



# SEASON IN REVIEW

	Date	Opponent	Result	Pitcher of Record (W/L)	Notable Game Note
CAROLINA GAMECOCKS	2-19	Albany	W, 10-1	Schmidt (W, 1-0)	Gamecocks tally 10 runs on 10 hits to win season opener
	2-20	Albany	W, 6-2	Webb (W, 1-0)	Jones 3-for-4 with 3 R & 3 RBI as well as a homer
	2-21	Albany	W, 8-1	Bowers (W, 1-0)	4-run 6th inning breaks a 1-1 tie
	2-23	Appalachian State	W, 5-0	Hill (W, 1-0)	Hill 11 strikeouts in 6.0 innings of work in Gamecock debut
	2-24	Winthrop	W, 16-4	Haswell (W, 1-0)	6-run first inning/16 hits, Destino & Hopkins 4 RBI apiece
	2-26	Penn State	W, 7-1	Schmidt (W, 2-0)	Jones 4-for-4 with a homer and 4 RBI/Schmidt 7.0 scoreless innings
	2-27	Penn State	W, 16-5	Webb (W, 2-0)	Season-high 19 hits/Destino 2 HR including a grand slam, 7 RBI/Jones grand slam
	2-28	Penn State	W, 4-2	Scott (W, 1-0)	Scott and Reagan combine for 4.1 scoreless innings of relief with just 1 hit allowed
STAFF	3-1	at The Citadel	W, 6-3	Hill (W, 2-0)	Hill 8 strikeouts in 5.0 scoreless innings/Gamecocks with 15 hits
	3-4	Clemson	W, 8-1	Schmidt (W, 3-0)	Schmidt 8.0 scoreless innings, 9 Ks/Destino 5-for-5 with 4 RBI
	3-5	vs. Clemson	L, 5-0	Webb (L, 2-1)	Gamecocks limited to 2 hits
	3-6	at Clemson	L, 4-1	Widener (L, 1-1)	Clemson with a pair of 2-run frames in the 3rd & 4th innings
	3-8	Wofford	W, 7-1	Hill (W, 3-0)	4 Gamecock pitchers combine for 17 strikeouts/all 9 position starters with at least 1 hit
	3-9	Furman	W, 5-4	Haswell (W, 2-0)	Jones and Destino with back-to-back homers in a 3-run 1st inning
	3-11	Charleston Southern	W, 9-0	Schmidt (W, 4-0)	Schmidt 7.1 scoreless innings/Thompson-Williams 2-for-4 with 2B, HR & 4 RBI
	3-12	Charleston Southern	W, 5-4	Webb (W, 3-1)	Destino 2-for-3 HR 3 RBI/Thompson-Williams 2-for-4 HR 2 RBI
	3-13	Charleston Southern	W, 2-0	Hill (W, 4-0)	Hill, Johnson & Reagan combine for 7-hit shutout/M. Williams first career HR
	3-15	at USC Upstate	W, 12-6	Murray (W, 1-0)	Mooney 4-for-5 with a homer, LT Tolbert first career homer
	3-16	Davidson	W, 15-2	Vogel (W, 1-0)	Gamecocks score 15 runs on 19 hits
	3-18	Arkansas	W, 10-6	Schmidt (W, 5-0)	5-run first inning followed by 3 more runs in the 2nd inning/Schmidt 11 Ks
	3-19	Arkansas	W, 6-2	Webb (W, 4-1)	John Jones 2-run homer breaks 2-2 tie in the 5th/2-run single by Mooney in the 8th
	3-20	Arkansas	W, 8-6	Reagan (W, 1-0)	Gamecocks rally from 6-1 deficit/3-run homer by John Jones in bottom of the 8th
	3-24	at Ole Miss	W, 5-1	Schmidt (W, 6-0)	All nine starters with at least 1 hit/Schmidt 6.2 innings of work, just 1 run allowed
	PLAYER PROFILES	3-25	at Ole Miss	W, 9-5	Webb (W, 5-1)
3-26		at Ole Miss	W, 4-0	Hill (W, 5-0)	Hill 6.0 scoreless innings of work/Gamecocks score 3 runs in top of the 1st
3-29		College of Charleston	L, 6-5 (13)	Scott (L, 1-1)	Gamecocks limited to just 7 hits in 13 innings
3-31		at Vanderbilt	L, 6-3	Schmidt (L, 6-1)	Vanderbilt strikes for 4 runs in the 1st/Schmidt first career complete game
4-1		at Vanderbilt	W, 4-0	Webb (W, 6-1)	Webb strikes out 11 in 8.0 scoreless innings of work
4-2		at Vanderbilt	L, 10-6	Johnson (L, 0-1)	Vanderbilt scores 1 in the 6th and 3 in the 7th to earn 4-run victory
4-5		Coastal Carolina	W, 4-2	Widener (W, 1-1)	Widener pitches 5.0 plus innings to earn win/bullpen 4.0 scoreless innings of relief
4-8		Tennessee	W, 7-6	Schmidt (W, 7-1)	Schmidt 10 strikeouts in 6.0 innings of work/Tolbert 2-run homer & 3 RBI
4-9		Tennessee	W, 7-4	Webb (W, 7-1)	Gamecocks break 4-4 tie with a pair of runs in the 6th/insurance run in the 8th
4-10		Tennessee	W, 4-3	Johnson (W, 1-1)	Destino pinch-hit RBI single in the 8th/Reagan works out of bases loaded jam in 9th
4-12		vs. North Carolina	L, 15-0	Widener (L, 1-2)	Gamecocks walk a season-high 10 batters
4-15		at Georgia	W, 3-1	Schmidt (W, 8-1)	Schmidt complete game 5-hitter, strikes out 10 in the victory
4-16		at Georgia	L, 13-4	Webb (L, 7-2)	8-run 3rd inning propels Georgia to victory
4-17		at Georgia	L, 5-3	Reagan (L, 1-1)	Bulldogs hit 4 homers including a pair to break 3-3 tie in the 8th inning
4-20		at Furman	W, 14-4	Scott (W, 2-1)	Gamecocks belt out 18 hits with 8 extra base hits (6 doubles/2 triples)
OPONENTS		4-22	Missouri	W, 8-5	Scott (W, 3-1)
	4-23	Missouri	W, 5-1	Webb (W, 8-2)	Webb strikes out 10/Destino drives in 4 runs
	4-24	Missouri	W, 9-2	Hill (W, 6-0)	Gamecocks with 16 hits/Cone 5-for-5, sets school-record for hitting streak
	4-29	Florida	L, 5-4	Reagan (L, 1-2)	Gators with a pair of solo homers in 9th inning to rally to victory
	4-30	Florida	W, 2-1	Webb (W, 9-2)	Cone game-winning homer in bottom of the 7th inning
	5-4	USC Upstate	W, 4-1	Widener (W, 2-2)	Mooney squeeze bunt gives Gamecock the lead in 7th/Stokes 2-run single in 8th
	5-6	at Kentucky	W, 10-5	Schmidt (W, 9-1)	All nine Gamecocks reach base at least once/Destino & Tolbert homer in the victory
	5-7	at Kentucky	L, 6-0	Webb (L, 9-3)	Gamecocks limited to just 3 hits/Cone's 31-game hitting streak snapped
	5-8	at Kentucky	L, 5-4 (12)	Johnson (L, 1-2)	Gamecocks leave 15 on base/Kentucky walk-off homer in bottom of the 12th
	5-10	Presbyterian	W, 3-1	Widener (W, 3-2)	Widener strikes out career-high 12 batters/Destino 2 homers
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	5-14	Texas A&M	L, 5-2	Webb (L, 9-4)	Gamecocks limited to just 2 runs on 3 hits
	5-15	Texas A&M	W, 10-7	Reagan (W, 2-2)	Gamecocks tally 10 hits and a season-high 11 walks/DTW 3-for-3 with 2 HR
	5-17	The Citadel	W, 16-4	Murray (W, 2-1)	16 runs on 16 hits/Arendas grand slam/Bride 4-for-5 with 5 RBI
	5-19	at Alabama	W, 6-4	Scott (W, 4-1)	Scott & Johnson 4.1 scoreless innings of relief/Mooney key 2-run single in the 6th
	5-20	at Alabama	W, 4-2	Webb (W, 10-4)	Jones with a key 2-run homer, DTW also homers in victory
	5-21	at Alabama	W, 9-7	Widener (W, 4-2)	16-hit performance in third straight 2-run victory
	6-3	Rhode Island	L, 5-4	Schmidt (L, 9-4)	Rams rally back from 4-run deficit
	6-4	Duke	W, 4-2	Johnson (W, 2-2)	Taylor key RBI double to lift Gamecocks to victory
	6-5	Rhode Island	W, 23-2	Hill (W, 7-0)	School postseason record in runs (23) and hits (22)
HISTORY & RECORDS	6-5	UNCW	W, 10-2	Johnson (W, 10-1)	Johnson first career complete game
	6-6	UNCW	W, 10-5	Reagan (W, 3-2)	5-run 5th inning helps propel Carolina to victory
	6-11	Oklahoma State	L, 5-1	Webb (L, 10-6)	Gamecocks limited to just 5 hits
	6-12	Oklahoma State	L, 3-1	Schmidt (L, 9-5)	Cowboys score all 3 runs in 5th inning on the way to the win

