

**TRACK AND FIELD**

A day after being named *The Gamecock's* athlete of the Week, sophomore Terrence Trammell was named the 1999 SEC Indoor Male Athlete of the Year after winning the NCAA 60-meter hurdles title and two SEC titles.

**VOLLEYBALL**

The volleyball team will host its annual spring volleyball tournament beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Volleyball Competition Facility. The tournament will feature five 1998 NCAA tournament teams

# The Gamecock Sports

**SCHEDULE**

•Track and field, today through Saturday at the Florida Relays in Gainesville, Fla.  
 •Men's and women's swimming, Thursday through Saturday at the NCAA Championships in Indianapolis.

**FROM THE SIDELINES**

"It's what you learn after you know it all that counts."

—John Wooden

## Hecklers vital part of baseball



In the spring, a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of — you know.

No, not really, although a trio of interested parties might beg

to differ, judging from the events of Saturday night.

I'm talking about baseball, of course. Since this column has been devoted to covering USC basketball for the past few months, it's only fitting I turn my insights to the diamond for another season of Gamecock baseball.

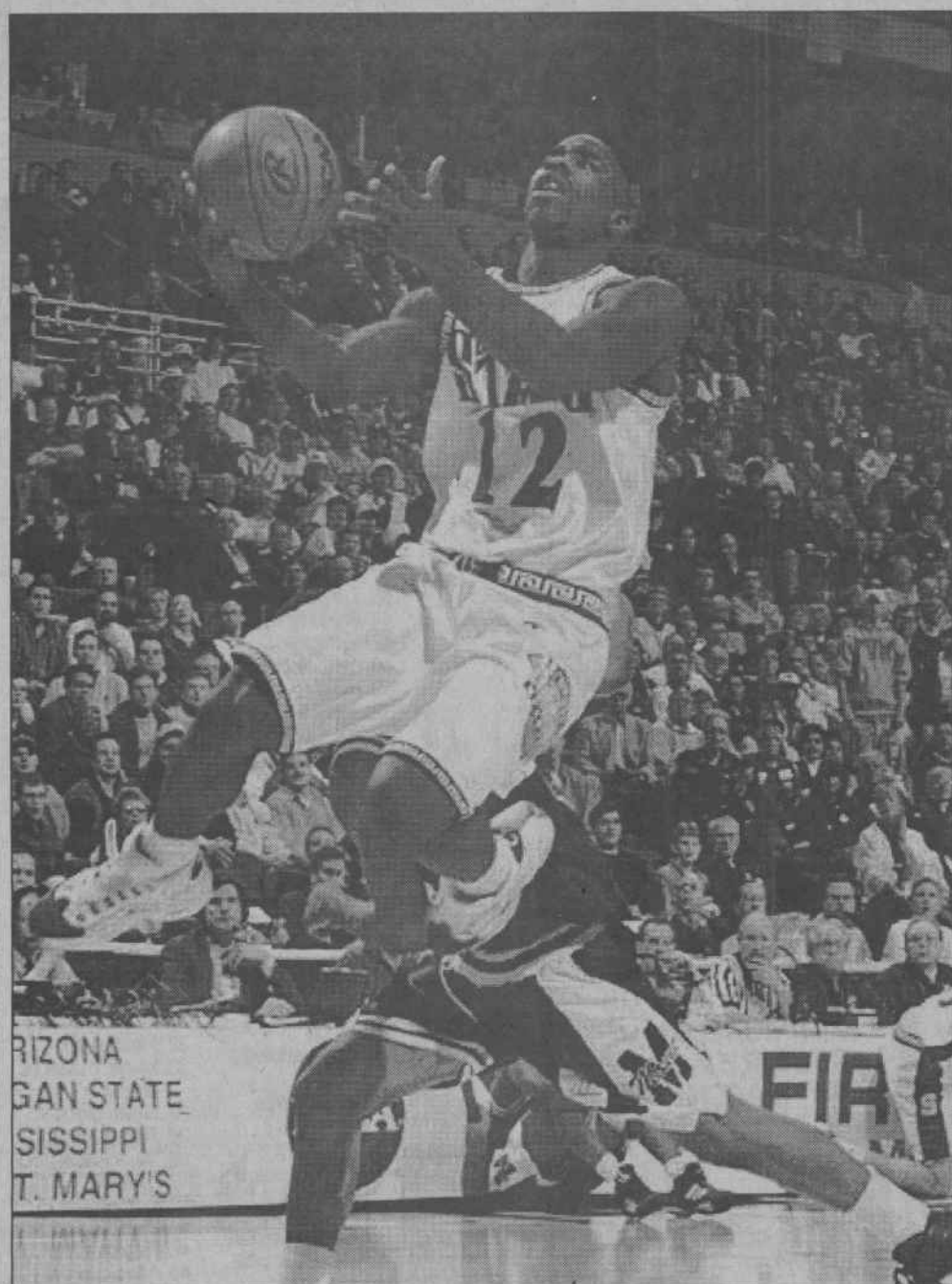
The team is doing very well; with a record of 17-7 (3-3 in the SEC), and will most likely have another win over the hapless Winthrop Eagles by the time this column is printed. The season has already seen the emergence of outfielder Nate "The Great" Janowicz and the red-hot bat of Tim "Godfather" Angiolini, as well as the continued dominance of sophomore pitcher Kip "Special K" Bouknight.

