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GAMECOCK BASKETBALL
PREVIEW 2007 - 2008
Special supplement of The Daily Gamecock

TIME TO SHINE
AFTER A YEARLONG WAIT...
DEVAN DOWNEY
TAKES THE REINS FOR CAROLINA

STEPPING UP
BRIONNA DICKERSON prepares
to become a leader on the
women’s team

COUNTRY COMES TO TOWN
RONNIE COLLINS reflects on
a career that led from Winnsboro
to the USC hall of fame
Devan Downey: Man on a mission

Cincinnati transfer will lead a faster Gamecock basketball team

Ty Zeigler
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Devan Downey will find himself playing much closer to home this season. The 5-foot-9 guard from Chester transferred to USC from the University of Cincinnati after his freshman season in 2006.

He was named to the Big East All-Rookie Team following a season with the Bearcats in which he averaged more than 12 points and four steals per game as a freshman.

Downey sat out the 2006-2007 USC basketball season because NCAA rules dictate that a player who transfers between schools must sit out for one year. During that year, he has continued to work hard in practice so he will mesh well with his teammates.

Even from the bench, he has been aggressive in taking a leadership role. His teammates applaud his competitive instinct and drive that has fueled his desire to make the South Carolina basketball program a perennial winner.

During his time sitting out, Downey claims he has observed the game like never before. The knowledge gained from not being able to play last season is invaluable.

“How you get better is mentally,” Downey said. “You just see so much when you are sitting out. Since you can’t play it helps your mental state.”

Now a sophomore with experience, the time has come for him to suit-up for the Gamecocks in their season opener against South Carolina State on Nov. 9. Being closer to home has helped him feel more comfortable now that his family and friends are closer.

“It’s just better with all my family and friends being able to make every game. I have 200 people who want season tickets, so it just feels good,” Downey said.

He was originally recruited by South Carolina as well as Cincinnati. The Bearcats had a senior guard at the time and Downey wanted the opportunity to play with him and learn as the season progressed.

He claims that it was not a mistake to originally commit and sign with Cincinnati.

“At that time Cincinnati was a better fit,“ Downey said. “It was not a bad decision. I’m not going to say that I should have never done that. At that time, basketball wise, Cincinnati just had more to offer.”

Downey will be taking on the role of point guard for the Gamecocks, a position that was anchored by Tre Kelley last season. Kelley was a senior and the leader of the team on the court.

With 10 of Carolina’s 13 players being freshmen or sophomores, the team will need to look to someone with leadership and experience. Downey can certainly provide those qualities from his time in Cincinnati.

Downey had the privilege of playing behind a senior point guard in Cincinnati and at South Carolina. Now that he has learned from two point guards in leadership roles, he is ready to take on such a role as a Gamecock.

“I started at Cincinnati every game except one,” Downey said. “I played around a whole lot of seniors. I know their leadership grew through me. They showed me the right way, so I’m trying to do that as a part of this team.”

Odom said a major difference between Kelley and Downey is the speed at which the guards run the team. Downey should provide USC fans with a faster paced style of basketball this season.

Downey’s fast-paced style will certainly be a major change in tempo from Tre Kelley, who would often casually jog up court after a change of possession. One may wonder whether his teammates will be ready to play at Downey’s level.

“When you look at this year and you look at a Devan Downey, if I am right, that the team plays at the speed of the point guard, then I will tell the rest of the team: ‘You better get in gear or the ball will be shot before you get down there,’” Coach Odom said during his preseason press conference.

Odom has in fact given Downey a bit more freedom than he would usually give his point guard. This may be a testament to Downey’s playmaking ability, but it also shows that his speed will keep opposing defenses on their heels.

If his teammates can adjust, this year’s Gamecock basketball team may have much greater success in transition.

“They have adjusted,” Downey said. “But we have so many athletes; I have to adjust to them. They’re fast and quick so it’s really a good thing.”

Downey is now ready to take on South Carolina’s strong schedule with his teammates. During the preseason, he mentioned that he hopes to see improvement in the way the team handles the transition from the non-conference to the SEC schedule.

It will have to be Downey who leads the team through its demanding schedule. With a serious lack of seniors on the team (there is only one), Downey will have to command respect from his teammates as he drives them down court each game.

“In my year off, I was practicing hard and everything, so I gained everybody’s respect. Now, I’m not a transfer anymore, I’m a part of the family.”
It was a simple concept for Ronnie Collins. His jersey was wet. It needed to be dried and the nearest heat source was the lamp in his hotel room.

But despite all he knew about basketball and what his family had taught him back in Winnsboro, they forgot to mention what happens when heat and cloth meet for a long period of time.

“My jersey, No. 20, was wet and I hung it on a lap. Great idea. It was all the heat I could find. Well, after a while it burned,” Collins said. In fact it burned the numbers right off.

“Wayne Corbit, the manager, had No. 35 in his bag and that’s how I became No. 35.”

The No. 35 jersey will forever be associated with the lanky 6-foot-3-inch athlete from Fairfield County, along with his knack for just being an amazing athlete.

Though basketball would eventually become his specialty, there was a reason Collins earned the 10th spot on The State’s 100 Best High School Athletes list in 2000 — he was gifted. Plain and simple.

“Before I was 18 I had five different championships,” Collins said. “I won a marbles championship when I was 10 years old. I won a state ping-pong championship when I was 14. Ended up winning football, baseball and basketball championships in high school.”