South Carolina won 46 games, made its 12th NCAA Super Regional appearance in the 16 years of the Regional-Super Regional format and won the school's seventh SEC Eastern Division title with a 20-9 conference mark, only the fifth time in school history the Gamecocks won 20 or more league contests.

The 2016 season saw the Gamecocks run off winning streaks of 10 and 13 games along with five SEC three-game series sweeps to help lift Carolina to the school's 31st NCAA Tournament appearance.

**STARTING STRONG**

The '16 campaign began with a sweep of Albany with the Gamecocks outscoring the Great Danes 24-4 in the three-game series. Sophomore catcher John Jones had a great first weekend in the Gamecock uniform. The junior college transfer hit .600 (6-for-10) with a double, a homer and nine RBI. His nine RBI was the highest three-game series RBI total since LB Dantzler drove in 10 runs, ironically, vs. Albany in 2013. Jones also walked twice and scored four runs. His on-base percentage of the weekend was .667 with a 1.000 slugging mark. Sophomore right-hander Clarke Schmidt picked up the win on Opening Day allowing one run on three hits with six strikeouts and four walks in six innings of work as Carolina defeated Albany 10-1. He helped pace a strong first weekend for the pitching staff as the Gamecocks allowed just four runs, three earned, on 10 hits with 11 walks and 30 strikeouts in 27.0 innings. Carolina's 1.00 team ERA was best among the 14 SEC schools as was the team's .114 opposing batting average. South Carolina's bullpen did not allow a run in 11 innings of work in the series and struck out 13 batters. The bullpen allowed just four singles and four walks.

A pair of midweek wins over Appalachian State and Winthrop moved the Gamecocks to 5-0 on the year. A 5-0 win over Appalachian State featured the debut of freshman right-hander Adam Hill, who struck out 11 batters and pitched six scoreless innings to earn his first career win. Hill, Josh Reagan and Colton Provey combined for 16 strikeouts. The bats would be the highlight in the 16-4 win over Winthrop. Carolina jumped out to a six-run lead in the first inning and belted out 16 hits on the way to the win. Both Alex Destino and TJ Hopkins would drive in four runs apiece to lead the Gamecocks at the plate.

**NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

Offense and pitching continued to be on point in a three-game series sweep of Penn State. Victories of 7-1, 16-5 and 4-2 ran the Gamecocks' record to 8-0.

John Jones was again stellar at the plate as he earned National Player of the Week honors from Collegiate Baseball after putting together arguably one of the greatest weekends at the plate in school history. Jones reached base in all 14 plate appearances vs. Penn State batting 1.000 (8-for-8) with six walks for an OBP of 1.000 as well.

Jones went 4-for-4 with a homer and four RBI in a 7-1 series-opening win vs. the Nittany Lions. He followed that up with a grand slam and tying a single-game school record with four walks in Saturday's 16-5 victory vs. Penn State. In the series finale, Jones went 3-for-3 including a two-run single and a walk in the 4-2 win to sweep the series vs. Penn State. Jones' slugging percentage for the weekend was 1.750 also.