However, the season has also seen the continuance of a great tradition in Gamecock baseball, the world-famous Third Base Hecklers. These fans are obnoxious, crude, belligerent — and the unspoken heroes of Carolina athletics.

The Hecklers, of which I'm proud to say I am one of, have been supporting Gamecock baseball for about the last 30 years. They always sit on the front row on the third-base side, and they specialize in making life a living hell for the opposing team. Visiting

CLONINGER page 7

# March Madness spreading



Michigan State star Mateen Cleaves drives in for a layup in the NCAA Tournament's first round against Mount St. Mary's. Cleaves has led the Spartans to the school's first Final Four appearance since Magic Johnson led MSU to the national championship in 1979.

•Michigan State's campus reacts to team's final four success.

by Joe Rexrode

Michigan State University State News

Sunday evening offered a short breather for the MSU men's basketball team, a chance for the Spartans to savor their accomplishments before shifting the focus to No. 1 Duke.

After beating Kentucky 73-66 in the Midwest Regional finals of the NCAA tournament, Head Coach Tom Izzo called some friends, including Northwestern Head Coach Kevin O'Neill and Steve Mariucci, coach of the NFL's San Francisco 49ers, to share in the moment.

Hours later, the team was wowed by a vocal greeting from hundreds of fans at Capital City Airport.

"They kind of caught us off guard," Charlie Bell said. "Once we landed and parked the plane, you could see more and more people starting to get through."

"We got off the plane and the police tried to keep them back but they just rushed us. It was a great feeling. Most of the time you don't feel like being bothered, but last night we felt like being bothered."

Mateen Cleaves said he knew it was coming, but he couldn't help but be overwhelmed by the reception.

"I've imagined it, but I didn't imagine it like that," he said. "We've had great support all year, but man, that was something."

"They were trying to keep us on the plane and I was like, 'I don't need a police escort, I want to get out there and enjoy it with the fans.'"

Once home, the players congregated at Jason Klein's house to take advantage of Izzo's one-day leisure allotment.

Meanwhile, Izzo spent time with his wife, Lupe, and daughter, Raquel, before embarking on a monumental task — finding a weakness in the seemingly invincible Blue Devils.

Monday, Izzo gave credit to the community for aiding the 33-4 Spartans in their record-breaking season.

"I think the campus is electric," Izzo said. "The support we've had is a big reason why we're here this year."

"It helps, but I'm not sure they can guard Elton Brand and Trajan Langdon."

The team went back to work in the afternoon, preparing for MSU's first trip to the Final Four in 20 years. Two wins in St. Petersburg, Fla., would match the 1979 team's championship feat and add another ornament to Breslin Student Events Center.

"The first time I stepped in Breslin, the first things I saw were the banners," Morris Peterson said. "I said, 'Man, I hope I can help hang a couple of those.' Now we have a chance."

The Spartans are heavy underdogs against the 36-1 Blue Devils, who blew through their conference and four overmatched opponents in the NCAA tournament. But Izzo said MSU is confident it can pull out a win, as is the most famous member of the 1979 Spartans — Earvin "Magic" Johnson.

"Earvin thinks we can win it all and I put a lot of stock in what he thinks, so I guess I'll go with that," Izzo said. "We have won 22 games in a row. It's not like we're chopped liver."

•Duke makes preparations for Final Four viewing in Cameron Indoor Stadium.

by Richard Rubin

Duke University The Chronicle

Even with the men's and women's basketball teams in their respective Final Fours, Cameron Indoor Stadium will still be rocking.

Duke will set up an 18-by-24-foot TV screen under the retired jerseys and allow undergraduate, graduate and professional students to watch all the school's games this weekend.

