 games. His excellent range for both his right and left sides, and a strong arm helped him grab many balls uncatchable by others.

He committed only 15 errors in 301 attempts for a fielding percentage of .953.

Equally potent at the plate, Everett hit .375 with 13 homeruns, 63 RBI, 100 hits and 71 runs scored. He also stole 15 bases in 19 attempts and struck out only 30 times, the lowest of any Gamecock starter.

Everett was drafted in the fourth round by the Chicago Cubs coming out of Harrison High School in 1995, but opted to take his abilities to North Carolina State. Everett transferred to USC after a year at N.C. State under then-Wolfpack coach Ray Tanner.

"After I got drafted out of high school in the fourth round, it's always been

one of my goals to be a first-rounder," he said.

In his two years in Columbia, Everett helped turn around the Gamecock program. Carolina went a combined 77-42 in his two-year stay including a 44-18 record and a NCAA Regional appearance this past year.

"He's been terrific for this program," Tanner said. "He's been a boost for us. There were some other good players here and to bring him in really helped us get competitive in a hurry. He's a great young man and a tremendous student-athlete. He's very loyal to this school, this program and to the people he's with. He's improved so much as a baseball player, and I'm so happy for him."

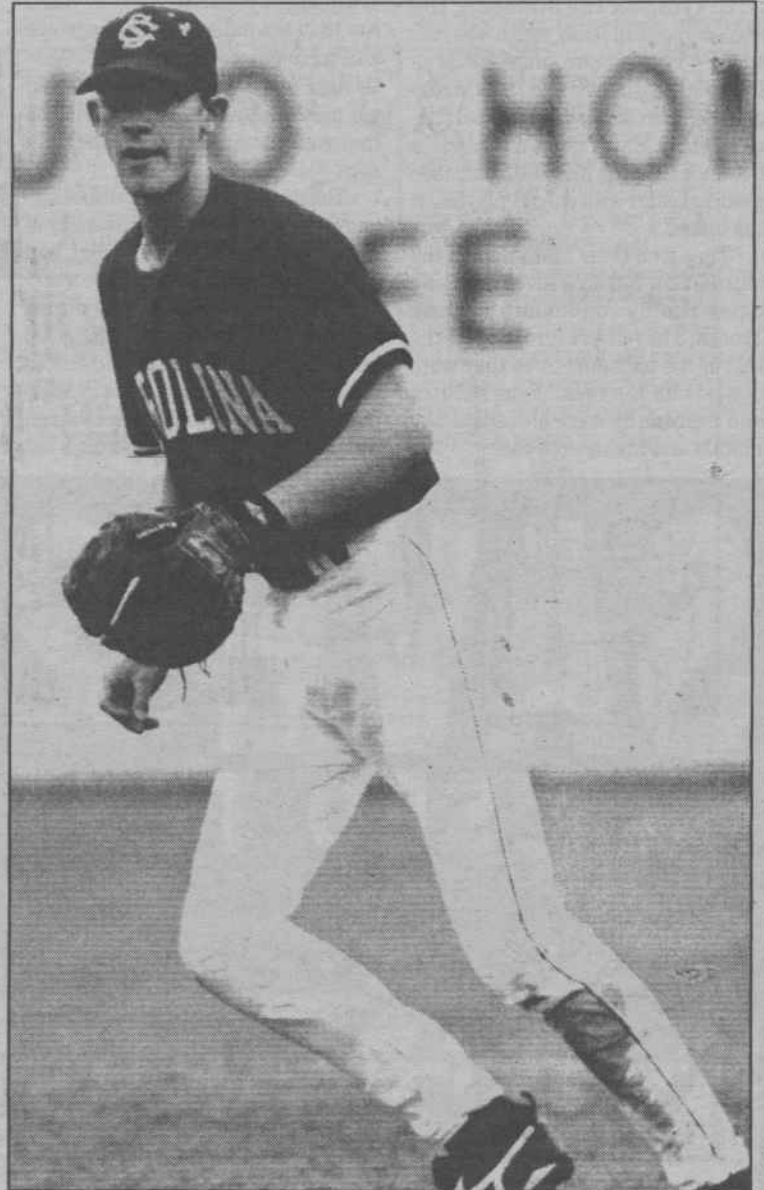
"It looks like he's going to get a great opportunity and a chance to realize his dreams that we all have of playing in the big leagues. It couldn't happen to a nicer young man who handles himself with a great deal of class and integrity."

Being a junior, Everett has the option of returning to Carolina for his senior year, but he kept it short and simple when asked whether he'll turn pro.

"Yes," Everett replied.

Called "one of the safest picks in the draft" by *Baseball America*, most analysts predict Everett will be starting for a major-league team in four years.

But Everett wasn't the only Gamecock taken in the draft. Centerfielder Mike Curry (6th round, Kansas City Royals), Brett Jodie (6th round, New York Yankees), catcher Ryan Bordenick (9th round, Milwaukee Brewers) and pitcher Jason Pomar (10th round, Seattle Mariners) were all taken on the first day of the draft.



SPECIAL TO THE GAMECOCK

Shortstop Adam Everett was selected by the Boston Red Sox as the 12th pick in Tuesday's Major League Baseball Draft.

Softball teams falters at SEC Tournament

► **South Carolina goes 1-2 at the Southeastern Conference Tournament to end a sub-par year.**

sports editor **BRYAN JOHNSTON**

COLUMBUS, Ga. — The 1998 Lady Gamecock softball team's disappointing season came to a disappointing end at the SEC Tournament at Columbus, Ga. Despite winning its opening game against Mississippi State, Carolina was defeated by top-seeded Florida and then by MSU on Saturday to end its season.

On May 8, the fifth-seeded Lady Gamecocks (36-21) pulled a mild upset when they beat fourth-seeded MSU 2-0 on sophomore Leanna Troesh's two-

run homerun in the top of the seventh inning.

Senior pitcher Sky Brown was dominant in the victory, allowing only one hit, a new SEC Tournament record. Brown struck out two and walked one in the complete-game shutout.

"I felt really good," Brown said. "All of my pitches were working, especially my curve ball and my drop ball."

The game was scoreless until the final inning when Carolina mounted a rally. Brown singled to lead off the inning, but was doubled up when sophomore Sondra Hall's line drive was caught by MSU third baseman Michelle Gates. Gates then spotted Brown leaning toward second and doubled her up at first.

Freshman Joyce McMillin kept the rally alive by beating out a grounder to shortstop. That set the stage for Troesh's heroics. With an 0-2 count, the Santa Maria, Calif., native ripped a line-drive shot down the left-field line to give USC a 2-0 lead. Brown then sat down the Lady Bulldogs in order to give USC the opening-round victory.

"I felt like I was right on it, and I just felt good the whole time," Troesh said. "I was right on her, and when I hit it, I knew it was gone."

On May 9, Carolina's luck was not as good. The defending regular-season and tournament champions were eliminated after falling to Florida 1-0 and MSU 3-0.

In the first game, Florida's lone run came in the fifth inning when Laura Pinkerton's smash went off the glove of Troesh, scoring Cindy Snoddy from third. USC had the stage set for another seventh-inning rally, but this time it fell short.

McMillin nearly tied the game when she drove a pitch deep to right field, but UF's Jennifer Lutsl snagged the ball right as she crashed through the fence.

After a Troesh strikeout, sophomore Kim Schultze and senior Carrie Elliott-Hoshour singled to set up a potential two-out rally, but redshirt sophomore Jamie Williams grounded out to end the game.

USC page 11