In his senior season at Mount Zion High, Collins was the face of the institution’s sports, passing for 26 touchdowns, averaging 25 points per game and batting .475 in football, basketball and baseball respectively. The school won the state title in all three sports and closed the next year.

“When I went to high school in the ninth grade, I was one of the better players but the coach came to me and said ‘Ronnie I’m afraid you can’t play for us this year, you’re too little. You’re going to have to go down to junior varsity.’ So I did for three games. I averaged 20 points a game and he put me back on varsity in ninth grade,” Collins said.

Colleges around the state lined up for a shot at the high school star, but Collins had long since decided where he wanted to go to high school and it had nothing to with recruiting or the best offer. But it had everything to do with a guy who would edge Wilt Chamberlain for the national scoring title.

“I saw Grady Wallace play and I fell in love with Carolina and Grady. I got all the offers to go play basketball and football. Shoot, I knew where I was going,” Collins said.

Though USC never officially recruited him, a family friend told then-Gamecock athletic director and football coach Rex Enright that Collins needed a scholarship, though it didn’t matter what sport he got it in.

Carolina played in the old Fieldhouse located in the heart of campus, a place Collins says could seat 3,500 people but they’d put 3,600. Though today’s basketball cathedrals are impressive, Collins remembers the Fieldhouse as the true home court advantage.

“Our coach put the pep band behind the Duke bench along with all seven of those big, giant freshmen we’d recruited,” Collins said. “Every time Duke would call timeout, of course the pep band would strike up and the freshmen would yell insults at them. Finally, Duke went out in the middle of the court to hold a timeout.”

Though he had four coaches in three years with the varsity team, Collins proved to be one of the best athletes in Carolina history. In three seasons, he averaged 17.2 points per game, including a 23.7 ppg average his senior year in which he also earned All-ACC honors. Collins also finished as the 21st highest scoring Gamecock with 1,256 career points.

Though it’s been almost over 40 years since his last game in garnet and black, basketball still plays a big role in his life. The USC and state of South Carolina hall of fame inductee holds a yearly reunion at his home in Winnsboro where former players from his era and before get together to, as he tabbed it, “tell their lies from college.”

But the desire for the game hasn’t wavered for Collins, who says his success was based solely on the love of the game.

“I just loved to play. I think the reason I got good at what I was doing was because I hated to lose,” Collins said.
This time a year ago, Brionna Dickerson was on the other side of a table. She had shown flashes of brilliance in her freshman season, but she still had a lot to learn.

Her teacher was a senior guard named Lauren Simms and she took all the lessons and advice she could from her.

“I’ve known Lauren since I was in high school and I’ve looked up to her since I was in eighth, ninth grade,” Dickerson said before she began her tutelage under Simms last year. “I used to go watch her play at Spring Valley. I call her my ‘shero.’”

That was then. Now it’s her turn to take the lead.

Dickerson and senior Ebony Jones are the lone guards on the Gamecock roster with a familiarity with the Colonial Center floor.

There are eight guards on the roster, six of which are freshman. This makes for a lot of responsibility for Dickerson.

“I feel like shaking I’m so excited. I know that we’re all going to have a great year this year,” Dickerson said. “Whatever it takes to help my team. I’m just excited to be in that role of being able to do something now and I’m willing to do whatever it takes to win.”

On a team with a freshman majority (seven of the 13 players), Dickerson is being looked at to be a guiding light. She and Jones will share time at the point, much like she and Simms did last season.

The difference will be Dickerson’s role when the ball isn’t in her hand. Last season she was learning. This season she’ll be teaching.

“Patience. Stay focused. Take your time. That’s the biggest thing with us right now is just taking our time, picking up the plays, picking up the concepts,” Dickerson said. “That’s something definite this year, is the focus of fundamentals.”

Last season, Dickerson played the part of relief player, coming in to give Simms a reprieve. She hit double figures in seven games, including a career high 16 points against Winthrop.

With that level of success in limited time on the court, it has given the newcomers a leader to look up to. “Instead of coming in and having to learn on my own I have someone there who has guided me step-by-step,” freshman guard Jordan Jones said of facing up with Dickerson in practice. “We have such great senior leadership. We’re freshman but we’re learning from people who have been there.”

Dickerson’s biggest hope is to use the youth movement on the team as a benefit for the Gamecocks. Carolina faces a tough non-conference schedule with home games against Virginia and Penn State, as well as road games against Connecticut, Oklahoma and rival Clemson.

Those types of contests are what Dickerson knows will get this team ready to face the elite competition for the heart of the season. Despite the fact the schedule is tough, Dickerson knows that playing at the highest level will prepare Carolina for a possible run in the big dance.

“I’m definitely excited. This year will probably be one of the biggest years for all of us,” Dickerson said. “We certainly want to make it to the tournament. It’s something we’ve come up short with lately. We’re definitely looking to do some big things.”

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Alex Riley
SPORTS EDITOR

Brionna Dickerson
Dickerson averaged 6.1 points per game in relief of Lauren Simms last season.
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USC eyes improvement

Gamecock basketball looks to rebound from disappointing season

Austin Collins
STAFF WRITER

The South Carolina basketball team tips off the 2007-2008 season Friday night at the Colonial Center, and the team will be looking to improve last year's 14-16 record.

The Gamecocks didn't play in the postseason last year for the first time in four seasons and posted their worst conference record since 1999. Head coach Dave Odom, in his seventh year at South Carolina, said the team's mentality is key in getting back on the winning track.

