Renovations make tailgating and parking easier.

Security ready to handle potential gameday problems

Saturday is the first home football game of the season, so it is only fitting that the Gamecocks in their first home game against Florida Atlantic this Saturday. Police will be in full force at USC's first home game against Florida Atlantic this Saturday.

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LOCAL & WORLD NEWS

LOCAL

Lyman files defamation suit

A South Carolina legislator filed a defamation lawsuit Thursday over an anonymous letter mailed to her Spartanburg County constituents that suggests she had an affair with Gov. Mark Sanford.

State Rep. Rita Allison of Lyman, along with the state Republican Party, sued an unnamed “John Doe.” The 69-year-old grandmother said the letter mailed to voters Aug. 10 crossed the line beyond dirty politics and into a character assassination.

She said she considered just ignoring it, but decided to make a stand that spreading lies — especially anonymously — is unacceptable. She said she hopes the lawsuit prevents a similar attack on others, no matter what party.

“All of a long period of being hurt and angry, I had a peace above. People shouldn’t be allowed to do this,” said the ex-term lawmaker.

NATIONAL

Tech charged in Yale slaying

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — As police charged a Yale animal lab technician with murdering a graduate student who worked in his building, a portrait began to emerge Thursday of an employment striker for the rules who often clashed with researchers and considered the mouse cages his personal fiefdom.

Police charged 24-year-old Raymond Clark III with murder, arresting him at a motel a day after taking hair, fingernail and saliva samples to compare with evidence from the grisly crime scene at Yale’s medical school.

Bond was set at $1 million for Clark, who kept his head down and said “Yes, your honor,” when asked whether he understood his rights.

INTERNATIONAL

Europe up to back pay cuts

BRUSSELS — EU leaders issued a joint plea to U.S. President Barack Obama Thursday to back their call for rich and developing nations to cap bankers’ pay and to impose deeper cuts on emissions for a new global climate change pact.

All 27 EU nations are in “total unity” that the world cannot repeat the “scandal” of bonuses for bankers’ pay and to impose deeper cuts on emissions for a new global climate change pact.

The gameday shuttle service begins three hours before each game until kickoff, and runs one-and-a-half hours after the game. For more information visit the gameday shuttle site at http://www.sc.edu/vmps/gameday.html.

Students and fans looking to make it to the stadium this fall without getting stuck in gameday gridlock are in luck, as University parking services will again be offering shuttles for each home football game.

Tickets for students will be free. For other fans, tickets may be purchased $3 per round trip per game, and season passes are available for $20. Tickets can be purchased at booth 1 at each of the two pick-up points. One of the shuttles picks up at Russell House and the other at the corner of Devine and Lincoln streets, behind the Coliseum. Both are drop-off points as well. The shuttles pick up on Rosewood Street after the game, near the main entrance of the fairgrounds.

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Today in History

1776: On this day in 1776, General George Washington writes to the president of the Continental Congress, John Hancock, reporting on the Battle at Harlem Heights and relaying the unfortunate news of the death of Captain Thomas Knowlton.

1793: On this day in 1793, George Washington lays the cornerstone to the United States Capitol building, the home of the legislative branch of American government.

1862: Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s army pulls away from Antietam Creek, near Sharpsburg, Maryland, and heads back to Virginia.

1945: On this day in 1945, Gen. Douglas MacArthur moves his command headquarters to Tokyo, as he prepares for his new role as architect of a democratic and capitalist postwar Japan.

1964: South Vietnamese officials claim that two companies from the North Vietnamese army have invaded South Vietnam.

1973: On this day in 1973, future President Jimmy Carter files a report with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), claiming he had seen an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) in October 1965.

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GET READY TO
FOR BEST OF
VOTING WILL BE HELD
5/23 - ROUSE HOUSE GREENE ST.
9/20 - BUS SHUTTLE
10/7 - PICKENS ST. BRIDGE
10/14 - ROUSE HOUSE 2ND FL.
3 WAYS TO VOTE
RETURN BALLOT TO VOTING TABLES
RETURN BALLOT TO RH 243
VOTE ONLINE

ENTER TO WIN AN IPOD TOUCH
Gamecock fans need to know support, stay

Who's ready for gamelday at Williams-Brice Stadium? After having wait to the third Saturday football game to watch the Gamecocks play at home, fans are undoubtedly anxious to print out tickets and head up to the fairgrounds for what some would call an exciting Saturday.

