

SPORTS

GAME SCHEDULE

SWIMMING AND DIVING at Auburn, Friday
VOLLEYBALL at North Carolina (NCAA Tournament Second Round),
 7 p.m. Friday
MEN'S BASKETBALL at N.C. State, 6:30 p.m. Sunday

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Penn scores record 50 in rout

Senior outscores Wofford all by herself

W WOFFORD	Wofford (1-4)	46
C USC	USC (6-0)	99

BY NICK YOUNG
 THE GAMECOCK

A lurking ice storm, freezing cold weather and a small crowd of 525 people couldn't stop Jocelyn Penn. It seemed that nothing could stop the senior forward Wednesday night at the Carolina Center.

In USC's 99-46 win over Wofford, Penn outscored the entire Terriers squad with a school-record 50 points. She also grabbed 11 rebounds and recorded her fourth double-double of the season.

After scoring a school-record 26 points in the first half, Penn's teammates began to keep her updated of the full-game record of 50, set by Shannon Johnson in 1996.

"I really didn't know until there were about seven minutes left in the second half," Penn said. "My teammates were telling me how many points I had and how many I needed to get into the record books."

Penn's teammates weren't the only ones trying to help her get the record. USC head coach Susan Walvius pitched in, too.

"It wasn't until the last three

minutes that we said, 'Well, she needs a few buckets to get there. Let's try to get the record for her because she works hard,'" Walvius said. "I think the Wofford coach was a little upset that we left Jocelyn in for that long, and our starters in, for that matter. We're working hard to play well and we're working hard to play our best, and we wanted to reward Jocelyn."

Wofford head coach Ed Wyant seemed to be upset with Walvius' decision to keep Penn and most of the Carolina starters in, especially when the Gamecocks began to press and foul to preserve time on the clock with less than a minute left.

Wyant responded by triple-teaming Penn in the waning seconds of the game when she was two points away from the record. But one of the Terriers fouled Penn, and she knocked down both free throws to tie the record.

After Penn's last shot went down, the Gamecocks (6-0) used a full-court press to get the ball back, and they fouled a Wofford player with six seconds left.

After Wofford's foul shots, USC's Cristina Ciocan got the ball and rushed down the court to help Penn set the new record. Penn received the pass in triple coverage and got a shot off, but the last-second jumper fell short.

"I wanted that last basket too bad; it went in and out," Penn said. "I knew I was on 50, but I just wanted it too bad."

The win was a satisfying one for Walvius and the No. 23 Gamecocks as they tried to re-

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SUSAN WALVIUS
 USC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HEAD COACH

bound from Tuesday night's 30-turnover game against Georgia Southern.

"The team responded nicely after yesterday," Walvius said. "We were careless last night, and tonight we had unselfish guards doing a great job distributing the ball. We had better defense and a cleaner offense as we improved the running game."

Petra Ujheyli and Kelly Morrone recorded 16 and 10 points and were integral parts in the Gamecocks' last-minute push to help Penn reach the record books.

Walvius said that it was Morrone's idea to foul in the last minute, and all of the coaches agreed. Ujheyli offered moral and verbal support.

"We definitely wanted to support her because she's been awesome for us," Ujheyli said. "We all wanted to do this for her."

The Gamecocks will resume play Dec. 16 against Middle Tennessee State at the Carolina Center. They have the week off for exams.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocksports@hotmail.com