“I told our team that only when their pain for losing matches my pain for losing will we turn this team and this program in the direction and reach the status that it deserves,” Odom said. “I really truly believe that.”

South Carolina's struggles last year included a lack of depth and athleticism. Odom said those issues should be alleviated this year with more players and talent up and down the roster.

“Last year's team was not athletic because we didn't have numbers, we didn't have bodies,” Odom said. “This team has more people to stand up to the rigors of the athleticism in the SEC. I expect us to be one of the more talented teams.”

The talent starts with Cincinnati transfer Devan Downey, who will take over the point guard spot after the loss of Tre' Kelley. Because of Downey's unrivaled speed, Odom said the team will play at a faster pace this year and implement more trapping and pressing.

In Monday's exhibition win against Guilford College, Downey paced the Gamecocks with 27 points, seven steals and six assists. He says the team's depth is advantageous for a quicker style of play.

“I think we have so much more talent,” Downey said. “With us being so deep, somebody can get that five or six minute breather. That's why I think going up and down will benefit us more this year.”

South Carolina's best returnee from last year is sophomore Dominique Archie. The 6-foot-7 forward averaged 8.8 points and five rebounds a contest last year as an undersized post player. Odom plans to play him on the wing 75-percent of the time this year to shore up perimeter defense and rebounding.

 “[Archie] is easily our best athlete,” Odom said. “He's our most experienced Gamecock basketball looks to rebound from disappointing season

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 “[Archie] is easily our best athlete,” Odom said. “He's our most experienced
player, and I think he is the best open shooter we have on our team.”

Other key perimeter players for the Gamecocks will be Zam Frederick, Brandis Raley-Ross and Dwayne Day, the team’s lone senior. Fredrick, son of former Gamecock great Zam Fredrick Sr., will likely start at guard next to Downey. Raley-Ross and Day will battle for a starting wing spot.

In the post, South Carolina doesn’t boast much experience. Sophomore Chad Gray and true freshmen Mike Holmes and Sam Muldrow look to get most of the playing time down low. Despite their youth, Odom is confident they can get the job done.

“Athletically, they are talented enough to play at a high level in the SEC and win,” Odom said. “I’m not afraid to start the freshmen. It could be any combination. I’m not worried about it right now because we have so many options.”

The players’ goals for the season are high, and Day is one of many players who said the team wants to play in the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2004.

“The first goal for the season is to win more games than we did last year,” Day said. “Before the SEC season, we want to lose no more than two games. As far as the year, I think we can make the NCAA Tournament.”

Coach Odom is keeping his public goals a little more reserved, but did acknowledge that the team has a lot of potential.

“I think it [making the NCAA tournament] is a possibility for sure,” Odom said. “The biggest problem is the league is so difficult. All the teams are going to be good. But I think the team is talented enough, if they play together enough, they’ve got a chance to emerge.”

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CHARLESTON — The head of a bank wasn’t intended to be Izetta Dickerson’s running mate, but that’s where an onetime admirer of her renamed remains was found.

The owner of the remains, known how to get it there,” said Demond McEwen, whose car repair shop was about a mile from the boat after it was towed there. "She’s in there, it’s got the number on the bag."

Dickerson was from North Charleston and the widow of Franklin Dickerson. She died March 5, 2003, according to a newspaper obituary.

The area was left with Dickerson’s son, who had been watching the bustling harbor. "He knew what was going on in the world," Dickerson said. "We knew how to get it there."

"I don’t know where or how to get it," said Demond McEwen, whose car repair shop was about a mile from the boat after it was towed there. "She’s in there, it’s got the number on the bag."

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In need of a home

Kenel endeavors to supply medical attention, homes

Haley Dreis
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

When you enter the animal shelter, the puppies and kittens look up at you with their big eyes and wagging tails in hopes of finding a new family. PETS Inc., a non-profit animal shelter in Columbia, makes it possible for cats and dogs in the area to find a home, receive medical attention and get spayed or neutered. Since 1992, they have rescued and found homes for over 27,000 unwanted dogs and cats.

Julia Engle, a full-time kennel care worker, said she loves her job. “I absolutely love working with animals and enjoy finding loving homes for the them,” Engle said.

Engle said her dedication to shelter comes from their alternative philosophy of not killing the animals, unlike a pound. “The Skipper family came to the shelter to adopt another dog for their family. “We chose PETS Inc. because it is a rescue facility and we know that the dogs are being treated well,” said Van Skipper.

Good candidates for adoption are preferably families with homes, big apartments, with fenced-in yards and no cages. Different breeds can better accommodate different situations, depending on whether a family is larger or has kids. The Skipper family came to the shelter to adopt the puppies or kitties.

Different breeds can better accommodate different situations, depending on whether a family is larger or has kids. Engle said the family is an excellent candidate for adoption, as they live at a ranch house and are already raising four cats, two dogs, two horses and one rabbit.

Her daughters, Kayla, 11-years-old, and Ashley, 11-years-old, said they have grown up around dogs and are excited to be selecting a new addition to their family. She was playing with them the same day.

"It is important to make sure our animals are being taken care of by caring, loving families," Engle said. “There have been quite a few families we have had to turn down who either had bad attitudes about adopting or were unkind to the animals." Good candidates for adoption are preferable families with homes, big apartments, with fenced-in yards and no cages. Different breeds can better accommodate different situations, depending on whether a family is larger or has kids.