If only those loyal loyalty points were based on actual loyalty. You've been counting up the Gamecocks' wins and losses while the team is on the field, but have you counted the Gamecocks' wins and losses when the team is off the field? Every game dozens of students head to the stadium just to scan their tickets and leave. Could you, or anyone, comment about not getting a ticket if you care less about the game than the tailgating beforehand? Is it due to those loyalty points based on actual loyalty.

Every game, the Gamecocks are on the field, but their fans aren't. That's because the Gamecocks are just as loyal to their fans as the fans are to the Gamecocks. How can you expect the boys on the field to show support, stay Gamecocks fans need to show support, not be the fans with the worst gameday attendance. It's not just the tailgating beforehand. You can't keep us off the water.

So to gameday-goers, do your favorite team a favor and support them to the end? We want to see the fight song blaring, the “Gamecocks” across the stadium, and that lone aloof athlete you have to be to race a car. We want you to show support, stay Gamecocks fans need to show support, not be the fans with the worst gameday attendance. It's not just the tailgating beforehand. You can't keep us off the water.

Gamecocks fans need to know support, stay.
61st Emmys set to shine Sunday

"Mad Men," "30 Rock" expected to clean up at television awards presentation

Best Drama Series: Returning winner "Mad Men" comes back serving up its usual mix of high-concept stories and more thoughtful, nuanced character-driven dramas. Last year's winner, "Breaking Bad," is not eligible for the award this time around. However, the show's fans are hoping for a win based on the show's recent popularity and critical acclaim.

Will Win: "Mad Men"

Best Comedy Series: "30 Rock" is a strong contender for this award, having been nominated for the past four years. The show has received critical acclaim for its writing, acting, and production values. However, "The Office" and "The Simpsons" are also strong candidates.

Will Win: "30 Rock"

Best Actress in a Drama Series: "Damages" star Glenn Close is a strong contender for this award, having been nominated for the past two years. She has received critical acclaim for her performance as the show's lead character, a wealthy socialite who becomes a trial attorney.

Will Win: Glenn Close, "Damages"

Best Actor in a Drama Series: Bryan Cranston's performance as Walter White in "Breaking Bad" has been widely praised by critics and fans alike. He is a strong contender for this award.

Will Win: Bryan Cranston, "Breaking Bad"

Best Supporting Actress, Drama: Elizabeth Moss has been praised for her performance as Peggy Olson in "Mad Men". She is a strong contender for this award.

Will Win: Elisabeth Moss, "Mad Men"

Best Supporting Actor, Drama: John Slattery has been nominated for this award for his performance as Roger Sterling in "Mad Men". He is a strong contender for this award.

Will Win: John Slattery, "Mad Men"

Outstanding Variety Series: The presidential debate is a significant event, and the show that covers it is likely to be a strong contender for this award.

Will Win: "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart"

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

"The four building blocks of the universe are fire, water, gravel and vinyl." -Dave Barry

---

Cupcake brings treat to Columbia

Decadent Charleston-based bakery opens third location, delivers confections to Vista

Ellen Meder

Walking into Columbia's newest specialty bakery feels like entering a special wonderland at the end of a fairy tale. Though it is decorated in lovely pastel designs, there is not the same success as the bakery's other Rawdman locations. The Upstairs area has plenty of samples for anyone who drops by between 3 and 7 p.m.

Will Win: Tina Fey, "30 Rock"

Best Supporting Actor, Comedy: With "Breaking Bad" slated for cancellation, Bryan Cranston's work is more subtle and less flashy. However, he is still a strong contender for this award.

Will Win: Bryan Cranston, "Breaking Bad"

Best Supporting Actress, Comedy: One of the hardest categories to pick, with six nominees split over four shows. If the double-nominated show cancel each other out, expect Rose Byrne to win, although the supporting ladies from "Grey's Anatomy" and "In Treatment" are all potent threats.

