

GAMECOCK SPORTS

ALMOND

from page 10

no socks, and, at 5-foot-11, 223 pounds of muscle, resembled an indestructible brick wall.

My favorite Tyson fight was when he knocked contender Michael Spinks down three times in 91 seconds to get a TKO victory. When the bell rang, he stepped to Spinks immediately, swung once and missed, then connected with the second punch of the fight to floor Spinks for the first of the three knockdowns.

Tyson also made quick work of an ornery Larry Holmes in a heavily publicized title fight. Holmes, who claimed to be the one that would end Tyson's reign, was easily dispatched by the champ and relegated to a steady diet of Campbell's Soup and York Peppermint Patties.

When Tyson's reign at the top finally did end, with his loss to Douglas in Tokyo and his subsequent rape conviction, boxing began to go downhill.

There was no longer the presence of a dominant heavyweight. Riddick Bowe, Michael Moorer, Evander Holyfield and Tommy Morrison all claimed

to be the world champion, but no one could fill the void left by Tyson's absence.

Without a dominant heavyweight, there is no big attraction, and along with King's shady management skills (remember the Holyfield/Lewis draw?), a lack of enthusiasm buried the sport of boxing.

Now, Lennox Lewis is the first person in a long while to finally unify the titles and be known as "undisputed." But most fans still aren't interested, and that includes me.

It could be his fighting style that's the problem. Lewis prefers to outbox his opponent rather than knock him out. Or it might be his uppity British persona. But Lewis clearly lacks the aura of invincibility that Tyson brought to the ring every time he defended his title.

Some think the best way to improve boxing's image would be to keep Tyson away, as far away as possible, and to concentrate on talented fighters in other weight classes like Oscar De La Hoya and Prince Naseem Hamed.

I disagree. Boxing needs Mike Tyson. And if he can get his act together, stay out of trouble, and concentrate on fighting, boxing can rise once again.

Tennis splits over weekend

WOMEN'S TENNIS ROUNDUP GAMECOCK SPORTS

After winning 5-4 Friday night at Mississippi State, the No. 21 South Carolina women's tennis team couldn't pull off the sweep Sunday as the Ole Miss Rebels beat Carolina 6-0 at the Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center. **Ole Miss 6, USC 0**

Ole Miss (14-6, 6-3 SEC) won all six singles matches to clinch the match. Therefore, doubles play was cancelled. The Gamecocks (14-8) fell into a tie with Ole Miss in the SEC standings at 6-3.

Carolina returns home to close out the 2000 regular season with two matches against SEC Eastern Division foes.

Vanderbilt visits on Friday at 2 p.m. while Tennessee is the opponent in the season finale on Sunday at 1 p.m.

All the action is free at the Maxcy Gregg Tennis Center on the USC campus.

Match Results

Singles
1. No. 21 Ivona Mihailova (UM) def. No. 13 Katarina Markovski (USC) 4-

6,6-2,6-2
2. No. 29 Celeste Frey (UM) def. No. 87 Jennifer Radman (USC) 2-6,6-1,6-2
3. No. 40 Julie DeRoo (UM) def. Leigh Eichelberger (USC) 6-3,6-1
4. Mariana Eberle (UM) def. Kathy Boyanovich (USC) 6-1,6-3
5. No. 27 Mira Rady (UM) def. Tamara Sutton (USC) 6-3,6-2
6. Alesya Ignatieva (UM) def. Lynn-Yin Tan (USC) 6-2,2-6,7-6(2)

USC 5, Mississippi State 4

The No. 21 South Carolina women's tennis team rallied with a sweep of doubles play to sneak past host Mississippi State 5-4 Friday in women's tennis.

Trailing 4-2 following singles play, USC's No. 1 team of Leigh Eichelberger and Lynn-Yin Tan beat Eimear Sloan and Carole Soubis 8-2 to start the comeback.

Then Kathy Boyanovich and Jennifer Radman, playing together for the first time all season, beat Detriviere/Oliveira 8-4. Carolina then won the decisive match in Katarina Markovski and Catherine Brown's 8-5 win over Belancic/Lord.

In singles play, Carolina winners were No. 16 Markovski (6-4,6-2 over Amelie Detriviere) and Boyanovich (7-5,6-1 over Claudia Oliveira).

With the win, the Gamecocks now hold an 11-1 all-time advantage over the Bulldogs, including a perfect 11-0 mark since USC joined the SEC in 1992.

Results

Singles

1. No. 16 Katarina Markovski (USC) def. No. 81 Amelie Detriviere (MSU) 6-4,6-2
2. Ivana Belancic (MSU) def. No. 87 Jennifer Radman (USC) 3-6,6-3,6-3
3. Carole Soubis (MSU) def. Leigh Eichelberger 6-4,7-5
4. Kathy Boyanovich (USC) def. Claudia Oliveira 7-5,6-1
5. Eimear Sloan (MSU) def. Tamara Sutton 6-4,4-6,7-5
6. Anca Vasiloiuca (MSU) def. Lynn-Yin Tan 6-4,6-3

Doubles

1. Eichelberger/Tan def. Sloan/Soubis 8-2
2. Boyanovich/Radman def. Detriviere/Oliveira 8-4
3. Markovski/Catherine Brown def. Belancic/Lord 8-5

Track team does well in Durham

TRACK & FIELD ROUNDUP GAMECOCK SPORTS

The General Motors Duke Outdoor Track and Field Meet concluded Saturday as 2,700 athletes competed in the two-day event at Duke University's Wallace Wade Stadium. Overall, 10 Duke Invitational records were set in the two-day event. Heavy rain prevented the completion of four events on Saturday - the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase, men's and women's 4x400-meter relay and the men's long jump.

