

Volleyball

De Moya, Davidson concern Gamecocks

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three block assists and two service aces. Offensively, the Deacons were led by junior Ashlee Phillips, who dashed out 44 assists and posted seven digs for the night.

The Lady Gamecocks will also be on the lookout for seniors Trina Maso de Moya and Margaret Davidson. The 6-foot Maso de Moya was named the 2000 ACC Player of the Year, while Davidson, the 6-foot-1 leading middle blocker, earned second team All-ACC honors last season. Maso de Moya, the outside hitter, is leading the team

with 375 kills, averaging 4.21 per game. Behind Maso de Moya is Davidson, who has 279 kills and averages 3.21 per game for the Deacons.

Davidson leads the team with 1.16 blocks and .379 hitting percentage and also shared this week's ACC Volleyball Player of the Week award.

"Our strength and experience will come from outside hitting," said head coach Valorie Baker. "We will look to them as a strong offensive threat. Our middle blockers have traditionally contributed a great deal, and they will continue to look in that direction."

The Gamecocks concluded their SEC regular season play last week against Georgia and No. 7 Florida. USC defeated the Bulldogs 3-0. The Gamecocks

were led by Yajaira Cadet, who had 14 kills. USC had five players finish with double-digit kills as they had a .411 hitting average as a team. In Florida, the Gamecocks suffered a defeat at the hands of the Gators. The Lady Gamecocks were led with 10 kills by Nadia Sefferovich, but it wasn't enough to keep the Gators from winning the three matches.

The Lady Gamecocks are led this season in kills by junior Cally Plummer with 248. The second major contributor in kills is Sefferovich with 221. Offensively, the team has played very well. Carolina is averaging 16.3 kills per game while adding 14.7 assists per game.

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Football

USC, Florida even on special teams

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Florida's ground game this season. Graham averages about 120 yards a game and has eight touchdowns under his belt. The USC defensive line has struggled this season but was able to have a successful outing against the potent rushing of Tennessee. With John Stamper, Dennis Quinn and Langston Moore in the mix, the defensive line has the ability to make things happen like they did when they registered five sacks against UT. Kalimba Edwards has been particularly effective against the run when he plays down, like he did against the Volunteers.

ADVANTAGE: FLORIDA
PASSING: Florida has had a phenomenal air attack as usual this season, with 35 touchdowns and an average of 430 yards per game. Rex Grossman has a talented pair of receivers to throw to. Jabar Gaffney and Reche Caldwell

each have nine touchdown receptions as well as nearly 1,800 yards receiving combined. The Gamecock backfield has proven again this season to be among the elite of the SEC. Andre Goodman leads the team with three interceptions, and Sheldon Brown has broken up seven passes. Rashad Faison leads the team with 77 tackles. Willie Offord has also had a great season at the safety position. This should be the most intriguing matchup of the game.

ADVANTAGE: EVEN

Special Teams:

KICKING/PUNTING: While USC coach Lou Holtz has not been impressed with punter Tyeler Dean in the past few weeks, the junior still has been consistent this season, averaging about 41 yards per punt. Place-kicker Daniel Weaver has emerged as a strong force for the Gamecocks, making nine of 12 field goals.

Florida has one of the best kickers in the country in senior Jeff Chandler, who has made eight of 11 field goals this season as well as