Will Win: Rose Byrne, "Damages"

Cupcake is a revolutionary bakery that opened its doors to Charleston in March 2006 thanks to a carefully contrived business by owner Kristen Khalike. "It was well received from the beginning — but extremely slow," Khalike said."I got so excited when people walked through the door. It was a long, slow ramp-up for the entire business.

Will Win: "Mad Men"

Cupcake's popular flavors include red velvet and peanut butter banana fluff.

Will Win: "30 Rock"

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

"People are always happy when they come in," Caville said. "It's just a very happy place. Almost magical. Add in the wonderful employees I get to work with and it really is perfect."
GREEK FESTIVAL DELIVERS FLAVOR

Jill Shepard
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

This weekend the 23rd annual Greek Festival being held at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church is offering a variety of events encompassing Greek life, from traditional dancing to food and shopping.

Mary Rickman, general chair of the Greek Festival, has been involved in production for the past 22 years and is in charge of all the preparations for upcoming events. Rickman believes this year’s guests will greatly exceed last year’s record high.

She is overwhelmed with enthusiasm about the events to come. “I have everything about the festival. When we set up the tents and lights, I just stepped back in awe. It actually looks like a Greek village,” Rickman said. “If you haven’t been to Greece before, you will think you are there when arriving at the festival.”

Traditional Greek folk dancing will take place throughout the weekend. For those interested in understanding educational aspects within the Church such as church tours held along with on-going dancing, continuous live Greek music will set the atmosphere of the festival, including the sounds of the Nick Demos and Nick Tiritas bands.

This unique festival will not leave you hungry. The large festival personnel offers a variety of Greek dishes that leave you craving for more of the delicious Mediterranean tastes. Some of the classic delicacies include Greek style roasted lamb and chicken, peasant shrimp, ouzo, gyros, spanakopita, roasted potatoes, Greek salads, and many assorted pastries. There will be indoor and outdoor venues to enjoy the classic Greek cooking. “The food is unbelievably fantastic,” Rickman said.

While experiencing the festive atmosphere, various vendors will set up displays of imported Greek jewelry such as silver, as well as statues and vases.

Along with the wining and dining, the festival offers educational aspects within the Church such as church tours held throughout the weekend. For those interested in understanding or learning more about Greek culture, video presentations and discussions will take place hourly in the cultural exhibit in the main building of the Church.

Not only does the festival serve as a place for entertainment and learning, but it also serves as a fundraiser for the construction of a new Greek Orthodox Church. Holy Trinity plans to start building at the end of this month. Money raised will also be given to about 16 local and national charities.

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Going on its 23rd year, the Greek festival is an event for all ages that brings the Columbia community together.

The festival, at the corner of Sumter and Calhoun streets, is going on its 23rd year, the Greek festival is an event for all ages that brings the Columbia community together.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagcketc@sc.edu
The Scene

TODAY

MIXXD DJ DANCE NITE
8 p.m., free
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

COLUMBIA CITY BALLET FUNDRAISER
8 p.m.,
The White Mule, 1530 Main St.

PINNA
10 p.m., $2
Elbow Room

TOMORROW

THE COVE
6 & 8 p.m., $6
Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.

DANCE PARTY HOSTED BY JOHN ANTHONY
9:30 p.m., $3 over 21/$5 under 21
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

TRIBUTE BANDS
8 p.m., $4
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

PhD
By Jorge Chan

Whiteboard
By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock

Inside the Box
By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock

HOROSCOPES

ARIES There are so many details, you may fear you can’t learn them. You’re actually very good at keeping things in order.

TAURUS A conversation with a loved one leads to the sharing of a big secret. Provide assurance that the secret will be kept.

GEMINI Things are stacked up again, and your priorities have changed. Go through your lists and complete everything you can.

CANCER You’re so busy studying, you may not realize how much you’ve already acquired. Count blessings as well as errors.

Leo There’s still more to be done. You know how to set priorities. Think them over carefully and revise your list.

virgo You’ll have a chance to clean up a mess that’s been bothering you lately. Settle on a plan and proceed with caution.

LIBRA Use intuition to understand other people. Balance becomes important late in the day. Think twice before speaking.

SCORPIO You wake up from a dream and know exactly what to do. So do in. Others applaud.

SAGITTARIUS Make sure you’ve made up

your mind before telling anyone. Reversing a decision will prove difficult right now.

