

MEN ● CONTINUED FROM 8

the Gamecocks pounced on the Wildcats, and after four minutes, USC began a 15-0 run, making the score 58-46.

Soon after, Kentucky responded with a 15-1 run of their own to take a 66-62 lead with 6:30 to go. From there on in, the margin of difference was never greater than four.

UK center Randolph Morris struggled with foul trouble throughout the game and finished with 12 points in 17 minutes. To compensate, UK's bench filled in with 28 points. Forward Bobby Perry had 13 crucial points, including a trio of three-pointers.

The Wildcats were lead by Sparks (14 points, five assists) and guard Joe Crawford (15 points, six rebounds). Rondo, heroics aside, scored only nine points.

For the Gamecocks, Tre' Kelley had 14 points and a team-high five assists. Tisby added 10 points and four rebounds.

"It was no secret who was going to get the ball unless Pat Riley showed up ... Like all great players, (Rondo) didn't give the ball up nor did he give in and he hit the shot."

DAVE ODOM
USC Head Coach

The loss brought USC's record to 10-8 overall and 1-4 in the SEC. Carolina plays Florida at home this Wednesday. Odom indicated his team will be up to the challenge.

"I really think it's just as important how you react to a game as is the outcome," he said. "We need to react the right way."

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BROOM ● CONTINUED FROM 8

two of the final three minutes of my indoor soccer team's playoff game ticked off the clock while we waited on the referees to argue with each other about some meaningless call that was made.

Clearly there is nothing wrong with this. I mean, sure we were trying to come from behind with three minutes to go in a playoff soccer game, but it was so much more challenging trying to come from behind with only one minute left. Who needs to actually play soccer for the entire length of a soccer game anyway?

I have absolutely no problem with refs officiating in the same league that they play in. Even though twice last year we beat guys who actually ended up officiating our next game, I see no problem with this. I don't think they would get so caught up in petty things like intramural

basketball games that it would cause them to be biased, they are above that; even though they are the same people who wrote, called, emailed, and facebooked Stephen over a column in the school newspaper.

They can't read a column without dropping a few threatening e-mails, but I am sure they would never intentionally miss a few calls here and there after a team ended their season. That would never happen. Ever. Never.

Refs, we appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule of reading comic books and amassing large collections of "The Wizard of Oz" memorabilia to referee our games.

And, like Nicole Ritchie in a hotdog eating contest, you do the best that you can. Sometimes it's just really, horribly bad.

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BRIEFS ● CONTINUED FROM 8

Men's tennis give strong showing at SEC Indoor Championships

The USC men's tennis squad sent one player to the main draw and another through the consolation bracket to finish the SEC Indoor Championships in Lexington, KY.

Yevengy Supeko fell to Eric Claesson of Ole Miss 6-2, 6-1 in the main draw.

The sophomore transfer from Texas A&M knocked off Auburn's Pawel Dilaj in the opening round but couldn't hold off the 23rd ranked Claesson in the next.

After falling to the No.1 seed John Isner Friday, Pedros Rodrigues came back to win both of his matches in the consolation bracket, beating both Pierre Moulion of Mississippi State and Terence Nugent of Auburn 6-4, 6-1.

WOMEN ● CONTINUED FROM 8

Sunday's game, controlled the glass to the tune of a 42-31 rebounding advantage.