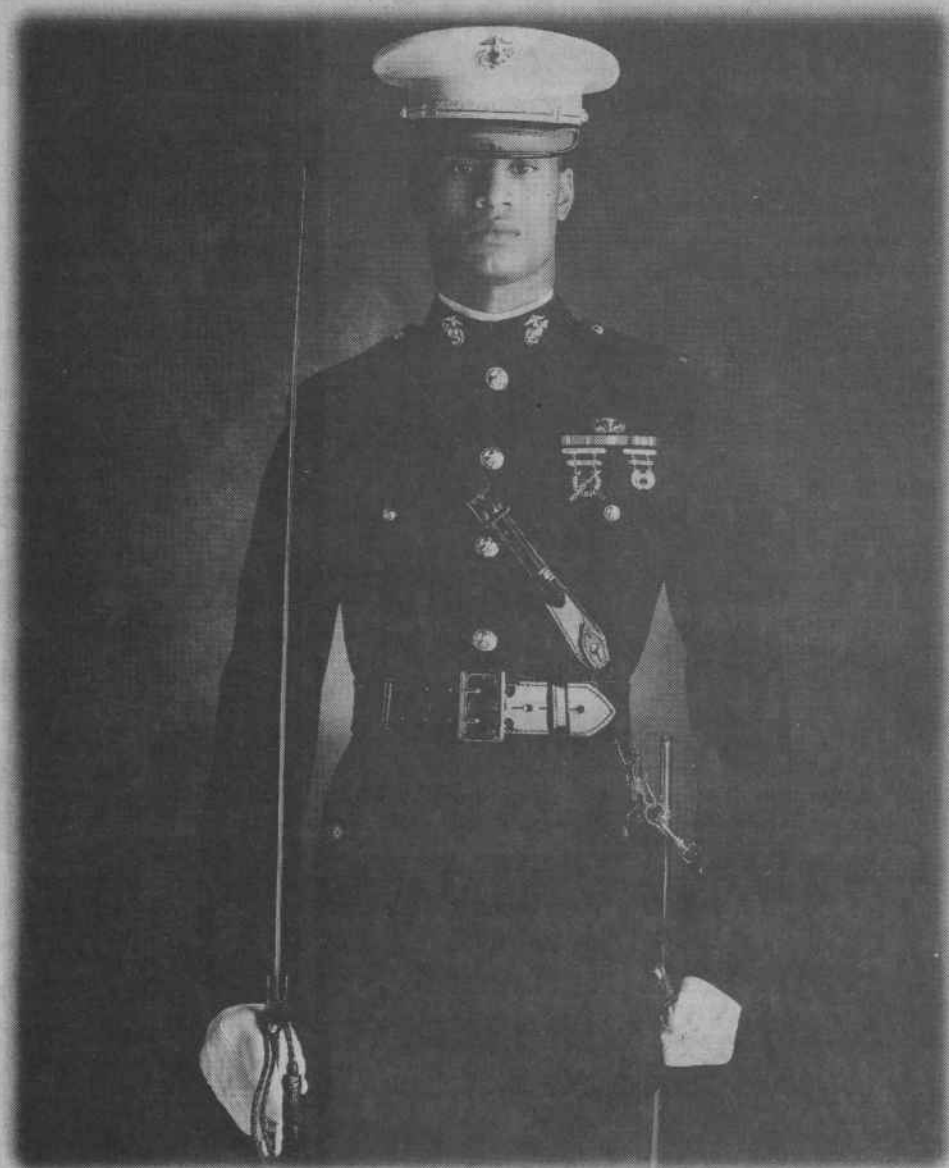
For the men's game Saturday against Michigan State, Cameron's doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Because of the lateness of Monday's win, plans for the showing of the women's games haven't been finalized.

TV cameras will be allowed inside Cameron, said Keith Lawrence, a university spokesperson. However, unlike previous Final Fours, camera crews will only be allowed to use their lights during timeouts and at halftime.

Anyone not a student, an accredited reporter or an on-duty staff member will be prohibited from campus Saturday night, probably beginning at halftime, Lawrence said. The Duke University Police Department, with help from out-

MADNESS page 7

IN MANY COMPANIES IT TAKES YEARS TO PROVE YOU CAN LEAD...



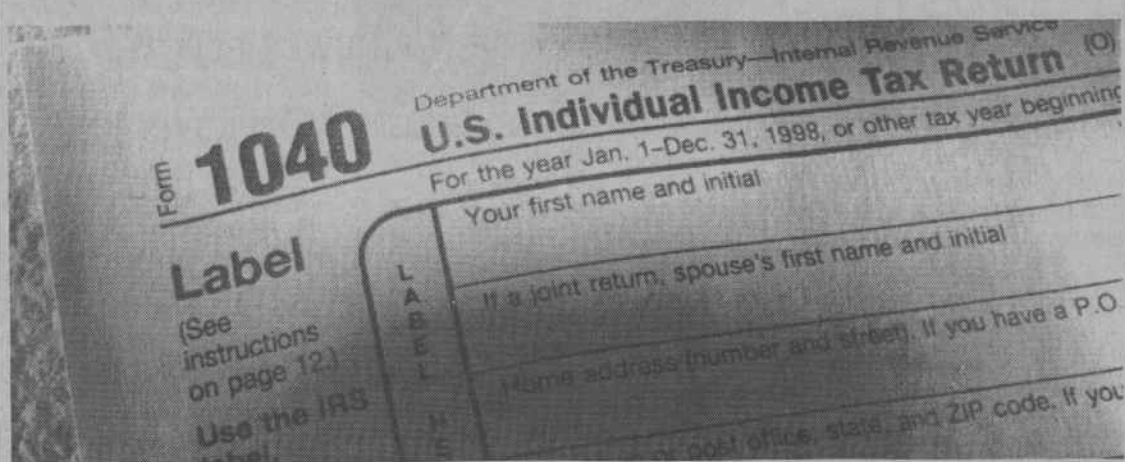
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