CAPRICORN

You have one or two secrets you can handle.

AQUARIUS
Choose your battles wisely. You don’t have enough energy today to deal with everything coming your way.

PISES There’s more to reveal. Think about it before you say anything. Use emotional manipulation if necessary.

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Capricorn You have one or two secrets you can handle.
Take the Internet. Leave the bulk.


Introducing the ultra portable HP Mini netbook with America’s Largest and Most Reliable 3G Network built in. Loaded with an 80GB hard drive, webcam, and Windows® XP, it’s anything but small.

Plus, get a 19% student discount. (HP Mini 2133T at higher cost is a $150 upgrade.)

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

FR

AY

hadn’t been done yet in Columbia. Culliver, it was the opportunity to do something that I’m glad I’m on defense.”

It worked out for the best and defense and I had to work on my route running. It was natural position. I wasn’t natural at it,” Culliver said.

Focus, explains Culliver, was a fatal flaw in his own individual play last Saturday night.

We gave up some plays. I had a missed assignment,” Culliver said. “He leads by example, but he leads vocally too. He’ll let’s go baby we gotta pick it up. I try to do the same thing. I have to get hyped myself and help out not just him but the whole defense.”

Not only does Culliver emulate the way Norwood plays and leads the team, but also in the trash-talking on the field.

“He leads by example, but he leads vocally too. He’ll be the one saying trash talks (and) back, and I’ll be right behind him,” Culliver said. “I like to talk a little trash out there too, but not too much. Coach gets on me sometimes.”

If USC is going to be successful in the SEC this season, Chris Culliver will be a tremendous reason.

“First thing is to I’m thinking return the kick. Then I have to understand what the kick team is trying to do and really I have to bring my blocks into the game.”

Culliver says. “Everybody always says they’re one block away. But I need to be that guy to get that last block for myself to spring myself forward.”

Now, coming off a gut-wrenching loss at Georgia, Culliver and the Carolina defensive unit need to regroup and sharpen up for the team’s first home game of the season. But what exactly was the problem that led to 41 Bulldog points?

“We gave up some plays. Had a missed assignment,” Culliver said. “We just have to learn from it and stay focused and compete.”

Beau, explaining Culliver, was a fast flow in his own individual play last Saturday night.

“Even Saturday’s opponent, I should have just stayed a little more focused,” Culliver said. “I think if I stayed focused I would have played a little better and would have understood some of the things the offense was trying to do.”

Coach Spurrier, however, didn’t have many negatives to mention when asked about his free safety’s performance in the first two weeks.

“He’s played fine. Of course, they all played fairly well in the first game. Second game, we weren’t quite as good as we were the first game defensively, but Chris has played well,” Spurrier said. “He’s a fast kid. Back there, can anticipate and probably they’re going to come in here and throw it around so our DBs may have an opportunity to make a play or two this week, hopefully.”

Not only to be an impact player on the defensive side of the ball, but he can also change the game while returning kicks for USC’s return team. Even since high school, Culliver has had the electricity to light up the scoreboard and provide a necessary jolt to the team with his speed returning kicks. Now he is replacing Dick Harvey’s record at South Carolina for all time kick returns and return yardage. Both records will likely break in the opening home game.

“Chris is such a hard worker,” Le Corn said. “He’s such a hard worker, he’s such a hard worker, he’s such a hard worker,” Le Corn said.

Well, at least a “semi-leader,”. Culliver has grown and developed since his freshman year. A catalyst in his maturation has been All-American linebacker Eric Norwood, who plays with the fire and emotion that Culliver admires.

“I call him a go-getter. He just goes hard every play so I just try to do the same thing,” Culliver said. “I see him out there, and if the defense is a little sleepy he says let’s go baby we gotta pick it up. I try to do the same thing. I have to get hyped myself and help out not just him but the whole defense.”

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If USC is going to be successful in the SEC this season, Chris Culliver will be a tremendous reason.

