

BRIEFLY

Three sign on with men's golf squad

The USC men's golf team announced that David Kite, James Morrison and Robert Svensson have signed to play for the Gamecocks starting in the fall of 2003.

Kite is the son of professional golfer Tom Kite and was a member of the state championship golf team that won in 2001 and finished third in 2002 at Westlake High School in Austin, Texas.

Morrison is a native of the United Kingdom and has played in several international tournaments, including the Stoke Park Junior Open, St. George's Hill Golf Club Senior Championships and the West Hill Junior Open.

Svensson, originally from Sweden, is transferring from Alabama-Birmingham, where he played one season and led his team at the Gator Invitational, as well as this past fall's Duke tournament.

Also, USC is set to play at the 2003 Southeastern Conference Championships from today until

Sunday in Sea Island, Ga. This is the third consecutive year that the Seaside Course at the Sea Island Golf Club has held the event.

Eirik Johansen, Martin Rominger, Nash Elliot, Alex Hamilton and West Streib will represent the Gamecocks.

Carolina will tee off at 8 this morning and will be paired with Georgia and Kentucky.

Equestrian team to compete in Georgia

The USC equestrian team heads to Athens, Ga., to compete in the Southern Equestrian Championship this weekend. The championships, held by the University of Georgia, will take place at the Animal Science Arena tomorrow. The new NCAA equestrian format and demonstrations of the new disciplines that will be used down the road will be introduced, as well.

Auburn, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi State, Carolina and Vanderbilt are competing, and the four classes will include

English Equitation on the flat, English Equitation over fences, Western Equitation and Western Reining.

Sarah Tomasi, Tara Brothers, Lindsey Wilson, Chelsea Koornick, Kerrie Reeves, Courtney Borton, Kyrá Hufford and Laura Pipkin are scheduled to compete for USC.

The Gamecocks will compete against Vanderbilt at 9:30 a.m.

7 volleyball players named to honor roll

The USC volleyball team announced Wednesday that seven Carolina players were named to the 2002 SEC Women's Volleyball Academic Honor Roll by SEC Commissioner Mike Slive.

Based on grades from the 2001-2002 academic calendar, Sam Alban, Niece Curry, Megan Hosp, Milica Perovic, Cally Plummer, Amy Pratt and Liz Price made the list out of 86 athletes in the SEC. LSU led all schools with 12 athletes.

Softball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Paladins.

Aleca Johnson took the hill for the Gamecocks and pitched a complete game, striking out seven batters while giving up one run on four hits. The victory helped even Johnson's record at 4-4.

Carolina had some chances early, but ended up breaking through in the third inning. Smith brought in the game's first run, singling in Curtis, and Kristin Hall had a big two-run single of her own to give USC an early 3-0 lead.

From there on in, it was all Fittro, whose home runs provided the remainder of USC's runs. They improved Fittro's season home run total to five, which Compton credits to improvement in her mechanics.

"Coach gave me a little advice right before the first one," Fittro said. "She told me I was leaning my body out, and I needed to stay in. I did what she said, and it worked."

Furman managed to earn a run in the top of the sixth inning, when Barr crossed home plate on a ground out by Alison McNulty.

Now, the Gamecocks will turn their attention to their final SEC series of the season when they travel to Ole Miss for a three-game set over the weekend. Though they have clinched a spot in the SEC Tournament, USC remains three games behind Georgia for first place in the SEC Eastern Division and a half game behind Florida for second place. The Bulldogs have six SEC games remaining on their schedule.

"The important thing is that you're in the tournament, so pressure-wise, I don't think there's any pressure for that," Compton said. "Georgia's still got six tough games ahead of them, so we're not giving up on the East."

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Rothenberg

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

standards. Schlegel even did an interview with Hans Wuthrich, who handled the computers controlling the ice surface at the Winnipeg Arena. There's actually a science between keeping the ice at the right temperature, along with the correct humidity and other factors. This was a helpful sidebar to those with little curling knowledge, such as myself, and surely helpful to the several hundred American television viewers.

Even the advertisements lacked excitement. One, sponsored by USA Curling, featured two supermarket stock boys and an old lady in the frozen foods aisle. A frozen turkey falls to the floor and the old lady and one of the stock boys sweep it along the floor in curling fashion. Well, they appear at the end as if they won the competition. Another ad spot showed a wheel of Le Gruyere cheese sliding into the center of the house. I'd like to know who's spending this much money to have their product shown during a curling competition. Is it really worth it? I have no more of a desire to eat Le Gruyere cheese or go curling

than I did before I saw these commercials.