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“My family loves working with animals and enjoy finding loving homes for the animals so much,” Miller said.

Adopting is not the only service hours and thought, “What would be better than playing with cute dogs and cats?”

Miller said she spent most of her time playing with the bigger dogs because they need more attention than the puppies or kittens.

Miller said getting involved at the shelter was simple, after filling out a form she was playing with them immediately and already attached to the animals. “I loved playing with the animals so much,” Miller said.

“involved some community service hours and thought, what would be better than playing with cute dogs and cats?”

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Kennel endeavors to supply medical attention, homes

Haley Dreis
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

After 35 years in prison, the man who shot and paralyzed Alabama Gov. George Wallace during his racially charged 1972 presidential campaign is scheduled to be released Friday into a society more diverse and more restrictive on guns.

The state’s automated victim-notification system sent e-mails announcing the impending release of Arthur H. Bremer, 77.

Wallace, a fiery segregationist during the 1960s, was wounded on May 15, 1972, during a campaign stop in Laurel, Md. He abandoned his bid for the Democratic nomination, spent the rest of his life in a wheelchair and died in 1998.

Bremer, a former Milwaukee busboy and janitor, was convicted of attempted murder and sentenced to 35 years. He has been held at the medium-security Maryland Correctional Institution near Hagerstown, about 70 miles from Baltimore, since 1972.

A2 Friday, November 9, 2007
For story: Gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

FREE PAINTBALL TOURNAMENT!

The National Guard is hosting a free paintball tournament open to students. All equipment including markers, paintballs, and safety gear will be provided for free. 1st place team will win $1,000 and additional prizes will be given to the 2nd and 3rd place teams. Free lunch provided to all tournament participants.

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require a particular major, though it might help determine what department you will be asked to work in.

"Someone who is majoring in journalism or communications would most likely be placed in the communication department," Wright said.

Boling said energy and the willingness to put in long, hard hours are essential for an intern.

"Campaigns want someone to come in and be positive. After the communication department," Wright added.

"Continued from A1

Wallace said he hopes that students at USC will step outside the boundaries of the classroom and get hands on training in extracurricular activities like the Solar Boat Project.

"We've already tested the boat in January or February. We've already tested the boat," Wright said.

"That was just making sure the weight distribution of the boat doesn't sink."

"We've already tested the boat" Wallace said.

"The kind of fiery racial rhetoric he employed in 1963, decrying the forced busing of children in a landfi ll in 1980, made his famous "stand in the schoolhouse door" in 1963, decrying the policy of integration as an abomination."

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But Wallace recanted his segregationist stand later in his career and won his final term with the help of black voters.

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"At first I was worried about getting caught, but this was the first election that had a candidate that I was really interested in, so I was still interested in doing it," Walker said.

"Both Alvarez and Walker said that in spite of the workload, they have been able to manage their time successfully.

"Wallace said that due to the willingness of the Clinton campaign to adjust her work schedule based on her academic demands, she is still able to maintain a high GPA.

"The hours are really flexible, so everything is working out. I'm still able to keep my good grades," Walker said.

"Neither Alvarez nor Walker is entirely sure where they see themselves in the future when it comes to politics."

"I want to have a job doing something that I love, and politics is something that I love," Walker said.

"While Alvarez shares a similar love for politics, she said she will most likely continue on with her plans to become a lawyer.

"Political internship opportunities in South Carolina are not limited to the McCain and Clinton campaigns."

"I would encourage everyone to take the time and get involved," Wright said.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu

"Continued from A1

"People like William Jones are what make my university so unique," Walters-McCarthy said.

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WALLACE • Continued from A2

release through good behavior and by working in prison.

Bremer's diary, found in a landfill in 1980, made it clear he was motivated by a desire for attention, not a political agenda. He had also stalked President Nixon.

A prison system spokesman declined to say where Bremer would go once he got out. The Alabama governor made his famous "stand in the schoolhouse door" in 1963, decrying the enrollment of two black students at the all-white University of Alabama in a standoff against the Justice Department and the National Guard.

By 1972, he had tempered his racist rhetoric and adopted a more subtle approach, denouncing federal courts over the forced busing of children and pledging to restore "law and order," a phrase sometimes regarded as a coded appeal to white racists.

"My father forgave him and my family has forgiven him. That's consistent with what make my university so unique," Walters-McCarthy said.

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"Neither Alvarez nor Walker is entirely sure where they see themselves in the future when it comes to politics."

"I want to have a job doing something that I love, and politics is something that I love," Walker said.

"While Alvarez shares a similar love for politics, she said she will most likely continue on with her plans to become a lawyer."

"Political internship opportunities in South Carolina are not limited to the McCain and Clinton campaigns."

"I would encourage everyone to take the time and get involved," Wright said.

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The winning team this weekend.

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Books reveal more than movies

Reading sends people on journeys, gives opportunity to know characters

Andrea Felber

"How many a man has dared a new life in his reading from the reading of a book." Being an avid reader himself, only Harry David Thoreau can express such a universal truth. With this thought, the question arises if this still holds true.

Bookworms consider a source of learning and entertainment. If you peek into students' rooms today, however, you will see a bookshelf of DVDs instead of actual books.

Films have slowly but surely taken over as the dominant source of entertainment. Has today's generation lost their ability to mentally create? Do we need the silver screen to guide our thoughts?

