

## SEC FOOTBALL NEWS AND NOTES

## Williams, Hutchins and Smith honored

Auburn runningback Carnell Williams, Ole Miss defensive back Von Hutchins and Mississippi State placekicker Brent Smith were named SEC players of the week Monday.

Williams won his Player of the Week honors by rushing for 185 yards on 36 carries in a 28-21 win over Tennessee at home last Saturday. The junior runningback also scored a touchdown in the game. Williams ended the game with 232 all-purpose yards, which is a career-high. Also, Williams' 185 rushing yards against Tennessee was his highest rushing total against an SEC opponent.

Hutchins came to play against Florida last week, when the Rebels beat the Gators 20-17 in Gainesville, Fla. Hutchins finished the contest with six tackles, a sack, an interception and one pass deflection. The senior from Natchez, Miss., collected his first career sack on a Florida third-and-goal play. The Gators ended up missing the subsequent 37-yard field goal. Hutchins now has 23 tackles, two interceptions and four pass deflections on the season.

Smith earned his player of the week stripes going three-for-three on his field goal

attempts and his extra point attempts, providing Mississippi State 12 of its total points as the Bulldogs beat Vanderbilt 30-21. Smith connected on 47-, 45- and 34-yard field goal tries. This year, Smith has made five of six field goals and has yet to miss an extra point in his career.

## Divisional leads up for grabs in week 7

The outcomes of the SEC East and the SEC West could be decided Saturday, a day that features contests between No. 8 Georgia at No. 13 Tennessee in the SEC East and Auburn at No. 7 Arkansas in the SEC West. Florida also plays an important cross-divisional game at No. 6 LSU.

Tennessee had a nine-game win streak against Georgia until the Bulldogs took the past three games to start a streak of their own. Georgia is coming off a 37-23 victory over mistake and injury-prone Alabama. The Volunteers are returning to Knoxville, Tenn., after a loss at unranked Auburn. Tennessee's defense could not stop Auburn runningback Carnell Williams last Saturday, but this week the Vols will look to contain Georgia quarterback David Greene. The game will be televised at 7:45 p.m. on ESPN2.

Even though Auburn started the season 0-2, both losses were against nonconference opponents, and the Tigers still have their sights set on the SEC Championship.

Auburn is already on the way after beating Tennessee, but Auburn now has to play Arkansas. The Razorbacks have beaten Auburn in four out of their past five games, with Arkansas winning last season's game in Auburn 38-17. Jefferson Pilot Sports will broadcast the game at 12:30 p.m.

LSU is also in the hunt for the SEC West crown but will have to beat Florida at home to stay undefeated. Florida leads the series in Baton Rouge, La., but LSU proved it wasn't intimidated by the Gators when the Tigers won in Gainesville, Fla., last season 36-7.

LSU quarterback Matt Mauck finished the game with 153 yards passing and two touchdowns. LSU is coming off a bye week, and Florida is coming off a 20-17 loss to Ole Miss at home. The Florida-LSU game will be broadcast on CBS at 3:30 p.m.

Other SEC games include Southern Miss. at Alabama, Memphis at Mississippi State, Navy at Vanderbilt and Arkansas State at Ole Miss. Kentucky plays USC on Thursday night.

## BRIEFLY

## Men's soccer team to play Elon at home

The USC men's soccer team (7-3) will step on the field against Elon (3-5-1, 1-1-1 Southern) tonight. Carolina has yet to lose a game at home this season. Each of the Gamecocks' losses have come on the road, to Portland, Washington and Clemson.

USC is also 1-0 all-time versus Elon. The only game between the schools ended with a 5-1 Carolina win in Columbia in 2001.

Elon comes into the game after a win against Southern Conference foe Georgia Southern 1-0 at home. Elon was 1-5-1 until the past two games.

The Phoenix's other wins came against UNC-Wilmington and Longwood College.

The Gamecocks and the Phoenix will meet at 7 p.m. at Eugene E. Stone III Stadium.

USC will play Wake Forest on Sunday at 2 p.m., before going on the road again, this time against Charlotte and Furman.

## Midnight Madness set for basketball

The USC men's basketball team will play host to Midnight Madness on Friday, Oct. 17 in the USC Practice Facility.

