

Noll

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

complete his sad 16-year transformation from Kid Dynamite to Bozo the Clown. A modern release of "Punch-Out!!" would necessitate some changes. The tired 1980s stereotypes would have to go; mustachioed Iraqis and nuke-mad Koreans would be substituted for drunken Russians and communist German dictators.

Tyson's taunts to "go home and practice" would be updated with

quasi-sentences concerning impregnable defense, eating children and claims to be Sonny Liston. Tyson's strategies would change from merely punching you in the face really hard to his newest maneuvers of biting your leg at a news conference and crumpling like a paper doll when the title's on the line.

The game's opening message would have to change from "Mike's waiting for your challenge!" to "Mike's waiting for your money!"

The Mike Tyson that fought Clifford Etienne this past

Saturday isn't the same Kid Dynamite who knocked me out with one punch in our "Punch-Out!!" match-up more than a decade ago. He isn't even the same Tyson who faced Lewis eight months ago.

Mike Tyson has become a caricature: a shadow of his former self, now fitting in with the cartoon characters from "Punch-Out's" roster. Kid Dynamite has become Kid Dollar Sign.

Noll is a second-year print journalism student.

Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Clemson's pitching has gotten off to a slow start as well, which will only help Carolina's bats. The team ERA is 5.73 so far this season, with two pitchers, Steven Jackson and Kris Harvey, possessing ERAs in double digits.

The lack of familiar players on

Clemson's lineup can pose a few problems for the Gamecocks; however, Tanner said his team would be new to the Tigers as well.

Tanner's players agree with him.

"They have a lot of guys we haven't been able to see. So far we don't know how to pitch them, how to hit them," Melillo said. "We're in the dark a little bit right now. We'll leave that up to coach

Tanner though. He'll be able to know what they're bringing to the table. We'll just go out there and play."

The first game of the series is at Clemson at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Carolina will then return home to Sarge Frye Field to finish up the series Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

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

BRIEFLY

Taylor named Track Athlete of the Week

Carolina's Corey Taylor was named the SEC Male Indoor Track Athlete of the Week after his performance at the USC Invitational on Feb. 22.

Taylor set a new facility record in the 55-meter hurdles in the preliminaries, with a time of 7.21 seconds. He broke that mark later in the competition semifinals by posting a 7.19, which is an NCAA automatic qualifying time.

Taylor's honor is the third weekly award won by the Gamecocks this season.

Otukile Lekote was received the award Jan. 29, while Aleen

Bailey earned the season's first Female Indoor Track Athlete of the Week award Jan. 15.

USC competes in the SEC Indoor Track Championships in Gainesville, Fla., from Feb. 28 through March 2.

USC to play in Lady Puerto Rico Classic

The USC women's golf team will begin its 2003 season this weekend in Humacao, Puerto Rico, as it takes part in the Lady Puerto Rico Classic.

The Lady Puerto Rico Classic will be the first of six regular-season tournaments that the Gamecocks will play

in.

Competing for Carolina in Puerto Rico will be senior All-American Kristy McPherson, senior Kacy Thompson, junior Adrienne Gautreaux, junior Marci Robinson and sophomore Tiffany Catafygiotou.

Two-time SEC Champion Kristy McPherson will begin her last season as a Gamecock.

She is the two-time individual medalist at the SEC Championships and has a career stroke average of 74.46.

She holds three individual records at USC and looks to continue to break school records this spring.

The Gamecocks are the defending SEC Champions.

SPORTS CHALLENGE

THE CHALLENGE:

The Gamecock's readers and staff test their sports knowledge with predictions of the weekend's games. (Rankings are from the Associated Press.)

Matt Rothenberg
Sports Editor
(38-22)

Brad Senkiw
Asst. Sports Editor
(40-20)

Jill Martin
Editor in Chief
(39-21)

Meg Moore
Asst. The "Mix" Editor
(38-22)

Tricia Ridgway
Slot Copy Editor
(37-23)

Gina Jones
Reader of the Week
(42-18)

1 Arizona at Stanford	Arizona	Arizona	Arizona	Arizona	Arizona	Arizona
Connecticut at 8 Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	UConn	Pittsburgh
16 Okla. St. at 7 Kansas	Okla. St.	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas
17 Creighton at So. Illinois	Creighton	Creighton	Creighton	So. Illinois	Creighton	Creighton
Southern Utah at Oakland	So. Utah	Oakland	Oakland	So. Utah	Oakland	So. Utah
2 Kentucky at 21 Georgia	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky	Kentucky
4 Florida at Auburn	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida
LSU at Tennessee	Tennessee	LSU	LSU	LSU	Tennessee	Tennessee
Clemson at Wake Forest	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake
Vanderbilt at USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC
	80-70	76-74	79-75	82-75	77-52	63-58

LAST WEEK'S WINNER: David Anderson (7-3) — Anderson, the reader of the week, pulls through with a big 7-3 win in Sports Challenge. The reader-of-the-week slot, with a two-game margin, is starting to widen its lead over the rest of the pack. Brad Senkiw, Jill Martin and page designer Shawn Rourke tied for second place with 6-4 records.