While these questions may not apply to everyone, they raise an interesting point. Movies smar a feeling or a situation for its viewers; it is basically given to them. Books, on the other hand, do not come at such ease.

As a character's thoughts on a setting's description are not always recognizable to a reader.

An author's purpose is not to write exactly who a character is or how a situation plays out, for life in itself is never this definite or clear. The joy in reading comes from what the reader themselves discover.

Tales of our own lives can ignite a storyline and help decipher the author's intent.

While it is easier said than done, frustration and boredom remain constant companions amongst readers. A movie may be faster paced and more straightforward but where is the fun in that?

The journey a reader endures is far more memorable. A reader has the opportunity to live and breathe along with the characters in a novel, and they are able to develop a true knowledge of the character. This is a luxury actors cannot enjoy.

Country music singer Carrie Underwood performs at the Country Music Awards on Wednesday night, along with The Eagles, Josh Turner, Rascal Flatts, and Jamie Fox.

When we enter a drawing at the State Fair to win a trip to the Country Music Awards you never think you are actually going to win. That is exactly what I thought until I got the phone call informing me that I had actually won a trip to Nashville to witness one of the greatest award shows on television.

They explained that the trip included a suite at the Hilton Hotel, trips to local museums and attractions, and access to the award show, and all I had to pay for was my meals while on the trip.

At first I was a little skeptical, thinking once I got there I would be more or less on my own. However, the organizers were on-call around the clock, tending to our every need and showing us all the inside sites of the city.

When we arrived at the airport we were picked up with other trip winners and taken to the hotel. From there we had free time to go to the mall or anywhere, near the hotel at night or before the evening's events began, which was nice after the long flight.

During our first group meeting we went over the trip itinerary, had questions and answers about the trip, and we had answered, then got our passes and left for downtown Nashville. We ate at one of the best barbecue restaurants in the city. It was a little hole-in-the-wall place but definitely made the best barbecue I have ever had. Delightful.

For dinner we were let loose downtown. We were walking around looking for somewhere to go, or of course, people watching at the same time. Crossing the street, we passed another pedestrian, and as they nodded and said hello we realized it was the base player from the huge country band Rascal Flatts. In complete awe we could not believe who we just saw. In complete awe we could not believe it in time to snap a picture. We stumbled on a venue called Cadillac Ranch where Joe Doss Messina was playing a concert for only $10, with proceeds going to Habitat for Humanity. She sang all of her hit songs and then some classic covers such as “Don’t Stop Believin’” and “Carry on My Wayward Son.” Her show was awesome, and as we rode a bus back to our hotel I relived the fact that I had never been so close to a performer like that.

The trip was amazing and a lot of events on the trip were so much better than I thought they would be. We were treated to private concert’s at museums, restaurants and the hotel.

With the hotel I relived the fact that I had never been so close to a performer like that.

My advice to everyone– next time people hound you to sign up for a free trip, do it. You might actually win the trip of a lifetime.
CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

With the arrival of cooler temperatures, many students find themselves looking for a great indoor activity. Baking is the solution to that problem. Not only does baking provide something enjoyable to do, but it also produces great food in the end. Nothing beats a cold glass of milk with freshly baked chocolate chip cookies for a snack. Also, chocolate chip cookies are simple to make and do not take up a lot of time. Finding themselves looking for a great indoor activity. Baking is the solution to that problem. Not only does baking provide something enjoyable to do, but it also produces great food in the end. Nothing beats a cold glass of milk with freshly

INGREDIENTS

*2 cups all-purpose flour
*1 teaspoon baking soda
*1/2 cup white sugar
*3/4 cup brown sugar
*1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
*1 teaspoon salt
*2 eggs
*1 teaspoon vanilla extract
*3/4 cup chopped nuts, optional
*2 cups (12 ounce package) chocolate chip morsels

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Place sliced apples in a large bowl. Combine sugar, cinnamon and flour in a small bowl. Toss the apples until they are thoroughly coated.

Next, place apples into a pan covered with a pastry shell. Dot the apples with the rest of the butter. Place the second pastry on top and seal the edges. Then, cut half of the butter into small pieces and add to apples. Toss the apples until they are thoroughly coated.

Finally, bake the pie in the oven for 45-55 minutes, or until the crust is a golden brown.

These recipes are great to make on cold or rainy days, bringing the dessert! A great fall favorite is the classic apple pie. An apple pie is a great dessert after dinner and is sure to leave everyone pleased. It is a bit more difficult to make than cookies, but is sure to leave a bigger impression.

INGREDIENTS

*2 prepared 9-inch pastry shells
*6 medium sized apples—peeled, cored, and sliced
*1/2 cup white sugar
*2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
*2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
*1 tablespoon of butter

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Place sliced apples in a large bowl. Combine sugar, cinnamon and flour in a small bowl. Toss the apples until they are thoroughly coated.

Next, place apples into a pan covered with a pastry shell. Dot the apples with the rest of the butter. Place the second pastry on top and seal the edges. Then, cut half of the butter into small pieces and add to apples. Toss the apples until they are thoroughly coated.

Finally, bake the pie in the oven for 45-55 minutes, or until the crust is a golden brown.