The Gamecock women's team is ranked No. 4 in the national Trackwire poll. Leading the way for the Carolina women was Rodena Barr, who won the 100m dash Saturday with a time of 11.45. She also placed third in the 200m with a time of 23.98.

Also having a strong weekend was Ellakisha Williamson, who placed second in the 100m hurdles and 400m hurdles with times of 13.04 and 58.31, respectively.

On the men's side, Jimmie Hackley was a bright spot for the No. 17 Carolina men's team. The senior All-American from Jacksonville, Fla., placed third in the 400m dash with a time of 46.00 seconds. Gerald Pressley also placed fourth in the 200m at 21.45. Clint Crenshaw placed sixth in the 100m dash with a time of 10.45.

The Gamecocks return to Columbia this week as they play host to the South Carolina State Championships Wednesday at Weems Basket Track on the USC campus, beginning at 3p.m.



Gamecock Sports Roundup

Men's tennis

USC was looking to make it four in a row, but the No. 14 Ole Miss Rebels stood in their way Friday at the Sam Daniel Tennis Center in Columbia. Ole Miss, one of the premier teams in the SEC this season, took off in the doubles match, winning two of the three matches to receive the first point of the competition.

Gamecock players Juan Gamboa and David Nelson won at the number-three doubles position, 9-8, to avoid the sweep.

Once again USC's Seth Rose had a great day playing at the No. 4 spot and beating Kristofer Stahlberg 7-5, 6-1. Rose has now

won four matches in a row. Three out of the four wins have come in straight sets, with only the match against Robert Wright from Georgia Tech needing a third set.

Rose's dual-match record is now at 8-3 while his SEC dual-match record is up to 5-2.

Joining Rose with a win today was USC's Jerome Jourdon. Playing at the number-three position in this match, he came back to take it to a third set against Vikrant Chadha. Jourdon was down one set when he took the second set to a tiebreaker. In the third set, he dominated over his Rebel opponent, 6-2.

The Gamecocks will travel to Duke University for a 1 p.m. match-up against the Blue Devils on Sunday.

Results

Singles

1. No. 100 Robert Steckley vs. No. 96 James Shortall Ole Miss 7-6, 6-3
2. No. 64 Guillaume Legat vs. No. 31 Alexander Hartman Ole Miss 6-1, 7-5

3. Jerome Jourdon vs. Vikrant Chadha USC 3-6, 7-6, 6-2

4. Seth Rose vs. Kristofer Stahlberg USC 7-5, 6-1

5. Juan Gamboa vs. Martin Selin Ole Miss 6-2, 6-3

6. Olof Akesson vs. Anders Stenman Ole Miss 6-1, 6-4

Doubles

1. Jourdon/Steckley vs. Chadha/Shortall Ole Miss 8-4

2. Akesson/Lगत vs. Stahlberg/Selin Ole Miss 8-5

3. Gamboa/Nelson vs. Hartman/Stenman USC 9-8

Spring Football

The sudden downpour was the only thing that could stop the USC defense Saturday in the team's last intra-squad scrimmage before Saturday's spring game. The defense scored 21 points on the day by intercepting three passes, two for touchdowns, and returned a fumble for another touch-

down. The offense tied the game with three touchdowns, all through the air.

On the first drive of the scrimmage, QB Phil Petty put the first points on the scoreboard with a pass to James Adkisson, who rambled for the touchdown. But the defense stopped the next two possessions with newly converted safety Antione Nesmith intercepting Mikal Goodman's pass over the middle and returning it 35 yards for the touchdown.

Sophomore Derek Watson showed his speed two series later on a 40-yard run off left tackle to set up the offense on the 20-yard line. A sack of Petty by Willie Sams killed the drive.

LB Dennis Quinn scored the next defensive points with a pick of Eric Kimrey, racing 40 yards for a touchdown.

On one of the last drives before the scrimmage-ending rain, Goodman became the third quarterback of the drive to record a touchdown pass with a 25-yard connection to Cedric June.

BASEBALL

from page 10.

"Three of those went to walks, so that's kind of depressing," Bouknight said jokingly.

But there was nothing depressing about his outstanding pitching performance, coming a week after his complete game victory against Alabama, where he struck out 15 Crimson Tide batters.

With the win, Bouknight improved his record to 9-0 and lowered his ERA to a minuscule 1.92.

Clemson tickets. The USC Athletics Department is selling tickets to the Clemson baseball game in advance.

Fans are encouraged to purchase tickets at the USC Ticket Office on Rosewood Drive beginning at 8:30 a.m. today. Tickets are \$5 each for adults, and are free for students, faculty and staff.

FOOTBALL tickets

FOR 2000 AWAY GAMES

| GAMES | DATE | COST | TIME |
|------------|----------|------|------|
| Alabama | Sept. 30 | \$26 | TBA |
| Kentucky | Oct. 7 | \$22 | TBA |
| Vanderbilt | Oct. 21 | \$30 | TBA |
| Florida | Nov. 11 | \$22 | TBA |

Clemson will be by Lottery Procedures will be published in the Fall

A limited number of away football tickets will be made available to the University of South Carolina Student Body. The tickets will be limited to one (1) per student. Orders will be taken on April 11, 2000. The price is as listed above, cash only, and all tickets must be paid for on this date. Students must come to the athletic ticket office on Rosewood Drive between 8:30a.m. and 5p.m. to purchase away game tickets. The tickets may be claimed in the fall by coming to the ticket office and presenting a current Fall 2000 full-time ID card.

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