

CHEERLEADING

•Cheerleading tryouts for the 1999-2000 school year will begin with an informational meeting and practice at 6 p.m. April 7 at the USC Fieldhouse. Tryouts from April 7-9 will be from 6 to 8 p.m. On April 10, practice will begin at 9 a.m.

COCKY TRYOUTS

•There will be an informational meeting and workshop for students interested in being the school's mascot, 'Cocky.' The workshop will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at the USC Fieldhouse. Tryouts will be April 6 at the fieldhouse.

Sports

SCHEDULE

•Baseball vs. College of Charleston, 7 p.m. today at Sarge Frye Field.
•Softball vs. Georgia Tech (doubleheader), 2 p.m. today in Atlanta.

FROM THE SIDELINES

•"I think we have a great, huge following at Duke, but we also have people who really want us passionately to lose."

— Mike Krzyzewski

"Most Spirited" a crock

Carolina to take on streaking Cougars



David Cloninger Heckler's Row

So I'm sitting with the rest of my insane asylum at Saturday's baseball game against Vandy, when the crew in the press box decides to give away

their famous "Papa John's Third Inning Pizza" to the "most spirited fan in attendance."

Of course, there were lots of choices, considering the stadium was almost filled of supposedly full-blooded Carolina fans. (Coincidentally, the game was also televised nationally on Fox SportsSouth.)

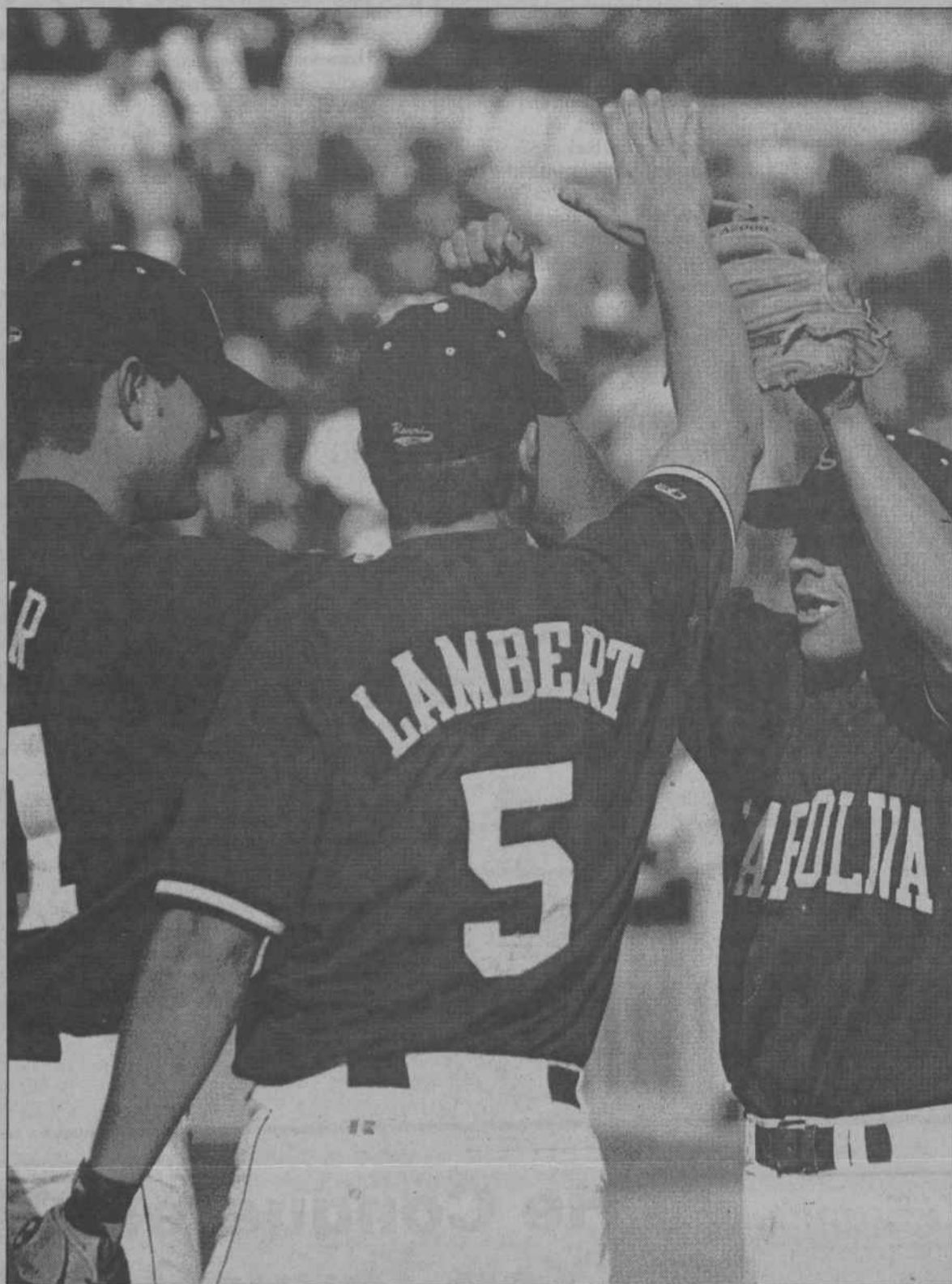
Anyway, as soon as the announcement was complete, all manner of loonies and recent Clemson escapees began to jump up and down, yelling and screaming like it was Judgment Day.