In records going back to 1997, Jones is the only Gamecock in school history to start three games in a series and put up a 1.000 OBP, besting the previous mark of .875 set by Christian Walker in 2011 at Mississippi State as well as Walker's .909 batting average (10-for-11). Jones' six walks tied for the most by a Gamecock in a series since Scott Wingo's six walks vs. Brown in 2010. Jones' 10 RBI are the most by a Gamecock in a series since LB Dantzler drove in 10 vs. Albany vs. 2013. Jones' 1.750 slugging percentage is the best in a series since Steven Neff's 2.000 slugging mark vs. Arkansas in 2011.

**IN-STATE TESTS**

South Carolina's next 10 games would feature in-state foes with the Gamecocks going a combined 8-2 against The Citadel, Clemson, Wofford, Furman, Charleston Southern and USC Upstate.

Adam Hill continued his dominance in Charleston, S.C. with five scoreless innings and was backed by an offense that belted out 15 hits in a 6-3 victory over The Citadel.

**SOUTH CAROLINA BY THE NUMBERS**

**South Carolina's 2016 Record**

Overall: .....	46-18
Non-Conference Record:.....	26-9
SEC Record: (denotes conference games only) .....	20-9
At Home: .....	34-7
On Road: .....	12-7
Neutral:.....	0-4
At Home (SEC): .....	11-3
On Road (SEC): .....	9-6
At Home (Non-Conference): .....	23-4
On Road (Non-Conference): .....	3-1
Neutral Site (Non-Conference): .....	0-4
In Extra Inning Games: .....	0-2
Vs. Top 25 Teams: .....	10-10
In February: .....	8-0
In March: .....	15-4
In April: .....	11-5
In May: .....	8-6
In June: .....	4-3
Playing a day game: .....	22-9
Playing a night game: .....	24-9
In one-run game: .....	5-4
In two-run game: .....	10-2
In games decided by three runs or less: .....	20-11
In five + run game: .....	18-5
When Scoring First: .....	34-5
When Opponent Scores First: .....	12-13
When Leading Entering the 7th Inn.: .....	41-1
When Trailing Entering the 7th Inn.: .....	1-15
When Tied Entering the 7th Inn.: .....	4-2
When Scoring 10+ Runs: .....	13-0
When Allowing 10+ Runs: .....	0-4
When Scoring 5 runs or less: .....	17-17
When Allowing 5 runs or less: .....	40-11
When Scoring 6 runs or more: .....	29-1
When out-hitting opponent: .....	34-4
When matching opponent with hits: .....	5-1
When out-hit by opponent: .....	7-13
When recording double-digit hits:.....	28-2
When hitting at least one home run: .....	24-7
vs. Starting LHP: .....	15-6
vs. Starting RHP: .....	31-12
On Monday: .....	0-0
On Tuesday: .....	9-1
On Wednesday: .....	4-2
On Thursday:.....	2-2
On Friday: .....	12-3
On Saturday: .....	10-6
On Sunday: .....	9-4
Wearing white uniforms/black trim:.....	9-2
Wearing white pinstripes/garnet trim: .....	7-6
Wearing white "Carolina" uniforms/black trim: .....	1-0
Wearing white uniforms/garnet trim: .....	6-1
Wearing black jersey/white:.....	0-0
Wearing black jersey/grey:.....	0-0
Wearing garnet "Gamecocks" jersey/white:.....	8-0
Wearing garnet "Gamecocks" jersey/grey:.....	3-3
Wearing grey uniforms/black trim: .....	6-3
Wearing grey pinstripes/garnet trim:.....	6-3

CAROLINA GAMECOCKS

STAFF

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HISTORY & RECORDS

College baseball's premier rivalry was next and the Gamecocks didn't disappoint the home crowd as the Gamecocks defeated Clemson 8-1 in front of a sellout crowd of 8,242 at Founders Park. A five-run fifth inning broke open a one-run game and was enough for Clarke Schmidt, who pitched the longest outing of his career and struck out nine in eight scoreless innings of work. He would earn SEC Pitcher of the Week honors for his start. Alex Destino had his best game at the plate of his career going 5-for-5 with four RBI as well.

Despite a pair of close losses in the next two games, the Gamecocks moved forward with a 7-1 win over Wofford and a 5-4 victory over Furman. It was an all-round effort in the 7-1 win as four pitchers combined for 17 strikeouts and all nine starters tallied at least one hit. The 5-4 win over Furman featured home runs from Jones and Destino.

A three-game sweep of Charleston Southern followed with Carolina putting together a pair of shutouts in the series. All three Gamecock starters in the rotation - Schmidt, Webb and Hill - did not allow a run. Hill would pick up SEC Freshman of the Week as well with eight strikeouts in the 2-0 victory over the Buccaneers.

A trip to the Upstate and Greenville was next as South Carolina defeated USC Upstate 12-6 at Fluor Field. LT Tolbert and Marcus Mooney each homered and were part of a 16-hit attack. The Gamecocks followed that up with a 15-2 win over Davidson at Founders Park with 19 hits in the contest to head into SEC play with a 17-2 overall record.

**BREAK OUT THE BROOMS**

Complete performances both on the mound and at the plate continued to be the trend as South Carolina opened SEC play with a pair of sweeps, one at home vs. Arkansas and the other at Ole Miss.

The Gamecocks greeted Arkansas to Founders Park with a 10-6 win in the series opener that saw South Carolina break out to an eight-run lead in the first two innings. Schmidt struck out a career-high 11 batters and was backed by an offense that tallied 16 hits.

A 6-2 win followed as Braden Webb and Tyler Johnson combined for the victory. Jones came up with a big two-run homer to break a 2-2 tie and Mooney added insurance with a two-out two-run single in the eighth inning to give the Gamecocks a four-run cushion.

The weekend would be highlighted though on Sunday, as Carolina scored seven unanswered runs capped by a three-run homer by John Jones in the bottom of the eighth inning as the Gamecocks rallied to defeat Arkansas 8-6 to sweep the series.

Jones, who hit a two-run homer in Saturday's victory over the Razorbacks, kept his hot bat going as he went 3-for-5 with two runs and five RBI to lead the Gamecocks at the plate. Down 6-1 going into the bottom of the fifth, Jones would kickstart the rally in the bottom of the fifth with a two-out RBI single. Dom Thompson-Williams added a two-run triple as well to cut the deficit to a pair of runs. South Carolina cut the deficit to 6-5 in the sixth inning with Jones again coming through with a RBI double. It remained that way until the bottom of the eighth. Gene Cone singled with one out and LT Tolbert walked to set the stage for Jones. On Zach Jackson's 2-2 pitch, Jones launched his sixth home run of the season over the wall in right-center to give the Gamecocks a two-run lead. Junior left-hander Josh Reagan pitched a perfect ninth to seal the win. Jones would earn SEC Player of the Week and also be named National Hitter of the Week by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

**THE MARCH SWEEPS CONTINUE**

Riding the momentum of the Arkansas sweep, the Gamecocks extended the winning streak to 13 games with a series sweep at sixth ranked Ole Miss.