The win served as a sort of vacation from playing top-25 teams for the

Gamecocks, Walvius' team will return to playing the nation's elite with a

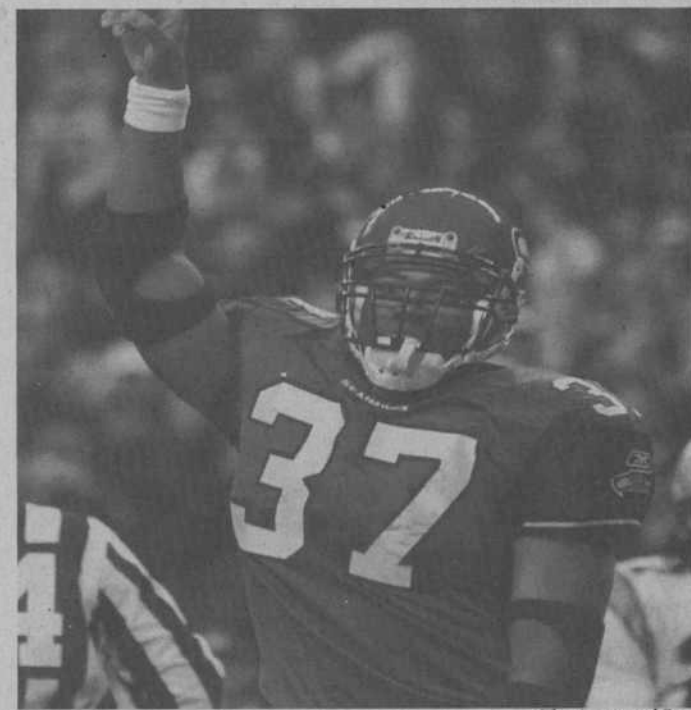
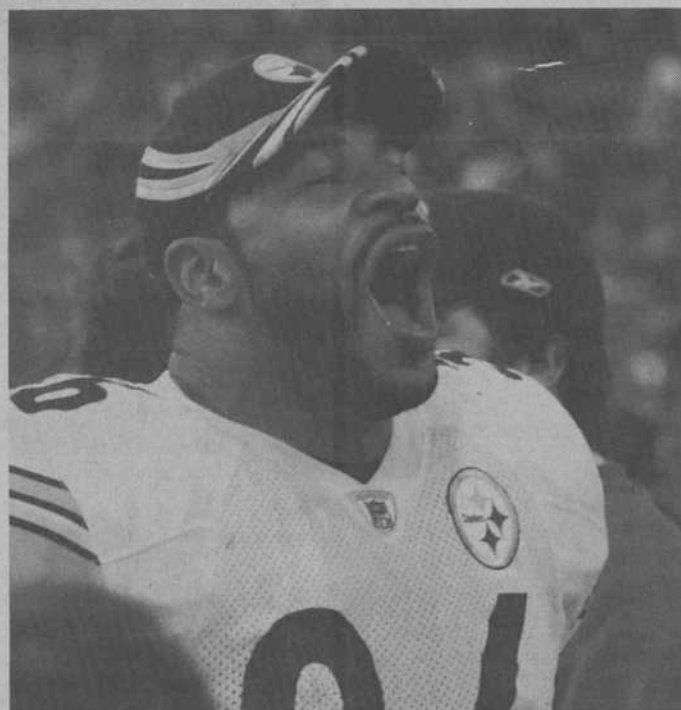
Thursday matchup against No. 7 Georgia.

USC's defense, tops in the SEC in most categories, held the Tide to 28 percent shooting in the game.

Eleven of the 12 Gamecocks who saw playing time Sunday logged double-digits on the floor, giving Walvius fresh legs throughout the game.

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AND THEN THERE WERE TWO ...



The Associated Press

Pittsburgh's Jerome Bettis (left) and Seattle's Shaun Alexander (right) are going to Detroit for Super Bowl XL. Bettis and the Steelers beat Denver 34-17, while Alexander and the Seahawks knocked off Carolina 34-14.

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GAMECOCK BASKETBALL

Men's Basketball
vs.
#2 Florida
Wed, Jan 25 @ 8pm

Women's Basketball
vs.
Georgia
Thur, Jan 26 @ 7pm

FREE TEE SHIRT TO THE FIRST 800 USC STUDENTS USC vs. Florida!
Wear this special edition tee-shirt to all Men's & Women's home basketball games and receive special meal deal at Grilled in Carolina, a hot dog & coke - only \$2!
*All home games are played at the Colonial Center
*Grilled in Carolina is located on the concourse of section 117

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