

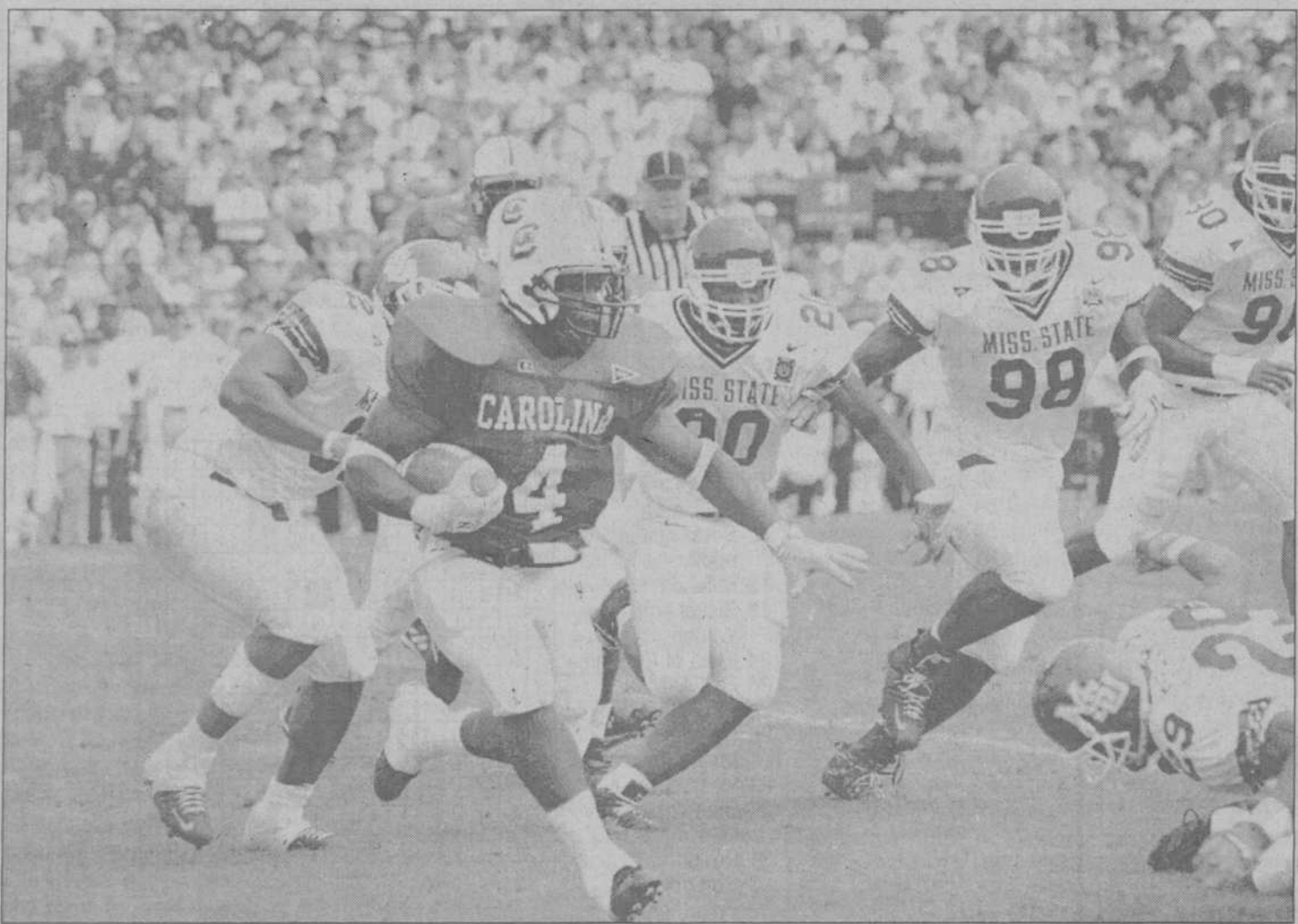


Sports

GAMECOCK SPORTS SCHEDULE

- Volleyball at Alabama, Fri., 7 p.m.
- Women's soccer at Ole Miss, Fri., 7 p.m.
- Football vs. Arkansas, Sat., 1 p.m.
- Swimming vs. College of Charleston, Sat., 2:30 p.m.

Carolina slips by Wildcats, 20-17



TRAVIS LYNN THE GAMECOCK

South Carolina running back Andrew Pinnock looks for a hole against Mississippi State. Pinnock and the Gamecocks improved to 5-1 on the season when they defeated Kentucky 20-17 Saturday in Lexington, Ky.