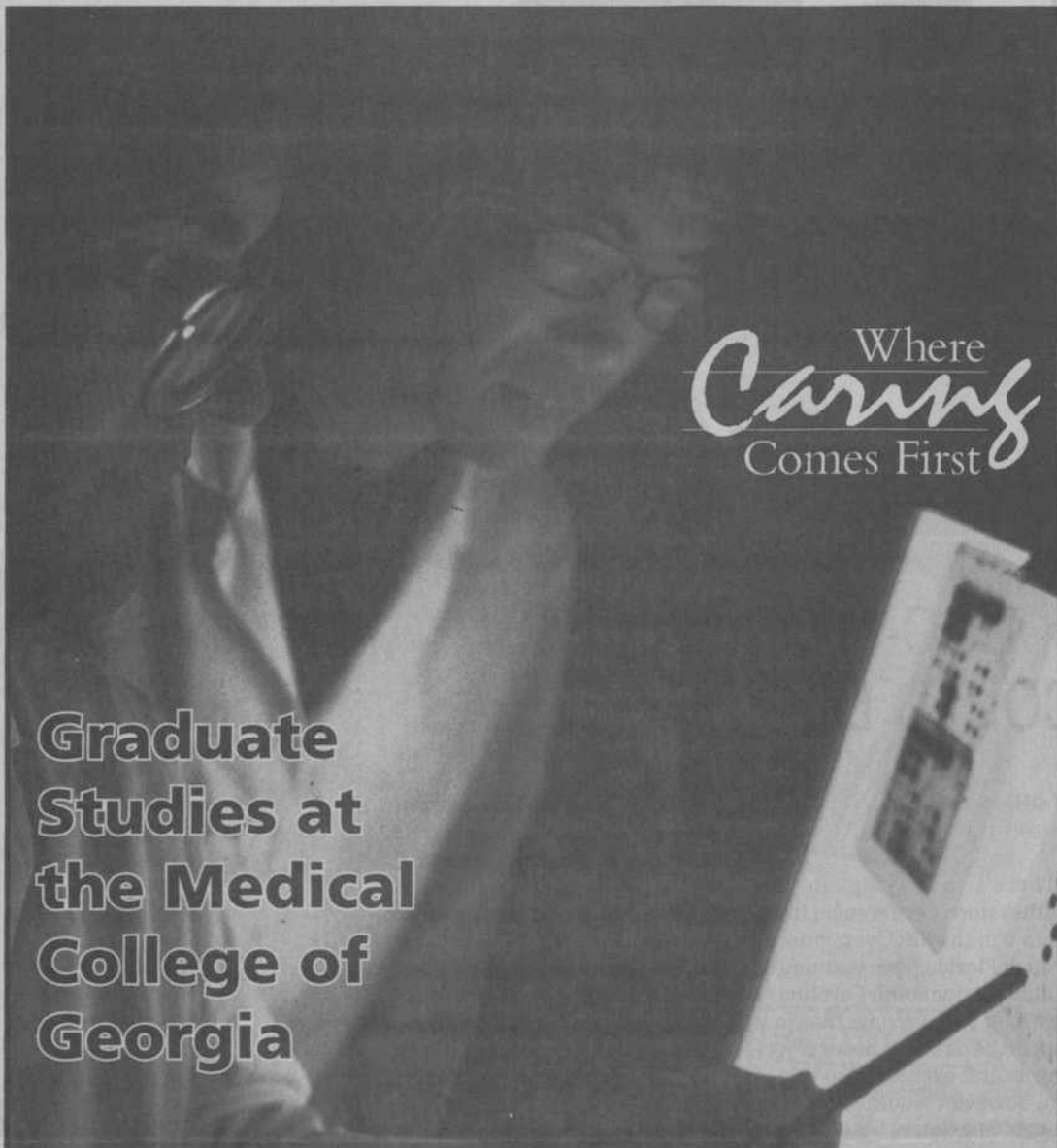
34 of 36 PATs. But the Gamecocks will be on the lookout for punter Matt Leach. Last year, USC's special teams blocked two punts and returned both for touchdowns.

ADVANTAGE: EVEN
RETURNS: Watson is second in the conference in kickoff returns. Brewer has also remained consistent as a punt and kickoff returner. For the Gators, Lito Shepard averages 10 yards per punt return and returned a punt for a touchdown last season against the Gamecocks.

ADVANTAGE: EVEN
OUTLOOK: The winner of this match has a great shot of winning the SEC East. If the Gamecocks lose, then they are out of contention for the title. Florida would be the frontrunner if they win, as they would only have to beat Tennessee at home to take the East. The game is fairly evenly matched, but the Gamecocks have the ability to prevail in front of a national audience.

FINAL SCORE: USC 31, FLORIDA 28

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Foy

Spirit, tomahawk could phase Gators

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starters, when he's trying to get the Gators out of the north endzone, scream as loud as you can. Every quarterback that has ever played under Steve Spurrier is already nervous enough. The coach will yank any QB to put in the backup, and that could be your career at UF. And don't fear Brock Berlin. He may be a good quarterback, but he hasn't played in too many big games. If we shake up Grossman, we'll shake up his backup too.

2. Shake up the punter: Last year Carolina blocked punts from this clown two times that were returned for touchdowns. Don't think he's not nervous. We can use this to our advantage. When that

loser is trying to get a punt off in the north endzone cheer like crazy. Shout obscenities. Do anything to rattle this guy's nerves.

3. Do the tomahawk: Florida has the same kind of hatred for Florida State, as we have for Clemson. A few of the FSU (or the Braves, whoever you want to credit with it) tomahawk chops will have the Gators seeing red. Especially if we're up, that'll piss them off like you wouldn't believe.

4. Mic dude, do your part: You wrote in a letter to the editor on Wednesday urging all students to wear black to increase support. Now I challenge you to do so and to take an extra step. Do something cool like paint your face like a skull. You've got the perfect Raider's fan look; capitalize on it. Some spikes could work too. And get us pumped up, with cheers other than 'G' 'GO', well you know how that garbage goes. Start a 'Grossman sucks' chant (see way

No. 1), or something along those lines. People will love you for it.

5. Never get out of the game: A fair amount of students left the Alabama game early only to learn they missed one of the greatest comebacks in recent Carolina history. This team isn't out of the game until there down by 20+ in the final minute of the game. Don't leave or give up on the Gamecocks. They've given fans one of the greatest seasons ever here at South Carolina, so if nothing else give them the benefit of the doubt.

Make sure you wear black tomorrow night to add to the effect. It is my understanding that the football team will have something under their sleeves as well for effect. Don't miss out, this one's going to be a thriller.

And Corso, go with your heart.

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Gamecock Sports Challenge

	Chris Foy Sports Editor (33-22)	Preston Baines Asst. Sports Editor (31-24)	Rick Johnston Sports Columnist (36-19)	Kyle Almond Defending Champion (33-22)	Crystal Dukes Designer Guest (30-25)	Brad Duckett Reader of the Week (32-23)
9 FLORIDA AT 14 USC						
24 AUBURN AT 19 GEORGIA						
7 OREGON AT 17 UCLA						
PENN STATE AT 15 ILLINOIS						
PURDUE AT OHIO STATE						
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CLEMSON AT 14 MARYLAND						

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