Recipes courtesy of Tollhouse and allrecipes.com

APPETIZERS

DOT APPLES

3/4 cup heavy cream
*2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
*2 tablespoons butter
*1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
*1/3 cup brown sugar
*2 medium sized apples—peeled, cored, and sliced

INGREDIENTS

*2 pounds of thinly sliced laughing cow roast beef
*1/4 cup dijon mustard
*1/4 cup honey

DIRECTIONS

Serve the roast with a side of sauerkraut and your favorite dipping sauce.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2007

Despite laid-back, carefree attitude, Eric Norwood envisions future as lawyer, lays down law to offenses on gameday

Soni Smith
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

When the two little boys would hear the voice on the other end of the line saying “911, what's your emergency?” they would all take of their effort to keep their faces straight, and to follow through with the prank call their young minds had devised.

Soon the boys would dissolve into giggles, and it would be time to dispatch yet another car to the Norwood house to instruct the boys that prank calling 911 was not a joke.

“The same policeman came by our house a couple of times, and Mama would come downstairs and hear about what we'd done,” Erin Norwood said. “We’d get a little whippin’ and just go on about the day.”

At ages 5 and 6, Erin and Eric Norwood were already jokesters, though they finally realized that 911 was actually a serious number, and as the boys grew up they were inseparable.

The first time that they had to part was when Eric made his move to USC in 2006 to become a defensive end for the Gamecocks. Despite the distance, Eric always has time for his little brother.

“It was an adjustment at first,” Erin said. “He's my brother and my best friend, and it was hard to get used to.”

Eric was born in North Oakland, Calif., on May 24, 1988. Erin, or “Airman,” as Eric used to call him because he couldn’t pronounce his name, was born a year later. The two did everything together.

“When Eric was little, he was afraid of storms, and he would always jump to Erin to get close to him,” said their mother Anna Norwood. “Erin would always comfort him.”

But as the boys got older, it became clear that helping each other was a two-way street.

“I always stick with Eric,” Erin said. “He'd get me out of a lot of fights.”

Would be talk Erin out of them?

“No, he'd fight for me,” Erin said.

When Eric was six years old, they moved with their mother to Dallas, Texas, a state where football reigned. Unwilling to miss out on the action, Eric and Erin readily joined a pee wee league where they excelled at their new hobby.

“Eric was a big kid when he was younger,” Anna Norwood said. “All the other parents at football would always ask for his paperwork when he was little, because he was so big.”

Eight years cultivated the boys into two little football superstars. The Norwoods were often spotted and moved with their mother to Kennsaw, Ga., where Eric began at North Cobb High School. The switch wasn't too tough on the boys, which can be credited to what they needed the most to be OK — each other.

“Tired of looking up to Eric in high school,” Erin said. “I was always better at high school. I was a little superior, and he lived in my shadow. But in high school, I had to be on his shadow.”

As they got older, they knew that they could go to their mother for anything. Erin describes her as more like a sister, but Anna Norwood says, “I'll always be Mama.”

Anna Norwood also finally got to see her two boys play on the same field together. Erin was a junior running back while Eric was a senior and played all over the field. He was an all-county selection as a linebacker, a defensive end and a tight end during his years at North Cobb. It became apparent that he was destined to play on the next level.

With scholarship offers from notable schools such as Auburn, Boston College, South Carolina and Oklahoma State, he was facing a difficult decision.

But thatTTone Nix entered his life, and changed everything. Eric went down to Southern Mississippi where Nix was the defensive coordinator, and immediately knew that the kind of defense that Nix ran was the kind that he wanted to be a part of.

When Nix moved to defensive coordinator for South Carolina, Eric was a senior, and the two formed a bond. While Eric had been plowing through football his senior year, academics hadn't been coming quite as easily.

“He’s been a real guy, so down to earth,” Eric said of Nix. “He stuck with me when I was having academic problems my senior year.”

While others didn’t believe in Eric academically, Nix was encouraging him and telling Eric that he would make it. Academics are crucial to Nix, and it’s something that Eric has come to live by as well.

“He’s most proud of me academically,” Eric said. “He knows the football thing will come.”

When Eric left for South Carolina to begin workouts, it was the first time in his life that he had left his little brother. It was hard to leave him, but Eric and Erin still talk everyday.

In the midst of saying goodbye to his brother and his mother, Eric was faced with a seemingly simple question by defensive line coach Brad Lawing.

“Do you want to be treated like a freshman, or do you want to be treated like an older player?”

“I want to be treated like an older player.”

By making that decision, Eric was ridden on hard his freshman year. Lawing used him as a designated pass rusher, and would bring him in during tense third down situations. As an attentive player who is always open to constructive criticism, Eric learned his position well, and is no longer the “High School Harry” that Lawing dubbed him last year.

“He had me hard on him his freshman year, because he had to play for us as a freshman.” Lawing said. “It was hard for him, but he reacted in a positive way. He got better.”

As a sophomore, Eric has made vast improvements on the field. But while football has and always will be important to him, he’s aware that it won’t last forever.

Thanks to Eric’s natural drive and Nix’s watchful eyes, Eric has a 3.2 GPA, a major in criminal justice and a minor in psychology. He says that he can see himself as a defense attorney one day.

For now though, the “football thing,” as he referred to it, is suiting him just fine.

He has 56 tackles and five sacks on the season so far, and has recovered and returned three fumbles for 55 yards. No one will forget that narrow Thursday night game against Kentucky where he recovered two touchdowns to tie the NCAA record.

“A work or two age, I was looking at the game ball, and it finally hit me what I had done,” Eric said.

Erin said, “Anna Norwood was at the ESPN Zone in Buckhead, Ga., watching the game, and remembers her son being interviewed on TV after the game. “I didn’t want to just blow a game he’d had until I got home and my phone was ringing off the hook for him.”