Midnight Madness is the tra-

ditional beginning to the basketball season and will feature the semifinals and finals of a student three-on-three basketball tournament, volleyball head coach Kim Hudson Christopher, women's basketball head coach Susan Walvius, a celebrity hot-shot contest, Cocky and the cheerleaders, and a 15-minute scrimmage by the men's basketball team at midnight, plus a student contest to be announced later.

The first 1,000 students will receive Midnight Madness T-shirts, and other giveaways will be held at the event.

Doors open for the event at 10:30 p.m., and admission is free.

## NCAA 3-point line to be moved back for 2004-2005 season

BY STEVE HERMAN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — The 3-point line in college basketball is about to be moved 9 inches farther from the basket beginning in the 2004-05 season.

Barring unexpected dissent by the NCAA's two smallest divisions, the new line will be set at 20 feet, 6 inches.

The championships committees of all three divisions decided to keep the rectangular free throw lane, rejecting a switch to the trapezoidal lane used internationally.

"In Division I, it's essentially done," Marty Benson, the NCAA liaison to the basketball rules committee, said Tuesday. "In Division II and III, the management councils have to look at it and either approve what the championships committee did or change what the championships

committee did."

Earlier this year, South Carolina coach Dave Odom, a rules committee member, said the extra 9 inches might discourage marginal shooters from taking longer shots.

"That would make the shot more meaningful," he said.

The management councils meet Oct. 21-22. If they agree, the changes in all three divisions will take effect in the 2004-05 season. If they don't, the matter will be decided by the NCAA executive committee Oct. 31.

That committee's options include approving the change for only the divisions that passed it, approving it for all three divisions or rejecting it for all three, Benson said.

It's unlikely Divisions II and III will not go along, he said.

Another proposal would cut from 16 to 8 the number of predetermined sites for the first two

rounds of the women's Division I tournament.

If approved by the Division I management council and the executive committee, that change would take effect for the 2005 tournament.

"It's just the evolution of the championship. It creates more neutral sites for the championship," said Scotty Rogers, assistant director of the Division I women's basketball championship committee. "You have a little more neutrality when only one of those teams could potentially play at home."

The men's first and second rounds already are played at eight sites.

"The only difference, and it's a major difference, is that the women's proposal is for predetermined sites, meaning the host institution could play at home," Rogers said. "The men's tournament does not allow that."

## Interested in taking The Gamecock's Sports Challenge?

If you can beat the editors, you'll win a free Gamecock T-shirt. Send in your picks to gamecocksports@hotmail.com by 2 p.m. Thursday. We'll select ONE person at random to be our reader of the week, whose picks will appear in Friday's issue.

## This week's games:

13 Tennessee at 8 Georgia  
1 Oklahoma at 11 Texas  
2 Miami at 5 Florida St.  
Auburn at 7 Arkansas  
Florida at 6 LSU

3 Ohio St. at 23 Wisconsin  
20 Michigan at 17 Minnesota  
Georgia Tech at Wake Forest  
25 Virginia at Clemson  
Kentucky at USC

Rankings are from  
The Associated Press.

♦ FOR TIE-BREAKING PURPOSES, PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR SCORE FOR THE KENTUCKY-USC GAME. AND DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME! EVEN THOUGH THE GAMECOCKS PLAY ON THURSDAY, THE RESULTS WILL STILL FIGURE INTO THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE.

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# Hispanic Cultural Celebration of Excellence

USC Honors Hispanic Students  
and Faculty who have excelled  
in Leadership and Service.