The girl who brought the pizza out proceeded to scour the crowd for a good five seconds before awarding it to some old bat in section two, commonly known as "The Morgue."

Meanwhile, the Third Base Hecklers (and plenty of other fans) on the other side of Sarge Frye Field had been bellowing insults at key moments for the entire game, not just for the five seconds needed to be declared "most spirited."

It's alright, though. I don't really need a lukewarm pizza that was likely bought off the reduced rack the day before to enjoy a baseball game.

It amazes me how USC's athletic department can justify spirit as someone who wears garnet and black but who actually shows emotion for, at best, one at-bat.



Sean Rayford Photo Editor

Pitcher Jason Pomar (left) and second baseman Jay Lambert celebrate with Brian Roberts in Saturday's game against Vanderbilt. South Carolina takes on the College of Charleston today at 7 p.m. at Sarge Frye Field.

by Jared Kelowitz
Assistant Sports Editor

Tonight, the USC men's baseball team will host the College of Charleston for the second time this season.

In the team's first meeting this year, the season opener, the Gamecock hardballers swept the Cougars by scores of 5-4 and 10-1.

After they lost those two at Sarge Frye Field, the Cougars won 11 of 15 games.

The Cougars have a record of 21-10, while the Garnet and Black boast a mark of 21-7.

One reason for Charleston's turnaround has been its explosive offensive attack. As of late, the Cougars have excelled at the plate as well as on the basepaths.

They have a team batting average of .340, with five players hitting at the illustrious .400 mark or better. Their leading hitter thus far is senior outfielder Travis Howell.

Howell is batting .449, with three round-trippers, a team-high 37 RBIs, and 15 stolen bases in 16 attempts.

Other big parts of the Cougars' offensive output are Billy Colome and Ronny Marmol.

These two are batting .440 and .400 respectively, and have combined for three home runs, 52 RBIs, and 31 stolen bases in 32 attempts.

Although C of C is mostly recognized for its dangerous offensive attack, their pitching staff is nothing to sneer at either.

So far, the ace of the Cougar's staff has been freshman Lucas Hocker.

The phenom currently has a team-best 4-1 record, with a 2.58 ERA and 37 strikeouts.

The team leader in strikeouts is senior Scott Oliver. So far this year, Oliver has sent 45 batters back to the dugout.

Oliver has also recorded four victories, and has an ERA of 3.15. The team leader in the ERA department is Brett Davey, with a 2.38 mark.

He also has a 2-1 record, and, perhaps most impressively, has only walked two batters.

Lately, both the Cougars' pitching and hitting have come of age, most recently last weekend in a sweep of intrastate rival Furman.

The Gamecocks pulled off a sweep of their own last weekend.

In a three-game series with Vanderbilt, USC used a barrage of pitchers to beat the Commodores by scores of, 15-8, 10-1 and 3-2.

One of the reasons USC is doing so well is a rejuvenated hitting attack. Five USC players are batting more than .350.

Junior outfielder Adam Poe leads the team in batting average, at a .417 mark. The next highest average belongs to Nate Janowicz. "Jano," arguably the most dangerous hitter on the USC roster, is hitting .385, with a team-leading 32 RBIs and seven round-trippers.

The junior outfielder is also second on the team in steals, with 16 in 20 attempts (behind Brian Roberts' 39 in 45 attempts).

Although their hitting is coming around, Gamecock pitching has been effective all season.

The leader is All-American Kip Bouknight, who currently owns a 2.44 ERA, not to mention four wins and the team lead in strikeouts.

Tonight, coach Ray Tanner will send another of his star hurlers to the mound. Freshman Chris Spigner is currently 2-0 on the season with a 3.04 ERA.

You can bet that when the College of Charleston arrives at Sarge Frye Field on Wednesday, it will have its eyes fixed on USC senior outfielder Tim Angiolini.

In that first series between the two teams, Angiolini played the role of "Cougars killer," batting 7-of-8 with 10 RBIs for the weekend.

In the second game, Angiolini was 5-for-5 at the plate and responsible for seven of the 10 Gamecock runs.

UConn upsets Duke

by Bud Geracie
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.- By the end, the question of the night, of the month, of the entire college basketball season, was moot.

No longer would people wonder if this was the best team they had ever seen. Instead, was this the best GAME they had ever seen?

There have been plenty of great ones in the history of the Final Four. Michael Jordan's shot to beat Georgetown in 1982; the N.C. State miracle against Houston a year later; Keith Smart's

baseline winner for Indiana in 1987; whatever your favorite is.

Connecticut's 77-74 upset of mighty Duke joined the list Monday night, quite possibly at the top.

Khalid El-Amin had said the Huskies would shock the world, and they did.

But an upset of this magnitude wasn't required. Long before Duke's last gasp, this was a game for the ages.

Nine lead changes, 14 deadlocks, a game where a lead never exceeded sev-

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