Anna and Erin Norwood make it to most games, being able to watch her son play college football amazing for Anna Norwood. Erin has his sights set on Southern Mississippi to play football, and while the two boys have come a long way from pee wee league in Dallas, Texas, nothing has really changed.

“It’s still just Eric and little Airman, following their dream together.”
South Carolina has a 1-1 record with Florida after bringing Coach Steve Spurrier to Columbia. As the Gamecocks go up against No. 17 Florida this Saturday in Williams-Brice Stadium, there is hope that they will better that record and get an SEC win.

The Gamecocks are headed into the game coming off of three back-to-back SEC losses, producing an overall record of 6-4 and a conference record of 5-4. With a defense that is currently struggling at best, Spurrier could not have been more accurate when he said the offense needs to play extremely well if they’re going to have a chance. The Carolina offense must make it a point to gain passing yards this weekend as they will be going up against a relatively young and somewhat weak Florida secondary. Going into this game, South Carolina has averaged 249.8 passing yards per game. Blake Mitchell exceeded this average last week in Arkansas with 304 passing yards. Working in favor of Carolina, the Florida defense gives up an average of 241.7 passing yards per game.

While Mitchell, Cory Boyd, Kenny McKinley and Mike Davis will all have to be at their best, they will need the help of up and coming players such as Dion Lecorn and Jared Cook to pull out a win. Lecorn must come out with the same driving force against Florida to create options on the receiving end. With the top defensive backs focusing on McKinley, Lecorn will have more opportunities to spread the field.

Cook will hopefully be another exceptional receiving option. At 6-feet-5 inches and 236 pounds he will most likely draw a defender who does not have the ability to cover him well. He provides a big target for Mitchell, and will provide a good target if Mitchell is under pressure. There were only two scoring touchdowns versus Arkansas and those went to Lecorn and Cook.

Making big offensive plays early in the game will also be a factor. The Gamecocks are currently outstanding opponents by at least 50 percent in the third and fourth quarter. The team has to come out ready to play from the second they run into the stadium.

With Florida’s offense scoring an average of 40.2 points per game and only allowing an average of 25.2, the offense will have to look out for Florida defensive players Brandon Spikes, Derrick Harvey and Tim Tebow. Spikes has accumulated a total of 88 tackles this season, and Harvey is going strong with 35 tackles. Included in those 35 tackles are 6.5 sacks and 13 tackles for loss. Joiner leads in the secondary with 35 tackles are 6.5 sacks and 13 tackles for loss. Joiner leads in the secondary with 35 tackles.

Florida’s offense will present a different challenge to South Carolina than Arkansas’s offense. Arkansas plowed through the defense with a powerful pair of running backs. Florida’s offense is built around Heisman hopeful quarterback Tim Tebow. Not only can Tebow pick apart opposing secondaries, he is capable of using his 6’1”, 229 pound frame to pound out rushing yards. Florida’s offensive line is a strength, providing Tebow with 21 touchdowns and four interceptions. With a 67.7 completion percentage, Tebow is one of the most dangerous offensive weapons in the country. His 179.1 passer rating is the highest in the nation.

“He’s the quarterback of today, a guy that can run around, break some tackles and still get some balls off. That’s the type of quarterback that everyone’s looking for,” Coach Steve Spurrier said.

But Tebow is just one of 11 players the South Carolina defense will have to face Saturday. Wide receiver Percy Harvin leads the Gators with 45 receptions and 714 receiving yards. He is also third on the team with 442 rushing yards on 54 attempts, an average of 8.2 yards per carry. Harvin is exceptionally versatile and will line up both at wide receiver and running back during games. Tebow and Harvin make Florida a difficult team to defend. “Florida probably has the best balanced offense in the league,” Spurrier said. “Percy (Harvin), they list him at wide receiver, but they play him at tailback too. He’s very talented. Somewhere or another, we need to slow them down.”

A key point for South Carolina to stop Florida this weekend is for each player to take care of their individual defensive assignments. “Everybody has to keep their assignments. That is the key to every play,” senior defensive end Casper Brinkley said this week. “Everybody has to run to the ball. That is the only way you are going to beat them.”

South Carolina’s defense is allowing the fewest passing yards per game in the nation at 149 yards per game. However, they are 13th in the SEC in rush defense at 206 yards per game.

The Gamecocks must slow down the Gator running game and force them into passing situations that they are uncomfortable with. This could lead to long third down situations, and possibly turnovers. “We’re going to have a very physical game. We are trying to show the world that South Carolina can do it. We are a physical team,” Brinkley said.

Comments on this story? E-mail gcksports@gwm.sc.edu

This week’s preview: Florida vs. South Carolina

Gamecocks need to fly from start

Team must be on the offensive from start, be poised under fire

Kara Roache
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Defence looks to recover from Hogs

From McFadden to Tebow, Carolina looks to stop run again

Ty Zeigler
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As season winds down, championships, bragging rights remain undecided

Keith Locklear
The Daily Gamecock

The college football season is entering the home stretch, and almost all of the bids for conference championships are still up for grabs.

In a season that has featured so many upsets, many of the favored teams should take care of business this week. The top ten matchups are highlighted by a Big 12 shootout and two SEC showdowns.

