

- A recap of the Clemson/USC game.
- Men's soccer vs. VCU in the NCAA Tournament.
- Volleyball in the SEC Tournament.

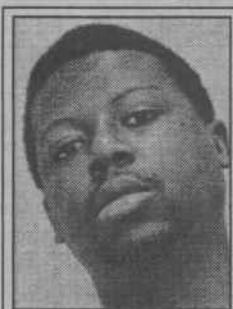
The USC baseball team announced the signings of five recruits: Drew Meyer (SS/P), Trey Saye (RHP), Brennan Dees (OF), John McHenry (2B/CF) and Bo Mobley (C).

- Friday, 11 a.m. Volleyball @ SEC Tourney
- Saturday, 6:30 p.m. Football @ Clemson
- Sunday, 1 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. VCU NCAA Tourney

Nate says USC athletics director Mike McGee's contract was extended Wednesday through April 30, 2002. McGee will now make \$194,985 a year.

CAROLINA-CLEMSON 1998

10 reasons not to attend the game



shawn SINGLETON
singleton 3:16

Before I start this week's latest hit, I would like to make a slight correction. My editors wrote that I wanted Brad Scott's head on a silver platter. This isn't exactly true, because silver is too valuable a metal, and I wouldn't want to ruin it with his head.

Nevertheless, I doubt very seriously that the soon-to-be former head coach of the Lamecluck football team reads this paper, because he doesn't care about what the fans, or what this columnist thinks. I don't even think he cares about winning. He just cares about the lifetime supply of Heinz ketchup and all the money that follows it.

Of course, there was that media ploy which Scott tried to pull by placing an African American at quarterback, but we all saw through that smoke screen.

This is the South, Brad. You're not supposed to be politically correct here. Are you listening, tri-Delts?

Last week, I went to a Student Gamecock Club executive board meeting when we approached the subject of Tiger Burn. Other than the fact that I was not happy with who was making the tiger, I found out that Brad Scott was not going to speak there (again) and that none of his players were allowed to speak at the event.

What are they afraid of? The truth? That this football team is about as awful as Linda Tripp's face?

No, the sad truth is that this football team doesn't care about the very people who pay good money to fill up Williams-Brice Stadium week after week. All they care about is the money, the women and the cars. They don't even care about winning, and that's the biggest tragedy of it all.

Thus, the 3-1-6 has come to one conclusion. If the Shamecocks don't give a (fox) about us, then why should we give a (fox) about them?

So, in the spirit of David Letterman, I (along with a few of my friends) have come up with a top 10 list of reasons I will not be going to Toilet Bowl '98 (and why you shouldn't either).

10. You would have more fun if you picked up a PlayStation and put the game on coaches' mode.

9. I could get better value out of \$30 from a hooker.

8. Not even "motivation" from the Carolina Classics could save our Lameclucks this weekend.

7. Not even "motivation" from the Alley Cats could save the Clemson Convicts this weekend.

6. Oh well, we still have the Academic Team.

5. Who wants to go cheerleader, I mean, cow, tipping anyway?

4. There are just some things out there that still wouldn't look good no matter how many beers you drink.

3. Our football team must have started smoking, because the 'Cocks have grown pretty limp week after week.

2. If I wanted to see two people who didn't know what they were doing, I'd watch virgins in a porn flick.

And the number one reason why I am not going to this game is...

Courtney Leavitt (Dare I say more?).

There you have it. However, if you're one of the unfortunate few who will be attending the game, look on the bright side.

Maybe Brad Scott's wife will fall down again and motivate the team, or at least give the fans a good laugh. Nevertheless, the 3-1-6 will be spending this weekend on a date with a cold beer watching the Florida State-Florida game. Go Seminoles.



Carolina players and fans celebrate the 34-31 victory over the Tigers two years ago in Death Valley. The visiting team has won the last seven games in this rivalry.

Will the streak continue?

asst. sports editor KELLY MAGUIRE

This Saturday is Carolina's last shot at redemption for the 1998 football season. If anyone on this campus does not realize what is occurring Saturday night, you have probably been living under a very small rock.