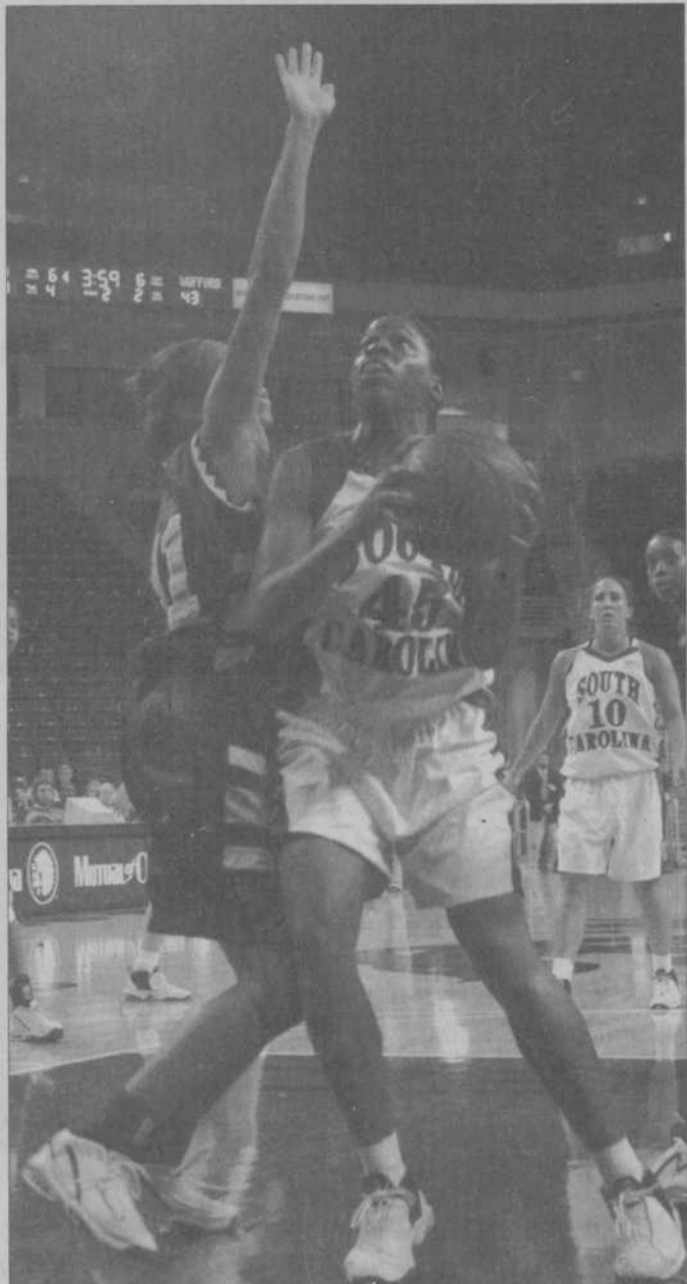


PHOTO BY JOHNNY HAYNES/THE GAMECOCK

Jocelyn Penn tied a school record Wednesday night with 50 points against the Wofford Terriers.

Hoyas' Sweetney lights up Carolina

C USC	USC (4-1)	59
G Georgetown	Georgetown (5-0)	67

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mike Sweetney scored a season-high 27 points and grabbed 11 rebounds as Georgetown's men's basketball team held USC without a field goal for nearly 12 minutes in a 67-59 win over the Gamecocks on Thursday.

Georgetown (5-0), which has never lost to Carolina (4-1), trailed 45-42 with 12:31 remaining after a basket by Rolando Howell. But for the second time in the game, Sweetney would score six points in an 11-0 run to give Georgetown a 53-45 lead it would not relinquish.

The Gamecocks, who made five straight free throws to get within three, would not make another field goal until a Carlos Powell 3-pointer with 51 seconds to play made the score 60-53.

Powell led South Carolina with 18 points.

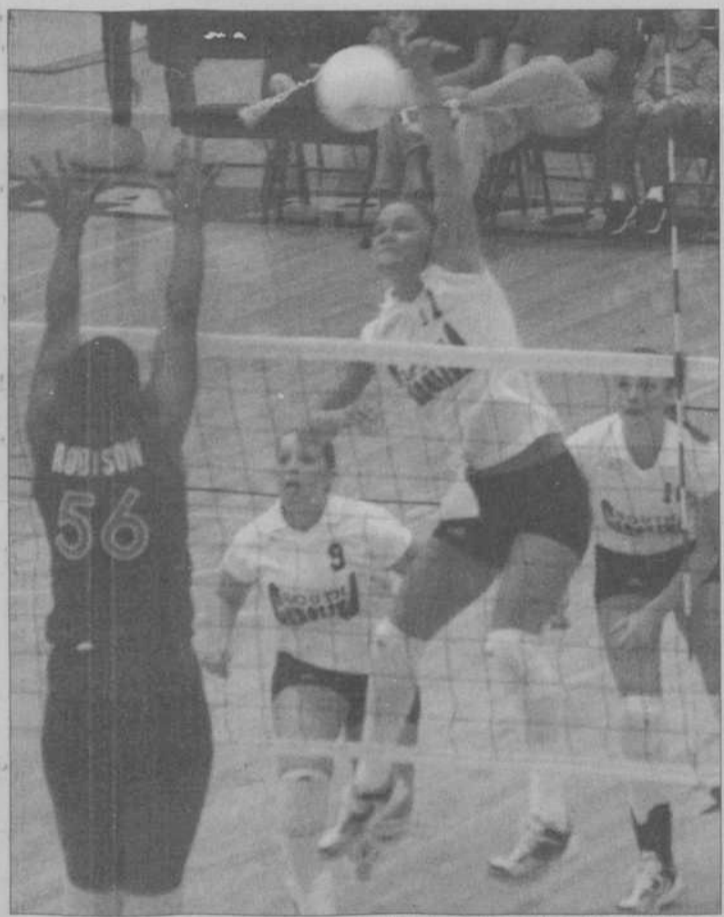
USC's leading scorer, Chuck Eidson, was held to just two points. Eidson also committed eight turnovers.