It was an impressive display the entire weekend in Oxford with many heroes throughout the series.

Game one saw all nine Gamecock starters with at least one hit and Schmidt allowing just one run in 6.2 innings as Carolina defeated the Rebels 5-1. Gene Cone went 3-for-4 with two runs and his first home run of the season. Jonah Bride added two hits as well.

Schmidt's performance would be equaled the next night when freshman right-hander Braden Webb struck out 14 batters in eight-plus innings as South Carolina won the series with a 9-5 victory. After allowing three

consecutive base runners to reach with one out in the first inning, Webb retired 17 in a row and 23 of 25 at one stretch to help lead the Gamecocks to victory. The Gamecocks worked their way back from an early two-run deficit with the Gamecock batters out-hitting Ole Miss 14-7 in the contest. For the second consecutive day, all nine Gamecock position starters had at least one hit. Webb would be named SEC Freshman of the Week for his outing.

South Carolina swept the three-game series with a 4-0 win in the series finale as freshman right-hander Adam Hill pitched six scoreless innings. South Carolina struck for three runs in the top of the first inning. Gene Cone led off with a double to the gap in right-center and scored on John Jones' one-out groundout to first base. Three consecutive hits would give the Gamecocks a 3-0 lead as Alex Destino doubled to left field followed by a RBI base hit from Dom Thompson-Williams, who would steal second base and score on Jonah Bride's RBI single.

**WEBB DOES IT AGAIN**

Fresh off an impressive win in the Ole Miss series, Webb continued to showcase his talented arm in a win at third-ranked Vanderbilt. Webb was named SEC Freshman of the Week for a second consecutive week after striking out 11 Commodores in eight scoreless innings of a 4-0 win.

**THE FRIENDLY CONFINES OF FOUNDERS PARK**

After a tough stretch of games on the road in the month of March, the Gamecocks returned home to the comfortness of Founders Park and proceeded to sweep both Tennessee and Missouri to stay among the top teams in the Southeastern Conference.

Carolina won three tight games vs. the Volunteers with victories of 7-6, 7-4 and 4-3.

Clarke Schmidt won his seventh game of the season with 10 strikeouts in six innings and LT Tolbert homered and tied a career-high with three RBI in the 7-6 victory. South Carolina never trailed and despite being out-hit 14-8, the Gamecocks limited the damage as the Volunteers left 16 on base in the contest.

In game two, tied at 4-4 entering the bottom of the sixth, Chris Cullen and TJ Hopkins each walked to give Carolina a pair of runners. After a successful sac bunt by DC Arendas moved both runners into scoring position, Marcus Mooney drove in Cullen with a RBI infield single. With runners on the corners and a ball in the dirt, Mooney began to break for second base. Tennessee catcher Benito Santiago threw down to first base and Mooney got caught in a rundown, but kept it going long enough to allow Hopkins to score and give Carolina a two-run lead. Carolina made it 7-4 in the eighth loading the bases with two outs with Hopkins scoring on a hit by pitch that allowed LT Tolbert to reach base.

Game three would be back and forth with Alex Destino coming through with the big hit as he broke a 3-3 tie with a two-out pinch-hit RBI single in the bottom of the eighth and junior left-hander Josh Reagan working out of a bases loaded jam with no outs in the top of the ninth as the Gamecocks swept Tennessee with a 4-3 victory in the series finale. Tied at 3-3 in the bottom of the eighth inning, Dom Thompson-Williams stole second base with two outs to put a runner in scoring position for Carolina. After a walk to DC Arendas gave the Gamecocks a pair of runners, Tennessee went to the bullpen for right-hander Jon Lipinski to face the right-handed hitting TJ Hopkins. Head coach Chad Holbrook countered with the left-handed hitting Destino, who did not start during the week due to a bruised AC joint. On a 1-1 pitch, Destino knocked a RBI single to left field to score Thompson-Williams and give Carolina the one-run lead. Tennessee looked to mount a rally in the ninth with Derek Lance leading off with a single followed by a pair of bunts that went for singles by Benito Santiago and Chris Hall to load the bases. Reagan dug deep though and on a 3-2 changeup was able to coax Nick Senzel into a tapper back to him to get the fielder's choice at home. He followed that up with a strikeout of Vincent Jackson and then ended the game getting Jordan Rodgers to pop up to Arendas at second to preserve the victory.

The Gamecocks entered the Missouri series with an 11-4 SEC record, the best conference record by the Gamecocks at the halfway point of the conference slate since the 2011 team went 12-3. The series would also feature the official dedication for Founders Park before Saturday's contest.

Friday's series opener saw the Gamecocks rally from a three-run deficit to defeat Missouri 8-5 as Carolina scored seven runs in the final three innings at the plate. Trailing 4-1 entering the bottom of the sixth inning, the Gamecocks began their rally with a leadoff double to right-center off the bat of Alex Destino. After a wild pitch advanced Destino to third base, Jonah Bride would drive him in on a RBI base hit. Missouri third baseman Shane Benes would then drop a popup in the infield off the bat of LT Tolbert to give the Gamecocks a pair of runners. With one out, DC Arendas walked to load the bases. Marcus Mooney would drive in Tolbert on a fielder's choice to cut the deficit to a run. With runners on first and third and two outs, Gene Cone belted a double down the left field line that scored both runners and gave Carolina a 5-4 lead. The Gamecocks extended the advantage with three more runs in the bottom of the eighth inning. Cone and Thompson-Williams each drove in a run with Cone scoring on a wild pitch as well. Missouri would get a single run in the ninth inning.

Saturday's 5-1 victory over the Tigers featured Gene Cone tying Whit Merrifield's school record 26-game hitting streak, Alex Destino driving in four runs and right-hander Braden Webb striking out 10 batters.