Whether the spark will come in the secondary when he makes an interception, at the line of scrimmage when he lays the lumber on an opposing offensive player, or on a huge kick off return. Chris Culliver can significantly impact both the South Carolina team as well as the entire Williams-Brice stadium.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu

“electrifying speed and the tackling ability of a ‘linebacker’”

“a spark to gamecock football”

flashes of incredible athleticismism

Junior safety provides spark of life, jolt of enthusiasm to young South Carolina secondary

Sam Davis

Two years ago, Chris Culliver was one of several young Carolina wide receivers buried on the depth chart, facing playing time whether it be on the kick off or kick return team.

Now, from his safety position, he’s provided a significant spark to one of the finer defensive units in college football—a defense that began to open eyes and drop jaws when Culliver began his tenure at USC.

After showing incredible athleticism and the ability to light up the Carolina crowd (and the opposing running back), Chris Culliver can now be considered a leader, among others, on the Gamecocks’ defense.

Although considered an offensive player entering 2007 to a free safety for the Carolina Gamecocks? He’s such a hard worker,” Le Corn said.

But what exactly was the problem that led to 41 Bulldog points?

“We gave up some plays. Had a missed assignment,” Culliver said. “We just have to learn from it and stay focused and compete.”

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Smith provides stiff challenge for USC

Decorated veteran quarterback will test struggling Gamecock defense

Ed Nishina

Following a subpar performance against N.C. State where they allowed only 113 yards of total offense, the Gamecock defense was flying high going into week two. But after an offensive explosion that saw UGA rack up 41 points and 508 yards overall, the Gamecocks defense looks to regroup to week one form against Florida Atlantic.

FAC, out of the Sun Belt Conference, may not appear to be much of a challenge for the USC defense at first glance, but the Owl offense does pose a threat. The biggest part of that threat comes from quarterback Rusty Smith.

Smith is the all-time leading passer in Sun Belt history and was the preseason pick for Sun Belt Offensive Player of the Year. The Gamecock defense looks to limit Smith, who struggled with accuracy in the Owls' opener against Nebraska, completing 15 of 31 passes for 164 yards and throwing two interceptions.

The Gamecock defensive line is confident they can limit the prolific 2010 NFL Draft pick.

"The main thing is to contain him. Don't miss any sacks," junior defensive tackle Terrin Robertson said.

Also working on the Gamecocks' interior line has been freshman Chaz Sutton. Sutton, normally an end, has been practicing recently at tackle following an injury to Nathan Pepper, suffered at last week's loss at Georgia. He welcomes the challenge.

"As defensive end, it's like a one-on-one situation. But at tackle, it's all about pride," Sutton said.

Sutton and Robertson will both work to take the ball away from the Owls, who turned over three times in their loss to Nebraska in week one. Carolina had three takeaways against Georgia last week and hopes to continue that success.

"Anytime we get a chance to get a turnover, we have to snatch it. Any chance we get, we've got to get it," Robertson said.

Robertson, who had two tackles against UGA, was named the most improved defensive lineman this past spring.

"I think we have a team that can do it this week and move on," Robertson said. "It was a learning experience for us."

Senior linebacker Eric Norwood looks to cement his legacy against the Owls. Norwood is one sack away from tying Andro Papon as the all-time leader in Carolina's record books with 22.5 sacks.

"I think we have a great team here, we just haven't put it all together yet," Norwood said.

Comments on this story?
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Spurrier seeks Miles’ help

to improve running game

Rusty Smith

The Florida Atlantic Owls allowed a massive 259 rushing yards and five touchdowns in what was a blow out game for the Nebraska Cornhuskers last weekend in Lincoln, Neb. A week later, tailbacks Jarvis Giles and Brian Maddox are hoping to inflict similar pain to the downtrodden Owl defense.

After last Thursday’s disappointing loss to the Georgia Bulldogs, the Gamecock offense looks to bounce back in a major way. Quarterback Stephen Garcia, whose plan was to rarely leave the pocket, ended up as Carolina’s leading rusher against the stingy Bulldogs.

“We’re going to keep working on the running game,” coach Steve Spurrier said.

“We’ll keep plugging away at it and see what happens here down the road. We still need to block better at times and the running backs need to pick their holes, but we’ll continue to work on it.”

Against the Owls’ less-than-spectacular rush defense, Carolina looks to get its ground game on the right track.

“We’re still trying to find out who our best players are,” Spurrier said. “You find out in games, not in practice. We’re trying to give them all a chance and trying to win the game at the same time.”