5. Illinois at No. 1 Ohio State
Top-ranked Ohio State controls their own destiny for a berth in the National Championship game again this season. The Buckeyes will try not to look past Illinois this week, who have won back-to-back games after some midseason struggles. Quarterback Todd Boeckman has played well enough for Ohio State to rash himself into consideration for the Heisman, and find themselves in a position to still further his cause.

4. Wake Forest at No. 21 Clemson
The Tigers have featured a potent offense this season, and 18 of those have gone to the road. This week though, as Georgia will have the edge between the hedges over Cox and the Volunteers still have a realistic chance against South Carolina last week.

3. Arkansas at No. 24 Tennessee
Winning some close games has kept the Volunteers in the hunt for these games to gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu.ChallengeGamecock

2. Texas Tech at No. 14 Texas
Texas Tech enters this game with the top offense in the country, averaging almost 550 yards per game. Quarterback Graham Harrell has thrown 38 touchdowns already this season, and 18 of those have gone to freshman receiver Michael Crabtree.

1. No. 18 Auburn at No. 10 Georgia
The Tigers have featured a potent defense this week, who have won four games in a row, but have had to make fourth quarter comebacks in their last two wins. Running back Jamaal Charles has carried Texas in those two contests, totaling 440 yards rushing and six touchdowns. The Longhorn defense should be able to slow down the Texas Tech offense, but the Red Raiders will still be able pull out this close upset on the road.

Every week, our stuff will predict 10 college games. If you think you know your stuff, submit your pick for these games to gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu.

Georgia is being led by freshman running back Knowshon Moreno, who has become one of the most explosive backs in school history to break 1,000 yards rushing.

If Auburn hopes to have any success against the Bulldogs, they will need a big game from quarterback Brandon Cox who has played well in the Tigers’ big games this year. Auburn has a solid defense, but they will need their offense to score touchdowns and not kick field goals. That won’t happen this week though, as Georgia will have the edge between the hedges over Cox and the Tigers.

Comments on this story?
E-mail gcksprts@gwm.sc.edu

**Gamecock Challenge**

**Last Week’s Standings:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Pick</th>
<th>Score 1</th>
<th>Score 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Tech</td>
<td>S. California</td>
<td>Atkins</td>
<td>40-20</td>
<td>40-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Burt</td>
<td>42-24</td>
<td>42-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest</td>
<td>Clemson</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>11-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>Traylor</td>
<td>27-24</td>
<td>27-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Francis</td>
<td>27-20</td>
<td>27-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall:**

- Atkins: 2-2
- Burt: 3-1
- Austin: 1-3
- Traylor: 3-0
- Francis: 2-2

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info@retreatcolumbia.com
1. Has anyone touched Darren McFadden yet? I wonder if Darren McFadden was even sore when he got up Sunday. He probably woke up and thought it was all a dream. Emanuel Cook hit him hard one time, but other than that he ran free most of the night. It was like he was going for a morning jog. At one point I thought I saw him carrying an iPod. I think we all know Carolina has to improve the run defense. It will be the deciding factor between finishing the regular season 2-0 and finishing 0-2.

2. Will somebody remove the black pants from the locker room? The Under Armour black pants are now 0-2 all time, I just wanted to put that out there. I’m not normally a really superstitious person, especially when it comes to uniforms, but something about those things bothers me. They need to be ritually removed as soon as possible.

3. Is there anyone on the planet more annoying than Tim Tebow? Every time I see Tim Tebow jump up after a two-yard run and start waving his arms like he just hit the Powerball, I want to pole vault into a wood chipper. The way he celebrates after even the most average play would make you think he just won the Super Bowl. I wonder if he does this during everyday life. I can just picture him finding an extra quarter in the coin return of a vending machine and chest bumping the nearest person to the ground.

“YEAH BABY! FREE QUARTER! GET SOME! I'M TIMMY TEBOW BABY, WOO!”

4. Is Florida’s Percy Harvin the most intimidating guy named Percy ever? If Percy Harvin’s name was Rock Stanley or Buck Johnson, he’d be getting Heisman hype. It’s just against people’s nature to be scared of a guy named Percy. That being said, I’ll give Percy Harvin respect. He is easily the most intimidating guy named Percy that I can think of. There was Percy Young, the British composer and organist. There was Percy Sledge, the man who brought us “When a Man Loves a Woman.” And there was my personal favorite, Percy the Small Engine from Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends.

Not only is Percy Harvin one of the most dangerous players in the country, he is also probably the baddest Percy of all time. I respect that.

5. What needs to happen for USC to win the SEC East? It took me 30 minutes and half a legal pad to figure this out, and I’m still probably wrong. USC needs to beat Florida, and then have Georgia lose to Auburn and Kentucky. Then they would need Kentucky to lose to Vanderbilt, but beat Tennessee and Georgia.

Then they would need Tennessee to lose to Arkansas and Vanderbilt and Kentucky. This would put Vanderbilt, USC, Georgia, Kentucky and Florida all at 4-4 in the conference. After that it gets into some ridiculous tiebreaker that I don’t even want to get into.

I think it ends with Sparrer playing rock, paper, scissors with Rich Brooks live on Lincoln Financial Sports for a trip to the championship game.

5 Questions
JAKE BROOM
Graduate student

Jake Broom

Zeta Tau Alpha is still collecting Yoplait Yogurt Lids for Save Lids to Save Lives in support of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Collection bins may be found in most of the dining facilities until November 15th. Please help support them in their competition against Clemson’s collection!
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