Sunday's series finale would see Cone set the school record with a 27-game hitting streak as he went 5-for-5, just a homer shy of the cycle and drove in three runs as Carolina defeated Missouri 9-3 to sweep the three-game series. Right-hander Adam Hill pitched 6.1 scoreless innings with just four hits allowed and one walk while striking out eight batters.

Cone would earn National Player of the Week and SEC Player of the Week honors for the Missouri series as he went 10-for-12 (.833) at the plate with six RBI and seven runs scored.

**HITTING STREAK**

Cone's school record hitting streak would finish at 31 games surpassing the previous mark of 26 set by Whit Merrifield in the 2009 and 2010 seasons. The hitting streak was the longest in Division I baseball in 2016 and his 34-game streak of reaching base safely the longest mark in the SEC. During the 31-game hitting streak, Cone hit .402 (49-for-122) with 18 RBI, 33 runs scored, 11 doubles, two triples and three homers. His on-base percentage during the streak was .497 with a .598 slugging mark.

**SEC EAST CHAMPS**

In the final weekend of SEC play, South Carolina headed to Tuscaloosa for a three-game series with Alabama. The Gamecocks entered the series with a 17-9 record in the SEC in fourth place in the conference, but just one game back of first overall.

Determined and excited for the opportunity to win a championship, the Gamecocks opened the series with a 6-4 victory over the Crimson Tide. Marcus Mooney would break a 4-4 tie in the top of the sixth inning with a two-out two-run single and right-handers Reed Scott and Tyler Johnson combined for 4.1 scoreless innings of relief. The Gamecocks would move up to 18-9 in league play and win the 40th game of the season, the 16th time in the last 17 seasons the Gamecocks had reached the 40-win total.

Carolina clinched the series the next day with a 4-2 win as John Jones and Dom Thompson-Williams homered and backed Braden Webb, who allowed one run in six-plus innings of work.

Heading into the final day of conference play, the Gamecocks sat third in the SEC, one-half game behind Mississippi State and Texas A&M and one-half game ahead of Florida in the Eastern Division.

All nine Gamecock starters would tally at least one hit on the way to a 15-hit afternoon at the plate and the Gamecocks would defeat Alabama 9-7 to sweep the series and clinch South Carolina's seventh SEC Eastern Division title. Taylor Widener would earn the win in relief allowing two runs on six hits in 3.2 innings with six strikeouts. Tyler Johnson pitched 1.2 perfect innings of relief for the save.

Six Gamecocks would finish with multi-hit games. Madison Stokes finished 7-for-9 at the plate for the weekend and went 2-for-2 with two doubles, a pair of RBI and a run scored. Jones was 2-for-3 with four runs batted in. Alex Destino went 2-for-5 with a run scored and a RBI with Thompson-Williams 2-for-3 with a RBI, two walks and three runs scored as well. Jonah Bride finished 2-for-4 with two runs scored. TJ Hopkins was 2-for-5 with a RBI.

"It's an awesome day for our team, our program and our kids," stated head coach Chad Holbrook in postgame comments. "We kind of stayed the course, kept playing, played hard and today was, in a nutshell, our team all year. We handled adversity, we didn't blink. We just kept playing. The game rewarded our team this season and rewarded our team today. I'm awfully blessed. I've had a great group to coach since September. The camaraderie they have had, the togetherness, the way they have went about their work, their practices, weightroom, academics, they were an easy group to coach. I am proud of them. They represented this university, this program and that jersey they put on, they represented it the right way every day."

**NCAA REGIONALS**

South Carolina was selected as one of the 16 regional host institutions for the 2016 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship. It marked the 17th time in school history that the Gamecocks hosted an NCAA Regional in baseball. Since the move to the Regional-Super Regional Format in 1999, Carolina has hosted an NCAA Regional 11 times. It also marked South Carolina's 31st overall appearance in the NCAA Division I Baseball Tournament. The 2016 Columbia Regional would include No. 2 seed UNCW, No. 3 seed Duke and No. 4 seed Rhode Island.

**TOURNAMENT STARTS OFF WITH A SURPRISE**

South Carolina raced out to a 4-0 lead, but Rhode Island rallied and upset the Gamecocks 5-4 in the regional opener for both teams.

The Gamecocks broke ahead by four runs in the first three innings. Gene Cone led off the bottom of the first with a homer and Alex Destino added a two-run blast as the Gamecocks built a cushion.

Rhode Island wouldn't waver though as back-to-back home runs in the top of the fourth cut Carolina's lead in half. The Rams surged ahead by plating three runs in the 5th inning. URI loaded the bases with no outs, and Jordan Powell singled at the end of an eight-pitch at-bat to bring one run home. The hit made it 4-3 and chased Gamecock starter Clarke Schmidt from the game. Two batters later, Rhode Island took the lead on a unique and somewhat confusing play. McManus roped a ball into the left-center gap, and Thompson-Williams nearly made an acrobatic leaping catch. But the ball jostled loose at the last second, allowing two runners to score. However, the runner at first, Powell, thought the ball was caught and returned to bag. That allowed Thompson-Williams to throw him out at second on the force play; still, two runs scored and the Rams took a 5-4 lead midway through the game on the fielder's choice.

With Schmidt out of the game, Carolina's bullpen came up huge to keep the deficit to just a single run. Juniors Reed Scott, Taylor Widener and Josh Reagan combined to throw five scoreless inning, with Widener fanning six batters in 3.1 innings on the hill. But South Carolina could not muster the tying run it needed to draw even with the Rams. The Gamecocks put men on base in each of the game's last five innings without notching a run.

**ONE GAME AT A TIME**

Facing elimination, South Carolina would be back to work at Founders Park the next afternoon in an elimination game with Duke.

Tied at 2-2 entering the top of the ninth inning, Gamecock catcher Hunter Taylor would double down the left field line with one out to score Dom Thompson-Williams and the Gamecocks would add an insurance run on a wild pitch as the Gamecocks stayed alive with a 4-2 victory over the Blue Devils.

Called into duty for the afternoon contest, Taylor was making just his fourth start of the season and his first since April 30. His hit was his first since April 16, and he had not driven a run home since March 16.

Senior Marcus Mooney went 2-for-4 at the plate with an RBI to lead the Gamecocks, while junior Gene Cone and freshman LT Tolbert also tallied two hits.

