

BRIEFLY

Marchbanks named pitcher of the week

USC pitcher David Marchbanks was awarded SEC pitcher of the week honors following his four-hit complete-game victory against Florida on Saturday. Marchbanks gave up two runs on four hits while notching six strikeouts.

The Simpsonville native is now 7-2 this season with a 2.05 ERA, and his seven wins tie him with Auburn's Levale Speigner for the lead in the conference. Marchbanks has had very good control on the mound, with 53 strikeouts and only eight walks.

This is Marchbanks' second SEC pitcher of the week award;

he also received the honor early last season.

"He's one of our hardest workers. He's a guy that puts in his time, makes an investment in the game, and he's getting a return on it," head coach Ray Tanner said.

Marciniak hired to basketball staff

Carolina women's basketball head coach Susan Walvius announced Monday the hiring of Michelle Marciniak to her coaching staff. Marciniak is a former WNBA player, as well as for the University of Tennessee.

She will work with the team's guards and have a role in USC's

recruiting.

Upon accepting the position as an assistant coach, Marciniak announced her retirement from the WNBA's Seattle Storm. She spent six years playing in both the WNBA and now-defunct ABL.

At Tennessee, Marciniak led the Lady Vols to two SEC championships and two Final Four appearances, including a national championship in 1996. Marciniak will fill a vacancy on Walvius' staff that was created upon the departures of former assistant coaches Shell Dailey and Linda Hill-MacDonald to the WNBA.

Rothenberg

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ly to tell right now. Before LSU did it six years ago, Stanford captured the last back-to-back championships in baseball nine years before that.

One of the biggest roadblocks against dynasties is good underclassmen leaving school for the pros. Recruiting can only do so much to replace these players, but the process can repeat itself innumerable times. When the best talent departs, a key cog in the machine is no longer available. Little or no continuity or bond develops, and as a result, team goals can sometimes be ignored for personal ones.

Does this happen everywhere? Certainly, it doesn't. Please don't get me wrong because I don't want it to seem like I'm against players leaving early for the professional ranks. I just can't help but imagine the possibilities if some stayed in school.

So are dynasties ever going to flourish in college athletics? I doubt it. Mainly because with the great amount of turnover and increasing focus on personal attempts at fame, it just seems like there's a group of elite at the top, though an elite with an incredible amount of parity. Maybe there will be a time when a men's basketball program duplicates the feats of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Bill Walton at UCLA. Perhaps dynasties aren't really dead in college. They're just on life support.

Rothenberg is a fourth-year sports and entertainment management student.

Splash

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sure at the NCAAs, but found the qualifying round before that to be the most difficult. With five out of 50 girls making the NCAAs, King thought that day was one of her best.

"It's just stressful because you have one chance and one day," King said. "I felt more stressed out at that event than the NCAAs."

"We did a really good job making sure we were ready for the big meets and not worrying

about the dual meets. I'm really proud of what I've done this year, and I know I'll only get better."

Although King is trying to qualify for the Olympics, she is in no hurry and realizes she just wants to compete hard.

"I want to work on harder dives so I can compete with the big guns on top."

LAUREN KING
USC DIVER

"I want to work on harder dives so I can compete with the big guns on top," she said. "I want get on national teams to compete internationally and also place higher and higher in the SECs and NCAAs."

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Bradley

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can't get to the Olympics next year, 2008 is his long-term goal.

"I'd love to go next year," he said. "I'd have to improve a good bit, which is possible. It just depends on how much hard work I put into it."

Competing in meets outside of USC takes up much of Bradley's time because international competition is his main goal.

"The off-season for college is our real season," he said. "I pret-

ty much go year round. If you get burnt out, you can't make it as far as you want to make it."

Bradley said he just likes to keep focused and not put too much pressure on himself. He thinks that formula for success will get him far in life, as well as diving.

Bradley said that if he looks ahead to the scoreboard he will "get too nervous."

"Sometimes, you just got to put the blinders on and do your own thing," he said.

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"Sometimes, you just got to put the blinders on and do your own thing."

— ANDY BRADLEY
USC DIVER

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