BY MICHAEL HANEY
THE GAMECOCK

South Carolina held on to defeat the Kentucky Wildcats 20-17 Saturday night at Commonwealth Stadium in Lexington.

Kentucky (2-4, 0-2 SEC) played perhaps its best defensive game of the year, holding Carolina (5-1, 3-1 SEC) in check offensively for most of the game, but in key moments, they were unable to stop the Gamecocks.

After Sheldon Brown intercepted one of Jared Lorenzen's passes and returned it 36 yards to the USC 42, Gamecock running back Derek Watson galloped 58 yards for what would be the game-winning touchdown to put Carolina up 20-17. Watson finished with 23 carries for 149 yards.

"It was a good call because Kentucky was really crowding the box," Watson said of the touchdown run. "The linebacker came flying down, and I just cut back behind him, and there was no one there."

The Gamecock defense stifled Kentucky's aerial attack in the second half, holding the Wildcats scoreless and putting the clamps on Lorenzen. Brown intercepted two passes to end scoring opportunities for the Wildcats.

Carolina head coach Lou Holtz gave his defense a challenge at halftime.

"He told the guys that if they wanted to be contenders in this conference, then they'd better shut these guys out in the second half," said defensive coordinator Charlie Strong.

The Gamecocks snuffed out four excellent scoring opportunities for the Wildcats in the fourth quarter. All drives ended with Car-

olina stopping the 'Cats on fourth down. Kentucky had previously made 10-12 fourth down attempts before Saturday.

"They did a great job defensively of shutting down what we wanted to do," Lorenzen said.

Maybe the most important drive came with less than a minute to go.

Kentucky drove from its own 12 to the Carolina 29 yard line. On second and nine, Kalimba Edwards got his first sack of the season, dropping Lorenzen for an 11-yard loss to the Gamecock 40. The defensive coverage then held tight on third and fourth down, as Lorenzen couldn't find any open receivers and threw incomplete on both plays to help preserve the Gamecocks' fifth victory of the season.

"This was a great football game," Holtz said. "It's hard to win on the road in the Southeastern Conference, and we beat a good Kentucky team."

"It was ugly," USC nose guard Cleveland Pinkney said. "It was like a fight, and you've got two black eyes, and you're looking for that lucky punch to end it. We got that last punch."

Carolina quarterback Phil Petty was 17-31 for 228 yards and a touchdown.

Wide receiver Brian Scott had a career game as he gathered eight catches for 157 yards and a touchdown.

The game started as a shootout as the teams combined to score on three of the first four possessions of the game.

FOOTBALL SEE PAGE 11

Unheralded USC football players step up big in Lexington

BY GEORGE SIMPSON
THE GAMECOCK

In college football, and especially in the SEC, road games are never a formality. Each battle away from home is a test of the character and courage of an individual team.

For the first time in two seasons, USC passed the test.

Two key ingredients to winning on the road are for big time players to step up and the ability to sustain a running game. Saturday night USC mixed these ingredients with great success en route to a 20-17 victory in Lexington.

Miami's Santana Moss said it best yesterday — "big time players step up in big time games."

Brian Scott must have been listening and

taking every word to heart. Scott was quarterback Phil Petty's main target through the air, and by the night's end, the junior wide receiver from Darlington, S.C. had a career day receiving. He left the field Saturday night having caught eight passes for 157 yards and a touchdown.

Scott caught three balls that moved the chains at crucial times for the Gamecocks, including two in the fourth quarter. Those two catches produced first downs that helped eat up the clock and whittle the game away. Also included in those eight catches was a spectacular one-handed snag against tight man-to-man coverage.

Petty shunned all thoughts of spreading the ball around once Scott hit high gear. No other receiver had more than three catches for 32 yards and even most of Petty's poor-

ly thrown balls went Scott's way.

Nevertheless, the Gamecocks mixed the passing game in with a superb running game, which proved to be the right formula for victory.

The 69,334 fans that showed up at Memorial Stadium in Lexington let the Gamecocks know that they were there. Like every school in the SEC, Kentucky has loud fanatics who make it difficult to for the opposing team to perform. If you listened closely, you did not find these fans too quiet all night. However, they were dead silent on two particular plays, both coming via the defensive prowess of Sheldon Brown.

Brown intercepted two of Kentucky quarterback Jared Lorenzen's passes, the latter setting up the game-winning touchdown. Lorenzen threw a beautiful pass that was

caught in stride, just not by his receiver. Brown returned it 36 yards to set up USC's next drive. The play came at a crucial juncture in the game, as Kentucky was driving and had momentum. The turnover stopped the drive and reversed the momentum for the remainder of the game.