Friday, October 10, 2003

7:00pm-10:00pm

Russell House Ballroom



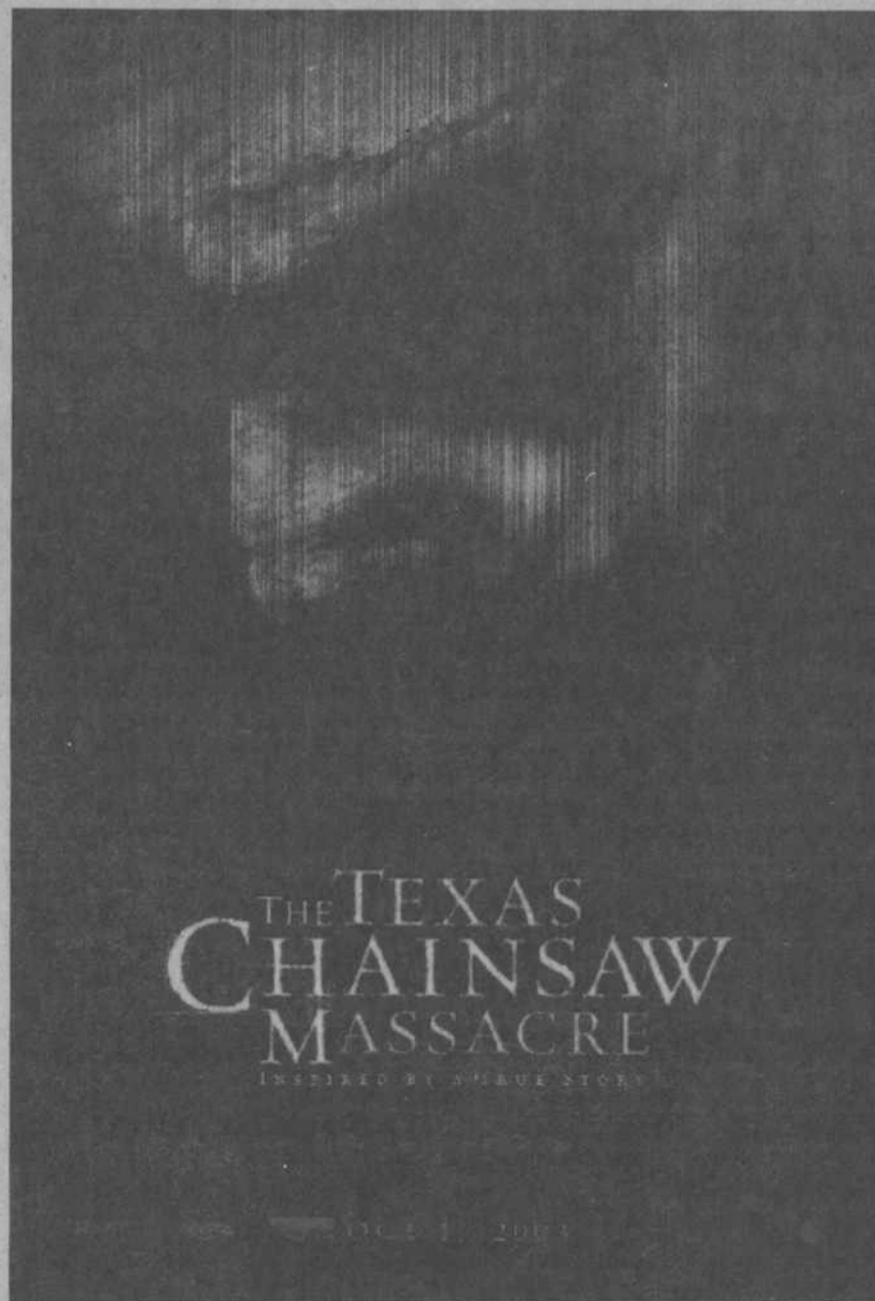
## Other News:

- Freshmen pick up your  
Freshman Record in 227 Russell House  
Monday-Friday 9:30-5pm

- SG would like to thank students for their positive  
input concerning the allocation of one-time funding.  
We encourage students to e-mail us at  
stgov@gwm.sc.edu or attend this Wednesday's  
Senate meeting at 5:00pm in the  
Russell House Theater.

- Twenty-two Businesses have applied for the Student  
Incubator and interviews will be held October, 15th  
in the SG Conference room.

## VERIZON WIRELESS PRESENTS A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING!



SPONSORED BY:

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DATE: Wednesday, October 15, 2003

TIME: 8:00 pm

LOCATION: Russell House Theater

Students may pick up complimentary passes at the  
Russell House on October 15th beginning at 7am.



Please arrive early!  
Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis with pass holders admitted first. Theater is not responsible for overbooking.  
Screenings are for students, faculty, and staff only.