Rothenberg continues his Sports Challenge slide in basketball, going 5-5 and falling four games out of the lead. Photo editor Johnny Haynes also had an even week, finishing with a 5-5 record.

WANT TO BE READER OF THE WEEK? E-mail your selections next week to gamecocksports@hotmail.com. If you're picked and have the best record, you'll win a free Gamecock T-shirt and be able to talk all the trash you want.

Holtz discusses the changes in store for Gamecocks in 2003

BY PAGE IVEY

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA — South Carolina coach Lou Holtz has decided to end early morning practices this year after the Gamecocks suffered a disappointing 5-7 record last season after back-to-back Outback Bowl wins.

"First couple of years, you send a message, you go at six o'clock," Holtz said. That's no longer necessary to reach players, he said.

The change was made in part to accommodate class schedules and shift away from practices that don't produce results.

"When you average six defensive penalties a game for your last five games, getting up at six o'clock in the morning didn't help that," he said.

Holtz, who will be entering his fifth season at South Carolina, said he's putting more responsibility on his players this season.

"I think they've been in the program long enough to know what it's all about. I think they're as disappointed in the way the season ended last year as I am," Holtz said. "It's just a different mentality."

Other changes next season will come as the result of losing defensive coordinator Charlie Strong to Florida and receivers coach Joker Phillips, who left for Kentucky.

Holtz said he will take on more of the defensive responsibilities, including working with defensive backs.

Former Air Force defensive-line coach Jerome "Jappy" Oliver and Paul Lounsberry take over the defensive line for the Gamecocks. Holtz said new defensive coordinator Chris Cosh and his assistants will install a four-man front to replace the 3-5 scheme South Carolina ran the past four years. Tight-ends coach Dave

DeGuglielmo will work on the offensive line with offensive coordinator Skip Holtz. "Our biggest problem is not in the offensive line now; our biggest problems are at wide receiver and quarterback and general productivity on offense," Lou Holtz said.

Running-backs coach Todd Fitch will be the quarterbacks coach, freeing Skip Holtz from having to coach any position, Lou Holtz said. Dave Roberts will pick up running backs.

"There's going to be times also when Skip's going to have to be free to talk to an offensive lineman that may be not being as productive as he needs to be or talking to a wide receiver who maybe has too many missed assignments," Holtz said.

The team starts spring practices March 21 and works out Friday to Sunday through the spring game on April 12.

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PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT HELPING THE TERRORISTS: THE ANTI-ISRAEL DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGN

The hate America left, which has formed a fifth column in this country to betray us from within, is also targeting Israel as America's ally in the Middle East. Israel is the canary in the mine. What happens to this small, vulnerable nation will eventually happen to America itself. Yasser Arafat was Saddam's staunchest ally in the first Gulf War. Arafat built the first terrorist training camps. Palestinian terrorists were involved in the first bombing of the World Trade Center in February 1993 and the attack on the Khobar Towers which killed 19 U.S. servicemen in 1998. Suicide bombing began as a tactic of leftwing terrorists against Israeli civilians. It reached its culmination on 9/11 in Washington and New York.

Now the left has launched a new campaign to destroy Israel's economy and align Americans with the terrorist enemy. It is called the "Divest From Israel Campaign" and is active on college and university campuses nationwide.

The campaign falsely links Israel with South Africa's apartheid policy — in order to evoke the same passionate hatred for Israel that college students and faculty used to hold towards the white government of South Africa. This is a lie of Hitlerian proportions.

Apartheid was the morally repugnant practice of racial division and racial supremacy. Israel is a democracy. Despite the fact that the Arab states declared war on Israel and have maintained a state of war for more than fifty years, Israel's Arab citizens have more rights than the citizens of any Muslim or Arab state anywhere. In particular they have more rights than the Arabs of the West Bank who live under the brutally despotic and corrupt regime of the Palestine Authority.

According to Edward Said, once a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization's National Council, there is, "a total absence of law or the rule of law in the Palestinian autonomy areas." Said has spoken of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as "our Papa Doc," a reference to the former butcher of Haiti.

In contrast, Arabs enjoy civil liberties and civil rights including the right to vote in Israel's democratic system. Arabs have their own political party in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, with ten percent of the seats. They've served in high-level government positions. They have the rights and protections of the citizens of any democracy — rights that are systematically denied to the citizens of all the Muslim, Arab and terrorist states, without protest from the anti-divestment movement.

The Arabs who live in refugee camps in the West Bank do so because of the refusal of the Arab states to relocate them. (Israel by contrast has relocated hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees from the Arab states during Arab-Israel wars.) But Palestinian Arabs are not allowed to become citizens of any Arab country except Jordan. Sixty percent of the Palestinians have endorsed suicide bombings and the goal of destroying the Jewish state. Yet, the divestment movement wants all 5 million of these declared enemies of Israel to have "the right of return" to the state they hate.

The goal of Palestinian terrorism and of the divestment movement is to destroy Israel and to push the Jews into the sea.

The divestment campaign is not a movement of individuals concerned about the rights of Palestinians. It is part of the same international leftist cause that regards America as "the Great Satan," whose goal is the destruction of democracy and the West.

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