Big time players step up in big time games. The biggest player of all on Saturday night fit the description well. Actually, its biggest players to be exact. The South Carolina offensive line perhaps deserves the most accolades for their performance Saturday night.

They controlled the line of scrimmage all night in what some could say was their most impressive performance of the year. They provided holes for Derek Watson that even Lorenzen could have run through. They punctured the Kentucky defense allowing Watson

to total 139 yards on 23 carries.

They also created space on the biggest play of the game. They cleared a hole for Watson on a toss sweep to the right, who then scooted 58 yards for the go-ahead, and eventual game-winning, touchdown.

The line also provided Petty with pocket time. Petty did not feel pressure much of the night from the Kentucky defensive line, and with enough time to throw the ball, Petty was able to find his receivers and make big plays.

On the whole, the biggest players of all, with literal exception of Lorenzen, were the true big time players on Saturday night.

The sports desk can be reached at gamecocksports@hotmail.com.

No goals allowed at Graveyard

■ USC and Clemson battle to a scoreless tie in men's soccer match

BY CHARLES TOMLINSON
THE GAMECOCK

It has been five years since the USC men's soccer team defeated Clemson. The No. 4 Gamecocks hoped to avenge these losses to Clemson, No. 20 this season, on Sunday. However, after regulation and double overtime, the much-anticipated game ended in a 0-0 tie.

The rivals took the field to an enormous cheering crowd of 5,027 people. The Tigers and the Gamecocks played a very physical game; Clemson committed 20 fouls, and USC had 17.

"They fought hard; we fought hard," forward Jordan Quinn said. "There was a lot of tackling and everybody getting in. There was great intensity. It was fun to play."

"They played very well and very intensely, and I felt that we were able to match their intensity," freshman forward Ryan Daley said. "It was a very good game and probably a good game to watch."

The most disappointing aspect of the game was the fact that both teams had numerous perfect scoring opportunities, but neither team could capitalize on these.

USC goalkeeper Henry Ring had a total of nine saves for the game, while Clemson goalie Doug Warren had six. The Gamecocks had 16 shots. Daley led the team with six shots, two of which were on the goal. Redshirt sophomore midfielder Dave Moore took four shots, two of which were on the goal. Chris Herron, who came in as a substitute, made two shots. Quinn had two shots, and Joey Worthen and David Testo had one shot each.

"We're disappointed in a tie," said USC head

coach Mark Berson. "We felt that as the game unfolded, though, clearly both teams played well. Clemson came in and had a solid performance as we expected."

"It's a frustrating tie," Quinn said. "Our boys fought hard, and we thought we were going to get the results."

Clemson had 18 shots. Senior midfielder Mark Lisi led the Tigers with four shots, two of them on the goal. Defender Pablo Webster and midfielder Kenneth Cutler each made two shots on goal. Forward Fabio Tamosi took one shot.

In the first half, Quinn took the first shot of the game. Carolina did an excellent job of winning the 50-50 balls, leading to several scoring attempts. Moore, Daley and Herron all had shots that were saved by Warren, and Worthen's shot went wide. Lisi made a shot that narrowly passed over the top of the crossbar.

The first half was also a very physical half. Clemson committed 11 fouls and USC had four. Clemson's Tamosi and USC's Chris Lockwood both received yellow cards in the first half.

The second half was less physical, but scoring opportunities were just as abundant.

The biggest opportunity for USC was Moore's shot off a pass from defender Jack Cummings, but the shot went wide. Shots from Daley and Moore also went wide, including a Daley header that flew over the crossbar with one minute remaining in regulation. In the final seconds of regulation, Webster took a shot on the goal that Ring stopped with a foot save.

USC began the overtime with several excellent scoring opportunities. However, the shots made by Daley and Quinn went wide. Oguchi Oneywu made two shots for Clemson during the first overtime: one he headed over the net, and the other was saved by Ring. At the end of the first overtime, USC caught what they believed to be a glimpse of victory with

SOCCER SEE PAGE 11

Hockey in Columbia



SEAN RAYFORD THE GAMECOCK

Augusta Lynx forward Jay Shipulski receives a pass in Friday night's game against the Charlotte Checkers. The Lynx defeated the Checkers 4-3 at the Carolina Coliseum. The exhibition game was a part of the Columbia Inferno's Ice Hockey Weekend. The Greenville Grrrowl and the South Carolina Stingrays faced off on Sunday. All the teams are affiliated with the East Coast Hockey League, a minor league to the NHL. The Inferno, Columbia's first-ever ice hockey team, will begin play in the 2001-2002 season.