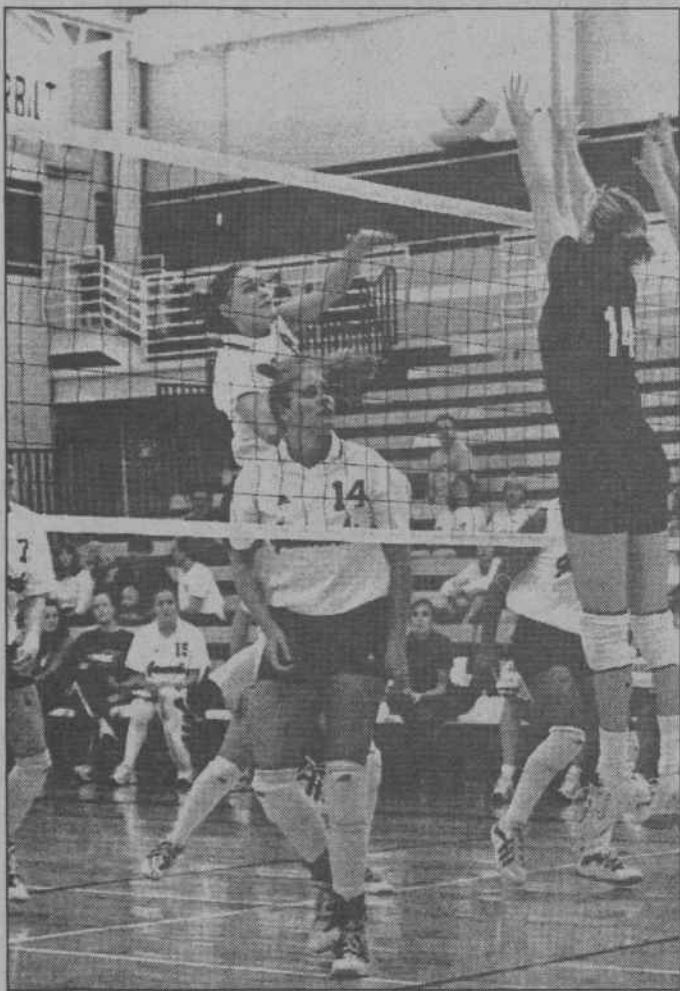


Volleyball team wins twice



SEAN RAYFORD Sports Photo Editor

Freshman Cally Plummer, spiking the ball, ties a school record with eight aces in Sunday's match. Cindy Robarge, No. 14, was named SEC Player of the Week Monday.

Robarge named SEC Player of the Week after helping lead the Gamecocks to wins over Alabama and Auburn.

staff writer DAVID CLONINGER

The USC volleyball team won twice this weekend, sweeping Alabama and Auburn to improve its record to 16-2, 4-1 in the SEC.

The team was led in both matches by senior middle blocker Cindy Robarge, who was named SEC Player of the Week Monday. Robarge hit a sparkling .440 with 22 kills in the two matches to garner the award.

"I am speechless; I think I'm going to cry," was Robarge's initial reaction.

"It's an nice honor, but I wouldn't have gotten it if it wasn't for my teammates. I am still new in this position and without Ashley's (Edlund) help, along with my other teammates and the coaches, I wouldn't be here. This puts some pressure on me because I will have to step up my play even more. This is the best team I have ever been on — we all get along so well. We have real team chemistry and I think we are on the verge of being a top 25 team," Robarge said.

The Gamecocks, just two places shy of cracking the USA Today/AVCA Top 25, came into Friday's Alabama match needing a victory to claim sole possession of second place in the SEC East. The team jumped to a 6-2 lead in Game 1 en route to a 15-9 win, courtesy of freshman Cally Plummer who served two straight aces. Game 2 saw the Crimson Tide jump to a 10-6 lead before Carolina finally awakened. Senior setter Ashley Edlund made the score 11-10, en route to the Gamecocks' 15-12 victory. Edlund,

who had 35 assists and 14 digs, served seven aces, one short of the school record.

Alabama came charging out to a 9-1 lead in Game 3 before Edlund and sophomore defensive specialist Sara Heri led the Gamecocks back to tie the Tide at 10. Robarge then stepped up again and ended the match on a kill, 15-11. Carolina, who is fifth in the country in hitting percentage, hit just .143 for the match.

The Gamecocks played their first SEC-TV Match of the Week on Sunday, and showed the Auburn Tigers why they were worthy of a national television audience. Game 1 saw the Gamecocks run to a 7-2 lead, and then finish the Tigers 15-6. Plummer had another strong game, serving five aces in the first game and finishing with eight, tying Amy Collinsworth's school record set in 1991.

Game two gave Carolina a 6-0 lead before Auburn came back to lead 11-10. Heri then came off the bench to serve and led the Gamecocks to victory, 15-13.

Game 3 saw the Tigers take an 8-5 lead before the trio of freshman Milica Perovic, Plummer and Robarge spurred USC to a 14-11 lead. Edlund then aced the final point to win 15-11.

Coach Kim Hudson-Christopher was pleased with her team's performance for the weekend, especially in the containment of Auburn's 1997 Freshman of the Year, Jaunelle Hamilton.

"It's great to have these matches behind us. It helps us to prepare for our schedule by getting a little better each week."

Carolina's next match is Friday at Kentucky, with a Sunday match at Tennessee. The next home match is Oct. 23 against LSU.

Last year's Columbia NITRO much better

SINGLETON continued from page 10

have no intention of sleeping with (unless it's Ric Flair) to buy them drinks.

Oh, by the way, Flair would leave the Elbow Room with three vermin. I hope he brought his bug spray.

While I was talking to wrestlers, Matt disappeared, and I walked through Five Points looking for him. After saying, "(expletive) Matt," I walked back to the Elbow Room, where I drank and rapped with Curt Hennig and Raven until closing.

Overall, it was a pretty good evening for me, and I feel the great fans here in this city were cheated by the garbage that Bischoff would put on one year later.

That is why I hold on to this, because at one time, on this one night, things were better.



Shawn poses with the NITRO Girls outside Elbow Room last year.

Men's swimming team victorious

staff writer HERR TERMASU

The South Carolina men's swimming and diving team won its first dual meet of the year against Georgia Tech team on Saturday, 131-93, in Atlanta, Ga.

The Gamecocks were led by freshman Zsolt Gaspar of Budapest, Hungary, who won both the 200-freestyle and the 200-butterfly events. Junior Andrew Cho also won two events for Carolina as he took the 200-individual medley and the 200-backstroke events.

Other winners for USC were Banks Haloran (1000-free), Chris Lyons (50-free), Jamie White (100-free) and Mike Reynolds (500-free).

On the diving side, Chad Sheldon won the one-meter diving competition.

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