How big is curling in Canada? Well, bigger than it is in the United States, that's for sure. But almost 10,000 people packed the arena to watch the World Championships. There were some selected Americans in the crowd, but no word on whether they were just placed there by Canadian curling officials just for the heck of it.

No matter how interesting it was to be watching curling on television on Sunday, it sure isn't one of the highlights of my life. Yet I must give props to McCormick and the rest of her team, including Ann Swishhelm Silver, Allison Pottinger and Tracy Sachtjen. They did what no other American women's curling team has done — win a world championship.

With all the thrills NBC will have in televising curling, who needs the NBA playoffs? After all, curling rocks.



McCormick

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

Anthony to enter draft

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — With tears in his eyes and his voice trembling, Carmelo Anthony delivered the news most Syracuse fans were expecting but none wanted to hear.

"I'm here in front of you today to announce that I will not be coming back next year," Syracuse's standout freshman forward said Thursday, just 17 days after he led the Orangemen to their first national championship. "I will be moving on, moving on to the pros."

And just like that, all those pleas for Anthony to stay "One More Year" were forgotten.

"This is a very happy day for Syracuse basketball, and a sad one, too," head coach Jim Boeheim said, his voice cracking with emotion, too. "The guy sit-

ting here has done more for Syracuse basketball than any player we've ever recruited or that's ever played here. To lead his team to a national championship as a freshman is truly a historic moment in college basketball. I'm very thankful that he was here with us."

Anthony had delayed making the decision until after the season, preferring to focus on winning. He led the Orangemen during the regular season with 22 points and 10 rebounds per game and broke Lawrence Moten's freshman scoring records and Derrick Coleman's freshman rebounding mark.

At the Final Four in New Orleans, Anthony had a career-best 33 points and pulled down 14 rebounds in Syracuse's semifinal

win over Texas. He then put up 20 points in the championship game victory over Kansas and was named Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four — just the third freshman to earn that honor, and the first since Louisville's Pervis Ellison in 1986.

"I've got to move on," said Anthony, who will turn 19 in May. "We won the national championship, I brought Coach Boeheim what he was waiting for for 27 years. I don't want to make it sound bad, but there's really nothing more that I could get out of college. And I'm going to get my degree — you can quote me on that."

The NBA draft is scheduled for June 26, and Anthony is expected to be a lottery pick. The draft lottery will be held May 22.

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Attention Graduating Students

Did you know that you can reduce the interest rate on your student loans and save thousands of dollars by consolidating your student loans after graduation?

The Higher Education Act, established by Congress, allows any graduate (or parent with PLUS loans) to consolidate their student loans by combining all their eligible student loans into a single loan issued by a new lender. Graduates who do this immediately after graduation (while they are still in their non-repayment period) are able to reduce the interest rate on all their eligible loans by 0.60% — potentially saving themselves thousands of dollars.

There are several other benefits associated with Student Loan Consolidation and these include:

- The ability to reduce your monthly interest repayments by up to 54% by extending your repayment period. This may help you in matching your income level to your repayment obligations.
- Fixing the interest rate on your loans to take advantage of the historically low interest rates that are currently available for the life of your loans. Your existing loans are variable and could rise over time as interest rates rise. Consolidation can ensure that this doesn't happen.
- Dealing with only one monthly loan repayment from one lender can make your life easier.
- Save even more on your repayments by taking advantage of 'borrower benefits' that can reduce your interest rate by up to an additional 1.25% by making electronic and on-time repayments.

Does it Matter When You Choose to Consolidate?

Yes. If you are about to graduate (or have recently graduated) timing is critical to maximizing the amount that you can save with consolidation. If you wait too long to apply for consolidation, you might miss out on the opportunity to reduce the interest rate on all your loans by 0.60%.

What Does it Cost to Consolidate?

There are no fees or credit checks, nor is there any penalty for early repayment of your consolidation loan. Note however, that you can only consolidate once and consolidation can affect certain deferment and cancellation benefits associated with loans.

Are you about to Graduate?

Act now by registering with the Student Loan Consolidation Program (SLCP). It is free and involves no obligation. SLCP will simply provide you with information on what consolidation is all about and contact you after graduation to remind you of the opportunity to reduce your interest rate by consolidating early.

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