Both Josh Reagan and Tyler Johnson proved to be key out of the bullpen on a hot afternoon in Columbia. Reagan allowed just one run on two hits in 4.2 innings of work with Johnson limiting Duke to just one hit and striking out two batters in 1.1 innings of work to earn the victory.

CAROLINA GAMECOCKS

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**REMATCH**

A rematch on Sunday afternoon between South Carolina and Rhode Island would put the winner into the regional championship against UNCW. South Carolina's largest offensive output of the season carried the Gamecocks to a 23-2 victory. The Gamecocks set program records for runs scored and margin of victory in the win.

Eleven different Gamecocks recorded base hits, led by a 4-for-4 effort from DC Arendas. The senior added a triple, a home run and three RBI and finished just a double short of hitting for the cycle. Freshman right-hander Adam Hill was strong as well in seven innings of work to improve to 7-0 on the year.

**LET'S PLAY TWO**

Just a few hours after eliminating the Rams from the postseason, the Gamecocks would be back at it that night against UNCW. With the season on the line, head coach Chad Holbrook turned to reliever Tyler Johnson to make his first start of the year. Johnson rewarded the coach's faith in him as he put together a complete game and allowed just one run while striking out a career-high 11 batters in a 10-1 victory to face a winner-take-all seventh game.

The Gamecocks supported Johnson with another strong effort at the plate tallying 10 runs on 13 hits. After allowing a run in the top of the first, the Gamecocks scored five runs in the top of the second inning and never trailed the rest of the way. South Carolina surged ahead after loading the bases with no outs in the 2nd inning. Gene Cone chased all three runners home with a bases-clearing double, but the scoring wasn't over. Three batters later Dom Thompson-Williams plated a pair with a single to center, and the Gamecocks led 5-1.

Neither team scored again until the 6th inning, when the Gamecocks broke the game open. South Carolina had the bases loaded with two outs when Madison Stokes coaxed a walk out of the UNCW pitcher. Then Saturday's hero, Hunter Taylor, came up with another huge swing, singling home a pair to make the score 8-1. Hopkins picked up an insurance run for the Gamecocks in the 7th inning. Batting with two outs, the freshman singled up the middle, bringing Arendas home and stretching the margin to 9-1. South Carolina's final run came in the 8th.

**REGIONAL CHAMPS**

After a rainout on Monday evening, the Gamecocks and Seahawks returned to Founders Park for a Tuesday afternoon tilt. Carolina's bats stayed hot with 13 more hits and the Gamecocks broke ahead by seven runs and held on for a 10-5 win to clinch the regional title and South Carolina's 12th NCAA Super Regional appearance.

Sophomore Madison Stokes led the charge offensively, going 3-for-4 with three runs and three RBI. Sophomore TJ Hopkins added three hits, while senior DC Arendas hit a home run and drove in a pair.

Junior southpaw Josh Reagan (3-2) was the winning pitcher after throwing 3.0 innings of relief in support of starter Taylor Widener, who made it through the first 4.0 innings.

South Carolina became only the 20th school since the Regional-Super Regional format began in 1999 to claim the regional championship after losing its first game.

**ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM**

Right-hander Tyler Johnson earned NCAA Regional MVP honors and was joined on the All-Regional team by DC Arendas, Gene Cone, Alex Dextino and Hunter Taylor.

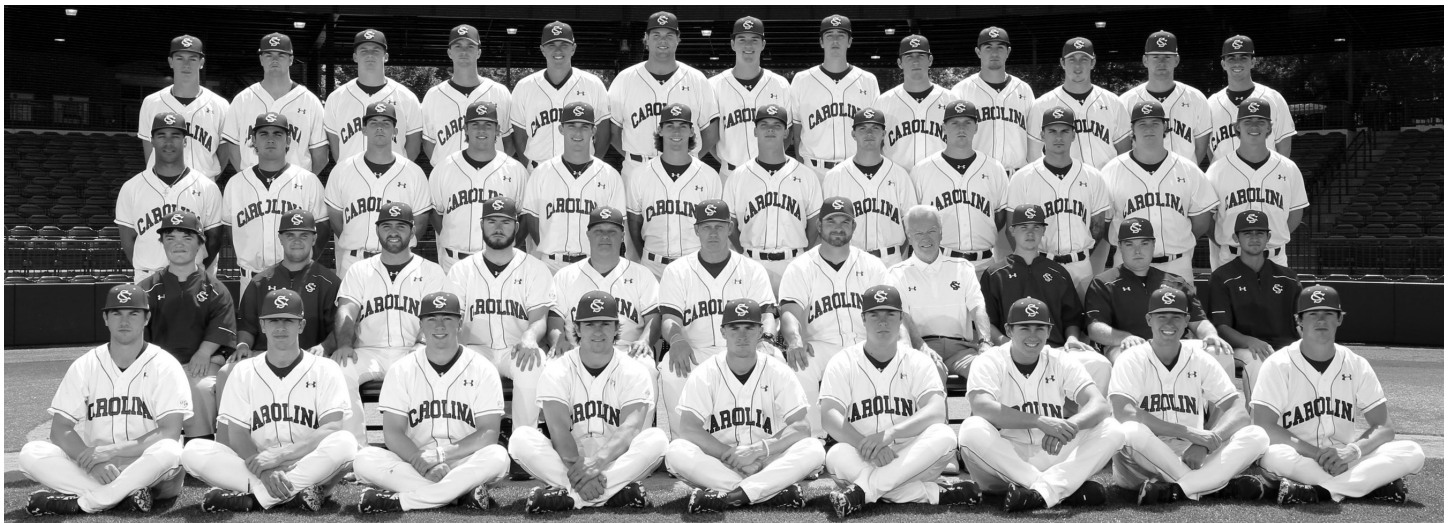
**SEASON RECAP**

Despite a pair of losses to Oklahoma State in the Super Regional, the Gamecocks would finish the year 46-18 with many highlights.

South Carolina was the SEC Eastern Division champion with a 20-9 conference record. It is the seventh division title in school history. The Gamecocks also claimed the East in 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2011 and 2012. It marked the first East title under head coach Chad Holbrook.

Under the direction of Coach Holbrook, the Gamecocks have earned a top four seed in three of four seasons at the SEC Tournament (2013, 2014, 2016). In that four-year span, the Gamecocks are one of only three teams to have accomplished the feat along with LSU (2013, 2014, 2015) and Florida (2014, 2015, 2016).