Florida Atlantic should expect myriad rushers as USC continues to look for its best running back options.

“Jarvis has played a bit like a freshman. He’s done good things here and there,” Spurrier said. “Kenny Miles deserves a chance now to play. Brian Maddox and Jarvis had several carries and played a bit. Brian’s been solid, no question, but Kenny deserves a chance.”

With this in mind, Gamecock fans can expect to see a few different players toting around the pigskin Saturday.

Looking to stop the USC rushing attack is junior linebacker Michael Lockley, who’s sure to be hounding over any player wearing garnet and black this Saturday.

“Taking care of the ball has certainly impressed Garcia heavily into a crowd as much as our guys did in the past,” Spurrier said. “The running backs are building into the ball and doing a good job. We have to continue that. There are a lot of areas we have to get better, but hopefully we’ll show some improvement this week in our offense, our defense and our special teams play.”

South Carolina will be looking to build on its recent success and continue to improve as a team, which begins with a dominating victory over the downtrodden Owls.

“I believe we have a great team here, we just haven’t put it all together yet,” Spurrier said.
GAMECOCK STUDENT REWARDS

UPCOMING GAMES

EQUESTRIAN VS TCU
SUNDAY, SEPT 20 AT 10:00 AM

WOMEN’S SOCCER VS UCF
FRIDAY, SEPT 18 AT 7:00 PM

WOMEN’S SOCCER VS SOUTH ALABAMA
SUNDAY, SEPT 20 AT 2:00 PM
USC quarterback Mike Hold — is back in South Carolina just in time.

“There’s no doubt, we’re glad to be back. We’re not back yet, we’re in the transition period, trying to find time to go up on a weekend and lead up the U-Haul in Ohio and all that stuff,” Hold said. “Once we do settle, it’s going to be great.”

After a 22-year career as both a player and coach in Arena Football, Hold is back in the Palmetto State in a new field – athletic administration. Hold was recently hired as the associate athletic director for business at Newberry College, joining former teammate athletic director Brad Edwards.

“Mike brings with him an extremely high level of success and competition in college as well as professional athletics,” Edwards said in a press release. “His role in professional sports in terms of coaching, dealing with the media and fans, dealing with budgets and equipment and participating in securing sponsorships will bode well for him as an administrator.”

After leaving USC, Hold was one of the first players to enter the Arena Football League, playing for the Chicago Bruisers in the inaugural 1987 season. When the league folded in 2003, Hold was the last remaining original player in the game. Hold didn’t go far from the area, as he eventually became head coach of the Augusta Stallions in the all-Area Developmental League.

“The playing days were over for me and I was at a point where I didn’t know what I was going to do,” Hold said. “They had just started the afl and I was able to go right from playing into a coaching role, and I ended up being in it for nine years.”

From August, Hold took a job in the afl as the Carolina Cobras’ head man in 2001, before returning to the developmental league as the coach of the Miami Knights (2004-2005) and Mahoning Valley Thunder (2007-2009), with a stint as the offensive coordinator at the top level with the Las Vegas Gladiators unfinished in-between.

“Coming in [the Newberry job] was something a little bit different for me, but the great thing about this club is that in keeps you in athletics,” Hold said. “Coaching had gotten old, in a sense that I knew I didn’t know what I was going to do,” Hold said. “That guy’s going to have fighting to make sure his position is solid.”

“Most of the Gamecock Nation remembers Hold for his 1984 season. The team’s leading passer, Hold helped lead the greatest season in Carolina history, as the Gamecocks and head coach Joe Morrison rose as high as No. 2 in the nation en route to a 10-2 finish, knocking off No. 2 Notre Dame, and archrival Clemson in the process. Hold said before the season that he’d be 10-2, “we would’ve thought we’d have to play some football.

That was just one of those seasons where a lot of things came together,” Hold said. “A lot of guys played soccer football and just did what it took to win. Florida State, Notre Dame, Clemson, Georgia, I mean, wow. All the teams you guys you’re playing and beating.”

“Man, it’s just one of those stories throughout Columbia today, and Hold can still remember what it was like 25 years ago as part of the historic season.”