Sweetney scored 14 in the first half to help Georgetown build an 11-point first half lead.

The Gamecocks will try to rebound from their first loss of the season when they travel to North Carolina State on Sunday.



Penn



FILE PHOTO BY AARON HARK/THE GAMECOCK

Berna Dwyer, second from right, had 10 kills in the volleyball team's NCAA Tournament win over American on Thursday night.

Volleyball gets past first round

A American	American (26-8)	1
C USC	USC (22-6)	3

BY MATT ROTHENBERG
 THE GAMECOCK

For this year's Gamecock volleyball team, the mission is to get to the Sweet 16 and beyond in the NCAA Tournament.

After Thursday night's victory in Chapel Hill, N.C., USC is one step closer to its goal.

The 24th-ranked Gamecocks eliminated the American Eagles 3-1 in the teams' first-round match, with game scores of 30-10, 30-28, 23-30 and 30-19.

USC will make a return to the second round for the first time since 2000.

"It is great to get to the second round. This is just the fourth time we have made it to the second

round," USC head coach Kim Christopher said. "This is a new season. I am thrilled about our blocking and setting a season high. I thought we played a complete match despite all of the obstacles we have had so far."

USC's Niece Curry had one of the best nights of her Carolina career. The sophomore was credited with 18 kills and a .773 hitting percentage. She also assisted on nine blocks.

Seniors Cally Plummer and Berna Dwyer both recorded double-digits in kills. Plummer had 13, and Dwyer notched 10. Megan Hosp dished out 46 assists as well.

The Gamecocks (22-6) will take on host North Carolina in the second round Friday at 7 p.m.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocksports@hotmail.com

Dishing out some more Rothys



MATT ROTHENBERG
 GAMECOCKSPORTS@HOTMAIL.COM

Here's another edition of irrelevant awards to please people like me.

The end of the semester is upon us, and so is the end of 2002. There has been an awful lot that has happened in the world of sports, though not nearly enough to write a bunch of decent columns. Nevertheless, I tried anyway.

But what better way to celebrate a semester past — and a lack of anything good to write about — than with a rousing round of Rothys Awards?

BEST CONDIMENT DISPENSERS IN DIVISION I BASKETBALL: While I haven't been to all 300 or so arenas, all I know is that the Carolina Center beats them all hands down. When you've seen as many relish and onion dis-

persers as I have, you know when you've got a winner. There are many amenities in the Carolina Center to be proud of, but never before could I say USC had the best condiment dispensers. Now I can.

MLB TEAM MOST LIKELY TO IMPROVE ITSELF THROUGH FREE AGENCY: Give this to the Philadelphia Phillies. When they open their new stadium in a year or two, it'll be nice to see David Bell and Jim Thome at the corners in the infield. The Phils have a lot of good, young pitching, and they can be a really good team in 2003. But only making the playoffs again would be more phantastic.

"THE COMMODORES" AWARD: Because he'll be once ... twice ... three times a retiree: Michael Jordan. Maybe M.J. finally realizes the Wizards are pathetic, even with him on the court. But it's about time he makes up his mind for good. I hope, this time, "Air Jordan" is grounded permanently after this season ends.