Right-handers Clarke Schmidt and Braden Webb earned All-America honors. Gene Cone was first-team All-SEC honors, with Schmidt earning second-team All-SEC accolades.



Bottom Row: Dillon Hodge, Colie Bowers, Jared Williams, Danny Blair, Marcus Mooney, Kyle Anderson, Jonah Bride, Josh Reagan, Reed Scott

Second Row: student manager Blaire Epting, student manager Matt Clark, student assistant Jared Martin, student assistant Matt Price, head coach Chad Holbrook, associate head coach Jerry Meyers, volunteer assistant Brian Buscher, Dr. Ronald Kasper, bullpen catcher John Panchella, student manager Ben Vermeil, student manager John Hawkins

Third Row: Dom Thompson-Williams, John Jones, DC Arendas, Matt Williams, Clark Scolamiero, Gene Cone Vince Fiori, Tyler Haswell, Colton Provey, Matt Vogel, Caleb Whitenton, LT Tolbert

Row 4: TJ Hopkins, Braden Webb, Clarke Schmidt, Madison Stokes, Tyler Johnson, Ross Grosvenor, Chris Cullen, Adam Hill, Taylor Widener, Brandon Murray, Hunter Taylor, Alex Destino, Canaan Cropper

Overall Batting & Fielding

Overall Record: 46-18; Home: 34-7; Away: 12-7; Neutral: 0-4

(More than 175 plate appearances)

	AVG	GP-S	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG	BB	HBP	SO	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD
Gene Cone	.363	59-57	215	53	78	13	2	4	30	107	.498	45	3	26	.474	3	2	7-11	104	3	2	.982
Dom Thompson-Williams	.321	64-64	240	58	77	17	7	8	41	124	.517	38	3	51	.418	1	2	18-23	121	4	3	.977
Alex Destino	.321	60-59	234	40	75	14	0	10	59	119	.509	19	1	45	.373	1	0	2-4	114	1	6	.950
Marcus Mooney	.314	62-61	204	38	64	10	0	1	29	77	.377	23	13	20	.413	2	12	4-9	89	129	13	.944
Jonah Bride	.283	63-63	226	41	64	12	0	2	32	82	.363	23	19	39	.393	2	6	8-8	33	84	3	.975
LT Tolbert	.229	55-50	192	32	44	7	1	3	27	62	.323	15	7	14	.306	2	5	5-6	291	35	5	.985
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Jared Williams	.444	13-0	9	1	4	0	0	0	0	4	.444	0	1	2	.500	0	0	0-0	3	0	1	.750
Ross Grosvenor	.357	14-0	14	1	5	1	0	0	2	6	.429	1	0	5	.400	0	0	0-0	8	0	0	1.000
TJ Hopkins	.322	43-31	121	25	39	5	1	1	26	49	.405	14	1	37	.388	3	2	8-11	67	2	0	1.000
Madison Stokes	.304	31-29	102	16	31	5	0	1	12	39	.382	7	5	29	.371	2	3	5-6	114	27	3	.979
Danny Blair	.250	22-6	28	8	7	2	0	0	4	9	.321	1	1	9	.300	0	0	1-1	16	0	0	1.000
DC Arendas	.245	60-42	151	23	37	5	1	5	24	59	.391	21	4	55	.350	1	6	3-4	78	117	3	.985
Matt Williams	.240	18-6	25	3	6	1	0	2	2	13	.520	2	1	7	.321	0	0	1-1	21	10	1	.969
Chris Cullen	.238	50-41	147	19	35	11	0	1	23	49	.333	22	2	37	.337	4	4	2-3	426	35	4	.991
Hunter Taylor	.226	15-7	31	2	7	2	0	0	4	9	.290	3	0	8	.294	0	0	2-2	67	6	0	1.000
Clark Scolamiero	.206	42-5	34	6	7	0	0	0	5	7	.206	4	1	9	.293	2	2	2-3	31	0	0	1.000
Brandon McIlwain	.100	8-0	10	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	.100	0	0	4	.100	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>.291</b>	<b>64 2195</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>.412</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>.381</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>69-93</b>	<b>1722</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>.978</b>	
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>.227</b>	<b>64 2136</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>.328</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>.308</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>47-67</b>	<b>1656</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>.967</b>	

Pitching

	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO/CB	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	BK	B/AVG.	WP	HBP
Josh Reagan	2.08	3-2	29	0	0	0/3	11	56.1	34	14	13	20	50	4	0	8	0	.172	2	4
Tyler Johnson	2.42	3-2	29	1	1	0/2	9	52.0	34	15	14	8	59	4	0	5	1	.187	2	1
Reed Scott	2.56	4-1	29	0	0	0/0	2	45.2	41	15	13	15	31	6	1	2	0	.244	2	2
Braden Webb	3.09	10-6	18	17	0	0/1	0	102.0	80	43	35	48	128	12	2	6	2	.216	14	7
Clarke Schmidt	3.40	9-5	18	17	2	0/1	0	111.1	107	50	42	27	129	16	0	9	1	.248	3	10
Adam Hill	3.53	7-0	14	14	0	0/3	0	66.1	49	26	26	28	72	10	0	5	0	.208	7	11
Taylor Widener	4.20	4-2	17	9	0	0/0	0	55.2	54	30	26	16	68	11	0	5	1	.248	1	3
<i>(Fewer Than 50 Innings)</i>																				
Kyle Anderson	0.00	0-0	3	0	0	0/1	0	3.1	2	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	.167	2	0
Colie Bowers	2.03	1-0	7	2	0	0/0	0	13.1	5	3	3	8	15	0	0	2	0	.109	1	0
Tyler Haswell	3.10	2-0	11	1	0	0/0	0	20.1	19	9	7	3	15	2	0	0	0	.250	2	0
Matt Vogel	3.86	1-0	9	0	0	0/0	0	7.0	6	4	3	12	11	1	0	0	1	.222	2	0
Canaan Cropper	5.14	0-0	5	2	0	0/0	0	7.0	10	4	4	5	10	2	0	0	0	.345	1	1
Vince Fiori	5.40	0-0	9	0	0	0/0	0	3.1	7	3	2	3	4	2	0	0	0	.412	0	1
Brandon Murray	6.38	2-0	20	1	0	0/1	0	24.0	26	19	17	11	15	3	1	2	0	.265	0	3
Alex Destino	9.00	0-0	1	0	0	0/0	0	1.0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.500	0	0
Colton Provey	10.12	0-0	5	0	0	0/1	0	5.1	8	6	6	6	6	1	1	0	0	.364	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>46-18</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5/5</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>574.0</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>.227</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>5.64</b>	<b>18-46</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4/3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>552.0</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>.291</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>66</b>

