



**Coach
Steve
Spurrier**

USC



Offense

- #13 Syvelle Newton
Junior, wide receiver
- #86 Kris Clark
Senior, wide receiver
- #78 Jabari Levey
Senior, left tackle
- #71 William Brown
Sophomore, left guard
- #60 Chris White
Junior, center
- #54 Freddy Saint-Preux
Senior, right guard
- #70 Na'Shan Goddard
Senior, right tackle
- #80 Andy Boyd
Junior, tight end
- #12 Blake Mitchell
Sophomore, quarterback
- #18 Antonio Heffner
Freshman, quarterback
- #32 Daccus Turman
Senior, fullback
- #25 Mike Davis
Freshman, tailback

Players to Watch

Offense

Noah Whiteside
Junior, wide receiver

The Greenville native bounced back with a touchdown catch in week one, but his contribution will be vital against an experienced secondary.

2005 Schedule	
Sept. 1	Central Florida W, 24-15
Sept. 10	Georgia 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 17	Alabama 3:30 p.m.
Sept. 24	Troy TBA
Oct. 1	Auburn TBA
Oct. 8	Kentucky TBA
Oct. 22	Vanderbilt TBA
Oct. 29	Tennessee TBA
Nov. 5	Arkansas TBA
Nov. 12	Florida TBA
Nov. 19	Clemson TBA

Freddy Saint-Preux (not pictured)

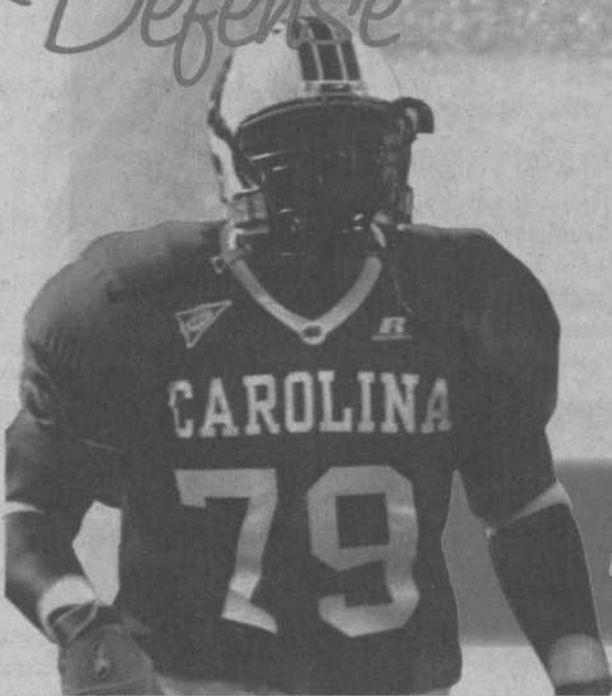
Senior, outside linebacker
After serving a suspension in week one, Saint-Preux will be thrown into the fire against a very good Georgia defensive line.



Defense

- #45 De'Adrian Coley
Senior, defensive end
- #79 Marque Hall
Sophomore, defensive tackle
- #98 Chris Tucker
Senior, nose tackle
- #94 Josh Johnson
Sophomore, defensive end
- #48 Lance Laury
Senior, outside linebacker
- #42 Ricardo Hurley
Senior, middle linebacker
- #44 Mike West
Junior, outside linebacker
- #9 Jonathan Joseph
Junior, cornerback
- #10 Ko Simpson
Sophomore, rover
- #26 Brandon Isaac
Junior, free safety
- #8 Fred Bennett
Junior, cornerback

Defense



Marque Hall
Sophomore, defensive tackle

Hall will look to burst onto the scene against a very experienced Georgia line that features multiple All-SEC candidates.

(not pictured) **Ricardo Hurley**
Senior, middle linebacker

USC's veteran linebacker will be charged with stopping Georgia's potent running game in his last contest against the Bulldogs.