WORST USE OF ORANGE IN A UNIFORM: It goes without saying that Clemson always gets this award, but not far behind is the New York Islanders organization. Capitalizing on the trend of interestingly designed alternate

jerseys, the Isles incorporated a dark orange as the main color. Even though there is some navy blue, there's very little white, which makes that much orange just plain ugly. But, still, not nearly as ugly as Clemson.

BEST COLLEGE FOOTBALL RIVALRY: Carolina-Clemson? Michigan-Ohio State? Alabama-Auburn? No, it's none of these. It's Army-Navy. Despite both team's troubles over the last several years, there's no other college football game across the nation that is as filled with as much pomp and circumstance as this one. You know each team is going to fight hard to beat the other, and there's plenty of honor and pride on the line.

THE REVOLVING DOOR AWARD: It must be hard to find a good leg these days; at least maybe for the Jacksonville Jaguars. The Jags will use their fourth placekicker of the season when Danny Boyd trots onto the field Sunday at Alltel Stadium. Hayden Epstein, Tim Seder and Richie Cunningham couldn't fill the position in Jacksonville, but will Boyd be the next one to take the trip out the door?

THE SECOND-THOUGHTS AWARD: This goes to University of Arizona football coach John

Mackovic, who called his tight end, Justin Levasseur, a "disgrace to his family" and an "embarrassment to the team" during a game against UCLA last month. This week, Levasseur was charged with trafficking 87 pounds of marijuana. Though Mackovic apologized for the original incident, you know he's having second thoughts now.

U.S. CONGRESS ALL-ATHLETIC TEAM: This recognizes Congressmen with past playing, coaching or ownership experience. On the team are Rep. J.C. Watts (R-Okla.), Rep. Tom Osborne (R-Neb.), Sen. Jim Bunning (R-Ky.), Sen. Herb Kohl (D-Wisc.), Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), who was a coach decades ago.

THE "FACE IT, YOUR KID'S A LOSER" AWARD: Michel Croteau is suing a bantam hockey league in New Brunswick, Canada, for \$300,000 because his son Steven wasn't the league MVP despite leading his league in scoring. He claims psychological damage was done to his son; I say the father must have some. Losing is a fact of life, so this kid — and his father — should deal with it.

Rothenberg is a fourth-year sport management student.

BRIEFLY

Swimming teams third in Auburn

USC's swimming teams began the first day of competition at the Auburn Invitational on Thursday with the men's and women's teams each in third place.

Highlighting the first day was the women's 200-meter freestyle relay (Anna Nyiry, Heather Skaggs, Carolyn McHugh, Jennifer VanAssen), which placed first and set a new school record with a time of 1 minute, 30.76 seconds.

"We are really excited with our 200 free relay and finishing with an automatic qualifying time," USC swimming head coach Don Gibb said.

USC also had several swimmers earn NCAA "B" qualifying standard times.

The meet will finish tomorrow.

SPORTS CHALLENGE

Final Results

CHAMPION: Matt Rothenberg (82-48)

The assistant sports editor held a healthy lead for most of the season and never faltered, winning by four games over his nearest competitor. "M-Ro" was consistent throughout, and he now looks to follow up his title with a Basketball Sports Challenge championship next semester.

2. Mary Hartney (78-52)

The editor in chief took a brief lead at the beginning of the competition but gave way to Rothenberg before too long. She was always in contention, however, and even had a shot at forcing a playoff week. But her teams couldn't come through for her in the final week.

3. Chris Foy

The Gamecock readers
 The Gamecock staff guests (75-55)

A three-way tie for third is a disappointing finish for Foy, the defending champion. But it was a very respectable finish for the readers and the staff guests, who got off to terrible starts. Staff guests who won weeks were Jill Martin, Charles Tomlinson and Shawn Rourk. Jason Hennessy was the only reader to be victorious.

6. Kyle Almond (73-57)

The sports editor embarrasses himself with a last-place finish and bows out in disgrace. But he salvaged some pride by defeating Gamet & Black editor Katie Smith in the final week, winning a side bet that will land him a spot in the next issue of G&B.



Champion Matt Rothenberg strikes a Heisman-type pose.