There was a buzz around town, around town. There were times that I remember feeling that there was really electricity in the town,” Hold said. “One that comes to mind was the Notre Dame game, when we got home. We got on the buses to come back from the airport, and people are lined up from the terminal, down the road, the airport, down the road. It was crazy. Hold and his teammates were aware of the history they were making that fall, but he feels their ability to not focus on that is the key to their accomplishments.

“We were reminded of it every week in the papers, 4-0, never been there 1-0, never been there 2-0, we’ve never been to bowls,” Hold said. “We were aware of it, but the great thing about that team was that we didn’t get caught up. We had a lot of senior leadership. We had guys who had been there a long time that had been through the peaks and valleys – a lot of valleys. I think that was the key to our success.”

Back home with his wife Nicole, with his old teammate Edwards. However, he still has time for Carolina football.

“They’ve got a quarterback that’s going to do a lot of good things,” Hold said of his modern counterpart, Stephen Garcia. “That guy’s going to be phenomenal. You look at the rest of the team, they’re young. It should be exciting to see what they do this year and in the next year or two.”

E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu
Vols head to Florida for SEC showdown

Rivalry game one of several critical matchups set for Saturday

Justin Warick
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Tennessee @ No. 1 Florida

There are plenty of storylines after the hiring of Lane Kiffin as the Vols’ head coach. Can he deliver on his promise to beat the Gators in “The Swamp?” Will Urban Meyer return the favor by running the score up? The Gators are clicking on all sides of the ball coming into this game, while Tennessee’s offense showed why it was one of the worst in the nation last season against UCLA. This game could get really embarrassing really quick, as Florida will dominate UT on all sides of the ball.

The Pick: Florida 49, Tennessee 10

No. 18 Utah @ Oregon

This will be the first real test on the road to a BCS bid for Utah, as they head into raucous Autzen Stadium to meet the Ducks. Utah will be looking to extend its nation-leading win streak to 17 games. Oregon will be hoping to end the BCS dreams for Utah and bounce back from a disappointing 1-3 start. That being said, Utah has been preparing for this game all fall and that emotion will fuel the Utes.

The Pick: Utah 38, Oregon 31

Texas Tech @ No. 2 Texas

Texas Tech shocked the nation last year in a 39-33 upset of then-No. 1 Texas in Lubbock, ending as Michael Crabtree caught a game-winning touchdown with a second left. Texas will be looking for payback for a loss that cost them a shot at a national championship, and Colt McCoy a Heisman Trophy.

The Pick: Texas 48, Texas Tech 28

No. 19 Cincinnati @ Oregon State

Cincinnati, one of the most underrated offensive units in the nation, will be tested as they head into a hostile environment Saturday. The Beavers are very good at home, winning 15 of the last 17 home games against a ranked opponent, including a defeat of top ranked Southern California last year. My mind is telling me to pick Cincinnati, but my gut is saying Oregon State.

The Pick: Oregon State 28, Cincinnati 24

Florida State @ No. 9 BYU

Florida State at No. 9 BYU — BYU solidified its Top Ten standing last week with a 54-3 romp over Tulsa last weekend, avoiding the letdown after its upset of Oklahoma. Cougar QB Max Hall has emerged as a leading Heisman contender after two games in which he totaled over 300 yards passing. With the fact that Florida State's secondary has struggled stopping the pass this season, expect BYU to get the win at home.

The Pick: BYU 35, Florida St. 27

No. 22 Nebraska @ No. 14 Virginia Tech

Nebraska rolls into Blacksburg, Va. looking to avenge last season’s 35-20 loss to the Hokies. Both teams are coming off impressive offensive performances. Virginia Tech, led by freshmen running backs Ryan Williams and David Wilson, ran for 444 yards against Marshall in a 52-10 win, while the Huskers scored on 5 of its first 6 possessions last week against Arkansas State en route to a 38-9 rout. In the end, Virginia Tech rides the running game and the home field advantage to a big win.

The Pick: Virginia Tech 24, Nebraska 17

No. 18 Utah @ Oregon

This game features teams coming off heartbreaking losses. State lost Central Michigan, while Notre Dame lost to Michigan. Can State keep up with the Irish receivers? Look for Notre Dame to exploit that and bounce back. The Pick: Notre Dame 55, Michigan State 15

Michigan State @ Notre Dame

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