CAROLINA GAMECOCKS

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CAROLINA GAMECOCKS	2016 SEC Standings				
	EASTERN DIVISION				
STAFF	Team	SEC	PCT	Overall	PCT
		South Carolina*	20-9	.690	46-18
	Florida	19-10	.655	52-16	.765
	Vanderbilt	18-12	.600	43-19	.694
	Kentucky	15-15	.500	32-25	.561
	Georgia	11-19	.367	27-30	.474
	Missouri	9-21	.300	26-30	.464
	Tennessee	9-21	.300	29-28	.509
PLAYER PROFILES	WESTERN DIVISION				
	Team	SEC	PCT	Overall	PCT
	Mississippi State@%	21-9	.700	44-18-1	.706
	Texas A&M#	20-10	.667	49-16	.754
	LSU	19-11	.633	45-21	.682
	Ole Miss	18-12	.600	43-19	.694
	Alabama	15-15	.500	32-26	.552
	Auburn	8-22	.267	23-33	.411
	Arkansas	7-23	.233	26-29	.473
OPONENTS	* — SEC Eastern Division Champion				
	@ — SEC Western Division Champion				
	% — SEC Champion				
	# — SEC Tournament Champion				
SEASON IN REVIEW	2016 SEC Tournament Results				
	<b>Tuesday, May 24</b>				
	GAME 1 - #6 Vanderbilt (7) vs. #11 Missouri (0)				
	GAME 2 - #7 Ole Miss (5) vs. #10 Georgia (1)				
	GAME 3 - #9 Alabama (5) vs. #8 Kentucky (2)				
	GAME 4 - #5 LSU (5) vs. #12 Tennessee (4)				
	<b>Wednesday, May 25</b>				
	GAME 5 - #6 Vanderbilt (6) vs. #3 Texas A&M (5)				
	GAME 6 - #7 Ole Miss (10) vs. #2 South Carolina (4)				
	GAME 7 - #1 Mississippi State (4) vs. #9 Alabama (1)				
	GAME 8 - #5 LSU (5) vs. #4 Florida (3)				
	<b>Thursday, May 26</b>				
	GAME 9 - #3 Texas A&M (4) vs. #2 South Carolina (1)				
	GAME 10 - #4 Florida (5) vs. #9 Alabama (4)				
	GAME 11 - #7 Ole Miss (12) vs. #6 Vanderbilt (9)				
	GAME 12 - #5 LSU (6) vs. #1 Mississippi State (2)				
	<b>Friday, May 27</b>				
	GAME 13 - #3 Texas A&M (13) vs. #6 Vanderbilt (3)				
	GAME 14 - #4 Florida (12) vs. #1 Mississippi State (2)				
	<b>Saturday, May 28</b>				
	GAME 15 - #3 Texas A&M (12) vs. #7 Ole Miss (8)				
	GAME 16 - #4 Florida (1) vs. #5 LSU (0)				
	<b>Sunday May 29</b>				
	GAME 17 - #3 Texas A&M (12) vs. #4 Florida (5)				
HISTORY & RECORDS					

2016 All-SEC Team	
<b>FIRST TEAM</b>	
C	Henri Lartigue, Ole Miss
1B	Nathaniel Lowe, Mississippi State
2B	Ryne Birk, Texas A&M
3B	Boomer White, Texas A&M
SS	Kramer Robertson, LSU
OF	Jake Mangum, Mississippi State
OF	J.B. Woodman, Ole Miss
<b>OF</b>	<b>Gene Cone, South Carolina</b>
DH/UT	Jack Kruger, Mississippi State
DH/UT	Bryce Jordan, LSU
SP	Logan Shore, Florida
SP	Dakota Hudson, Mississippi State
RP	Shaun Anderson, Florida
<b>SECOND TEAM</b>	
C	Mike Rivera, Florida
1B	Peter Alonso, Florida
1B	Evan White, Kentucky
2B	Tate Blackman, Ole Miss
3B	Nick Senzel, Tennessee
SS	Dalton Guthrie, Florida
OF	Anfernee Grier, Auburn
OF	Bryan Reynolds, Vanderbilt
OF	Jeren Kendall, Vanderbilt
DH/UT	Brent Rooker, Mississippi State
SP	Kyle Wright, Vanderbilt
<b>SP</b>	<b>Clarke Schmidt, South Carolina</b>
RP	Mark Ecker, Texas A&M
<b>SEC Player of the Year</b> - Boomer White, Texas A&M	
<b>SEC Pitcher of the Year</b> - Logan Shore, Florida	
<b>SEC Freshman of the Year</b> - Jake Mangum, Mississippi State	
<b>SEC Scholar Athlete of the Year</b> - Derek Lance, Tennessee	
<b>SEC Coach of the Year</b> - John Cohen, Mississippi State	
<b>ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM</b>	
C	<b>Chris Cullen, South Carolina</b>
C	Michael Curry, Georgia
<b>1B</b>	<b>LT Tolbert, South Carolina</b>
2B	Deacon Liput, Florida
3B	Jonathan India, Florida
SS	Connor Kaiser, Vanderbilt
OF	Jake Mangum, Mississippi State
OF	Antoine Duplantis, LSU
OF	Chandler Taylor, Alabama
DH/UT	Ethan Paul, Vanderbilt
<b>SP</b>	<b>Braden Webb, South Carolina</b>
<b>SP</b>	<b>Adam Hill, South Carolina</b>
RP	Sean Hjelle, Kentucky
<b>ALL-DEFENSIVE TEAM</b>	
C	Mike Rivera, Florida
1B	Evan White, Kentucky
2B	Cole Freeman, LSU
2B	Ryne Birk, Texas A&M
3B	Nick Senzel, Tennessee
SS	Dalton Guthrie, Florida
OF	Buddy Reed, Florida
OF	Anfernee Grier, Auburn
OF	J.B. Woodman, Ole Miss
P	Jordan Sheffield, Vanderbilt
P	Kyle Simonds, Texas A&M
P	Dustin Beggs, Kentucky