

Sting delivers 'electrifying' return



Dan Blackmon
The Smackdown

The number for the Gamecock cable company is 777-0283. Thanks to the job onis in the editing department, you all didn't get the most solid article last week. This is a trend that I'm going stop right now.

So let's get down to business. Last Sunday, WCW pulled off a strong PPV.

In fact, I understand it was one of their best in a long time.

Like I told you last week, I didn't watch Spring Stampede, and, man, am I glad I didn't.

As far as I'm concerned, having DDP win the heavyweight championship of the world is like watching Clemson have a successful year in football.

It's a painful scenario no one really wants to see happen.

Last week, I blasted Sting for being boring and a shadow of his former self.

I'm not sure if Sting reads this column, but one thing is for sure: Something got him motivated. His interview on NITRO was simply electrifying.

I don't think we've seen that much intensity in Sting since 1994, when he had blond hair and wore colorful face paint.

Whatever the case, it's good to see him back in full force.

I have to say one of my favorite parts of NITRO is watching a commercial in the middle of a main event — wait, no,

I think my favorite part of NITRO is watching El Dandy and Lizmark Jr. face off against Hector Garza and Silver King for half an hour.

No, wait again, the best part of NITRO is definitely seeing that greaseball "used to be an MTV V.J." contest winner and DJ Ran talk about how cool they were back in 1987.

Anyway, I think we all know WCW has some production problems but none

that couldn't be fixed in a very short time.

The WWF was so good Monday night that it's going to be hard to get it all in, so I'll just mention the really good stuff.

First of all, Shane slapped Vince, saying it was time for him to get some "guts."

Val Venis looks to be making friends with DX, and Stone Cold got thrown into a river by the Rock.

But my favorite part of the night was the Godfather winning the IC belt against Goldust.

The Godfather wasn't even supposed to fight, but the Godfather used his bartering skills to get the title shot and cashed in on the opportunity.

Not since Flair's return to WCW have we seen such an emotional scene as after the match, when the "Ho's" piled on top of the Godfather in celebration.

Congratulations go out to Shawn Michaels, as he "tied the knot" with former Nitro Girl Whisper.

Look for the WWF to be doing a house show in Columbia sometime at the beginning of July.

The WWF is making its first real venture into the South starting this June, and I wish it the best of luck.

Rumors have been circulating about Hulk Hogan's knee injury Sunday.

Thanks to some good friends over at The Charles Edward, I can reasonably confirm that his injury was not at work and that Hogan could be out for a while.

OK, folks, last week was the Masters, and where did I have to go to watch Rounds 1 and 2?

I had to go to work.

Why wasn't I able to watch the Masters in the comfort of my dorm room?

Because we don't get USA on campus.

I gave you all the number to G-cock cable at the top of the article, but like I've said before, I can't do this alone.

Call them up between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and tell them you want USA at USC.

And that's the smack down.

SPRING GAME



Sean Rayford Photo Editor

Junior Corey Atkins (right) and sophomore John Stamper will debut a new era of Gamecock football in this Saturday's Spring Game.

Matthews fitting in as freshman

MATTHEWS continued from page 8
harmful effects on a player's first-year performance.

For Matthews, though, USC seems to be working out for the best.

"I really enjoy our team," she said. "Every team I've been on [before] has always had people [who] clashed,

and it causes problems within the team. This, to be honest, is the first team I've not had that happen with.

"The girls, especially the upperclassmen ... have done an awesome job

of taking us [freshmen] under and showing us how things go."

Although there's a certain amount of recognition and media attention that comes with being a staff ace at an SEC school, Matthews looks past suggestions of her being the catalyst of any team.

"Sometimes [that] really bothers me, not because I don't like talking to people; it's not just me [doing the job], it's the team. A no-hitter? Well, every pitch could've been hit, but it just happens that my defense caught every pitch."

One aspect of college ball Matthews has struggled with is doing as well at the plate as she has on the mound.

"I was a good hitter [in high school], she said, "I started out OK here, and now I'm kind of going downhill ... I know [the coaches] are about ready to beat me over the head.

"I've never been coached at hitting," she said.

"I've just always done it. ... Coach will tell you to do [something] ... and you just say, 'Yes, ma'am,' but you're thinking, 'Yeah, right, how in the world is this going to help me out?' But [Head Coach Joyce Compton] was dead on; she's just amazing — one of the best coaches I've ever had."

As far as the potential of this year's club in the postseason, Matthews is optimistic.

"I think that every position is strong. I don't think there's a weakness out there," she said.

"But we've got to take advantage of errors the other teams make, we've just got to bring our team together.

"I seriously think we can go all the way."

Why not? She's used to it.

UNIVERSITY AWARDS DAY

Thursday, April 15, 1999
at 2:00 p.m.
on the Horseshoe

Reception immediately following
at the President's House

Public cordially invited

Departments and organizations will
present over 100 awards to
outstanding students

Sponsored by:
Division of Student & Alumni
Services
Honors & Awards Commission
Omicron Delta Kappa
USC Educational Foundation
Student Government

*in case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Russell House Ballroom



With the Great Taste and Winning Varieties of the HOT POCKETS®, LEAN POCKETS®, CROISSANT POCKETS® Brand Stuffed Sandwiches, HOT POCKETS® Brand PIZZA MINI'S, and TOASTER BREAKS® Brand Melts and Pizza

Available at Bi-Lo, Winn Dixie, Food Lion and other fine stores in your area (in the freezer section)

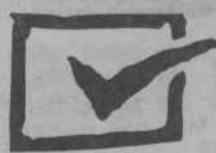
MFG. COUPON EXPIRES JUNE 30, 1999

Save 50¢ ON ONE HOT POCKETS®, LEAN POCKETS®, CROISSANT POCKETS® Brand Stuffed Sandwiches, HOT POCKETS® Brand PIZZA MINI'S, or TOASTER BREAKS® Brand Melts and Pizza

01548

This coupon good only on purchase of product indicated. Any other use constitutes fraud. COUPON NOT TRANSFERABLE. LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE. To the retailer: Chief America will reimburse you for the face value of this coupon plus 5¢ if submitted in compliance with the terms of this offer. Valid only if redeemed by distributors of our merchandise or anyone specifically authorized by Chief America. Cash value 1.00¢. Mail to: Chief America, CMS Department 43695, One Favorite Drive, Del Rio, TX 78840. 514369530050 (8100) 01548

- Credit hour problems?
- Need to make up a class or just want to get ahead?
- Wish you could find a way to beat high tuition?



Greenville Tech's Summer Transient Program is the answer.

Last year over 700 students from nearly 100 institutions earned credits that transferred back to their own colleges and universities at Greenville Tech's very reasonable rates.

We offer flexible options for your busy summer schedule. College on TV telecourses let you attend class by watching videotapes or local cable television. In the majority of courses, you come to campus just to take tests! We also offer five-week and six-week compressed courses through College Online and Weekend College.

For a summer transient packet, call 250-8111 or toll-free in SC 1-800-922-1183. Summer classes begin May 17.



GREENVILLE TECH
College That Works
Main Campus, Greer Campus, Brashear Campus

AEROBIC INSTRUCTOR TRYOUTS

Campus Recreation Fitness Programs is hiring aerobic instructors for Summer and Fall semesters. USC students with aerobic certification, previous teaching experience or participation in an instructor training course are encouraged to tryout. If interested, please attend the following events:

Monday, April 19th at 7 PM - Informational Meeting in the lobby of the P.E. Center

Wednesday, April 21st at 8:30 PM - Instructor Tryouts

Questions? Please call Sara Morgan at 777-4687.