Saturday is the annual clash of the titans as the Gamecocks take on their state rival, the Clemson Tigers, in the last game of the season for each team. This is the moment Carolina Gamecock fans have been waiting for the past 365 days.

Even though neither team has had the season of which they dreamed, this state rivalry always proves to be an interesting war. The annual game between the Gamecocks and Tigers is known as one of the most prominent rivalries in all the land.

"These two teams are hungry for a victory, and it's the last shot, so I think you're going to see an all out effort probably by both programs," head coach Brad Scott said.

"Both of our teams have kind of fallen on hard times, you might say, and are probably both a lot better than our records indicate," Scott said.

The history of the rivalry speaks for itself. The past 96 meetings have gone on not only to prove who the winner of the contest is, but also to establish who has bragging rights at family reunions, workplaces or any other function at which Carolina and Clemson fans are present.

"It's one of the most colorful football rivalries in all of college football," Scott said.

The Carolina-Clemson rivalry ranks as the 13th most played rivalry in the nation, as well as the fourth-longest uninterrupted series in the country, with 90 consecutive meetings.

Weird things tend to happen when these two teams meet. The visiting team has won the game the last seven years, and a win by Carolina would set an NCAA record for consecutive wins in a series by a road team.

"Well, I don't want to go against the record this year, that's for sure, so I hope that stays intact one more year," Scott said.

Clemson assistant athletic director and head trainer Fred Hoover will be appearing in his last game this Saturday. Hoover has completed 444 consecutive games and has worked with the football team for 40 years.

However, Hoover is not the only Tiger on his way out. Head coach Tommy West was fired on Wednesday after leading Clemson to a 2-8 record in his fifth season. Saturday will be the final time Danny Ford's former assistant will don a Clemson outfit. West was relieved of his duties during a meeting Wednesday afternoon, however the administration did decide he could finish out the season against the Gamecocks.

On the Gamecocks' last trip to Death Valley, Carolina scored 21 straight points in a seven-minute span in the fourth quarter and survived a late rally by Clemson to win 34-31.

Clemson returns five offensive and six defensive starters from last year's squad, which was defeated by Auburn in the Peach Bowl.

The Tigers are led by quarterback Brandon Streeter (134-251-13 for 1,775 yards and 11 touchdowns). Tailback Travis Zachery and runningbacks Jarvis Austin and Terry Witherspoon combine for nine TDs on the year.

"Their quarterback especially has impressed me the last two ballgames," Scott said. "He's really making some plays."

Wide receiver Brian Wofford leads the team with 33 catches for 519 yards and five TDs. He is joined by Rod Gardner and Mal Lawyer.

The Tigers rank 15th in the nation in rushing defense, allowing only 105 yards per game. Clemson opponents have gained only 2.8 yards per rush this season, and the Tigers rank second in the ACC, trailing Florida State, in total defense.

"Clemson runs extremely well," Scott said. "They've got a defense that's played awfully good for them — very consistent all year long."

Clemson is led by Chris Jones (128 tackles, four QB sacks), Rahim Abdullah (82 tackles, 6.5 QB sacks), and Harold Means (84 tackles, one QB sack). Tackles Adrian Dingle and Donald Broomfield have combined for 100 tackles and 10 QB sacks this season.

The defensive back position will be hurting. Senior Antwan Edwards is listed as doubtful for the game because of a pulled hamstring. Edwards, a semi-

finalist for the Thorpe Award, ranks second in school history with 35 pass breakups and has eight career interceptions.

However, Clemson will be utilizing the talents of defensive backs Robert Carswell (91 tackles) and Alex Ardley (64 tackles, one interception). Carswell only played five snaps during last year's game because of a knee injury.

This Saturday will prove Carolina's character as they face the Tigers. Scott said that despite the season, his players will learn and grow and will only get better.

"They'll take this with them the rest of their lives," Scott said. "They'll look back on all of their years, but certainly this will be one of the years when they're faced with a difficult situation and don't think there's any way out of it. Then they'll think back possibly on this football season and know that persistence paid off."

Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. The game will be televised on ESPN2.

PlayStation matchup gives edge to Gamecocks

staff writer CHRIS DeGUIDO

With most of the talk surrounding the USC/Clemson game dealing with who is and who's not going to get fired and how bad the teams are, the focus has shifted away from the game itself.

So, I figured, why not play it out beforehand to see exactly what would transpire? Using our Sony PlayStation and playing NCAA Football '99 on the big screen, I simulated Saturday's game in Death Valley.

On a brisk Saturday night with winds blowing at 12 miles per hour from the southwest, Carolina won the coin toss and elected to receive. On the first drive, USC quarterback Anthony Wright connected with Zola Davis on third-and-seven, beating Clemson back Alex Ardley for 39 yards.

Two plays later, on first down, Wright pitched the ball to Hambrick, and he took it around the right side for the touchdown. After the Courtney Leavitt extra point, USC led 7-0.

The Tiger offense went three and out, thanks in part to Matt Marsters' sack on Brandon Streeter to give USC the ball back. At the end of the first quarter, Carolina led 7-0.

The USC defense, which pressured Streeter all night, broke up four passes on Clemson's next drive, forcing another punt by Kevin Laird. On Carolina's first play, free safety DeMarco Fox intercepted Wright's pass intended for Davis, giving Clemson the ball on the USC 33-yard line.

On first down, Streeter hooked up with Brian Wofford for 32 yards, taking the ball down to the 1-yard line. Keris Sullivan chased him down, making the touchdown-saving tackle. The Tigers then proceeded to lose nine yards on the next three plays to set up David Richardson's 27-yard field goal. With 3:13 left in the half, Carolina's lead was cut to 7-3.

After moving the ball to Carolina's 20-yard line, Corey Atkins intercepted Streeter's pass to end the half with USC leading 7-3.

USC drove down the field midway through the third, but the drive stalled at the Clemson 27-yard line. Leavitt came on for a field goal attempt, but USC head coach Brad Scott pulled one out of his back of tricks, calling a fake. Backup Phil Petty, who wasn't inserted at QB, hit Jim Levandusky for 12 yards and a first down.

The Gamecocks drove down to the 16, but the drive stalled again. Leavitt came on to attempt the 33-yard field goal, but pushed it wide left.

On Clemson's first play, USC defensive back Homer Torrance intercepted Streeter's pass and returned it 13 yards. Carolina wasted no time, scoring on the first play. Wright hit Trey Pennington for 16 yards and a touchdown to give USC a 14-3 with 1:37 left in the third quarter.

Early in the fourth quarter, Carolina took the ball on its own 29-yard line and started the march down to another score. On third-and-two, Wright lofted the ball out into the left flat under heavy pressure. Hambrick made

a leaping catch and took the ball 43 yards for the touchdown, giving USC a 21-3 lead.

After yet another Tiger punt, Carolina headed down once again for another score. On first down from the Clemson 28, Wright tossed his third scoring pass, this time to Davis with 47

seconds left in the game, to give Carolina a 28-3 lead.

Hambrick was named Player of the Game for his 40 yards rushing, 63 yards receiving and two touchdowns.

Marsters led the USC defense, which held the Tigers to 118 total yards of offense.

Gamecock Sports CHALLENGE

	USC/Clemson	Florida/USC	Ark./Miss. St.	Mich./Ohio St.	So. Cal/UCLA
Nate Sports Editor 38-17	USC	Florida State	Miss. St.	Michigan	UCLA
B.J. "Editorial Assistant" 37-18	USC	Florida State	Miss. St.	Michigan	So. Cal
Sean/Nikki Staff Guest Picker 40-15	Clemson	Florida	Arkansas	Ohio State	UCLA
Kelly Maguire Asst. Sports Editor 33-22	USC (again)	Florida	Arkansas	Ohio State	UCLA
Laura Bokesch Friend of Sports Staff 38-17	USC	Florida	Arkansas	Ohio State	UCLA