

FROM THE SIDELINES

• Former NFL safety Brad Edwards is back at USC. Edwards was named assistant director of athletics on June 21. Edwards spent 10 years in the NFL.

SPORTS

SCHEDULE

• If you had hoped to watch Lou Holtz and the Gamecocks in the SEC Championship football game, think again. Sure, they could make it, but the Georgia Dome already has sold out for the Dec. 4 game.

Is time running out?

Eddie Fogler's contract wasn't rolled over on June 21. What effect will this have on the Fogler era of Gamecock basketball?

By Jeff Romig
Sports Editor

June 21 marked another first for the USC basketball program.

For the first time in Eddie Fogler's USC tenure, his contract was not rolled over. Fogler had just one comment on the subject.

"I have got a reaction and a statement, sweet and short," Fogler said in an interview with *The State*. "My reaction is, 'What have you done for me lately.' My statement is, 'Business is business.'"

Fogler was hired as USC's coach in April 1993. His first season as Gamecock head coach was the first losing season of his career.

Last year, USC finished 8-21 (3-13 SEC) and was winless on the road. This prompted USC's decision to not roll over the contract, which runs through the 2002-2003 season, paying Fogler a base salary of \$155,000 a year.

"It's not the athletics director's policy to exercise the rollover option in a coach's contract following a losing season unless that provision has been established in the initial contract," said Kerry Tharp, assistant director of athletics. "That was the case on Coach Fogler's first contract."

The 1999-2000 season should be the true test of Fogler's coaching ability. USC all-time leading scorer BJ McKie graduated, as did five of his teammates.

Shooting guard Herbert Lee Davis is the lone senior returning for the upcoming season. Junior forwards Antonio Grant and David Ross are also returning.

Grant gives Fogler another veteran to pencil into the starting five, and Ross is a solid three-point threat off the bench.

After the three upperclassmen, the Gamecocks will feature three sophomores and seven freshman.

Sophomore Aaron Lucas will take his place once again in the backcourt. Lucas averaged 5.7 points a game in 1998-99, starting 18 of the 29 games he played in.

Sophomore forward Damien Kinloch and guard Jamel Bradley will see an increase in playing time from 1998-99.

Red-shirt freshman Tony Kitchings is healthy and will be given the opportunity to show the potential that put his name on national prospect lists as a high school senior.



See list of incoming freshmen on page 7.



A proven winner

Last year's 8-21 record is only Fogler's second losing record.

Fogler's career records

North Carolina Assistant Coach		
1971-72	26-5	NCAA Final Four
1972-73	25-8	NIT
1973-74	22-6	NIT
1974-75	23-8	NCAA
1975-76	25-4	NCAA
1976-77	28-5	NCAA Final Four
1977-78	23-8	NCAA
1978-79	23-6	NCAA
1979-80	21-8	NCAA
1980-81	29-8	NCAA Final Four
1981-82	32-2	NCAA Championship
1982-83	28-8	NCAA
1983-84	28-3	NCAA
1984-85	27-9	NCAA
1985-86	28-6	NCAA
15 Years	360-94	13 NCAA, 2 NIT (NCAA Title)

Wichita State Head Coach		
1986-87	22-11	NCAA
1987-88	20-10	NCAA
1988-89	19-11	NIT
3 Years	61-32	2 NCAA, 1 NIT

Vanderbilt Head Coach		
1989-90	21-14	NIT Championship
1990-91	17-13	NCAA
1991-92	15-15	NIT
1992-93	28-6	SEC Champs, NCAA Sweet 16
4 Years	81-48	2 NCAA, 2 NIT (NIT Title)

South Carolina Head Coach		
1993-94	9-19	First SEC Tourney Win
1994-95	10-17	None
1995-96	19-12	NIT Quarterfinals
1996-97	24-8	SEC Champs, NCAA
1997-98	23-8	SEC Finals, NCAA
1998-99	8-21	None
6 Years	93-85	2 NCAA, 1 NIT

Overall Head Coaching Record		
13 Years	235-165	6 NCAA, 4 NIT (1 NIT Title)

Overall College Coaching Record		
28 Years	587-238	19 NCAA, 6 NIT

Special to the Gamecock
Eddie Fogler will have his hands full next year with a young team and pressure to succeed.