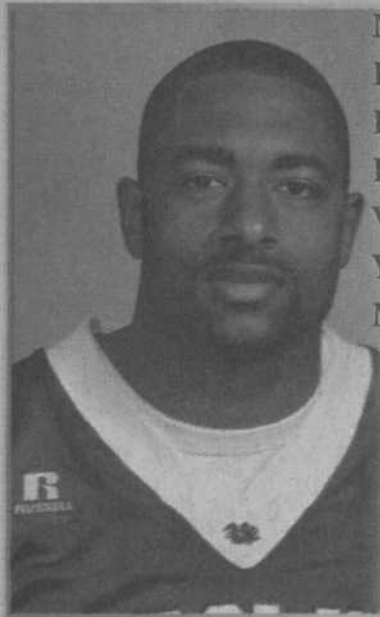
USC photos By Katie Kirkland/The Gamecock

SANFORD STATE
ATHENS, GA

SEPT. 9
2005

UGA photo by [unreadable]

SIMPSON, KO



NAME: Ko Simpson
POSITION: Rover
HOMETOWN: Rock Hill, S.C.
HEIGHT: 6 feet 2 inches
WEIGHT: 202 pounds
YEAR: Sophomore
MAJOR: Sports and Entertainment Management

-Named a preseason All-American by The Sporting News after the AP named him SEC Freshman of the Year in second-team All-SEC in his freshman season.

-Ranked first in the SEC and third nationally in 2004 with six interceptions, the most by any Gamecock since 1977

-Enrolled at Carolina in the spring of 2004 after grey shirting in the fall

Graphic by Laura-Joyce Gough / THE GAMECOCK

SIMPSON • CONTINUED FROM B3

win an SEC championship."

With a new coach who has been followed in the national media more closely than any other person minus the president this year, the time to begin heading toward an SEC championship seems to be forced upon the team prematurely. However, no one expects the team to achieve more than the players do, and after the offense and defense manage to grasp what they're being taught, Simpson believes that there's no reason Carolina can't contend this season.

"I think everyone's coming along all right," Simpson said. "I think we're going to play good. I think we're going to win by a lot."

Bolstered by what Simpson considers "the best secondary in the SEC and one of the top in the nation," even coach Steve Spurrier made remarks in the preseason indicating the defense and secondary were the strengths of the team.

However, after a less-than-stellar showing against Central Florida, the coach said he hopes the defense follows in line with Simpson's philosophy in not reading in to the hype.

"Sometimes when the local newspaper writes about how great our defense is, and they read it and believe it," Spurrier said after Tuesday's practice. "It happens to every team all over the country. But after that last (preseason) scrimmage, I would have written the same thing. Our defense really looked good that last scrimmage. But Central Florida didn't care about how good we played in the scrimmage, and they came to play."

With success comes professional temptations. Carolina has been well-known in recent years in placing secondary players into the NFL. Freeman, Robinson, Sheldon Brown, Deandre Eiland, Willie Offord, Andre Goodman, Terry Cousin and Kevin House played on NFL teams last season as defensive backs, and Simpson in all aspects fits the mold of another great Carolina defensive back who could possibly have a future on Sundays. With today's money-first society, does he see himself leaving school after three years to make the leap?

"(The NFL) has been one of my goals since I was little," Simpson said. "That's all you want to do -- to play in the NFL. That's what you play high school for, that's what you play college for, to get to the next level. (But) I don't really think about playing and leaving early, I'm just out here to play right now."

Intent on going one game at a time, having fun and looking ahead to Georgia is all he can do. With the first game out of the way, the defense should be back up to par for the biggest game of the first half of the season. And despite the need to prove there will be no "sophomore slump" on the field, Ko has all the reason in the world to believe this season will be nothing but fun performing in coaches' Thompson and Nix new system.

"Last year it was a lot of the secondary and linebackers making plays," Simpson said. "This year there's a lot of blitzing and attacking the quarterback. It's going to be a lot of crazy stuff."

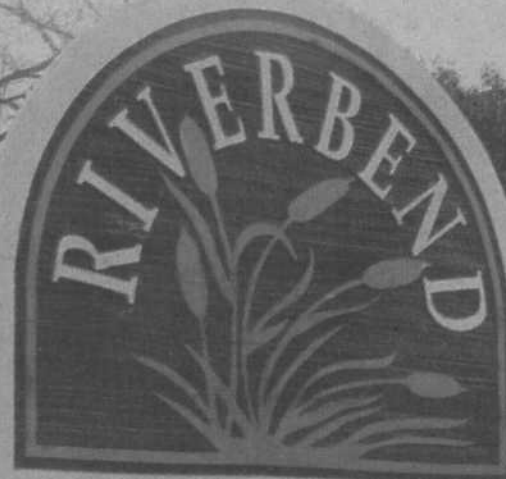
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