10 Sports • THE GAMECOCK • Wednesday, December 5, 2001 • Sports tip or story idea? Write gamecocksports@hotmail.com

## Almond Cocks need Tenn. win for bowl bid

Colorado, the team that thrashed Nebraska 62-36, on the outside looking in. How can you have a team in the national championship game that didn't even win its own conference? It would be a travesty. Then again, if you're one of those fans that have had

enough of the computers and have been waiting for the day the BCS finally fails, this scenario might be OK to you. But even if you despise the BCS system, you should be going for Tennessee if you're a USC fan. I know it's going to feel weird at

It is time to get rid of the Stress

that is been "weighting" you down!

first, but trust me, it is the right thing to do.

However, if you find yourself rooting for Tennessee and like it a little too much, turn off the TV, turn on "2001" and go sit in the corner for time-out.

 Phil Fulmer's daughters are hot, yes, but don't get carried away. Assuming Tennessee comes

through for us, the rest of the BCS bowl games also look promising. Florida can blow out Maryland in the Orange Bowl, proving that the ACC has absolutely no business being on the field with the SEC. Oregon and Colorado can battle it out in the Fiesta Bowl for top team in the West. And Nebraska and Illinois in the Sugar Bowl will be your classic matchup between a power running team and a highflying passing team. I'd watch every single one of those games.

That's if I could. I plan on missing the Fiesta and Sugar bowls on my way home from a sweet victory in Orlando.

DEC. 5, 7:30 P.M.

**Shoutouts** 

Charles Barkley, stay in the studio. If MJ's hurting already, there's no way you'd be able to hang ...

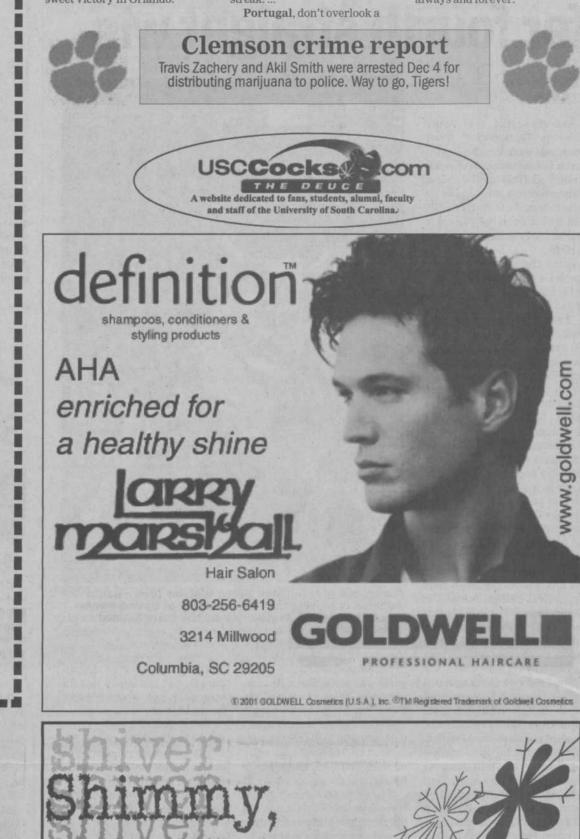
Derek Watson, tell me you can shoot. And play defense. And create. And stay out of foul trouble. ... I don't know what's worse: not making the NCAA Tournament or getting upset in the first round. After men's soccer and volleyball, I'm beginning to think the latter. ...

Props to the **men's swimming** and diving team for its winning streak. ... healthy U.S. men's national soccer team. OK, go ahead, overlook them, you'll still win. But Korea and Poland can stand by — the U.S. WILL advance to the knockout stage of next summer's World Cup. ... Florida Panthers, ask for a

trade.

Mike Keenan, a.k.a. your worst nightmare, a.k.a. the Bobby Knight of hockey, is now your new coach. ... Forget Eric Crouch. Forget Ken Dorsey and Joey Harrington.

Phil Petty for Heisman, always and forever.

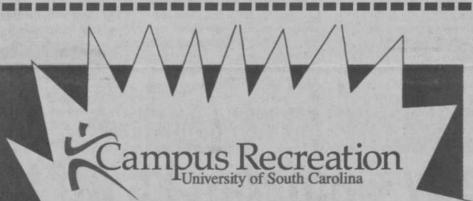


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